

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1832

Samsung ISU Short Track World Cup Competition, Torino November 7-10, 2013 Semi-Final Men Relay - Referee's decision regarding a yellow card to the Hungarian team

On November 10, 2013 during the Semi Final Men Relay race the Chief Referee gave a penalty and a yellow card to the Hungarian Men Relay team which was recorded and publicly communicated in accordance with the ISU Technical Rules Short Track Speed Skating, Rule 297, paragraph 5.f). At the conclusion of the World Cup Event the Referee has changed his decision withdrawing the yellow card by recording this change in the protocol. However this revised decision, other than in the protocol, has not been communicated to anybody.

When becoming aware of this situation also thanks to letters of protest and requests for clarifications from several ISU Members, the ISU has initiated an internal evaluation taking into account the relevant ISU Regulations.

In accordance with Rule 290, paragraph 3 the Council acknowledged that *“the Referee shall be the chief executive officer, and shall decide all point of dispute and infringements of Rules, which can result in sanctions. His decision shall be final (See Rules 123 and 124 about protests and appeals).”*

Evaluating the applicable time line for the Referee's decisions, the Council in particular considered the following Rules

Rule 297/5.b) states:

*“The Referee's decision that: (i) there was an infringement of the Racing Rules or (ii) decisions approving the announcement of the results showing that there was no infringement are final and no protests against such decision are allowed (See Rule 123/4.C). If the Referee decides that an infringement of the Racing Rules has occurred, a sanction will be given **as provided in these Rules.**”*

Rule 297/5.f) states

*“Sanctions under this Rule must be communicated **at the end of each race**, to the Skater(s)/ Team Coach or Team Leader, Competitors Steward, and over the public address system for the benefit of the spectators, specifying where and how the Skater(s)/Relay Team concerned made an infringement and whether there is a consequent advancement.”*

The Council furthermore considered Rule 123, paragraph 3.c) stating that a protest can be filed only 30 minutes after the completion of a race.

Based on its careful evaluation taking into account in particular the above-mentioned Rules, the Council came to the following conclusion and herewith uses its powers granted to it in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 1.r) of the ISU Constitution to communicate the following interpretation of the above-mentioned Rules:

The Referee's decision in Short Track Speed Skating becomes final once communicated in line with Rule 297, paragraph 5.f) at the end of each race to the Skaters, Team Coaches, Team Leaders Competitors Stewards and over the public address system. No subsequent changes are possible.

Independently of the above-mentioned Council evaluation, on November 14, 2013 the Chief Referee for the Torino World Cup sent a message to the ISU Director General advising that he felt that it was an error to reverse his field of play call of a yellow card during the concerned race and that he made a decision that is not allowed by the Rules.

Based on the above, the Council herewith confirms that for the Torino 2013 Samsung ISU World Cup Short Track Men Semi-Final

- The penalty to the Hungarian Men Relay team stands;
- The yellow card to the Hungarian Men Relay team is re-instated;
- The results and points relating to this race are being adjusted accordingly.

Milan

November 14, 2013

Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General