

Communication No. 2345

Decisions of the Council

The ISU Council met on August 28, 2020 via an online meeting. The following were among the decisions taken by the Council during the meeting.

1. ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Season 2020/21

The ISU Council reiterated its support for the decision announced in [ISU Communication No. 2339](#) according to which the individual events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating will be staged as domestically run events. In addition to the necessary cooperation with and support for the six organizing ISU Members, the ISU Council also agreed to financially assist the other participating ISU Members.

All relevant details, such as the disciplines included in each ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating event, the number and selection criteria/conditions/restrictions of invited Competitor entries, qualification criteria for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, cost responsibilities, qualifications and number of Officials, ISU financial and other assistance to the organizing ISU Members, including Prize Money, are being worked out by a dedicated ISU Council appointed Working Group in cooperation with the six organizing ISU Members of the individual Grand Prix events and, subject to Council approval, will be published as soon as possible.

The staging of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, which is for the time being scheduled to be held on December 10-13, 2020 in Beijing as a Test Event for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games, remains under discussion with the ISU's Chinese counterparts in order to conclude whether and when the Final can be held and under which conditions. The ISU will update the stakeholders as soon as a conclusion can be confirmed.

2. Speed Skating Branch - Calendar Season 2020/21

The Council received a report from the appointed Working Group elaborating on the ongoing negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sporting events and the feedback received from the organizing ISU Members of ISU Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating Events.

a) ISU World Cup Speed Skating Season 2020/21

The ISU Council concluded that the first four ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions cannot be organized as planned.

The following ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions are therefore **cancelled**:

Tomaszow-Mazowiecki, POL	November 13-15, 2020
Stavanger, NOR	November 20-22, 2020
Salt Lake City, USA	December 4-6, 2020
Calgary, CAN	December 11-13, 2020

However, based on a basic proposal endorsed by the organizing ISU Members of the initially allocated ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions of the season 2020/21, the Council decided to proceed with a specific evaluation of a Hub Concept in the Netherlands as an alternative to hosting the above-mentioned ISU World Cups. The Council acknowledged that the concept needs to be further elaborated and assessed with all stakeholders in order to decide whether this is a feasible way to implement safe, high-level international competitions with worldwide participation during the time period of the above-mentioned four World Cups.

The ISU will communicate the conclusions reached by the Council as soon as possible.

b) ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Season 2020/21

The ISU Council concluded that the first two ISU World Cup Short Track Competitions cannot be organized as planned.

The following ISU World Cup Short Track Competitions are therefore **cancelled**:

Montreal, CAN	November 6-8, 2020
Laval, CAN	November 13-15, 2020

A decision on the holding of the following two ISU World Cup Short Track Competitions remains **pending** further consultations with all stakeholders:

Seoul, KOR	December 11-13, 2020
Beijing, CHN	December 18-20, 2020

c) ISU Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating Championships Season 2020/21

The appointed Working Group continues to assess the situation for the Championships season and will report to the Council for a Council evaluation and decision during its subsequent on-line meetings.

3. ISU Guidelines for ISU Events during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The ISU Council approved the Guidelines for ISU Events during the COVID-19 Pandemic produced by the Working Groups for Figure Skating and Speed Skating, the ISU Medical Commission and ISU Legal Advisors. The Council decided that these Guidelines will be mandatory for ISU Championships, the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, the ISU World Cups in Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating as well as the ISU World Team Trophy. For other International Competitions as well as the individual ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events that are run as domestic events and for which the guidelines of the competent local authorities apply, the ISU Guidelines are strongly recommended. The Guidelines are available through the following link: <https://www.isu.org/inside-isu/covid-19>.

4. Challenger Series in Figure Skating & Synchronized Skating

Considering the negative impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the availability and flexibility of Skaters to travel and compete internationally, the ISU Council agreed that the previous maximum number of entries per ISU Member of 3 Competitors per discipline and ISU Member for Figure Skating and 2 Teams per ISU Member in Juniors or Seniors for Synchronized Skating shall no longer apply and that there will be no maximum number of entries per ISU Member.

Considering the different adjustments to the Announcements of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating and Synchronized Skating, it has been decided to publish updated Announcements (with changes being underlined) which are available [here for Figure Skating](#) and [here for Synchronized Skating](#).

5. Clarification International Synchronized Skating Competitions Season 2020/21

Further to [ISU Communications 2339](#) (Decisions of the Council August 3, 2020) and [2341](#) (Decisions of the Council International Figure Skating Competitions Season 2020/21), the Council herewith clarifies that for the Challenger Series in Synchronized Skating and Synchronized Skating International Competitions during season 2020/21, the same conditions apply as for Figure Skating competitions. This means that, for the sake of fairness, no World Standing/Ranking points will be awarded.

6. Meetings, Seminars, Examinations of ISU bodies

The Council agreed to maintain its policy published in [ISU Communication No. 2335](#), Decisions of the Council of July 6, 2020, namely that all meetings, seminars, examinations or similar of ISU internal bodies shall, until further Council notice, be held on-line or postponed.

7. Next Council Meeting

The next on-line Council meetings are scheduled for September 28, 2020 (to be confirmed) and subsequently for October 15-16, 2020.

Tubbergen,
September 1, 2020
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General