

# INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

## Communication No. 2160

### 57<sup>th</sup> ISU Ordinary Congress, Seville, June 2018 Urgent Matters

According to Section VII. Procedural Provisions to the Constitution Part A. Congress - Organization, Article 30, paragraph 5, if a proposal for the Constitution, its Procedural Provisions or for the General Regulations and Special Regulations is submitted later than December 1, it can be discussed and voted upon at Congress, provided the proposal has reached the ISU Secretariat in English for distribution to all Members, not later than three weeks before the Congress and shall be certified as urgent business by a four-fifths majority of Members present and voting.

The following urgent matters have been submitted:

#### GENERAL REGULATIONS

##### **Urgent Proposal No. 1**

##### **ISU COUNCIL**

Article 5, paragraph 3 new

Add new paragraph 3 and renumber subsequent paragraphs:

##### 3. Financial Resources

The main financial resources of the ISU emanate from incomes from TV rights and sponsorship fees related to ISU Events, contributions from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for the ISU's participation in the Olympic Winter Games and interest income thanks to the ISU's financial assets.

Reason: To meet the requirement of Swiss Register of Commerce.

##### **Urgent Proposal No. 2**

##### **ISU COUNCIL**

Article 25, paragraph 8, c)

Add at the end of the subparagraph c):

c) Performance evaluations of Officials, including Assessments, warnings, criticisms, letters of advice and other evaluations issued by the Technical Committees and the Council, and the appointment or removal of ISU Officials, are not disciplinary but technical decisions. Accordingly, they are not subject to the jurisdiction of the DC. Complaints alleging incompetence, carelessness, lack of proper attention to duty, deficient performance, error or faulty judgment are therefore not subject to the jurisdiction of the DC and shall be referred to the relevant ISU Official or body for performance evaluation and resolution. However, in case a performance evaluation at the same time reveals a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics, such violation is, apart from the performance evaluation, also subject to disciplinary sanctions and to the jurisdiction of the DC.

Reason: To clarify the relationship between performance evaluation and disciplinary cases.

##### **Urgent Proposal No. 3**

##### **ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 104, paragraph 11

Amend as follows

##### **Compliance with Rules and novelty formats at International Competitions**

a) Those ISU Members and others acting on their behalf in organizing International Competitions must adhere to the Regulations governing such competitions.

b) Modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules hereafter referred to as "novelty format" may be implemented/approved by the Council in consultation with the concerned Technical Committee on a trial basis in International Competitions or Open International Competitions but not in ISU Championships. Applications by ISU Members for competitions including a novelty format shall be submitted to the ISU Secretariat in line with the procedure outlined in an ISU Communication published by the Council related to Open International Competitions. The details of the novelty format as approved by the Council shall be included in the Announcement of the concerned competition. The organizing ISU Member of a competition including a novelty format shall submit a report to the concerned ISU Technical Committee within two weeks after completion of the competition.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's commitment to the European Commission to amend the Rule in this manner.

#### **Urgent Proposal No. 4**

##### **ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 107, paragraph 14

Amend as follows:

Interclub Competitions with participation of Skaters from at least two ISU Members

~~a) The organizing club must first obtain from its ISU Member a sanction for the event to take place within the territory, and in accordance with the Rules of that ISU Member.~~

~~b) The organizing club invites at least one club affiliated to another ISU Member, either directly or through that ISU Member.~~

~~e) Entries of Competitors shall be made by the clubs, however, the club shall inform the ISU Member to which it is affiliated.~~

a) Interclub Competitions are competitions organized by a club affiliated to an ISU Member, but not by the ISU Member itself, in which Skaters from at least one club of at least one other ISU Member participate.

b) Interclub Competitions are subject to respective rules and conditions of the concerned ISU Members only, subject to the following provisions:

i) Interclub Competitions may be organized also for Skaters who cannot compete in International Competitions (e.g. masters, adults, cubs, chicks, etc.).

ii) However, if an Interclub Competition includes competitions for Seniors, Juniors and/or Novices as defined in Rule 108 of the ISU General Regulations and in the respective ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the respective competition(s) must be conducted in accordance with all applicable ISU Rules. The ISU Member of the organizing club is responsible for compliance by the organizing club.

iii) The organizing club must take all necessary measures in order to assure that the Interclub Competition is clearly distinguished from ISU Events and International Competitions. This includes but is not limited to the following restrictions:

- The announcement must unequivocally designate the respective club as organizer of the event, and not its ISU Member.

- ~~d) The results protocol and other~~ All competition materials, in particular entry lists, starting orders and results protocols shall state the club of the participating Skaters; the abbreviation of the Skater's ISU Members may only be stated in parentheses after the name of the club.

- Interclub Competitions may not take place at the same place and at the same time as an International Competition; however, they may take place on the days immediately preceding and/or following an International Competition.

~~e) c) In case of TV coverage, the requirements of Rule 105, paragraph 6 shall apply.~~

~~f) The nature and composition of the events are arranged by or with the approval of the ISU Member concerned.~~

~~g) The ISU Member concerned is responsible that these competitions are conducted in accordance with all other applicable ISU Rules.~~

~~h) Such competitions may be organized also for other Skaters who cannot compete in International Competitions, e.g. for Masters (Speed Skating Branch) and Adults (Figure Skating Branch).~~

Reason: To clarify the requirements for inter-club competitions.

#### **Urgent Proposal No. 5**

##### **NETHERLANDS**

Rule 108, para. 3a)

Revise to read as follows:

#### **3. Age limits for Single & Pair Skating / Ice Dance**

a) In International Senior Competitions, ISU Senior Championships and the Olympic Winter Games only Skaters may compete who have reached at least the age of ~~fifteen (15)~~ seventeen (17) before July 1st preceding the Events, effective season 2020-2021.

Reason: • At Senior Championships and OWG, we need to show mature skaters with well-balanced programs.

• This will improve the image of our sport: media and audience would like to see "idols" who compete for a longer period of time

- Younger skaters are able to show more difficult elements until they are fully matured. Therefore we are currently losing Seniors skaters who are afraid they cannot compete with these younger skaters in Senior Events.
- We have currently the youngest Senior age requirement by far of all Winter sports
- We would bring Senior age requirement in line with a sport that is comparable to ours, namely Gymnastics, where Seniors have to be 16 (ladies) resp. 18 (men). We propose to take 17 for both ladies and men as currently we have no age distinction on the Junior and Novice level.

**Urgent Proposal No. 6**  
**ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 121, paragraph 3

Add new subparagraphs c) and d) and renumber subsequent subparagraphs:

3. Restrictions applying to appointed Officials:
- c) Persons who serve as president of an ISU Member at any time in the course of a competition season (July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30) shall not act as Judge, Referee, Technical Controller, Technical Specialist, Data and Replay Operator, OAC member, Starter or Competitors Steward at ISU Championships, World Cups in Speed Skating or Short Track Speed Skating, the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, the ISU World Team Trophy in Figure Skating and the Olympic Winter Games during the course of the same competition season. As to ISU Members that control both Branches of Skating (Figure Skating and Speed Skating) within their country, this restriction applies equally to the person holding the senior-most position in the governance of the respective Branch of the ISU Member
- d) Persons appointed by the ISU or by their ISU Member to act as an Official at the Olympic Winter Games shall not act as an Official at the national championships of another ISU Member during the period beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> of the same competition season as the Olympic Winter Games and up to the start of the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: To avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of national bias of Officials at ISU Championships, major ISU Events, and the Olympic Winter Games.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS SPEED SKATING**

**Urgent Proposal No. 7**  
**ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 200, paragraph 4

Delete current wording and replace by:

**4. Novelty formats at International Competitions**

For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the provisions of Rule 104, paragraph 11.b) apply.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's commitment to the European Commission to amend the Rule in this manner.

**Urgent Proposal No. 8**  
**ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 221, paragraph 2, f)-j)

Amend as follows and renumber subsequent paragraphs:

~~f) The Competitor who achieves a World Record result, must have been selected for doping control and have tested negative on the day of the race;~~

~~g) f) The ISU World Record application forms, with supporting documents as indicated in paragraph 3 below, must be submitted by the organizing ISU Member to the ISU Director General not later than May 1st of the season concerned. The submitted documents must confirm that all applicable conditions have been fulfilled.~~

Further conditions for recognition of World Records are:

~~h) g) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same day in competition(s) at the same venue, only the best result obtained shall be recognized as a World Record. However, when the final classification for the 500m is decided based on the total time in two races, each 500m race is considered as a separate competition;~~

h) For individual distances the Skater who achieves a World Record result, must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified;

i) For Team competitions, a minimum of 2 Skaters per team must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified;

j) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same day in Competitions at the same venue, the top two Skaters or top two Teams achieving a World Record result must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race;

Reason: Clarification of existing procedure.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 9**

#### **SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 265, paragraph 6.d) (Results of Mass Start races)

Amend to read as follows:

d) The results of the Mass start events at the World Junior Championships ~~and at ISU Junior World Cups~~ are determined according to subparagraph a) above, based on the following system for intermediate and final sprints:

- During the race there will be ~~one~~ 2 (two) intermediate sprints in addition to the final sprint. ~~The intermediate sprint will be decided at the finishing line after 5 laps.~~
- For each sprint Competitors will get points that count towards the final ranking of the race. The intermediate sprints will be decided at the finishing line after lap 4 and lap 7.
- Points for the sprints will be awarded as follows:
  - Intermediate sprint: first 3 (three) Skaters will gain: ~~5~~ - 3 - 2 - 1 points.
  - Final sprint: first ~~three~~ 3 6 (six) Skaters will gain: 30 - 20 - 10 - 4 - 2 - 1 points.
- Competitors will be ranked as follows:
  - total number of sprint points gained;
  - time at the finishing line;
  - number of laps skated;
  - in case of a tie in the number of laps skated, Competitors will be ranked according to their last intermediate time;

Reason: To align the points for Mass Start at Junior ISU Events with all other Senior ISU Events (cf Proposal No. 113). New points system for the Mass Start races will make competitions fairer for Competitors (especially in Semi-Finals) and more exciting for spectators. With including extra intermediate sprint for Juniors and by making similar new points system for both formats 10 and 16 laps, will help Juniors in the transition to the Senior age category easier to adapt to the 16 laps format of the Mass Start.

## **SPECIAL REGULATIONS SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING**

### **Urgent Proposal No. 10**

#### **ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 287, paragraph 4

Delete current wording and replace by:

#### 4. Novelty formats at International Competitions

For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the provisions of Rule 104, paragraph 11.b) apply.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's commitment to the European Commission to amend the Rule in this manner.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 11**

#### **ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 292, paragraph 1, d)-g)

Amend as follows and renumber subsequent paragraphs:

~~d) Any Competitor who achieves a World Record time must have been tested for doping control and have tested negative on the day of the race in order to have the World Record ratified;~~

~~e)d) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same distance in a competition only the best time obtained shall be considered as a World Record;~~

e) For individual distances the Skater who achieves a World Record result, must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified;

g) For Team/Relay competitions, a minimum of 2 Skaters per team must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified;

f) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same day in Competitions at the same venue, the top two Skaters or top two Teams achieving a World Record result must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race;

Reason: Clarification of existing procedure.

## SPECIAL REGULATIONS SINGLE & PAIR SKATING/ICE DANCE

### **Urgent Proposal No. 12**

#### **ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 367

Delete current wording and replace by:

#### 4. Novelty formats at International Competitions

For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the provisions of Rule 104, paragraph 11.b) apply.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's commitment to the European Commission to amend the Rule in this manner.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 13**

#### **SINGLE & PAIR AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

Rule 414, paragraph 4 b)

Amend as follows:

- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination], as Technical Specialist [Controller] in:
- two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.b),
  - or
  - one (1) ISU Event- (1) ISU Figure Skating Championships or one (1) Grand Prix event or Final (senior or junior) or one ( 1) Challenger Series (senior) event and one (1) National Competition (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.a).

Serving in Pair Skating counts for Single Skating. Serving in Single Skating does not count for Pair Skating

Reason: Clarification which events apply for the purpose of this Rule.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 14**

#### **SINGLE & PAIR AND ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

Rule 415, paragraph 4 b)

Amend as follows:

- b) Service: have served, during the twenty-four (24) months preceding July 31<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year of the nomination preceding the nomination], as Technical Specialist [Controller] in:
- two (2) International Competitions (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.b),
  - or
  - one (1) ISU Event- (1) ISU Figure Skating Championships or one (1) Grand Prix event or Final (senior or junior) or one ( 1) Challenger Series (senior) event and one (1) National Competition (as per Rule 411, paragraph 9.a).

Serving in Pair Skating counts for Single Skating. Serving in Single Skating does not count for Pair Skating

Reason: Clarification which events apply for the purpose of this Rule.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 15**

#### **SINGLE & PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 520, paragraph 2

Amend as follows:

2. Based on the result of the Short Program/Short Dance, the Competitors placed 1-24 in Single Skating, 1-16 in Pair Skating (1-20 in Pair Skating at World Championships) and 1-20 in Ice Dance only shall qualify for the final Free Skating/Free Dance.

Reason: Based on the increased ISU Member participation as well as the quality of the Pair events demonstrated at the 2017 and 2018 World Championships, it is logical to allow more Pairs to qualify for the Free Program.

### **Urgent Proposal No. 16**

#### **ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 707, paragraph 4

~~The Referee may announce the approximate location at which the Pattern Dances must be started.~~ All Pattern Dances shall be started so that the steps of the first side of the pattern are skated in front of the Judges unless otherwise specified ~~by the Referee or directed~~ by the Ice Dance Technical Committee in an ISU Communication. ~~If the Referee changes the side to start, the change must be announced at the time of the first draw for starting order.~~

Reason: The start of the Pattern Dance is set or it is specified by the IDTC only.

**Urgent Proposal No. 17**

**ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 708, paragraph 3 a) ii) and iii)

Amend as follows:

3. Marking Pattern Dances

a) Technical Score

ii) Levels of Sections

For ~~Advanced and~~ Novice Competitions and for competitions having specified such procedure in their Announcement, Technical Specialists will determine the Level of every Section in the Pattern Dance (if a description of Levels of Sections and corresponding Scale of Value are available for that Pattern Dance in an ISU Communication);

The description of characteristics that give a Section a certain Level is published and updated in ISU Communications.

iii) Grade of Execution (GOE).

Every Judge will mark the quality of execution of every Section of the Pattern Dance depending on the positive and negative features of the execution and errors on the ~~seven~~ eleven grades of execution scale: +5, +4, +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3, -4, -5. Each + or - grade has its own + or - numerical value indicated in the SOV Table. This value is added to the Base Value of the Section or deducted from it;

The guidelines for marking of Sections/Sequences are published and updated in ISU Communications.

Reason: Harmonization with Rule 504, paragraph 1) c) and to include Intermediate Novice - see Proposal No. 247.

**Urgent Proposal No. 18**

**ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 708, paragraph 3 b) i)

Amend as follows:

3. Marking Pattern Dances

b) Components Score

i) **Component definitions**

In addition to the Technical Score each of the Judges will evaluate the Couple's whole performance which is divided into four (4) Components in the Pattern Dances (Skating Skills, Performance, Interpretation, Timing). Unless otherwise specified in an ISU Communication.

Reason: Specification is needed for Basic and Intermediate Novice and it is announced in the ISU Novice Communication.

**Urgent Proposal No. 19**

**ICE DANCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 708, paragraph 3 b) ii)

Amend as follows:

ii) **Marking of Components**

Components are evaluated by Judges after the completion of the dance on a scale from 0.25 to 10 with increments of 0.25. Points given by the Judges correspond to the following degrees of the Components: <1- extremely poor, 1 very poor, 2 - poor, 3 -weak, 4 - fair, 5 - average, 6 - above average, 7 - good, 8 - very good, 9 to 9.75 - excellent, 10 - outstanding. Increments are used for evaluation of performances containing some features of one degree and some of the next degree. Guidelines for judging are published and updated in ISU Communications;

Reason: Harmonization with Rule 504 paragraph 3.b) - see Proposal No. 249.

**SPECIAL REGULATIONS SYNCHRONIZED SKATING**

**Urgent Proposal No. 20**

**ISU COUNCIL**

Rule 857, paragraph 1

Delete current wording and replace by:

4. Novelty formats at International Competitions

For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the provisions of Rule 104, paragraph 11.b) apply.

Reason: To fulfil the Council's commitment to the European Commission to amend the Rule in this manner.

**Urgent Proposal No. 21**

**SYNCHRONIZED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Rule 910, paragraph 7 - Add new paragraph 4 and renumber remaining:

4. The names of the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators actually serving at International Competitions as well as the names of those Judges nominated but not drawn must be announced to the ISU Secretariat within two weeks after the conclusion of the competition, by the Organizing ISU Member.

Reason: To clarify reporting requirements for ISU Organizing Members of International competitions which harmonizes with the other disciplines.

Tubbergen,  
May 15, 2018  
Lausanne,

**Jan Dijkema**, President

**Fredi Schmid**, Director General