Communication No. 2267

(This Communication replaces ISU Communication 2049, effective July 16, 2019)

On Ice Medical Emergencies Protocol

A) Figure Skating (Single & Pair Skating, Ice Dance and Synchronized Skating)

The following procedure must be followed in case of evacuation of a Skater from the ice surface in the Figure Skating Branch.

1. The Host Medical Team must be present during practice (minimum 2) and competition (minimum 4) and be positioned as stated in the ISU Medical Guide.

2. The Host Medical Team will have radio contact with the Referee.

3. When an emergency occurs on the ice that the Host Medical Team believes requires immediate attention, the Host Medical Team will radio the Referee to inform him/her that they need to enter the ice surface.

4. The Referee will stop the performance of Skater/Skaters and clear the ice.

5. The Host Medical Team with the respective Team physician (if present) enter the ice surface and assess the Skater.

6. Skater is removed from the ice surface by the Host Medical Team and, depending on the injury, is taken directly to the ambulance for transport or to the medical room for further assessment.

7. The assessment is conducted by the Skater’s Team Physician (if present). If there is no Team Physician present the assessment will be conducted by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) or Assistant CMO for the event.

8. If the respective Team Physician is present to assess the Skater, he/she will provide the Referee directly or via the ISU Event Coordinator with his/her assessment if the Skater is fit to compete or not.

9. If there is no Team Physician present, the CMO/Assistant will provide the Referee directly or via the ISU Event Coordinator with his/her assessment if the Skater is fit to compete or not.

10. ISU Rule 515 paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Special Regulations & Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance is applied.

11. The Referee makes the final decision if the Skater is allowed back onto the ice surface to compete.

12. The Physician who conducted the assessment completes either the Physician Assessment Form if the Skater is fit to compete or the Withdrawal Form if not fit to compete. The respective Form must be completed and submitted by the next day following the emergency at the latest.
B) Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating
The following procedure must be followed in case of evacuation of a Skater from the ice surface in Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating.

1. The Host Medical Team must be present during practice (minimum 2) and competition (minimum 4) and be positioned as stated in the ISU Medical Guide.

2. When an emergency occurs on the ice, the Referee stops the race and gives a signal to the closest Host Medical Team to allow them to enter on the ice surface.

3. The Host Medical Team with the respective Team physician (if present) will enter the ice surface and assess the Skater.

4. If more than one Skater requests medical care, a second Host Medical Team with the respective Team physician (if present) should enter the ice surface without delay and assess the Skater.

5. The Skater is removed from the ice surface by the Host Medical Team and, depending on the injury, is taken directly to the ambulance for transport or to the medical room for further assessment.

6. The assessment is conducted by the Skater’s Team Physician (if present). If there is no Team Physician present the assessment will be conducted by the CMO or Assistant CMO for the event.

7. If the respective Team Physician is present to assess the Skater, he/she will provide the Referee directly or via the ISU Event Coordinator or ISU Technical Committee Representative with his/her assessment if the Skater is fit to compete or not.

8. If there is no Team Physician present, the CMO/Assistant, will provide the Referee directly or via the ISU Event Coordinator or ISU Technical Committee Representative with his/her assessment if the Skater is fit to compete or not.

9. The Physician who conducted the assessment completes either the Physician Assessment Form if the Skater is fit to compete or the Withdrawal Form if not fit to compete. The respective Form must be completed and submitted by the next day following the emergency at the latest.