

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
- Peter Gerdol, Chief Race Director World Cup Women
- Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men
- Alberto Senigagliaesi, Race Director World Cup Women Speed Events
- Markus Mayr, Race Director World Cup Women Technical Events
- Hannes Trinkl, Race Director World Cup Men Speed Events
- Raimund Plancker, Assistant Race Director World Cup Men Speed Events
- Janez Hladnik, Race Director World Cup Men Technical Events
- Emmanuel Couder, Alpine Operational Event Coordinator

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Massimo Rinaldi, Chairman Alpine Committee
- Stefano Pirola, Chairman Intercontinental Cups
- Jenny Wiedeke, FIS Communications Manager
- Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director
- Sandra Spitz, FIS Event Director
- Janez Fleré, FIS Alpine Technical and Administrative Coordinator

Oberhofen 06.10.2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup, Friday, 29.09.2023 held in Zurich (SUI).

Dear Ski Friends,

we are pleased to send you the minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for the Alpine World Cup, which was held on 29.09.2023.

We kindly ask that you to send any remarks to the FIS Alpine Office in Oberhofen by the **20th October 2023** (luessy@fisski.com).

We would also like to take the opportunity to inform you that the minutes are available on the Member Services section of the FIS Website: www.fis-ski.com.

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution.

Kindest regards,



Walter Vogel
Chair Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION
Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
Friday, 29.09.2023

All proposals and decisions of the Sub-Committee are subject to the confirmation of the Alpine Committee and to the approval of FIS Council in October 2023

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

Walter Vogel (GER) opened the meeting by greeting and welcomed all present.

2. Roll-call

Janez Fleré (FIS) made the Roll-call (see enclosure).

3. Approval of the agenda

Walter Vogel (GER) integrated point 7.5 on the agenda: Precisions for the Team Combined and included item 10 to Christian Salomon's report.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Cavtat (CRO) on 05.05.2023

The minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Reports

a) from the Chairman Walter Vogel (GER)

- The long-term calendars are back on the agenda even if no one has had a chance to see them before this meeting, so it will not be possible to discuss them.
- The calendars were made up at the headquarters in Oberhofen and not in this Committee, which demonstrates an ongoing change in the FIS strategy.
- Part of the previous discussions are the topics like refusal of a reinstatement of Zagreb (CRO) and the definitive removal of Lake Louise (CAN) from the 2023/24 calendar.
- A salient topic is the Team Combined, which has led to lengthy discussions and continues to be a very important element after the resistance of the athletes against this event has grown more and more.
- He sincerely thanks his FIS colleagues, especially Peter Gerdol, Markus Waldner and Tatjana Luessy for their continued cooperation.

b) from Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men

- The summer inspections have been completed apart from Soelden (AUT), which will take place next week.
- He thanked the Organisers for their open-mindedness and great cooperation, emphasising how important these summer inspections are for finding the right way to work with the LOCs.
- Major works on the slopes terrain were carried out at various locations, such as in Soelden (AUT) and Zermatt-Cervinia (SUI-ITA).
- The snow depot work in Zermatt-Cervinia (SUI-ITA) is well underway and there is real confidence that the races will take place this year.
- Gurgl (AUT) as the new Organiser is working well to deliver an excellent product and meet the demand of the slalom skiers to start earlier in the season.

- Safety installations are being worked on and have been improved in Bormio (ITA) for example.
- Course Preparation is progressing well and work is being done on the details thanks to the collaboration of the Race Directors with Chief of Course. The standards are really high and we must continue to maintain them.
- Parking and Team Hospitality are two issues that have been worked on and emphasised a lot during the summer inspection.
- Accommodation: although the prices are constantly rising, they will remain the same for the coming season, but we will certainly have to make considerations for the future and increase accommodation prices to meet the Organisers' needs.
- A lot of work was done with the TV Directors to improve the product and also the policies and use of the drone.
- Starting times were co-ordinated minutely so as not to have too much pressure during the competition days.
- Mid-term Calendars will finally be presented, which is crucial for the Organisers to proceed with investments.

c) from Peter Gerdol, Chief Race Director World Cup Women

- The summer was dedicated to the summer inspections of the organisers on the 2023/24 calendar and also potential future organisers. In talking about the organisers, a special mention goes to the contribution everyone is making to maintain high standards.
- The collaboration with M&M will be substantial to continue to improve, create economic synergies, raise standards and innovate the product.
- Safety installation and course preparation were among the keywords and among the major evaluation elements during the summer inspections.
- Collaboration with stakeholders is increasingly crucial.
- Team Hospitality was a sensitive topic during the inspections to try to create an area dedicated specifically to athletes and to avoid the flow of insiders who do not have to enter it.
- He thanks to the cooperation with SRS in the work during the summer to find better working situations for ski rooms.
- Mention was made of new organisers such as Tremblant (CAN) and those who are not always on the calendar such as Zermatt-Cervinia (SUI-ITA), Jasna (SVK), Val di Fassa (ITA) and Soldeu (AND).

d) from Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director

Christian Salomon (FIS) presented the new digital strategy focusing mainly on the TV product.

Markus Krailer (Nielsen Sport) presented some of the most relevant statistics on the past season in Alpine skiing compared with the previous 4 seasons.

- What can be deduced from the statistics is that FIS sports can be compared to other world-class sports.
- Media impact is good; Champions League and Formula 1 have better numbers but FIS World Cups can compete them and Alpine skiing can be on the same level as the Bundesliga.
- The reasons for this strong position are because it is possible to watch our sports free to air, the number of events is high and the winter sports period is favourable

because the other Championships are in different periods.

Christian Salomon (FIS) is keen to emphasize that we can compete with the big tournaments and other big sports, that we must continue to innovate, focus on digitalisation and that we must try to remain in public television and not pay television. We must aim to modernise and evolve and a lot of work has also been done on the graphics that will be part of the feed.

Emmanuel Couder (FIS) presented the new features to be integrated into the international feed, using last season's successful projects and next season's innovations as examples. This was reviewed and discussed during TV workshops with leading broadcasters held in spring and autumn.

There were nine main points: Drones policy, LLad GS and SL (Live Electronic Timing), TV GFX, Start Led, Guideline, Interviews, Virtual GFX, and Team Radios opportunities.

Micheal Huber (AUT) was thankful for the innovations and was keen to emphasise the importance of not turning the performance and the races themselves into a video game but maintaining the cleanliness of the television images.

e) from Athletes' Commission

Leif Kristian Haugen (NOR) and Verena Stuffer (ITA) (Athletes' commission) thanked for the open and collaborative dialogue with FIS and were especially grateful for the efforts in creating a balanced calendar and thanked Christian Salomon (FIS) for the digital innovations they are bringing to FIS.

6. Fluor Wax control

Walter Vogel (GER) introduces the point by emphasizing that he is aware that this is a very sensitive topic because there is a lot of controversy about the testing methodology, but on the other hand, we have to work in the right direction so that the law of fluoride prohibition is respected.

- FIS confirmed full implementation of the fluor wax ban start of 2023/24 season.
- FIS will carry out testing skis at top-tier events (FIS World Cup, FIS World Ski Championships, FIS Junior World Ski Championships). Testing at other level events will be carried out on a random basis.
- Testing will be made at the Finish area in a dedicated tent next to the equipment controller tent.
- Skis will be tested after the race in speed events and randomly checked during the first and second run on the tech events.
- When an athlete's ski is checked "red fluor", ICR 222.8 applies. Remeasurements will not be considered when "Red Fluor" ski is removed from the red rack.
- All information and procedures regarding the Fluor Test can be found via [this link](#).

7. Rules season 2023/24

7.1 SRS Proposal, Art. 4.3.2

Proposal has been approved.

7.2 SRS Proposal, Art. 4.5.1

Proposal has been approved.

7.3 Athletes' Commission, Special Bibs

Verena Stuffer (ITA) (Athletes' Commission) proposed postponing the decision to the spring meeting and Walter Vogel (GER) invited the Committee to present ideas that would support this.

7.4 Information about the prize money

The guideline of the new distribution of prize money has been welcomed.

7.5 Precision for the Team Combined

Chairman Walter Vogel (GER) wanted to explain the path that led to this format by explaining the IOC's request to propose another discipline in order not to lose the chance of an Olympic medal in Alpine Skiing. The Athletes' Commission together with FIS then presented the Team Combined format including possible rules that were discussed during the spring meetings and later confirmed by the Council. The main objective is to fulfil the IOC's request to integrate this format into the World Cup even though Walter Vogel (GER) personally thinks it is not a World Cup event. The current situation sees the athletes' opposition to the established rules and scoring therefore had to react and the Athletes' Commission proposed changes to meet the demands of the athletes themselves and especially for those who could not compete today because they lacked a pair.

Leif Kristian Haugen (NOR) (Athletes Commission) presented proposals that had been discussed over the previous weeks with the aim of keeping the disciplines alive, working on fair play, excitement for the new format and creating a unified product.

The format for the Olympic Games and World Championships remains the same while the proposals for the World Cup are as follows:

- eligibility for both events according to World Cup enrollment
- awarding points for individual performance
- create mixed pairs as follows: nations will put their athletes on the starting list in the two disciplines and form the best pairs as long as they have athletes available. The first athlete who does not have a pair will pair up according to ranking. In this way, the best athletes can be incentivized to compete.

Walter Vogel (GER) affirmed this proposal was well accepted at the Executive Board meeting the previous evening because everyone's goal is to save this format and keep the Olympic medal.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) asks whether Parallel Team event has been cut from the Olympic programme.

Walter Vogel (GER) confirmed that it would not be present at the next Olympics due to logistical problems, but could be present at subsequent Olympics.

Michael Huber (AUT) brought up the Ryder Cup as an example as a perfect idea to compete in pairs, but emphasized how much the negative voice of the athletes these days has impacted the product in the media. Consequently, as a spokesman for Austria and Kitzbühel (AUT), he cannot support a product that is not supported by the protagonists themselves considering the media risk and the economic investment as it is one of the most expensive events.

In conclusion, one is not yet ready to support a Ryder Cup in Alpine skiing.

Therefore, Friday in Kitzbühel (AUT) will be dedicated to the second downhill as it was already planned to be.

Michel Vion (FIS) emphasises that there is no guarantee that there will be a second downhill in Kitzbühel, but the programme will have to be rediscussed.

Leif Kristian Haugen (NOR) stood up for the athletes, pointing out that they are excited to have this new format and so efforts are being made to improve the format.

Walter Vogel (GER) asked the members to vote on the proposal of mixed nations competing together. The result was four in favour and one against.

Christian Scherer (AUT) asks whether the Team Combined is confirmed for the next Olympics.

Michel Vion (FIS) confirms that the Team Combined is on the programme provided that a consistent and good format is presented and that is why it was important to try it at least once in the World Cup.

Michael Huber (AUT) absolutely does not support mixed nations in the competition because it does not support the DNA of our discipline.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) speaks on behalf of Crans Montana (SUI) and confirms the readiness to compete in this discipline only if there is a defined concept and clear rules.

Michael Vion (FIS) admits that they are not ready for the next season, so study the case and then reintroduce the format for the 2024/25 season by asking the IOC for another chance. The event is being held for the World Championships in Saalbach and at the World Junior Championships, but certainly not ready for next season's World Cup.

Walter Vogel (FIS) aligns himself with Michel Vion's proposal and postpones the debut of the format.

Peter Gerdol (FIS) does not agree to compete in Crans Montana (SUI) if the same thing does not happen in Kitzbühel (AUT), so he agrees with Michel Vion (FIS) to postpone the format until the following season and try to find the best format in order to save the event.

Walter Vogel (GER) agrees with this decision and therefore points out that it was decided not to include Team Combined in the 2023/24 calendar and proposes to work on a clear format structure.

8. Calendars 2023/24

Women's calendar presented by Peter Gerdol (FIS)

Peter Gerdol (FIS) only pointed out a few changes and the arrival of new venues on the calendar.

- Zermatt/Cervinia (SUI/ITA): The entire Women's World Cup will be hosted in Cervinia.
- Tremblant (CAN): The Organising Committee is very keen to host the races.

- Courchevel (FRA): New event with a night slalom.
- Kranjska Gora (SLO): The race is organised in collaboration with the National Ski association. There will be the race crew from Kranjska Gora and the logistic crew from Maribor working together.
- Jasna (SVK) and Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER): are back on the calendar.
- Crans-Montana (SUI): The Team Combined has been cancelled for the 2023/24 World Cup calendar to allow more time to analyse and work on detailed rules to improve the product while respecting Fair Play.
- Val di Fassa (ITA): is back on the calendar.
- Saalbach (AUT): The Finals are divided into two weekends. In preparation for the World Championships, the events will be run on slopes that have yet to be tested for the event, namely on the women's slope.

Men's calendar presented by Markus Waldner (FIS)

Despite efforts to keep Lake Louise (CAN) on the calendar, the final decision has been made and there will be no race this winter. An alternative to replace the speed races at that time was searched for, but no agreement was found.

Markus Waldner (FIS) also pointed out the inequality in the number of races per discipline. The calendar doesn't balance out, especially with the speed season ending in mid-February. Speed racers have no races from Kvitfjell onwards, for 3 weeks until the Finals.

- Gurgl (AUT): is new to the calendar and promises a first successful slalom on a very challenging track.
- Alta Badia (ITA): has invested heavily in snow making, with a system that covers the entire race slope in just 48 hours.
- Kitzbühel (AUT): The subject of the Team Combined opened up a lot of debate, and after much discussion, Kitzbühel will not be hosting this new format for the coming season. An additional downhill is scheduled for Friday, and the new program has yet to be confirmed.
- Schladming (AUT): Double event with a night giant slalom and a night slalom.
- Chamonix (FRA): will be one of the season's highlights, as it will be the 100th anniversary of the Olympic Games and the return of the traditional Kandahar Downhill to the Chamonix resort. Two downhills and a slalom are scheduled.

In order to keep costs as low as possible for the Federations, the second American tour will feature technical races only.

9. Long-term Calendar

Walter Vogel introduced by pointing out that the calendars presented are drafts and can still be changed. He mentioned the fact that previously, despite the fact that long-term calendars could be changed and adapted, they were presented to the Alpine Committee. Now they're being shown here for the first time without even having been distributed to Sub-Committee members first. Walter Vogel (GER) feels that this is against the statutes, shows a lack of respect for the Committee and demonstrates the lack of transparency that exists at the moment. Calendars can no longer be voted on as they come directly from top management.

Michel Vion (FIS) reacted to Walter's words and felt that it was unacceptable to say these words in front of the audience present in the room today. He noted the complains made

in Dubrovnik (CRO) about the long-term calendar and the promises given to be able to present the mid-term calendar at the next autumn meetings in Zurich. A major amount of work was carried out this summer, right up to the day before this meeting, in order to be able to present the calendars at the Sub-Committee meeting and thus keep the promise made in the spring.

Draft Calendar 2024/25

Women's draft calendar presented by Peter Gerdol (FIS)

Peter Gerdol (FIS) pointed out that the aim is to keep the classic construction of the calendar and the perfect balance between the disciplines, but this is not always possible. Adding new resorts does not mean that the balance will be maintained, as resorts have to fit in with the different disciplines.

In the 2024/25 calendar, the new additions are a speed event in North America, Beaver Creek. This would mean no more trips to Val d'Isère. The deal would be to visit the French resort every two years.

The January period is full of classical events, and the return of Zagreb (CRO) to the calendar on other dates is being considered.

The venue for the finals has not yet been decided.

Marius Arnesen (NOR) spoke on behalf of Kvitfjell / Hafjell (NOR) and pointed out that for the moment the Norwegian resort is the only one interested in hosting future Finals, and that if Kvitfjell (NOR) could be guaranteed a place in the long-term calendar, investments would be made in the resort and it would be ready to host the Finals.

Men's draft calendar presented by Markus Waldner (FIS)

Work is underway with the USA to find solutions for the start of the season. Due to the change in dates, the famous night slalom in Madonna di Campiglio (ITA) before the Christmas break will be moved to early January.

Courchevel (FRA) is scheduled to appear on the calendar in mid-January. Kranjska Gora (SLO) has been moved to the end of January/beginning of February, as if the Finals are to be held in America, it's preferable to not be travelling from Slovenia. These dates can still be moved to the traditional dates if the finals are not held in America.

With the 2027 World Championships in Crans-Montana (SUI), it's important to test the slopes and the team on site. The men will therefore be present in Crans-Montana. The downhill races in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) are back in the calendar.

Draft Calendar 2025/26

Women's draft calendar presented by Peter Gerdol (FIS)

Zermatt/Cervinia (SUI/ITA) and Levi (FIN) are again on the program, but the dates could be swapped between them.

Tremblant (CAN) is still TBC*, as we first have to see how the races go this year before we can definitively add it to the calendar.

Return of Spindleruv Mlyn (CZE). In preparation for the 2027 World Championships in Crans-Montana (SUI), a common men's/women's event will be held at the end of February. This will be the final test and there will be no Finals, as the resort is too exposed to the sun and warm temperatures in late March.

Men's draft calendar presented by Markus Waldner (FIS)

Open discussions are still underway for November with Canada and the USA. Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) will probably host a Super-G and not a downhill, to avoid an

overload of speed events before the Olympic Games.
Final test in Crans-Montana (SUI) in February with a men's/women's block.

10. TV live data

Emmanuel Couder (FIS) gave the information under point 5. Reports including in the Marketing report.

11. Miscellaneous

Walter Vogel (GER) noted Srečko Medven's message concerning the constant addition of costs to the organisers.

12. Next meeting, 05.-09.05.2024, Portoroz (SLO)

13. Closing of the meeting