

IPCNS STC MINUTES

Event: IPC Nordic Skiing Technical Committee Meeting

Date: 27 to 29 April 2012

Place: IPC HQ Bonn, Germany

Participants	Name	Position	(Initials)
	Robert Walsh	Chairperson	RW
	Len Apedaile	Vice Chairperson	LA
	Hans Peter Neeser	Head of Technical Control & Officiating	HP
	Kaspar Wirz	Head of Competition Biathlon	KW
	Tor Undheim	Head of Competition Cross country	TU
	Dia Pernot	Head of Classification	DP
IPC Management	Dimitrije Lazarovski	IPC Winter Sports Manager	DL
Not Present			
Invited	Peter Van der Vliet	Medical & Scientific Director	PV
	Joe Walsh		JW

Purpose of the Meeting	STC Spring Meeting Classification Competition Calendar. IPCNS Rule Book. Factor System. WCH 2013 Sochi 2014 PWG
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Executive
Summary/
Main Outcomes

AGENDA

EVENT: IPC Nordic Skiing Technical Committee Meeting

Date: 27 to 29 April 2012

Place: Bonn, GER

<p>27/4/2012 9:00 AM</p>	<p>1. Welcome to the committee members.</p> <p>2. Agenda Approval of the Agenda Additions or deletions to the Agenda</p> <p>3. Review and Approval - Minutes Bonn September, 2011.</p> <p>4. Overview of Strategic Plan and Budget</p> <p>5. Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Review of camp in Spain -<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Develop a list of participant nations- Written summary of benefits to the program, and issues that can be improved for upcoming efforts.b. Discussion of effort for Balkan nations<ul style="list-style-type: none">- When is the upcoming meeting?- Who will be at the meeting?- What is the goal? What are follow up actions? <p>6. Classification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Review of Open Forum Discussionb. Discussion of Plan to move forward<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No major changes to classes until 2015- Athletes with individual percentages will be assigned into existing classes and all athletes in the same class will have the same percent.- Research to develop a new classification system with improved analysis and testing, and new class structure will continue to be implemented after Sochi.- Question for Peter – there was talk about reclassifying all athletes with the improved protocol, will we be allowed to do this in the coming season? For all classes or some classes?	<p>RW</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>DL</p> <p>RW, DP</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can we put Classification information into SDMS? Have it clear and accessible by classifiers/nations? - Classification Protest/Review procedure – need to have a date indicated for review on the classification card/record? - Can we have provisional assignment, or some way to let athletes compete if they register with a license but have no international classification? - Integration of athletes with intellectual impairment. - Integration of ID athletes would negatively impact integration with FIS <p>7. Competition</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. IPCNS Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrate into new results system - Should we maintain different lists for Sprint / Distance / Biathlon? - Review of Factor <p style="padding-left: 20px;">b. Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2012-13 – Suggestion to start WC on 12 Jan rather than 10 Jan - Suggestion to make break between Solleftea and test event the same as between WC Finals and PWG in 2014 - 2014-15 – Include Longer Distance event in WCH program <p style="padding-left: 20px;">c. Race Formats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relay <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Raise the upper limit to 370%</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Can one athlete participate on more than one team on the same day?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Need to create a proposal for inclusion of this event in Sochi. We need to come up with a detailed description of how it works (Tor has part of this already from this season) as well as a name for the different relays that will be easy for the public to distinguish. Perhaps something like “Open Relay” and “Mixed Relay” since the Mixed (330%) relay is expected to have more of a mix of women and classes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BT Pursuit - BT Mass start - Longer Distances <p>8. Percentage system</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Assignment of Percentages for Classes for 2013, 2014</p> <p>9. PWG – Sochi 2014</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">a. Qualification Criteria</p>	<p>TU</p> <p>TU</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>TU</p> <p>ALL</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Sochi Event Program c. PRIS d. Test event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will there be a charter flight from Europe? Will teams have an opportunity for a camp in Sochi prior to test event? e. Transportation issue – Village access <p>10. Rules / Technical Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Biathlon equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential move to electronic rifles from air rifles Potential move to electronic targets/results Proposal to work with Kurvinen during summer on equipment development/training b. Timing / Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timing/Results contract status with Per Potential for move to IPC transponders c. TD education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should we include organizers (at their own expense) in the TD seminars? d. Rule changes/adjustments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can we get the proposed FIS changes during the summer to prepare our changes to make our rule book quicker to update? Sit ski 40cm height rule Need to clarify the process for having equipment (sit ski) checked prior to season to make sure it is compliant. LW rifle support rule (must be upright) clarification / adjustment Change to BT rules to allow no marshals in B class range lanes. Tor has data on shooting times for B classes – do we need to make adjustments for B1 to accommodate shooting time? Change to BT diameter / target size? (Do we want to change LW target size just before WCH/ PWG? Do we want to change targets if we soon will go to electronic?) Race format rules WC Jury members – Biathlon staff member? Clarification of obstruction rule – Guide must not interfere, passing on same side by athlete 	<p>HP,KW, LA,</p> <p>RW</p>
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	<p>and guide is emphasized Start list for WC defined by points list rather than groupings</p>	
	<p>11. Governance a. FIS b. IBU</p>	DL
	<p>12. Management a. Budget Classification costs Results contract for Per b. Strategic plan</p>	HP, RW
	<p>13. Other Business a. New clothing for IPC TDs /Officials / STC (this was talked about in Oct – any update?) b. Athlete Representative Position duties/description Elections / Selections</p>	RW
	<p>14. Closing a. Schedule next meeting</p>	

SUMMARY

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the Committee members.

Congratulates all STC members for a successful season.

Presents a summary of the preceding seasons where it reflects the growth in licenses.

Total numbers in women have grown but still there is a huge difference versus men.

Roll Call

Rob Walsh (USA)
Len Apedaile (CAN)
Kaspar Wirz (CAN)
Tor Undheim (NOR)
Dia Pernot (NED)
Hans Peter Neeser (SUI)

Dimitrije Lazarovski (SRB)

Observer:
Joe Walsh (USA)

Correspondence

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2. ADOPTION AGENDA

Discussion

RW proposes a revised agenda.

Decision(s)

Motion: To approve Agenda
Agenda was adopted.

3. ADOPTION MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

<i>Discussion</i>	Minutes from September 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	Motion: To approve September 2011 minutes Motion Passed
<i>Action(s)</i>	

4. OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUDGET

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>DL presented the report connecting point 12. of the approved agenda with point 4.</p> <p>The Budget for year 2011/12 was reviewed in association with a presentation of the season 2011/2012. A full report on season 2011/2012 will be finished during July following the official year-end on 30.06.2012 and will be reviewed at the September STC meeting.</p> <p>Budget for 2012 is planned with negative sum on the end of year. A new budgeting format is being developed that will allow users (including STC members) to sort and filter all sections of budget such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Classification- Competition follow up- Administration- Travel cost- Accommodation- etc <p>A strategic plan is in early phase of development and it will include a review of options with respect to the future governance of IPC Nordic skiing. This will include an examination of the following future options for IPCNS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- become a sustainable self governing organisation, ie stand alone international federation (IF)- join with existing able body IF's (FIS, IBU)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Join a new international confederation sport federation - stay inside IPC
<i>Decision(s)</i>	To discuss more on STC meeting in September when we will have more detailed finance report.
<i>Action(s)</i>	DL to bring finance report to STC members before September STC

5. DEVELOPMENT

Discussion

DL presented report from IPC Snow sport camp.

General Overview of the Camp

The participants – Athletes

4 athletes from Spain with physical impairment
 1 athlete from Italy with physical impairment

The Participants - Coordinators

Seven coordinators coming from:

- 1 Macedonian – snowboard FIS TD and Coach.
- 2 Serbians – actively skiing instructors
- 3 Azerbaijani an (two volunteers from the NPC and a parliamentary working with the UN)
- 1 Turkish – Member of the Nordic FIS committee

The Participants - Volunteers

We had 3 certified coaches and ski instructors and 2 graduate sport professionals working with the youth.

Youth Coordinators Workshops

The purpose of the workshops was:

1. To learn and share about the level of knowledge of the nations involved, in terms of sport organization in each one of the nations, NPC's implication on snow sports and development, the possible financial

opportunities to develop the sport, the snow facilities within the nation.

2. To learn about Paralympic Winter Sports.
3. To learn how to initiate a positive contact with their NPC's.
4. To study future possibilities regarding the development on a winter sports program.
5. To provide the youth coordinators with the knowledge on all the matters regarding Paralympic Sport.
6. To provide the youth coordinators with the tools for developing educational programs to deliver in their nations.
7. To improve the planning and implementation of sport and play activities with children or youth and provide with guidelines aim to explicitly state what must be done before, during and after any sport activity with children.

Feedback

All the participants demonstrate a great motivation to start developing snow sports within their nations, despite the difficulties in terms of financial strains and equipment.

The specific workshops on the Paralympic Movement and Classification they gave them a clear understanding on Paralympic Sport and the minimum necessary needs to achieve successful events.

Turkey and Macedonia believe that is important to create a committee inside the Sport Federation.

Relations with the NPC's

At the moment of the Camp the participants had no or poor contact with their NPC, therefore they all agreed after the workshop that the first step was to create a link with the NPC, recognising that in order to put in place the aforementioned projects development camps it will be key to have one NPC member as a strategic control person.

Future Goals/Projects

1. Macedonia is willing to start with snowboard.
2. Serbia will start with Alpine Skiing with Visually Impaired athletes as the needs on equipment are not a financial burden.
3. Turkey is already in talks with IPC winter sport

manager to start with a Nordic competition and create a non-profit association in order to support with the financial needs on equipment.

4. Azerbaijan wants to start with an adaptive winter program in a new ski resort.

All of them will try to get in contact with associations or clubs who are working with people with impairment.

Macedonia wants to offer the sport through a skiing club that will gather youth with and without impairment.

Objectives of the Projects

Macedonia – To create a system that will include athletes with a impairment inside the existing sport community

Serbia – To start with some kids that we know

Turkey – Promote winter Paralympic sport to a new range of society.

Benefits for the community

Macedonia: Create an inclusive program, kids with an without impairment.

Serbia: Physiological and physical benefits for the kids, and create an opportunity to practice sports.

Turkey: A way to educate the society.

Location of the Projects

Macedonia: Capital + ski resort, 1h from the capital with public transport

Serbia and Azerbaijan: Capital + ski resort, 3,5h from the capital with public transport.

Turkey :

First Project- IPC Nordic Skiing Competition in ERZURUM.

Second Project – In the capital, there are different facilities from 30m away to 2h or 1,5h.

Fundraising

All the countries agreed that to raise funds for the projects they needed to concentrate in:

- 1- To search for agreements with the ski resort regarding discounts with the ski

	<p>passes.</p> <p>2- Families</p> <p>3- Sponsors</p> <p>4- NGO'S or other associations</p> <p>5- Government</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	We should continuously work of develop not only on Balkan region. Process of development should be in cooperation with Alpine skiing like it was created on this seminar.
<i>Action(s)</i>	KW to follow up with chairperson of IPC Alpine skiing

6. CLASSIFICATION

Discussion

RW provided an update on the status of NC classification based on a summary of the open forum presentation (PV) and subsequent discussions. The input and feedback from several nations was reviewed.

There was a short discussion regarding athletes who may choose to ski in a different class then they are classified and he clarified that the intent is that athletes should not be in position to choose the class, it shall be done from classifiers.

All general discussion regarding the proposed (PV) process and timelines for classification development including perceived weaknesses and gaps in the present system especially with the elimination of individual percentages (ie LW9). There was some debate regarding the proposed research approach and timeframes versus short term needs.

RW relayed PV's position at the Open forum that we should stay with 5 sitting classes and 7 standing classes, we should not divide LW9

Although PV has directed that LW9 be one class the STC feels that the range of impairment in that class has historically been too wide and we should be able to created profiles for 2 classes for 2014 from what has been the LW9 class.

HP stated that there should be no class changes until the end of the 2013/2014 season.

DL confirmed that all information about classification are in SDMS, and all classifiers have access to SDMS

DP we are now using new classification card and on those new cards we have place where we can assign when reclassification

	<p>should take place (year)</p> <p>JW direction from Governing Board is that the STC should consider whether athletes with ID should be integrated in Cross country</p> <p>LA STC requires more information about this issue. KM sport forum voted against inclusion and the general feeling is that inclusion would not be consistent with elite nature of the sport or with FIS/IBU integration initiatives.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>-RW will contact Rita and start discussion on need to create more than one class from LW9 class before 2014</p> <p>-DL with DP to review all R status in SDMS and to add review dates for reclassification</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	As above

7. COMPETITION

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>DL on line point system has been created and was tested at the last competition of the past season and it is working correctly, it will be published with new web site on beginning of season.</p> <p>TU official point list will be created in next season after each WC competition (versus each race)</p> <p>RW we will still remain with one list for points combined with Sprint and Distance in both sports</p> <p>TU we will continue with same Factor – 600</p> <p>TU presented the draft calendar for season 2012/2013, we should wait until 15.05. to get confirmation from Poland.</p> <p>RW Suggestion to make break between Solleftea and test event the same as between WC finals and PWG 2014</p> <p>RW during 2014/2015 we should include longer distance events in WCH program as discussed in the Open Forum</p> <p>RACE FORMAT – The Open Forum discussion ended in favor of using the new format of Relay in the WCH and PWG as soon as possible. Also, there were recommendations to use a third individual race for BT in the PWG instead of a pursuit, but to continue to test the pursuit on the world cup.</p> <p>RW we will keep in upcoming seasons BT pursuit format, also will be the same approach to keep format for BT Mass start, and in next season we should start with longer distances.</p>
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<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>Draft calendar will be posted after 15.05 as soon as confirmation from Poland arrive.</p> <p>Very important is to be sending to nations information about VISA requirements for Russia, Ukraine and Poland. Invitations from OC's are required early as possible (October) so that teams can arrange visas in good time.</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendar for season 2012/2013 should be posted with posting new web site on 01.07.2012. - HP will schedule TD and BT staff which should be on WC races in season 2012/2013 - HP will schedule site visits for Homologation in Solleftea, Val di Fiemme and Korea.

8. PERCENTAGE SYSTEM

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>RW no major changes until 2015, athletes with individual percentage will be assigned into existing classes and all athletes in same class will have the same percentage, which is general approach.</p> <p>HP proposed that after that, the STC should review percentages every two years. It was recognised that it is not possible to find percentage that will fit to all.</p> <p>RW further analysis of the existing percentage system is required before the next STC discussion about percentage.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>To create a Percentage Working Group (KW & TU) to review current status of percentages and recommend next steps</p> <p>It was also decided to include Hugh Daniel in this process to provide expertise and input as followup to the work and analysis he conducted in 2011.</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p>Tor and Hugh Daniels to review and check percentages providing this is supported by Peter Van de Vliet</p>

9. PWG – Sochi 2014

Discussion

RW QC are done, we have to review Relay format and plan is to publish QC on 28 May 2012.

HP made presentation from last site visit, where he was present on Russian National Championship. He presented the current course layouts which are still in development phase, and despite challenges is confident that all venues will be ready on time for test events in 2013.

HP program for test event is done and format of competition will be present in draft competition calendar, we are asked to move competition for one day in relation with IBU and we will work on it in next days. But final calendar must be presented as soon as possible.

RW with new format for Relay we have to get in contact with Paul Lee and do some adjustments in PRIS document.

RW on Open forum we get some more questions about test events and we should in short period of time provide answers to Nations.

- Will there be charter flight from Europe
- About opportunity to teams organise camp prior test event in Sochi
- We discussed the desire of nations to stay in the endurance village during the PWG. We spoke with Juergen who has been working with Sochi and he says the endurance village will not be open as an option, and that this will not change. The STC asked that some accommodations be available up at the venue, even if nations need to pay extra at their option. Juergen will pass this request on.
- For Test event we will use the accommodation in the valley as it is now planned for the PWG as closely as possible so that we can test the transportation and other issues that might occur. The STC knows this may not be the best option for performance at the test event, but since the PWG are more important we need to use the test event to prepare for PWG.
- Transport issue from village to venue was also discussed, this issue we thoroughly tested during test event and get full picture of transport time from village to venue. After this we will be in a better position to discuss this with Sochi and the IPC if the transportation time is more than 45

minutes

- Update of Test Event schedule, by 15 June 2012.

Nordic Skiing World Cup - Official test event:

13 March 2013	NS Arrive
14 March 2013	official training
15 March 2013	official training
16 March 2013	CC Long
17 March 2013	CC Sprint
18 March 2013	BT Long
19 March 2013	day off
20 March 2013	BT Short
21 March 2013	CC Relay
22 March 2013	Departure

Decision(s)

RW and **TU** will write proposal for Relay format
DL will follow up with open questions from Sochi.

Action(s)

HP will review QC
RW will get in contact with Paul Lee about PRIS to be updated
DL to notify Sochi 2014 to send invitation for test event before season by 01 October.

10. RULES / TECHNICAL CONTROL

Discussion

RW The IBU is testing the possibility of using electronic rifles in the future and Kurvinen demonstrated one of these in Vuokatti. A working group on electronic rifles is to be formed to monitor development.

HP there is several options and we will test it during the summer, this give us more opportunities to develop this sport and bring this sport to city, which one of the fact to bring this sport to the people

RW we have to continue our contract with Per Starheim on Timing / Results, also to be check possibilities about integrating transponders in to our system

HP will organize TD education as it was organized last year in front of FIS Zurich meeting in SUI, it will be invited two new FIS TDs, new presentation and material will be provided prior Seminar. Proposed dates for seminar are 28.09.-30.09.2012.

HP will update the rules, add appendices for Relay and BT mass start, also it will be updated rule about rifle support with picture

and explanation
The STC discussed the sit ski rule and focussed on the height and the position of the hip strap. **LA** will update regulations and after discussion about rules where is right position of hip strap. He will put together some photos of good and bad examples and provide to DL for circulation to the Nations
DL very important to be updated is new on line entries system which is started to work during this season.

Decision(s) **HP** and **KW** to work as working group to establish requirements for electronic rifle system

DL to follow up about new contract with Per Starheim for 2 years
DL to follow up with MSL about software develop for NS

Action(s) DL to notify Nations that electronic system is being tested so they can prepare for possible switch in 2015. Discussion will take part on next Sport Forum

11. GOVERNANCE

Discussion **KW** we should start with approach to IBU, it should be same path like we have with FIS, they are willing to cooperate with us and we should start building our official relationship
JW willing to create strategy and approach with IPC CEO, and in next period first official contact will be made
RW cooperation with FIS should be continued and in coordination with IPCAS chairperson agreement with FIS should be updated

Decision(s)

Action(s) JW will work with IPC CEO on official contact with IBU
DL to work with IPCAS chairperson on updated of FIS agreement

12. DOPING CONTROL

Discussion **It in conjunction with point No 4.**

Decision(s) Same decision

Action(s) Same actions

13. OTHER BUSINESS

<i>Discussion</i>	RW new clothing for NS officials should be resolved in next months, also the question of athlete representative will be resolved and prepared, so that we should have elections of athlete representative during the WCH
<i>Decision(s)</i>	HP will update clothing needs to DL RW will write up athlete representative description
<i>Action(s)</i>	

14. CLOSING

<i>Discussion</i>	RW proposed new meeting of STC in September SUI in connection of TD Seminar, dates are 30.09.-02.10.2012.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	
<i>Action(s)</i>	