

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIS MEDIA INFO****FIS Statement on article about Blood Doping**

In response to the allegations in The Sunday Times and German television articles yesterday, the FIS strongly objects to the misrepresentation that there was and is a substantial number of skiers participating in the Olympic Winter Games «despite recording abnormal blood test scores (...) that suggested there is a significant incidence of doping.».

A comprehensive longitudinal blood testing programme was introduced by FIS in 2001 with the blood values simultaneously provided to WADA for independent monitoring and scrutiny. FIS is applying the WADA Operating Guidelines for the athlete blood passport (ABP), which clearly outline the processes to follow once an atypical passport is shown. It requires three external experts anonymous reviews in order to take a case forward. This has not been the case other than one case processed as a potential ADRV by FIS which was confirmed by the FIS Doping Panel as an anti-doping rule violation. Furthermore WADA has full access to the athletes blood passport and consequently supervises that FIS and other testing authorities bring a case forward according to the rules.

Prior to the WADA ABP, the blood values from the FIS blood testing programme have been analysed by appointed anti-doping experts. Jim Stray Gundersen has not worked for FIS; whereas he was permitted to conduct a project with his own methodology around 15 years ago. There have been two FIS Anti-Doping Experts since the inception of the professionally managed programme: the late Professor Bengt Saltin from 2001-2006 who handed over to Dr Rasmus Damsgaard in 2006.

FIS is committed to doping-free sport and protecting the rights of the clean athletes. We are working very closely with WADA on a permanent basis, as well as the IOC here at the Olympic Winter Games and with further important anti-doping activities, including the establish Independent Testing Authority.

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**About FIS**

FIS is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding, [founded in 1924](#) during the first Olympic Games in Chamonix, France. Recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of [Alpine Skiing](#), [Cross-Country Skiing](#), [Ski Jumping](#), [Nordic Combined](#), [Freestyle Skiing](#) and [Snowboarding](#), including setting the international competition rules. Through its 130 member nations, more than 7'000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote snow activities as a healthy leisure recreation, [notably for the young](#). For more information, please visit [www.fis-ski.com](http://www.fis-ski.com)