

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**

Blochstrasse 2  
3653 Oberhofen/Thunersee  
Switzerland  
Tel +41 33 244 61 61  
Fax +41 33 244 61 71

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Sarah Lewis  
FIS Secretary General  
Mobile: + 41 79 310 2244  
E-Mail: [lewis@fisski.com](mailto:lewis@fisski.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FIS FACT SHEET

### Lahti 2017: FIS Anti-Doping Programme at the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships

This FIS Fact Sheet is intended to provide an update on FIS Anti-Doping Activities in relation to the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships 2017 in Lahti (FIN) and during the 2016/17 season. The fight against doping is an important focus for FIS, through a zero-tolerance policy on doping and cheating in sport to protect clean athletes.

During the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships, FIS will join forces with the Finnish Anti-Doping Agency and the Local Organising Committee through a [“Clean As Snow”](#) Outreach Programme to give the athletes the opportunity to show their commitment for clean sport and carry the message out to the young athlete followers, as well as to the public, their supporters.

#### 1. Testing Programme at the FIS World Championships 2017 in Lahti

At the 2017 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Lahti, the Local Organising Committees has appointed the National Anti-Doping Agency (Finnish Center for Integrity in Sports, FINCIS / Finnish Anti-Doping Agency, FINADA) to conduct the In-Competition Testing. Every medal competition will see the top 4 plus 2 at random undergoing urine testing and blood testing of selected athletes.

FINCIS has worked diligently for delivering doping controls at a high standard, through testing the facilities and personnel at the FIS World Cup competitions that served as test events in 2016 and at other events in Lahti, as well as through close cooperation with the Lahti 2017 Organising Committee and the FIS. Additionally FINCIS has entered a cooperation with Finnish sport institutes to educate sports students in anti-doping, who will work as volunteers on site. This can be pointed out as a good practice model.

FIS is complementing the in-competition testing programme at the 2017 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Lahti (FIN) with athlete biological passport testing on Cross-Country and Nordic Combined skiers before and during the event, as well as potential target urine tests.

## 2. FIS' Anti-Doping awareness campaign "Clean As Snow – SAY NO! TO DOPING"

SAY NO! TO DOPING is an awareness campaign created by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for organisations to unite in support of doping-free sport.

With the support of the FIS Athletes' Commission, the campaign will see a FIS/FINADA Outreach education for athletes and team personnel during the 2017 FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Lahti (FIN) at the athletes' village in Vierumäki.

Participants will be asked to show their support for clean sport by signing a giant white snow ball and receiving clean sport branded thermobelts.

Follow #CleanAsSnow and #CleanSport during Lahti2017 on twitter and facebook!

The excellent cooperation with the National Anti-Doping Agency FINADA has already started with the production of [video clips of athletes raising their voice for clean sport](#). The First of a series has been published in November 2016 through the FIS Newsflash (and weekly until today) and can also be accessed through the various FIS social media channels.

*"This is such an important time for athletes to share their voice and their commitment to clean sport. It's really impactful to see so many athletes from different nations being good role models for young athletes",* commented Cross-Country ace Kikkan Randall and member of the FIS Athletes' Commission at the beginning of the season in Ruka.

## 3. Out-of-Competition Testing Programme 2016-2017, OOC/IC Statistics

As in previous seasons, no notice, out-of-competition target tests all year round remain a primary focus of the FIS Anti-Doping Programme, which is evolving continuously to keep a level playing field. The International Testing Pool of FIS currently consists of 274 athletes in the six FIS Olympic disciplines

The FIS Athletes' Biological Passport programme is an essential part of FIS' anti-doping approach. It involves unannounced and intelligent testing, combined with random testing, making it very difficult to determine when a doping control will take place.

This season has seen further cooperation with numerous National Anti-Doping Agencies through exchanging all year out-of-competition results, which is another important element in the overall programme. It allows both sides to use resources and budgets in the best possible way.

Another key preventative measure to deter any athlete from using prohibited substances or methods, FIS continues its sample storage policy for later re-analysis as another key preventative measure. There is a constant refinement of the sensitivity of the present

analyses and new developments are anticipated to be implemented in the near future, which make storage of samples a strong tool in detecting positive samples later on.

From 1<sup>st</sup> May to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017, FIS has conducted the following number of tests:

<b>FIS Out-of-Competition Tests 1st May 2016 -18<sup>th</sup> February 2017</b>				
	<b>Urine</b>	<b>Blood</b>	<b>ESAs (urine or blood)</b>	<b>Blood passport</b>
<b>Cross-Country</b>	226	140	131	365
<b>Nordic Combined</b>	44	27	25	95
<b>Ski Jumping</b>	34	10	28	10
<b>Alpine</b>	155	92	86	139
<b>Freestyle</b>	10			
<b>Snowboard</b>	5			
<b>Total</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>609</b>

<b>FIS In-Competition Tests 1st May 2016 -18<sup>th</sup> February 2017</b>				
	<b>Urine</b>	<b>Blood</b>	<b>ESAs (urine or blood)</b>	<b>Blood passport</b>
<b>Cross-Country</b>	165		74	16
<b>Nordic Combined</b>	30		9	
<b>Ski Jumping</b>	46			
<b>Alpine</b>	132	19		
<b>Freestyle</b>	30			
<b>Snowboard</b>	50			
<b>Total</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>16</b>

The above numbers do not include the tests conducted by the National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs) under their responsibility.

#### 4. Doping Cases and Allegations

##### WADA McLaren Reports on Russia

On 22<sup>nd</sup> December the International Olympic Committee (IOC) communicated to FIS that following the publication of the McLaren Investigation Report it has opened investigations into alleged anti-doping rule violations in connection with the Olympic Winter Games 2014 in Sochi (RUS) for six Russian cross-country skiing athletes: Alexander Legkov, Evgeniy Belov, Julia Ivanova, Evgenia Shapovalova, Alexey Petukhov and Maxim Vylegzhanin. The IOC empowered FIS and all International Federations to undertake follow-up actions in their own competence with the alleged anti-doping rule violations that took place during the period of the Sochi 2014 Games.

The IOC's investigation of the alleged anti-doping rule violations is presently being carried out by the IOC Disciplinary Commission chaired by Denis Oswald (SUI), which has the results and case management authority for anti-doping at the Olympic Winter Games.

Thereafter the FIS Doping Panel reviewed the cases and implemented provisional sanctions against the six Russian cross-country skiing athletes.

All six athletes appealed the decision of the FIS Doping Panel to impose provisional suspensions. The appeals were expedited in view of the Tour de Ski that began on 31<sup>st</sup> December and after evaluation by the FIS Doping Panel, the appeals were rejected.

Because it had not been possible to conduct an oral hearing of the athletes due to the very short time from the submission of the appeals and the start of the Tour de Ski, hearings were arranged on 12<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The FIS Doping Panel heard both parties, the athletes and FIS and thereafter communicated its decisions to uphold the provisional suspensions by majority decision.

Five of the six athletes then appealed the FIS Doping Panel decisions regarding the Provisional Suspensions to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) requesting provisional measures to enable them to be eligible to participate at the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships in Lahti. On 21<sup>st</sup> February, CAS ruled that the athletes request for a Stay is dismissed.

#### Norwegian national case: Theresa Johaug

The decision of the Norwegian Anti-Doping Agency in the case of Therese Johaug (NOR) was received on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017. It will be studied by the FIS Doping Panel until 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and a communication will be issued on this date. In the meantime FIS has no further statement to give.

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The overall investment by FIS in its Anti-Doping programme during the 2016/2017 amounts to approximately CHF 1.5 million. This includes both the in- and out-of-competition testing programmes and various preventive, informational and educational efforts.

#### **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 128 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).