



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE SKI
INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
INTERNATIONALER SKI VERBAND



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIS MEDIA INFO

Decisions of the FIS Council at its Autumn Meeting in Levi (FIN)

Levi, 15th November, 2008 – The FIS Council held its Autumn Meeting in conjunction with the slalom opening of the Audi FIS Alpine Ski World Cup season 2008/2009 at Levi (FIN). The resort of Levi, located about 150 km north of the Polar Circle, is the northern-most location where the FIS Council has ever met.

The Council dealt with several important items on its agenda and the main decisions include the following:

Decisions directly related to ski sports

FIS World Cup calendars 2008/2009

The Council approved minor modifications to the FIS World Cup Calendars for the 2008/2009 season, the final versions of which are available on the FIS website.

The Calendars for the 2009/2010 season for all disciplines were also approved. For Cross-Country, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle and Snowboard the calendars for the seasons 2010/2011, 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 were also all approved.

The men's Alpine calendars for the seasons 2010/2011, 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 were approved with the exception of the dates for the traditional Sölden (AUT) glacier opening that are to be reviewed. For the Alpine ladies calendars, the Council approved the 2011/2012 calendar, but requested that the Alpine Committee reviews the calendars for 2010/2011 and 2012/2013 again.

The long-term FIS World Cup calendars that were approved by the FIS Council will be published on the FIS website shortly.

The Council also decided not to continue with the organization of FIS Grand Finals for now, due to the fact that there is no organizer/National Ski Association that is presently ready to apply for the event. In the three editions 2000, 2004 and 2008 it has not been possible to organize all disciplines as part of the finals, since it was not possible to include Ski Jumping due to the lack of a (completed) jumping hill and the Council expressed its wish to organize true Grand Finals in the future with the six FIS disciplines on the program.

In concluding the discussions relating to the World Cup calendars, the Council agreed that criteria for the allocation of races will be defined in the future, notably in recognition of the development of new nations and markets which are an important factor for the development of Skiing and Snowboard.

Revision of the organization of Nordic Combined

The revision of the International Competition Rules for Nordic Combined was approved, highlighted by the adaptation of the competition format by reducing the Ski Jumping event to one round and standardizing the Cross-Country race to 10km.

As a result, the competition formats at the Olympic Winter Games 2010 in Vancouver were amended to consist of the following three competitions:

- Individual Normal Hill (one competition round), CC 10 km Gundersen
- Individual Large Hill (one competition round), CC 10 km Gundersen
- Team: Large Hill (one competition round), CC 4x5 km Gundersen

FIS World Championships

The organizers of the FIS Junior World Ski Championships were appointed as follows:

2009 FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships 2009

Praz de Lys (FRA) for Junior and U-23 Cross-Country competitions,

from 31st January to 6th February 2009

Strbske Pleso (SVK) for Ski Jumping and Nordic Combined competitions –

replacing Chamonix (FRA) which withdrew its candidature due to inability to modify the hill facilities to meet the requirements.

Notably, the Council decided to divide the organization of the 2009 Nordic Junior Championships between two nations due to the extremely short time remaining until the event. Nevertheless the Council only made this exceptional decision which does not conform to FIS's philosophy of organizing the three Nordic disciplines together, in order to ensure that the junior athletes do not miss out on their most important event of the season.

In the future, priority will be given to organizing the three Nordic disciplines together at the FIS Nordic Junior World Ski Championships with the U-23 Cross-Country World Championships taking place either immediately before or after the Junior events, whenever possible.

2010 FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships: the region of Mont Blanc (FRA) –
replacing Chile which withdrew its candidature

2011 FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships: Crans Montana (SUI)

2012 FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships: Roccaraso (ITA)

The dates for the FIS World Ski Championships 2013 were confirmed from 4th to 17th February for the FIS Alpine World Ski Championships 2013 in Schladming (AUT) and from 20th February to 3rd March for the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships 2013 in Val di Fiemme (ITA).

FIS Events at Olympic Winter Games

FIS has re-proposed to the International Olympic Committee to include Ladies Ski Jumping and the Alpine Team Event on the program of the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi 2014, in accordance with the decisions of the FIS Congress in 2006.

World Cup prize money for 2009/2010

The minimum values of prize money for the 2009/2010 World Cup season were confirmed to remain the same as for the current season. (For details, click here <http://www.fis-ski.com/uk/news/pressreleases/press-releases-2008/prize-money-2008-2009.html>).

In addition, the introduction of prize money for the Nordic Combined Continental Cup was approved.

Anti-Doping Rules

The Council approved amendments to the Procedural Guidelines to the FIS Anti-Doping Rules in regard to longitudinal haematological profiling (blood testing) to ensure that the FIS program is at the forefront of testing.

Rules for the FIS Disciplines, official and committee member appointments

Various modifications to the regulations in each of the FIS disciplines were made by the Council, on proposal of the respective FIS Technical Committees.

Notably, the following rule changes were approved:

Alpine Skiing: Single pole slalom

A test of single pole slalom competitions was approved for season 2008-2009 in up to four FIS-level slalom races per National Ski Association (excludes COC/WC). In these case a slalom course can set up using no outside poles with exceptions for the first and last gate which must have outside as well as turning pole and for combinations, hairpins, vertical and blind gates which too must use "outside" poles.

Snowboard: new events

On proposal of the Snowboard Committee, the Council approved the following proposals for submission to the FIS Congress in 2012, in order to maintain the attractiveness of Snowboarding to the youth; please note that the inclusion of new events as part of a FIS World Championship is a matter for the Congress

Team Event Snowboard Cross: Introduction as a FIS World Cup event in the 2009/2010 season and following evaluation at the end of the season possible introduction as a World Championship and Junior World Championship event in 2011.

Snowboard Slopestyle: introduced as a FIS World Cup event this season, will be a FIS World Championship and Junior World Championships event in 2011.

Administrative Decisions

2012 FIS Congress

Korea with Gangwon Province was appointed host for the International Ski Congress in 2012, following the 47th International Ski Congress in Antalya, Turkey in 2010.

Bring Children to Snow

The Council approved the continuation of FIS's international campaign entitled "Bring Children to Snow" and approved a change in the priorities of the FIS Solidarity program so that activities related to "Bring Children to the Snow" shall be given first priority.

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About FIS

Founded in 1924 during the first Olympic Games in Chamonix, France, the International Ski Federation (FIS) aims to promote the sport of skiing and snowboarding and directs the development of all ski and snowboarding activities world-wide. It administers the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross-Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding, including setting the international competition rules. With the help of its 110 member nations, FIS stages more than 6'000 ski and snowboard competitions annually. FIS also makes recommendations for recreational skiing and snowboarding in the interest of all and promotes play in the snow as a healthy leisure activity for children and the youth. For more information, please visit www.fis-ski.com.

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