

Rules of FIS Worldloppet Cup 2019

The Worldloppet Ski Federation in co-operation with the Cross-Country Committee of the International Ski Federation instituted the FIS MARATHON CUP in season 1999/2000, renamed in 2015 to FIS WORLDLOPPET CUP (WLC). The objectives of the Cup are to improve the status of long distance competitions by attracting elite racers and to increase media and spectator interest in long distance racing.

1. Qualification

Entry to the FIS Worldloppet Cup is open to all male and female athletes with an ACTIVE FIS CODE who qualify for the elite wave in the WLC events.

2. Race selection

Venues for races in the FIS Worldloppet Cup may vary from season to season. The programme will be decided by the Worldloppet Executive Board in consultation with the FIS Sub-Committee for Popular Cross-Country Skiing. Races must be at least 42 km in length and not more than two of the races in the programme should be under 50 km in length. Races will, wherever possible, be spread geographically to include at least one race from Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Scandinavia and the Rest of the World and should be divided as evenly as possible between races in classical and free techniques.

Priority for participation in the FIS Worldloppet Cup will be given to races which are members of Worldloppet. Races wishing to be selected should submit their bids to the CEO of Worldloppet. Where it is thought desirable to include races from outside Worldloppet (for example, where fewer than 6 Worldloppet nominations are received; to balance the programme between classic and free techniques; or for other exceptional reasons), the Worldloppet may invite other races of a proven standard to be considered to take part in the competition. Any such races should meet the same minimum standards (numbers of participants etc) as are set out for entry into the Worldloppet. The final programme will be approved by the Worldloppet Executive Board and the Chairman of the FIS Sub-Committee for Popular Cross-Country Skiing.

3. Programme

In 2019 the Cup will consist of the following races. The overall winner will be decided by the results of all the races in the competition. Men and Ladies will race on the same courses.

Date	Race	Distance	Technique	Country
04.01.2019	Vasaloppet China	50 km	CT	CHN
20.01.2019	Dolomitenlauf	60 km	FT	AUT
03.02.2019	König Ludwig Lauf	50 km	CT	GER
10.02.2019	Transjurassienne	68 km	FT	FRA
17.02.2019	Tartu Maraton	63 km	CT	EST
24.02.2019	Finlandia-hiihto	50 km	FT	FIN
06.04.2019	Ugra Ski Marathon	50 km	FT	RUS

4. Entries

All FIS Worldloppet Cup race entries must be made through the normal registration process of each FIS Worldloppet Cup race or using the WLC Official entry form (available on www.worldloppet.com) **indicating athletes' active FIS code**. The WLC Official entry form must be submitted directly to the race organizing committee.

Athletes must send all registration forms respecting the deadlines and payment procedures of each FIS Worldloppet Cup race organization. Any FIS WLC race entries sent after the registration deadline may be refused by the OC.

FIS Worldloppet Cup competitors who do not qualify for the Red Group (5. **Red Group**) must provide proof of qualification for the elite wave upon registration to the event according to the OC rules.

5. Red Group

An elite start group (known as the 'Red Group') will be formed from the following athletes:

- a. winners of a previous FIS WLC season
- b. any athlete who has completed at least four races and finishes in the top 5 places in the overall ranking of the previous FIS WLC season for the first and second races of the running season. Thereafter, the updated current season's ranking is valid for the top 5 places. The ranking list for the Red Group will be updated after every second race (race two, race four, race six and so on) of the current season.
- c. any athlete currently seeded in the red group of the FIS World Cup.

The OC of a FIS WLC Race will provide free entry fees and accommodations with full board for three days to all athletes seeded in the Red Group. As an alternative the OC is free to pay 65,00 euros per day for three days to the athlete. The OC will only guarantee to provide free race entries and accommodations if race registrations are received at least 14 days prior to the competition date.

In case of cancellation the OC has the obligation to inform the competitors at least 5 days prior to the event date to avoid unnecessary travel expenses.

In case of cancellation because of a force-majeure, (an unforeseen, unavoidable event beyond the reasonable control of the OC) forcing a last minute cancellation of the race; the OC is obliged to pay the accommodation fees of the athletes in the Red Group who have already arrived at the race venue. The demand is not transferable to other persons.

6. FIS Worldloppet Cup Points

Points for the overall FIS WLC competition will be awarded to the first 30 finishers in both men's and ladies' races, according to the following formula:

Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1 st	100	7 th	36	13 th	20	19 th	12	25 th	6
2 nd	80	8 th	32	14 th	18	20 th	11	26 th	5
3 rd	60	9 th	29	15 th	16	21 st	10	27 th	4
4 th	50	10 th	26	16 th	15	22 nd	9	28 th	3
5 th	45	11 th	24	17 th	14	23 rd	8	29 th	2
6 th	40	12 th	22	18 th	13	24 th	7	30 th	1

In the event of a dead-heat between two competitors the points for the places will be added together and divided by two (e.g. in a dead-heat for 1st and 2nd places, both athletes will receive $(100+80)/2 = 90$ points).

7. FIS Points

The FIS Points Rules published on the FIS website are valid. Only competitors with an active FIS code which they must indicate upon registration will be awarded WLC and FIS points.

8. Prizes and Ceremonies.

The organizing committee of each race participating in the FIS WLC guarantees a minimum prize fund of **EUR 13 000** to be divided between the 3 best placed competitors in the men and ladies races.

In addition FIS will provide overall **medals and trophies** and Worldloppet will provide prizes for the first three men and ladies scoring the greatest number of total points during the FIS WLC competition season. Overall prize fund depends on the number of the races in the cup and will rise with every additional race. In case of 7 races the overall prize fund is **EUR 20 000 (1st place - 6000, 2nd place - 3000 and 3rd place - 1000)**.

In case of equal points the leader (or winner) will be the athlete having won the larger number of races. In case of a tie, second places will be taken into account and so on to third and fourth places until the overall winner is determined. In the event that all places are equal, the racer that has completed the most recent race on the FIS WLC calendar, the event closest to the final event, will have the advantage. This rule applies for all ties.

The overall medals and trophies will be awarded immediately after the finish of the final competition. The monetary prizes will be transferred to the winners after the results of doping tests have been received and the official result lists have been validated.

Competitors who do not attend the prize-giving ceremonies without a legitimate excuse, lose their claim to any prize, including the prize money. In exceptional circumstances and if a notice is given in advance, the competitor may be represented by another member of his team, but this person has no right to take his place on the podium.

FIS Worldloppet Cup leader bib - At the prize-giving following each race, a bib in a distinctive format will be presented to the current overall leader in the FIS WLC competition (Men and Ladies) and will be worn by him/her in subsequent races for as long as he/she continues to be the leader in the overall competition.

9. Reminder of Competitor's responsibilities

FIS WLC competitions involve competitors with a wide range of experience and ability, good sportsmanship and courtesy toward other competitors is essential.

Competitors must provide an early registration to assure good media interest.

All competitors eligible for a prize have an obligation to attend the flower ceremony and the official awards ceremony. Visible wearing of the starting bibs is mandatory.

All competitors must comply with all the points in the FIS WLC and OC race rules.