



**FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE SKI**  
**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**  
**INTERNATIONALER SKI VERBAND**

To:  
Members of the FIS Speed Skiing Committee

For information to:

- Gian-Franco Kasper, FIS President
- Sarah Lewis, FIS Secretary General
- Christian Knauth, FIS Marketing & Communications Director
- Speed Skiing NSA

Oberhofen, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2007

**Minutes Speed Skiing Committee Meeting**  
**Zurich (SUI), 29.09.2007**

Dear Skifriends,

We have pleasure sending you today the Minutes of the Speed Skiing Committee meeting held in Zurich (SUI), 29.09.2007 on behalf of the Chairman Dick Taplin (GBR).

We would also like to take the opportunity of informing you that the minutes are available on the Member Services section of the FIS Website: <http://www.fis-ski.com/>.

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution. We wish you a successful season.

Kindest regards,

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'G. Richter'.

Geertje Richter  
Administrative Assistant

**Enclosure: ment.**



## **AGENDA**

### **Meeting of the Speed Skiing Committee Saturday, 29.09.2007, Hotel Hilton, Zurich (SUI)**

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1. Roll call
2. Welcome by Chairman
3. Accept minutes of last meeting:
  - Portoroz (26 May 2007)
4. Matters arising (not covered elsewhere in Agenda)
  - Results Format (para 4b)
5. FIS Support for smaller disciplines
  - Potential new resorts in ISL and NZE
6. Calendar for the 2007/08 World Cup season (see attached listing)
  - Kalevi 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Race Programme
7. Plans for World Championships 2009 and later
  - Vars 2009
  - 2011 – Hundfjallet, Salen SWE?
8. Homologation Issues (Luc Cristina)
  - Training in NZE Agreed (para 9)
  - Updated homologation chart (para 9)
9. TD Working Group progress (Luc Cristina)
10. New Resorts (para 12)
  - Akureyri ISL
  - NZE
11. Speed Rules
  - New helmet design (Philippe May)
  - French Translation (J-L Montes – para 10)
12. Sponsorship Reports
13. Any other business
14. Dates of next meeting – Spring 2007

**All proposals and decisions of the Speed Skiing Committee are subject to the approval of the FIS Council Meeting (05.-06.11.2007)**

## 1. Roll Call

### Present:

Richard Taplin (DT)	GBR	Chairman
Luc Cristina (LC)	SUI	TD Coordinator
Philippe May (rep. by Jurg Graf)	SUI	
Jean-Lou Montes (JLM)	FRA	
Alberto Monticone	ITA	

### Apologies:

Richard Beare	CAN	
Risto Happonen	FIN	
Kalevi Hakkinen	FIN	Honorary Member
Philippe May	SUI	

### Guests:

Ingrid Christophersen	GBR	TD
Marco Cozzi	ITA	TD
Valter Druetti	ITA	
Per Kjellström	SWE	
Stéphane Lacoste	FRA	
Bernard Liro	FRA	TD (Asp)
Silvano Maison	ITA	TD
Martial Martreuil (MM)	FRA	
François Roveyaz	ITA	TD

## 2. Welcome by Chairman

The Chairman welcomed the delegates and said the period since Portoroz had been interesting. In particular, he thanked Philippe May for all the valuable work done with regard to homologated inner helmets, and also said the correspondence he had had from athletes had been enjoyable.

Kalevi Hakkinen sent his apology for absence, but he is still recuperating after an accident. Hakki was looking forward to his 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary race in Salla, and hoped that all his friends would come; the Media are very interested.

Jörg Graf was representing Philippe May.

## 3. Accept minutes of last meeting

The minutes from Portoroz (held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2007) were accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

Most matters were covered under individual agenda item headings. Those that were not, included:

##### Nations' Cup (para 6b)

JLM said a future Nations' Cup would need more precise rules which he would define. The Nation' Cup will be tested in Vars (FRA) in 2008 and, if successful, would apply to all competitions in 2009, based on a minimum of 3 racers, to include men, ladies, juniors and production skiers.

*Action: Jean-Lou Montes*

##### Kalevi Cup (para 6d)

Hakki had provided a replica of the Kalevi Cup, won by Douglas Hall USA, which would be transported to the USA by USSA delegates. *Action: Chairman.*

##### Results Format (para 4a)

Results lists should show the full category of each competitor – Sen/Jun, M/F and S1/SDH. This was as agreed in Portoroz: S1 (Speed 1 = classic) and S DH (production skis). The full results should be posted on the FIS website immediately after each event. *Action: Chairman*

##### WSC 2009

FIS Council has now accepted Vars (FRA) as the venue for the 2009 World Championships.

##### FIS Support/Registration

The meeting were advised that the World Cup in Sun Peaks (CAN) included a large number of production skiers who did not appear on the results because they had not registered with FIS. The Chairman was asked to encourage all nations to register their racers; it was noted that registration with FIS was free.

*Action: Chairman*

#### **5. FIS Support for smaller disciplines**

Speed skiing is grouped together with Telemark, Grass-Skiing and Rollerski. Skiers from 20 nations and 3 Continents took part in SS competitions in 2007 and new SS pistes have been proposed in Iceland and New Zealand. The Chairman advised that one suggestion has been that FIS would produce smaller WC crystals for these smaller disciplines; if so this means that FIS Council continues to acknowledge their support for the smaller disciplines. Sponsorship would be a major factor in securing the future of the sport within FIS, and should be a focus for all committee members. *Action: All Members.*

#### **6. Calendar for the 2007/08 WC season**

The programme is given below. The committee had tried to schedule a programme which avoided racers having to travel too far in too short a time, and so had asked the question whether the period between Salla (FIN) and Salen (SWE) was too tight. On the other hand, the Salla event includes Hakki's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Jubilee Race, and had attracted much Finnish media interest, and so would be difficult to change or cancel. It was agreed that:

- a. Salla should hold 2 WC races.
- b. The 1<sup>st</sup> race should be the Hakki Jubilee Race.

- c. Competitors could either compete in the 1<sup>st</sup> race or both, but not in the 2<sup>nd</sup> race only (ie the 1<sup>st</sup> race is training for the 2<sup>nd</sup>).
- d. The Chairman would contact the Finnish Ski Federation and ask that they tried to send FIN athletes to other events on the circuit.  
*Action: Chairman*

JLM advised that the first meeting of the Vars OC would take place on Fri 5<sup>th</sup> October. The committee expressed their full support for the event, emphasising that it was essential that a WC race be held this year in order to validate the World Championships in 2009. The Chairman agreed to contact the resort offering full support. *Action: Chairman*

LC advised that Les Arcs would like to rejoin the FIS circuit but that it needed re-homologation, which he and Martial Martreuil would undertake. There was considerable discussion over the current shortcomings of the piste, and the measures which were needed to make it safer. *Action: Luc Cristina.*

Date	Location	Comment
20 – 30 Jan	Vars (FRA)	Possible training camp
31 Jan – 3 Feb	Vars (FRA)	1 x WC
22 – 24 Feb	Bad Mitterndorf (AUT)	1 x WC
5 – 8 Mar	Sun Peaks (CAN)	2 x WC
25 – 27 Mar	Salla (FIN)	2 x WC 'Hakki 80 Jubileum'
30 Mar – 4 Apr	Sälen/Idre (SWE)	2 x WC
7 – 9 Apr	Cervinia (ITA)	1 x WC
12 – 13 Apr	Verbier-Nendaz (SUI)	Popular races
14 – 17 Apr	Verbier-Nendaz (SUI)	1 x WC <b>Final</b>
18 – 20 Apr	Verbier-Nendaz	Swiss Champs

In order to give athletes a complete picture DT would like the calendar to include Pro events.

## 7. Plans for World Championships 2009 and later

The Committee was confident Vars 2009 would deliver. Hundfjället had not been formally proposed for 2011 as yet, and Sun Peaks also has potential following the Vancouver Games in 2010. The Chairman advised that, to demonstrate our professional approach, we should ensure that World Championship organisers were decided at least 3 years in advance. *Action: All Members.*

## 8. Homologation Issues

Luc Cristina advised that there were now 4 TDs qualified to homologate Speed Ski pistes: Luc Cristina, Christer Weiss, Martial Martreuil, and Marco Cozzi.

LC's homologation trip to NZE had been cancelled at the last moment, and NZE must rapidly confirm that all is ready for a 2008 homologation. The Chairman will email Eric Henry/David Howden in AUS/NZE. LC had also been advised of potential Speed Skiing pistes in Japan and South Korea. The Committee queried whether RUS might also be interested with Sochi and the 2014 Olympics on the horizon. *Action: Chairman*

The procedure for re-homologation was discussed. Pistes were automatically re-homologated if there had not been any material changes. However, if a venue has not hosted a competition for 3 years the dossier should be reviewed and, if circumstances warrant, and the piste be required for a race during the season, then a re-inspection might be needed. Currently some 25 pistes were on the books which had not been used for at least 5 years, and often longer.  
*Action: Luc Cristina.*

Iceland. Christer Weiss will conduct Alpine TD update in Iceland and homologate the new Speed Skiing piste in Akureyri at same time. ISL might organise FIS-level competition in 2008 followed by WC in 2009. There are several (as yet unregistered) Icelandic speed-skiers.  
*Action: Luc Cristina (via C Weiss)*

Checklist of all existing homologations with FIS at the moment. Will appear on website with photo, profile, information. (Francesco Cattaneo/Daniel Défago, FIS Information Technology)

Les Arcs will be re-homologated (using existing homologation number).  
*Action: Luc Cristina*

JLM proposed the installation of netting on the downhill side of each access route to the mid point of the piste to protect competitors en route to the start. Also a person, on crampons, must be detailed to be position below the start to stop/help competitors in case of a fall. The access protection would be known as the CAT-line, to commemorate the late Caitlin Tovar.

## 9. TD Working Group progress

Seven of the 11 Speed Skiing TDs had attended all or part of LC's TD update on Fri 28 Sep. In the course of a 7-hour meeting, every rule has been re-examined to assess risk, and LC will produce a booklet/checklist for TDs.

Problems identified included:

1. Quota for finals
2. Use of lower start
3. Control of hand pushing over the finish
4. Boot fastenings.

In discussion, the following rule changes were agreed:

## 10. New Resorts

As advised, Akureyri (ISL) is to be homologated by Christer Weiss, and a piste in NZE by Luc Cristina. The Chairman will explore the possibility of using Ski-Flying hills (ie like Kulm/Bad Mittendorf). *Action: Chairman.*

## 11. Speed Skiing Rules

Current Rule	Proposed Rule	Reason for change
1233.4.1 Starting points are set by the Jury and are indicated with a pole, a	1233.4.1 Starting points are set by the Jury and are indicated with a pole, a	<b>This is to improve security for racers to get to the subsequent start points. As a mark of</b>

<p>fence or a banner.</p>	<p>fence or a banner. <b>The approach from the public piste to a point level with the current start area must be securely protected to stop racers and/or equipment from slipping on the downhill side; this security fence is known as the CAT line.</b></p>	<p><b>respect to Caitlin Tovar who died following a slip at Les Arcs, the committee propose to call this the CAT line.</b></p>
<p>1233.8.1 A competitor may start anywhere on the launching area below the start point currently in use. However, all competitors must remain above the start line until the Starter has announced 'Go', at which time the competitor should descend to his/her selected start point and start the run within the following 60 seconds.</p>	<p>1233.8.1 A competitor may only start at the start point currently in use. However, all competitors must remain above the start line until the Starter has announced 'Go', at which time the competitor should descend to the start point and start the run within the following 60 seconds.</p>	<p><b>This is also to improve on-piste safety following the accident in Les Arcs. Support cannot be safely provided for racers who descend below the in-use start area netting, and out of range of the start personnel. Hence they may only start from the current start point.</b></p>
<p>1234.3.1 In use, the athlete must hold the poles at their upper limit – ie they must not protrude forward of the hands. Furthermore, in order to avoid dangerous manoeuvres, such as hooking of poles, the athlete must maintain the same arm position while passing through and out of the timing zone.</p>	<p>1234.3.1 In use, the athlete must hold the poles at their upper limit – ie they must not protrude forward of the hands. <del>Furthermore, in order to avoid dangerous manoeuvres, such as hooking of poles, the athlete must maintain the same arm position while passing through and out of the timing zone.</del></p>	<p><b>This rule has proved unnecessary and impossible to police, since the athlete needs to make adjustments to his stance frequently to maintain balance, and thus safety. A rigid stance could contribute to an accident, and the shape of the ski poles means that they cannot be pushed forward in any case.</b></p>
<p>1234.5 All elements of skiboots must be from the same standard model(s). Skiboots cannot weigh more than 6kg per pair. Boots may not have any added aerodynamic</p>	<p>1234.5 All elements of skiboots must be from the same standard model(s). Skiboots cannot weigh more than 6kg per pair. Boots may not have</p>	<p><b>In order to reduce drag, some racers have removed the boot clips and secured the boots with industrial closers, needing a screwdriver to tighten or open them. This is dangerous, and</b></p>

<p>appendages or streamlining, but may be partly covered by the legs of the ski suit.</p>	<p>any added aerodynamic appendages or streamlining, but may be partly covered by the legs of the ski suit. <b>Boots must be capable of being opened by hand and without the use of any tools.</b></p>	<p><b>could impede first aid in the case of an accident.</b></p>
<p>1234.6 Helmet “ A crash helmet ..... in toto (both inner and outer)”</p>	<p>1234.6 Helmet “ A crash helmet ..... in toto (both inner and outer)”.</p> <p>Add: For the 2007/8 season, racers may use inner helmets conforming to CE 1077 standards and fitted with an approved outer-helmet fixation system accompanied by a maker’s certificate. In the case of such helmets, the ‘circle test’ is increased to 48cm in diameter.</p>	<p><b>Scott have now produced a helmet which meets standard racing helmet standards (CE 1077), which incorporates an outer-helmet fixation device maintaining the structural integrity of the helmet. These are now mandatory for Pro racers, and optional for FIS events. We hope to bring these improved helmets fully into use in the 2008/9 season.</b></p>

Philippe May has been working with Scott to produce a CE 1077 standardised inner helmet with in-situ fixations for an outer, aerodynamic helmet. These would be made available before the season, and will be homologated to the agreed standard. It was emphasised that the Committee did not wish to create a monopoly in helmet construction, and that any helmet homologated WITH the fixing points can be used as an inner helmet. It was up to the racer to produce evidence that the inner met the standards. *Action: Philippe May.*

The weight of inner and outer helmet must not exceed 2 kilos (existing rule) but, because of the additional size of the homologated inner, the outer would also have to be larger. It was agreed that helmets using new homologated inners would have to pass through a 48cm diameter circle (see rule changes above).

A French Translation of rules will be coordinated by JLM and passed to DT for verification. Deadline for the French draft is Christmas 2007. The English language version of the rules will have primacy.  
*Action: Jean-Lou Montes/Chairman.*

## 12. Sponsorship

Nothing new to report. Several avenues had been investigated, and all members were asked to capitalise on any sponsorship opportunities.  
*Action: All Members.*

**13. Any other business**

- a. Normal FIS rules apply to sponsorship logos on helmet - no alcohol/ drugs etc.
- b. It was agreed that there must be an immediate broadcast of results – the media not interested in yesterday's news. Results must be sent to FIS and to international press agencies immediately. FIS will provide names of press agencies in competitors' native countries and inform TD.
- c. It was agreed that it would be beneficial if the CAN TD were to undertake an assignment in Europe, and hence an exchange with Christer Weiss (SWE). The SWE OC were believed to be in agreements as long as this did not add to their costs.  
*Action: Luc Cristina/Chairman/Dick Beare.*

**14. Dates of next meeting – Spring 2007**

The next meeting would be during the FIS Congress (May 26 to 31 2008 in Cape Town, South Africa). A possible preliminary meeting is scheduled in Cambridge during the week-end 10/11 May 2008.  
*Action: All Members.*

For the minutes: Ingrid Christophersen