



THE INTERNATIONAL SKI COMPETITION RULES (ICR)

BOOK II CROSS-COUNTRY

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1st Section

200 Joint Regulations for all Competitions

200.1 All events in the FIS Calendar must be held under the applicable FIS Rules¹.

200.2 Organisation and Conduct

Rules and instructions for the organisation and conduct of the various competitions are to be found in their respective rules.

200.3 Participation

Competitions listed in the FIS Calendar are only open to all properly licensed competitors entered by their National Ski Associations in accordance with current quotas.

200.4 Special Regulations

The FIS Council can authorise a National Ski Association to adopt rules and regulations to organise national or international competitions with different grounds for qualification but only provided that they do not go beyond the limits laid down in the present rules.

200.5 Control

All competitions listed in the FIS Calendar must be supervised by a Technical Delegate of the FIS.

200.6 Every legal sanction imposed and published in respect of a competitor, official or trainer will be recognised by the FIS and the National Ski Associations respectively.

201 Classification and Types of Competitions

201.1 Competitions with Special Rules and/or Limited Participation

National Ski Associations affiliated with the FIS - or clubs belonging to these National Ski Associations with the approval of their association - may invite neighbouring National Ski Associations or their clubs to their own competitions. But these competitions must not be promulgated or announced as international competitions, and the limitation must be made clear in the announcement.

201.1.1 Competitions with special rules and/or limited participation or including non-members may be held under special competition rules as approved by the FIS Council. Any such rules must be published in the announcement.

201.2 Competitions with Non-Members of the FIS

The FIS Council can authorise one of its member National Ski Associations to invite a non-member organisation (military etc.) to competitions, or accept invitations from such an organisation.

201.3 Classification of Competitions

201.3.1 Olympic Winter Games, FIS World Ski Championships and FIS World Junior Ski Championships

¹ Throughout the ICR, the use of the masculine he/his, etc also includes the feminine she/her, etc

- 201.3.2 FIS World Cups
- 201.3.3 FIS Continental Cups
- 201.3.4 International FIS Competitions (FIS Races)
- 201.3.5 Competitions with Special Participation and/or Qualifications
- 201.3.6 Competitions with Non-Members of the FIS

201.4 FIS Disciplines

A discipline is a branch of a sport and may comprise one or several events. For example Cross-Country Skiing is a FIS Discipline, whereas the Cross-Country Sprint is an Event.

- 201.4.1 *Recognition of Disciplines in the International Ski Federation*
New disciplines, comprising one or several events, widely practised in at least twenty-five countries and on three continents may be included as part of the programme of the International Ski Federation.

- 201.4.2 *Exclusion of Disciplines from the International Ski Federation*
If a discipline is no longer practised in at least twelve National Ski Associations on at least two continents the FIS Congress may decide to exclude the discipline from the programme of the International Ski Federation.

201.5 FIS Events

An event is a competition in a sport or in one of its disciplines. It results in a ranking and gives rise to the award of medals and/or diplomas.

201.6 Types of Competitions

International competitions consist of:

- 201.6.1 *Nordic Events*
Cross-Country, Rollerskiing, Ski Jumping, Ski Flying, Nordic Combined, Team Competitions in Nordic Combined, Nordic Combined with Rollerskiing or In-line, Team Ski Jumping, Ski Jumping on plastic jumping hills, Popular Cross-Country races
- 201.6.2 *Alpine Events*
Downhill, Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G, Parallel Competitions, Combined, KO, Team Competitions
- 201.6.3 *Freestyle Events*
Moguls, Dual Moguls, Aerials, Ski Cross, Half Pipe, Slopestyle, Team Competitions
- 201.6.4 *Snowboard Events*
Slalom, Parallel Slalom, Giant Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Super-G, Half Pipe, Snowboard Cross, Big Air, Slopestyle, Team Competitions

- 201.6.5 *Telemark Events*
- 201.6.6 *Firngleiten*
- 201.6.7 *Speed Skiing Events*
Speed 1 (S1), Speed Downhill (SDH), Speed Downhill Junior (SDH Jun)
- 201.6.8 *Grass Ski Events*
- 201.6.9 *Combined Events with other Sports*
- 201.6.10 *Children's, Masters, Disabled Events, etc.*

201.7 FIS World Championship Programme

- 201.7.1 To be included in the programme of the FIS World Championships, events must have a recognised international standing both numerically and geographically, and have been included for at least two seasons in the World Cup before a decision about their admission can be considered.
- 201.7.2 Events are admitted no later than three years before specific FIS World Championships.
- 201.7.3 A single event cannot simultaneously give rise to both an individual and a team ranking.
- 201.7.4 Medals may only be awarded at the FIS World Championships and FIS Junior World Championships in all disciplines (Alpine, Nordic, Snowboard, Freestyle, Grass Skiing, Rollerski, Telemark, Speed Skiing) when there are a minimum of 8 nations participating in team competitions and 8 nations represented in an individual event.

202 FIS Calendar

202.1 Candidature and Announcement

- 202.1.1 Each National Ski Association is entitled to present its candidature for the organising of the FIS World Ski Championships in accordance with the published "Rules for the Organisation of World Championships"
- 202.1.2 For all other competitions, the registrations for inclusion in the International Ski Calendar have to be made to FIS by the National Ski Association according to the Rules for the FIS Calendar Conference published by the FIS.
 - 202.1.2.1 The applications of the National Ski Associations (NSA) have to be sent to FIS using the FIS Calendar program (<ftp://ftp.fissski.ch/Software/Programs/>) by 31st August (31st May for the Southern Hemisphere).
 - 202.1.2.2 *Allocation of competitions*
Allocation of the competitions to the National Ski Associations is made through the electronic communication process between FIS and the National Ski Associations. In the case of FIS World Cup competitions, the calendars are subject to the approval of the Council, on proposal of the respective Technical Committee.

202.1.2.3 *Homologations*
Competitions that appear in the FIS Calendar may only take place on competition courses or jumping hills homologated by the FIS.
The homologation certificate number must be indicated when applying for the inclusion of competition in the FIS Calendar.

202.1.2.4 *Publication of the FIS Calendar*
The FIS calendar is published by FIS on the FIS website www.fis-ski.com. It will be updated to reflect cancellations, postponements and other changes continuously by FIS.

202.1.2.5 *Postponements*
In case of the postponement of a competition listed in the FIS Calendar, the FIS has to be informed immediately and a new invitation must be sent to the National Ski Associations, otherwise the competition cannot be considered for FIS Points.

202.1.2.6 *Calendar Fees*
In addition to the annual subscription, a calendar fee is set by the FIS Congress and is due for each year and for each event listed in the FIS Calendar. For additional events, a 50% surcharge will be made in addition to the regular calendar fee for applications submitted 30 days before the date of the competition. The calendar fee for a competition that has to be rescheduled remains the responsibility for payment in full of the original organising National Ski Association.

At the beginning of the season, each NSA will receive an invoice for 70 % of its total invoice from the previous season. This amount will be debited from its FIS account. At the end of the season each NSA will receive a detailed invoice for all registered competitions during the season. The balance will be subsequently be debited or credited to the NSA account at FIS.

202.1.3 *Appointment of Race Organiser*
In the event that the National Ski Association appoints a race organiser, such as an affiliated ski club, it shall do so using the form “Registration Form National Ski Association and Organiser” or by means of a similar written agreement. An application by a National Ski Association for inclusion of an event on the International Ski Calendar shall mean that the necessary agreement to organise the event has been established.

202.2 **Organisation of Races in other Countries**
Competitions which are organised by other National Ski Associations may only be included in the FIS Calendar when the National Ski Association of the country concerned where the competitions will be organised gives its approval.

203 **Licence to participate in FIS Races (FIS Licence)**
A licence to participate in FIS races is issued by a National Ski Association to competitors who fulfil the criteria for participation through registering the competitor with FIS in the respective discipline(s).

- 203.1 The FIS licence year begins on July 1st and finishes on June 30th of the following year.
- 203.2 To be eligible for participation in FIS events, a competitor must have a licence issued by his National Ski Association. Such a licence shall be valid in the Northern and Southern hemispheres for the licence year only. The validity of a licence can be limited to participation in one specific country or in one or more specific events.
- 203.2.1 The National Ski Association must guarantee that all competitors registered with a FIS License to participate in FIS races accept the Rules of the International Ski Federation, in particular the provision which foresees the exclusive competence of the Court of Arbitration for Sport as the court of appeal in doping cases.
- 203.3 A National Ski Association may only issue a FIS licence to participate in FIS races when the competitor has proven his nationality and therefore eligibility by submitting a copy of his passport and signed the Athletes Declaration in the form approved by the FIS Council and returned it to his National Ski Association. All forms from under-age applicants must be counter signed by their legal guardians. Both the copy of the passport and signed Athletes Declaration must be made available to FIS on request.
- 203.4 During the FIS licence year, a competitor may only participate in International FIS competitions with a FIS licence to participate in FIS races issued by one National Ski Association.
- 203.5 Application for a change of FIS Licence Registration**
- All applications to change licence registration from one member National Ski Association to another are subject to consideration by the FIS Council at its Meetings in the spring. In principle an application to change licence registration will not be granted unless the competitor demonstrates his personal association with the new nation.
- Prior to submitting an application to change licence registration a competitor must possess the citizenship and passport of the country for which he wishes to compete. In addition, the competitor must have had his principal legal and effective place of residence in the new country for a minimum of two (2) years immediately prior to the date of the request to change registration to the new country/National Ski Association. An exception to the two year residency rule may be waived if the competitor was born in the territory of the new country, or whose mother or father is a national of the new country. Applications will not be accepted if a parent has obtained a passport for the new country, but is not resident, and/or there is no family ancestry.
- Furthermore the competitor is required to submit a detailed explanation with the application about his personal circumstances and the reason for requesting a change of licence registration.
- 203.5.1 If a competitor has already participated in FIS calendar events for a National Ski Association, he must have the written agreement to be released from the former National Ski Association in addition to the citizenship, passport and residency requirements in art. 203.5 before the new National Ski Association may submit a request to FIS for a change of registration.

If such a written agreement is not given, the competitor may not participate in any FIS calendar events for a period of twelve months from the end of the last season in which he competed for his present National Ski Association, nor may he be issued with a licence to participate in FIS races by the new National Ski Association.

These rules are also valid when a competitor has more than one nationality and would like to change National Ski Association licence registration.

- 203.5.2 The FIS Council reserves the right in its absolute discretion, to grant or to decline to grant, a change of licence notwithstanding the fulfilment of the aforementioned conditions where it deems it is contrary to the spirit of the rule and in the best interests of the International Ski Federation to do so (e.g. to decline to grant a change of licence if a member National Ski Association tries to “import” a competitor).
- 203.5.3 In the event that a competitor does not fulfil all the criteria required to apply for a change of National Ski Association licence registration, the onus shall be on the competitor to demonstrate in writing to the satisfaction of the FIS Council that exceptional circumstances exist and it is in the best interests of the International Ski Federation to grant the change.
- 203.5.4 A competitor will retain his FIS Points if he changes his National Ski Association under the condition that the former National Ski Association granted the release of the competitor.
- 203.5.5 In the event that any of the documents for an application to change licence registration submitted by the National Ski Association (letter of release from the former National Ski Association, passport, residency papers) are found to be false, the FIS Council will sanction the competitor and the new National Ski Association.

204 Qualification of Competitors

- 204.1 A National Ski Association shall not support or recognise within its structure, nor shall it issue a licence to participate in FIS or national races to any competitor who:**
- 204.1.1 has conducted himself in an improper or unsportsmanlike manner or has not respected the FIS medical code or anti-doping rules,
- 204.1.2 accepts or has accepted, directly or indirectly, any money-payments for the participation at competitions,
- 204.1.3 accepts or has accepted a prize of a higher value than fixed by article 219,
- 204.1.4 permits or has permitted his name, title or individual picture to be used for advertising, except when the National Ski Association concerned, or its pool for this purpose, is party to the contract for sponsorship, equipment or advertisements.
- 204.1.5 knowingly competes or has competed against any skier not eligible according to the FIS Rules, except if:

- 204.1.5.1 the competition is approved by the FIS Council, is directly controlled by the FIS or by a National Ski Association, and the competition is announced "open",
- 204.1.6 has not signed the Athletes Declaration,
- 204.1.7 is under suspension.
- 204.2 With the issuance of a licence to participate in FIS competitions and entry the National Ski Association confirms, that valid and sufficient accident insurance for training and competition is in place for the competitor and assumes full responsibility.

205 Competitors Obligations and Rights

- 205.1 The competitors are obliged to make themselves familiar with the appropriate FIS Rules and must comply with the additional instructions of the Jury. Competitors must also follow the FIS rules regulations.
- 205.2 Competitors are not permitted to use doping. (see FIS Anti-Doping Rules and Procedural Guidelines).
- 205.3 As stated in the Athletes Declaration, competitors have the right to inform the Jury of safety concerns they may have regarding the training and competition courses. More details are given in the corresponding discipline rules.
- 205.4 Competitors who do not attend the prize-giving ceremonies without excuse lose their claim to any prize including prize money.
In exceptional circumstances, the competitor may be represented by another member of his team, but this person has no right to take his place on the podium.
- 205.5 Competitors must behave in a correct and sportsmanlike manner towards members of the Organising Committee, volunteers, officials and the public.

205.6 Support for the Competitors

- 205.6.1 *A competitor is registered with FIS by his National Ski Association to participate in FIS races may accept:*
- 205.6.2 full compensation for travel cost to training and competition,
- 205.6.3 full reimbursement for accommodation during training and competitions,
- 205.6.4 pocket money,
- 205.6.5 compensation for loss of income according to decisions of his National Ski Association,
- 205.6.6 social security including insurance for training and competition,
- 205.6.7 scholarships.
- 205.7 A National Ski Association may reserve funds to secure a competitor's education and future career after retiring from active competitive skiing.

The competitor has no claim to these funds which shall be dispensed only according to the judgement of his National Ski Association.

205.8 Gambling on Competitions

Competitors, trainers, team officials and technical officials are prohibited from betting on the outcome of competitions in which they are involved.

206 Sponsorships and Advertising

206.1 A National Ski Association or its pool may enter into contracts with a commercial firm or organisation for financial sponsorship and or the supply of goods or equipment if the specific company or organisation is acknowledged as an Official Supplier or Sponsor by the National Ski Association.

Advertising using photographs, likeness or names of FIS competitors with any sportsman not eligible according to either the FIS eligibility rules or the eligibility rules of the IOC, is forbidden.

Advertising with or on competitors with tobacco or alcohol products or drugs (narcotics) is forbidden.

206.2 All compensation under such contracts must be made to the National Ski Association or its ski pool which shall receive the compensation subject to the regulations of each National Ski Association.

Competitors may not directly receive any part of such compensation except as stated in art. 205.6. The FIS may at any time call for a copy of the contract.

206.3 Equipment goods supplied to and used by the national team must, with reference to markings and trademarks, conform with the specifications stated in art. 207.

206.4 Competition Equipment at FIS Events

Only the competition equipment, according to the FIS rules on advertising, provided by the National Ski Association, complete with the commercial markings approved by the National Ski Association, may be worn in FIS World Cup and FIS World Ski Championship competitions. Obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment are forbidden.

206.5 Competitors are not permitted to take off one or both skis or snowboard before crossing the red line in the finish area, as defined by the organiser.

206.6 At FIS World Ski Championships, FIS World Cups and all events of the FIS Calendar, a competitor is not allowed to take equipment (skis/board, poles, ski boots, helmet, glasses) to the official ceremonies which have anthems and/or flag raising. Holding/carrying equipment on the victory podium after conclusion of the whole ceremony (handing over trophies and medals, national anthems) for press photos, pictures, etc. is however permitted.

206.7 Winners presentation / Equipment on the podium

At FIS World Ski Championships and all events of the FIS Calendar, a competitor is allowed to take the following equipment on the podium:

- Skis / Snowboards

- Footwear: The athletes may wear their boots on their feet, but are not allowed to wear them anywhere else (such as around their neck). Other shoes cannot be taken on the podium during presentation except if they are worn on the feet.
- Poles: not on/around skis, normally in the other hand
- Goggles: either worn or around the neck
- Helmet: if worn only on the head and not on another piece of equipment, e.g. skis or poles
- Ski straps: maximum of two with name of the producer of skis; eventually one can be used for a wax company
- Nordic Combined and Cross-Country Ski Poles Clips. A clip can be used to hold the two poles together. The clip can be the width of the two poles, though not wider than 4 cm. The length (height) can be 10 cm. The long side of the clip is to be parallel to the poles. The commercial marking of the pole manufacturer can cover the entire surface of the clip.
- All other accessories are prohibited: waist bags with belt, phones on neckbands, bottles, rucksack/backpack, etc.

206.8 An unofficial presentation (flower ceremony) of the winner, and the winners ceremony immediately after the event in the event area with the national anthem even before the protest time has expired, is allowed at the organiser's own risk. Visible wearing of the starting bibs is mandatory.

206.9 Visible wearing of the starting bib of the event or other outerwear of the NSA is mandatory in the restricted corridor (including the leader board and TV interview locations).

207 Advertising and Commercial Markings

Technical Specifications about the size, the form and the number of commercial markings are decided by the FIS Council each spring for the following competition season and published by the FIS.

207.1 The rules covering advertising on equipment must be followed.

207.2 Any competitor who breaches the advertising rules is subject to sanction, as provided for in art. 223.1.1. An offence for which a sanction may apply and a penalty be imposed is defined as conduct that is in violation or non-observance of competition rules.

207.3 If a National Ski Association fails to enforce these rules or for any reason prefers to refer the case to the FIS, the FIS may take immediate steps to suspend a competitor's licence. The competitor concerned and/or his National Ski Association have the right to make an appeal before a final decision is taken.

207.4 If an advertiser uses the name, title or individual picture of a competitor in connection with any advertisement, recommendation or sale of goods without the approval or knowledge of the competitor, the competitor may give a "power of attorney" to his National Ski Association or to the FIS to enable them, if necessary, to take legal action against the company in question. If the competitor concerned fails to do so, the FIS shall judge the situation as if the competitor had given permission to the company.

207.5 The FIS Council shall review if and how far infractions or breaches of rules have taken place in regard to qualification of competitors, sponsorship and advertising and support for the competitors.

207.6 In all competitions of the FIS Calendar (especially for the FIS World Cups) the "FIS Advertising Guidelines" must be observed in regard to advertising possibilities in the competition area, respectively in the TV area. These "FIS Advertising Guidelines", approved by the FIS Council, are an integral part of the FIS contracts with cup organisers.

208 Exploitation of Electronic Media Rights

208.1 General Principles

208.1.1 *Olympic Winter Games and FIS World Championships*
All Media rights to the Olympic Winter Games and FIS World Championships belong to the IOC and to the FIS respectively, and are subject to separate contractual arrangements.

208.1.2 *Rights owned by the member National Ski Associations*
Each FIS affiliated National Ski Association that organises events in its country which are included in the annual FIS calendars, has the authority as the owner of the electronic media rights to enter into contracts for the sale of the electronic media rights on those events. In cases where a National Ski Association organises events outside its own country, these rules also apply, subject to bi-lateral agreement with the National Ski Association of the country where the event takes place.

208.1.3 *Promotion*
Contracts shall be prepared in consultation with the FIS with the intention of giving the widest promotion and exposure to the sports of skiing and snowboarding and considering the best interests of the National Ski Associations.

208.1.4 *Access to events*
For all competitions, admission of personnel and their equipment to the media areas will be limited to those having the necessary accreditation and access passes. Priority access will be given to rights holders and the system of accreditation and access control must avoid possible abuse by non-rights holders.

208.1.5 *Control by the FIS Council*
The FIS Council exercises control over the adherence to the principles of this Rule by National Ski Associations and all organisers. Should a contract or individual clauses thereof, create a major conflict of interest for the FIS, a member National Ski Association or its organiser, then this will be evaluated by the FIS Council. Full information will be provided so that the appropriate solution can be found.

208.2

Definitions

In the context of this rule the following definitions will apply:

“Electronic Media Rights” means the rights for Television, Radio, Internet and Mobile devices.

“Television rights” means the distribution of television images, both analogue and digital, comprising video and sound, by means of terrestrial transmitters, satellite, cable, fibre or wire for public and private viewing on television screens. Pay-per-view, subscription, interactive TV, video on demand services, IPTV or similar technologies, are also included in this definition.

“Radio rights” means the distribution and reception of radio programmes, both analogue and digital, over the air, by wire or via cable to devices, both fixed and portable.

“Internet” means access to images and sound through interconnected computer networks.

“Mobile and portable devices” means the provision of images and sound through a telephone operator and receivable on mobile telephone or other non fixed devices, such as Personal Digital Assistants.

208.3

Television

208.3.1

Standard of production and promotion of competitions

In the agreements concerning production with a TV organisation or agency acting as host broadcaster, the quality of TV transmissions for ski and snowboard events published in the FIS Calendar – especially for FIS World Cup competitions – must be considered. Of particular importance, while taking into consideration applicable national laws and rules affecting broadcasting, are:

- a) Top quality and optimal production of a TV signal (for live or deferred transmission depending on the event) in which sport is the centrepiece;
- b) Adequate consideration and appearance of venue advertising and event sponsors;
- c) A standard of production in conformity with the FIS TV Production Guidelines and appropriate to current market conditions for the discipline and to the level of the FIS competition series. This means live coverage of the entire event including the winner presentation for live transmission (unless circumstances determine that a live production is not provided). This coverage shall be produced in a neutral way, shall not concentrate on any athlete or nation and shall show all competitors
- d) The live international signal of the host broadcaster must include appropriate graphics in English, particularly the official FIS logo, timing and data information and results, and international sound.
- e) Where it is appropriate to the individual TV market, there should be live TV transmission in the country where the event takes place and in other countries with a high interest.

208.3.2 *Production and Technical costs*

Except when otherwise agreed between the National Ski Association and the agency/company managing the rights, the cost of producing the television signal for the exploitation of the different rights will be borne by the broadcaster having acquired the rights in the country where the competition takes place or a production company mandated to produce the signal by the company owning the rights. In certain cases, the organiser or the National Ski Association may assume these costs.

For each of the different rights granted under this rule the technical expenses that are to be paid for by those organisations that have acquired the rights and which are seeking to access the television signal (original picture and sound without commentary), have to be agreed between the producing company or the agency/company managing the rights, as applicable. This also applies to any other production costs that may be requested.

208.3.3 *Short extracts*

Short extracts granting news access for non-rights holders are to be provided to television companies according to the following rules. It is noted that in a number of countries national legislation governs the showing of short extracts in news programmes.

These extracts may only be used in regularly scheduled news programmes and cannot be kept for archive purposes

- a) In those countries where legislation exists regarding news access to sporting events then this legislation will always hold precedence for reporting on FIS events.
- b) In those countries where no legislation exists regarding news access by competing networks and provided that agreements between the company managing the rights and the primary rights holder take precedence then short extracts of a maximum of 90 seconds news access will be granted to competing networks by the agency/company managing the rights for transmission four hours after the rights holding network has shown the competition. The use of this material will cease 48 hours after the end of the competition. If the rights holding network delays its transmissions by more than 72 hours from the end of the competition, then competing networks can show extracts of a maximum of 45 seconds commencing 48 hours after and ending 72 hours after the event itself. Any request to exploit short extracts shall be addressed to the agency/company managing the rights which shall grant to the broadcasters access to the short extracts subject to agreement regarding the technical costs incurred to receive the material.
- c) In those countries where no transmission rights have been purchased by a television company, all television organisations will be able to transmit short extracts of 45 seconds as soon as the material is available, subject to agreement with the agency/company managing the rights regarding the technical costs to be incurred to receive the material. Permission for the use of this material will expire after 48 hours.
- d) Short extracts will be produced by the host broadcaster or the agency/company managing the rights and distributed by that agency/company, taking into consideration 208.3.2 above.

208.4**Radio**

The promotion of FIS events through radio programmes will be encouraged by making available accreditation to the principle radio station(s) in each interested country. Access to the venue will be granted solely to those radio organisations that have obtained the necessary contractual authorisation from the rights holder, and will be only for the production of radio (audio) programmes. If accepted by national practice and the authorisation is granted, these programmes can also be distributed on the internet site of the radio station.

208.5**Internet**

Unless the contract for the sale of the Electronic Media Rights on FIS events states otherwise, each television rights holder that also acquires the internet rights, will ensure that video streams from its website other than short extracts are geoblocked against access from outside its own territory. Regularly scheduled news bulletins containing material of FIS events may be streamed on the rights holding broadcaster's website, provided no changes are made to the bulletin as transmitted in the original programme.

Video and audio material produced in public areas where accreditation, tickets or other permissions are not required to gain access must not contain race footage. It is recognised that new technology provides members of the public with the possibility to produce unauthorised video recordings that may be posted on websites. Appropriate information advising that the unauthorised production and use of video material is prohibited and that legal proceedings could be taken, will be shown at all entrances and printed on entrance tickets.

All National Ski Associations and the rights holders/agencies will give permission for short extracts to be placed on the FIS website for non-commercial use subject to the following conditions:

- a) When short extracts have not been acquired for Internet distribution the maximum duration of the news material from FIS competitions will be 30 seconds per discipline/per session and will be accessible on the FIS website until 48 hours after the end of the competition. The financial conditions relating to the provision of this material will be agreed between the FIS and the rights owner.
- b) The material will be provided by the rights owner or host broadcaster as soon as possible, but at the latest six hours after the end of the competition.

208.6**Mobile and portable devices**

In the cases where the rights for distribution by mobile and portable devices have been awarded, the rights purchaser/operator will be free to produce from the television signal the content it considers best meets the needs of its customers. Any live streaming of television programmes on a national basis using these devices shall not be altered from that available through other distribution channels.

In countries where no mobile distribution rights have been sold, short extracts or clips of a maximum duration of 20 seconds will be offered to operators when the material has been produced and for a period of 48 hours on the condition that the operators pay all related technical costs to the agency/company managing the rights.

208.7 Future developments

The principles contained in this Rule 208 shall be the basis for the exploitation of Electronic Media Rights to FIS events in the future. The FIS Council, on the recommendation of the National Ski Associations, the relevant commissions and experts, will establish the conditions considered appropriate to each new development.

209 Film Rights

All agreements regarding film productions of FIS competitions will be between the film producer and the National Ski Association or the company managing the related rights. All contractual arrangements regarding the exploitation of other media rights will be respected.

210 Organisation of Competition

211 The Organisation

211.1 The Organiser

211.1.1 The Organiser of a FIS competition is the person or group of persons who make the necessary preparations and directly carry out the running of the competition in the resort.

211.1.2 If the National Ski Association itself is not the competition organiser, it may appoint an affiliated club to be the organiser.

211.1.3 The organiser must ensure that accredited persons accept the regulations regarding the competition rules and Jury decisions, and in World Cup races the organiser is obliged to obtain the signature of all persons who do not have a valid FIS season accreditation to this effect.

211.2 The Organising Committee

The Organising Committee consists of those members (physical or legal) who are delegated by the organiser and by the FIS. It carries the rights, duties and obligations of the organiser.

211.3 Organisers which hold competitions involving competitors not qualified under art. 203 - 204 have violated the International Competition Rules and measures are to be taken against them by the FIS Council.

212 Insurance

212.1 The organiser must take out liability insurance for all members of the Organising Committee. The FIS shall provide its employees and appointed officials, who are not members of the Organising Committee (e.g. equipment controller, medical supervisor, etc.), with liability insurance when they are acting on behalf of the FIS.

212.2 Before the first training day or competition, the organiser must be in possession of a binder or cover notes issued by a recognised insurance

company and present it to the Technical Delegate. The Organising Committee requires liability insurance with coverage of at least CHF 1 million; whereby it is recommended that this sum is at least CHF 3 million; this sum can be increased according to decisions of the FIS Council (World Cup etc).

Additionally, the policy must explicitly include liability insurance claims by any accredited participant, including competitors, against any other participant including but not limited to officials, course workers, coaches, etc

212.3 The Organiser respectively its' National Ski Association may request the FIS insurance broker to arrange cover for the competition (at the cost of the Organiser) if the organiser does not have the necessary insurance cover in place.

212.4 All competitors participating in FIS events must carry accident insurance, in sufficient amounts to cover accident, transport and rescue costs including race risks. The National Associations are responsible for adequate insurance coverage of all their competitors sent and inscribed by them. The National Ski Association or their competitors must be able to show proof of the respective insurance coverage at any time on request of the FIS, one of its representatives or the organising committee.

213 Programme

A programme must be published by the organisers for each competition listed in the FIS Calendar which must contain the following:

213.1 name, date and place of the competitions, together with information on the competition sites and the best ways of reaching them,

213.2 technical data on the individual competitions and conditions for participation,

213.3 names of principal officials,

213.4 time and place for the first team captains' meeting and the draw,

213.5 timetable for the beginning of the official training and the start times,

213.6 location of the official notice board,

213.7 time and place for the prize-giving,

213.8 final date of entry and address for entries, including telephone, telefax and e-mail address.

214 Announcements

214.1 The Organising Committee must publish an announcement for the event. It must contain the information required by art. 213.

214.2 Organisers are bound by the rules and decisions of the FIS in limiting the number of entries. A further reduction in entries is possible under art. 201.1 provided it is made clear in the announcement.

- 214.3 Postponements or cancellations of competitions and programme alterations must be communicated immediately by telephone, e-mail or telefax to the FIS, all invited or entered National Ski Associations and the appointed TD. Competitions moved to an earlier date must be approved by the FIS.

215 Entries

- 215.1 All entries must be sent so that the Organising Committee receives them before the final date of entry. The organisers must have a final and complete list not later than 24 hours before the first draw.
- 215.2 National Ski Associations are not permitted to enter and draw the same competitors in more than one competition on the same date.
- 215.3 Only National Ski Associations are entitled to make entries for international competitions. Every entry should include:
- 215.3.1 code number, name, first name, year of birth, National Ski Association;
- 215.3.2 an exact definition of the event for which the entry is made.
- 215.4 Entries for FIS World Championships (see Rules for the Organisation of FIS World Championships).
- 215.5 The entry of a competitor by the National Ski Association for a race shall constitute a contract solely between the competitor and the organiser and shall be governed by the Athletes Declaration.

216 Team Captains' Meetings

- 216.1 The time and location of the first team captains' meeting and of the draw must be shown in the programme. The invitations for all other meetings have to be announced to the team captains at their first meeting. Emergency meetings must be announced in good time.
- 216.2 Representation by a substitute from another nation during discussions at team captains' meetings is not allowed.
- 216.3 The team captains and trainers must be accredited by the organisers according to quota.
- 216.4 Team captains and trainers must obey the ICR and the decisions of the Jury and must behave in a proper and sportsmanlike manner.

217 Draw

- 217.1 Competitors' starting order for each event and each discipline is decided according to a specific formula by draw and/or point order.
- 217.2 The competitors entered by a National Ski Association will only be drawn if provided written entries have been received by the organiser before the closing date.

- 217.3 If a competitor is not represented at the draw by a team captain or trainer, he will only be drawn if it is confirmed by telephone, telegram, e-mail or telefax by the beginning of the meeting that the competitors who are entered will participate.
- 217.4 Competitors who have been drawn and are not present during the competition must be named by the TD in his report, indicating if possible the reasons for absence.
- 217.5 Representatives of all the nations taking part must be invited to the draw.
- 217.6 If a competition has to be postponed by at least one day, the draw must be done again.

218 Publication of Results

- 218.1 The unofficial and official results will be published in accordance with the rules for the specific event.

218.1.1 Transmission of Results

For all international competitions, there must be direct communication between the Start and the Finish. In Olympic Winter Games the communications must be assured by fixed wiring.

In the data service area, access to the internet (at least ADSL speed) is required for World Cup, World Championships and Olympic Winter Games competitions.

- 218.2 The data and timing generated from all FIS competitions is at the disposal of FIS, the organiser, the National Ski Association and participants for use in their own publications, including websites. Use of data and timing on websites is subject to the conditions laid down in the FIS Internet Policies.

218.3 FIS Internet Policies and Exchange of Data relating to the FIS Competitions

218.3.1 General

As part of the ongoing promotion of skiing and snowboard, the International Ski Federation encourages and appreciates the efforts made by the National Ski Associations to provide messages and information to their members and fans. An increasingly important medium for this provision of information is through the Internet.

The following policy has been established in order to assist National Ski Associations through the provision of data from FIS competitions, and to clarify certain conditions that relate to the use and presentation of the data from FIS competitions.

218.3.2 FIS Calendar data

A specific FIS Calendar programme has been developed for the free use of National Ski Associations and other third parties. An updated Fiscal zip file containing revised calendar information will be available every week from the ftp site: <ftp://ftp.fisiski.ch> for uploading into the FIS Calendar program.

Thereafter it may be exported into National Ski Association's own software if necessary for planning purposes, etc. This data may not be passed on to third parties or organisation for commercial use.

218.3.3

Results and Standings

National Ski Associations can obtain official results, after they have been approved by the FIS Points verification procedure at the FIS Office. This data will be available on request to the FIS IT Manager who will provide the necessary instructions and/or routines on a case-by-case basis. The FIS World Cup results will include a credit to the results service providers. Standings from the various Cup series will also be available after receipt from the results service providers in the case of the FIS World Cup, or they have been input manually for other Cup series.

1. The results and data from FIS competitions may only be used on the National Ski Associations', Organisers' and participants' websites and may not be passed on for commercial use to third parties or organisations.
The National Ski Association may download the data into its' own software for evaluating performances, etc.
2. National Ski Associations who wish to display results on their website, but do not have a database structure to upload the raw data can create a link to the relevant page of the FIS website. The exact addresses can be obtained from the FIS IT Manager.
3. A link will be established from the FIS Website to all National Ski Associations with their own website, as well as the ski industry and relevant media websites on requests. A reciprocal link to the FIS website should also be created.

218.3.4

Organisers access to results

Organisers of FIS World Cup races can obtain official results from their races after they have been approved by the FIS Points verification procedure in the results database. The upload is a computer-automated procedure for World Cup races and takes place immediately after the end of the race.

The pdf file containing the results and standings can be downloaded from www.fis-ski.com and from <ftp://ftp.fis-ski.ch/> followed by the discipline code and the name of the site: AL (Alpine), CC (Cross-Country), JP (Ski Jumping), NK (Nordic Combined); SB (Snowboarding), FS (Freestyle) etc. The individual competition can be identified by the competition codex as published on the detailed page of the calendar on www.fis-ski.com.

219

Prizes

219.1

The detailed rules concerning the awarding of prizes will be published by the FIS. Prizes shall consist of mementos, diplomas, cheques or cash. Prizes for records are forbidden. The FIS Council decides in the autumn on the minimum respectively maximum values of the prize money approximately one and a half years before the competition season. The organisers have to inform the FIS by October 15th of the amount.

219.2

If two or more competitors finish with the same time or receive the same points, they shall be given the same placing. They will be awarded the same prizes, titles or diplomas. The allocation of titles or prizes by drawing lots or by another competition is not allowed.

- 219.3 All prizes are to be awarded no later than the final day of a competition or event series.
- 220 Team Officials, Coaches, Service Personnel, Suppliers and Firms' Representatives**
- In principle these regulations apply to all disciplines, taking into consideration the special rules.
- 220.1 The Organising Committee of an event must provide the Technical Delegate with a list of persons accredited to the competition.
- 220.2 It is forbidden for suppliers and for persons in their service to advertise inside the restricted area or to wear clearly visible commercial markings on their clothing or equipment which do not conform with art. 207.
- 220.3 Team officials accredited service personnel and suppliers receive from the FIS an official FIS accreditation and must perform their specified function. The individual organisers are free to accredit additional company representatives or other important persons.
- 220.4 Only persons who have the official FIS accreditation or a special accreditation from the organiser for course or jumping-hill have access to the courses and jumping-hills (according to special rules of the discipline).
- 220.5 The Different Types of Accreditation**
- 220.5.1 Technical Delegates, the Jury, and the persons mentioned in art. 220 with clearly visible accreditation have access to the courses and jumping-hills.
- 220.5.2 Servicemen attached to teams are permitted entry to start area and service area at the finish. They are not allowed entry to the courses or jumping-hills.
- 220.5.3 Company representatives accredited at the discretion of the organisers who do not have FIS accreditation are not permitted entry to the courses and restricted service areas.
- 221 Medical Services, Examinations and Doping**
- 221.1 National Ski Associations are responsible for the fitness of their competitors to race. All competitors, male and female are required to undergo a thorough evaluation of their medical health. This evaluation is to be conducted within the competitor's own nation.
- 221.2 If requested by the FIS Medical Committee or its representative, competitors must undergo a medical examination before or after the competition.
- 221.3 Doping is forbidden. Any offence under these FIS Anti Doping Rules will be punished under the provisions of the FIS Anti-Doping Rules.
- 221.4 Doping controls may be carried out at any FIS competition (as well as out-of competition). Rules and procedures are published in the FIS Anti-Doping Rules and FIS Procedural Guidelines.

221.5 Gender of the Competitor

If any question or protest arises as to the gender of the competitor, FIS shall assume responsibility for taking the necessary steps to determine the gender of the competitor.

221.6 Medical Services Required from Event Organisers

The health and safety of all those involved in a FIS competition is a primary concern of all event Organisers. This includes the competitors as well as volunteers, course workers and spectators.

The specific composition of the medical support system is dependent on several variables:

- The size, level, type of the event being held (World Championships, World Cup, Continental Cup, FIS-level, etc.) together with the local medical standards of care and geographic locations and circumstances.
- The estimated number of competitors, support staff and spectators
- The scope of responsibility for the Event Medical Organisation (competitors, support staff, spectators) should also be determined.

The Organiser / The Chief of Medical and Rescue Services must confirm with the race director or technical delegate that the required rescue facilities are in place before starting the official training or competition. In the event of an incident, or issue that prevents the primary medical plan from being utilized, the back up plan must be in place before recommencing the official training or competition.

The specific requirements concerning facilities, resources, personnel and team physicians are contained in the respective discipline rules and the FIS Medical Guide.

222 Competition Equipment

222.1 A competitor may only take part in a FIS competition with equipment which conforms to the FIS Regulations. A competitor is responsible for the equipment that he uses (skis, snowboard, bindings, ski boots, suit, etc). It is his duty to check that the equipment he uses conforms to the FIS specifications and general safety requirements and is in working order.

222.2 The term competition equipment encompasses all items of equipment which the competitor uses in competitions. This includes clothing as well as apparatus with technical functions. The entire competition equipment forms a functional unit.

222.3 All new developments in the field of competition equipment must be approved in principle by the FIS.
The FIS does not take any responsibility for the approval of new technical developments, which at the time of introduction may contain unknown risk to the health or cause an increase in the risk of accidents.

222.4 New developments must be submitted by May 1st, at the latest, for the following season. The first year new developments can only be approved provisionally for the following season and must be finally confirmed prior to the subsequent competition season.

222.5 The Committee for Competition Equipment publishes equipment by-laws after approval by the FIS Council (definitions or descriptions of the equipment items which are allowed).

In principle unnatural or artificial aids which modify the performance of the competitors and/or constitute a technical correction of the individual's physical predisposition to a defective performance, as well as competition equipment which impact the health of the competitors or increase the risk of accidents are to be excluded.

222.6 **Controls**

Before and during the competition season or on submission of protests to the Technical Delegate at the competition concerned, various controls can be carried out by members of the Committee for Competition Equipment or official FIS Equipment Controllers. Should there be a well-founded suspicion that regulations were violated, the equipment items must be confiscated immediately by the controllers or Technical Delegates in the presence of witnesses and be forwarded sealed to the FIS, which will submit the items to a final control by an officially recognised institution. In cases of protest against items of the competition equipment, the losing party will bear the investigation costs.

No testing of equipment or material in independent laboratories may be requested at races where a FIS Technical Expert has performed the controls, unless it can be demonstrated that the controls have not been carried out according to the rules.

222.6.1 At all FIS events where official FIS measurement experts using the official FIS measurement tools are appointed, the result of measurements carried out at the time are valid and final, irrespective of previous measurements.

223 **Sanctions**

223.1 **General Conditions**

223.1.1 *An offence for which a sanction may apply and a penalty be imposed is defined as conduct that:*

- is in violation or non-observance of competition rules, or
- constitutes non-compliance with directives of the jury or individual members of the jury in accordance with 224.2 or
- constitutes unsportsmanlike behaviour

223.1.2 *The following conduct shall also be considered an offence:*

- attempting to commit an offence
- causing or facilitating others to commit an offence
- counselling others to commit an offence

223.1.3 *In determining whether conduct constitutes an offence consideration should be given to:*

- whether the conduct was intentional or unintentional,
- whether the conduct arose from circumstances of an emergency

223.1.4 All FIS affiliated associations, including their members registered for accreditation, shall accept and acknowledge these rules and sanctions imposed, subject only to the right to appeal pursuant to the FIS Statutes and ICR

223.2 Applicability

223.2.1 Persons

These sanctions apply to:

- all persons who are registered with or accredited by the FIS or the organiser of an event published in the FIS calendar (an event) both within and outwith the confines of the competition area and any location connected with the competition, and
- all persons who are not accredited, within the confines of the competition area

223.3 Penalties

223.3.1 The commission of an offence may subject a person to the following penalties:

- Reprimand - written or verbal
- Withdrawal of accreditation
- Denial of accreditation
- Monetary fine not more than CHF 100'000.--
- A time penalty

223.3.1.1 FIS-affiliated associations are liable to the FIS for the payment of any fines and incurred administrative expenses imposed on persons whose registration or accreditation they arranged.

223.3.1.2 Persons not subject 223.3.1.1 also are liable to the FIS for fines and incurred administrative expenses. If such persons do not pay these fines, they shall be subject to a withdrawal of any permission to apply for accreditation to FIS events for a period of one year.

223.3.1.3 Payment of fines is due within 8 (eight) days following their imposition.

223.3.2 All competing competitors may be subject to the following additional penalties:

- Disqualification
- Impairment of their starting position
- Forfeiture of prizes and benefits in favour of the organiser
- Suspension from FIS events

223.3.3 A competitor shall only be disqualified if his mistake would result in an advantage for him with regard to the end result, unless the Rules state otherwise in an individual case.

223.4 A jury may impose the penalties provided in 223.3.1 and 223.3.2, however they may not impose a monetary fine of more than CHF 5'000.-- or suspend a competitor beyond the FIS event at which the offence occurred.

223.5 The following Penalty decisions may be given verbally:

- reprimands
- the withdrawal of accreditation for the current event from persons who had not been registered with the organiser through their National Associations
- the withdrawal of the accreditation for the current event from FIS-accredited persons

- the denial of accreditation to the current event from persons who are within the confines of the competition area or any other location connected with the competition.

223.6 The following Penalty decisions shall be in writing:

- monetary fines
- disqualification
- impaired starting position
- competition suspensions
- withdrawal of accreditation from persons who had been registered through their National Association
- withdrawal of accreditation of FIS accredited persons

223.7 Written Penalty decisions must be sent to the offender (if it is not a competitor), the offender's National Association and the Secretary General of FIS.

223.8 Any disqualification shall be recorded in the Referee's and/or the TD's Report.

223.9 All penalties shall be recorded in the TD's Report.

224 Procedural Guidelines

224.1 Competence of Jury

The Jury at the event has the right to impose sanctions according to the above rules by majority vote. In the case of a tie, the chairman of the Jury has the deciding vote.

224.2 Within the location, especially during the training and the competition period, each voting Jury member is authorised to issue oral reprimands and withdraw the accreditation which is issued for the current event.

224.3 Collective Offences

If several persons commit the same offence at the same time and under the same circumstances, the Jury's decision as to one offender may be considered binding upon all offenders. The written decision shall include the names of all offenders concerned, and the scope of the penalty to be assessed upon each of them. The decision will be delivered to each offender.

224.4 Limitation

A person shall not be sanctioned if proceedings to invoke such sanction have not been commenced against that person within 72 hours following the offence.

224.5 Each person who is a witness to an alleged offence is required to testify at any hearing called by the Jury, and the Jury is required to consider all relevant evidence.

224.6 The Jury may confiscate objects that are suspected of being used in violation of equipment guidelines.

- 224.7 Prior to the imposition of a penalty (except in cases of reprimands and withdrawal of accreditation according to 223.5 and 224.2), the person accused of an offence shall be given the opportunity to present a defence at a hearing, orally or in writing.
- 224.8 All Jury decisions shall be recorded in writing and shall include:**
- 224.8.1 The offence alleged to have been committed
- 224.8.2 The evidence of the offence
- 224.8.3 The rule (s) or Jury directives that have been violated
- 224.8.4 The penalty imposed.
- 224.9 The penalty shall be appropriate to the offence. The scope of any penalty imposed by the Jury must consider any mitigating and aggravating circumstances.
- 224.10 Remedies**
- 224.10.1 Except as provided for in 224.11, a penalty decision of the Jury may be appealed in accordance with the provisions in the ICR.
- 224.10.2 If an appeal is not filed within the deadline established in the ICR, the penalty decision of the Jury becomes final.
- 224.11 The following decisions of the Jury are not subject to appeal:**
- 224.11.1 Oral penalties imposed under 223.5 and 224.2
- 224.11.2 Monetary fines less than CHF 1'000.-- (One Thousand Swiss Francs) for single offence and a further CHF 2'500.-- for repeated offences by the same person.
- 224.12 In all remaining cases, appeals are to be directed to the Appeals Commission, as per the ICR.
- 224.13 The Jury shall have the right to submit to the Appeals Commission recommendations for penalties in excess of monetary fines of CHF 5'000.- and suspensions beyond the event in which the offence occurred (223.4).
- 224.14 FIS Council shall have the right to submit to the Appeals Commission comments with respect to any written penalty decisions by the Jury.
- 224.15 Costs of Proceedings**
- Fees and cash expenses, including travel expenses (costs of the proceedings) are to be calculated comparable to costs paid to TD's and are to be paid by the offender. In the case of a reversal of Jury decisions, in whole or in part, the FIS covers all costs.
- 224.16 Enforcement of Monetary Fines**
- 224.16.1 The FIS oversees the enforcement of monetary fines and the costs of proceedings. Enforcement costs are considered costs of the proceedings.
- 224.16.2 Any outstanding monetary fines imposed on an offender is considered a debt of the National Association to which the offender is a member.

224.17**Benefit Fund**

All monetary fines are paid into the FIS Youth Promotion Fund.

224.18

These rules are not applicable to any violation of FIS Doping rules.

225**Appeals Commission****225.1****Appointments**

225.1.1

The FIS Council shall appoint from the Discipline Sub-committee for Rules (or Discipline Committee if there is no Rules Sub-Committee) a Chairman and a Vice Chairman of the Appeals Commission. The Vice Chairman shall preside when the Chairman is either unavailable or is disqualified for bias and prejudice.

225.1.2

The Chairman shall appoint 3 members, which may include himself, to the Appeals Commission from the Discipline Rules Sub-Committee or Discipline Committee for each case appealed or submitted to be heard, whose decisions shall be by majority vote.

225.1.3

To avoid either actual bias and prejudice or the appearance of bias and prejudice, members appointed to an Appeals Commission shall not be members of the same National Association as the offender whose case is under appeal. In addition, members appointed to an Appeals Commission must report voluntarily to the Chairman any bias and prejudice they may hold for or against the offender. Persons who are biased and prejudiced shall be disqualified from serving on the Appeals Commission by the Chairman or, in the event the Chairman is disqualified, by the Vice Chairman.

225.2**Responsibility**

225.2.1

The Appeals Commission shall only hold hearings with respect to appeals by offenders or by the FIS Council from decisions of competition juries, or matters referred to it by competition juries recommending penalties in excess of those provided for in the Sanction rules.

225.3**Procedures**

225.3.1

The Appeal must be decided within 72 hours of receipt of the Appeal by the Chairman, unless all parties involved in the Appeal agree in writing to an extension of time for the hearing.

225.3.2

All appeals and responses must be submitted in writing, including any evidence the parties intend to offer in support of or in response to the Appeal.

225.3.3

The Appeals Commission shall decide on the location and format for the Appeal (phone conference, in person, e-mail exchanges). The Appeals Commission members are required to respect the confidentiality of the appeal until the decision is made public and to consult only with the other members of the panel during the deliberations. The Chairman of the Appeals Commission may request additional evidence from any of the parties involved, providing this does not require disproportionate means.

225.3.4 The Appeals Commission shall allocate costs of the appeal pursuant to 224.15.

225.3.5 Decisions of the Appeals Commission may be announced orally at the conclusion of the deliberations or hearing should one take place. The decision, together with its reasoning, shall be submitted in writing to the FIS, which shall deliver them to the parties involved, their National Associations and all members of the Jury whose decision was appealed. In addition, the written decision shall be available at the FIS Office.

225.4 Further Appeals

225.4.1 Decisions of the Appeals Commission may be appealed to the FIS Court in accordance with Article 52; 52.1 and 52.2 of the Statutes.

225.4.2 Appeals to the FIS Court shall be in writing and submitted to the FIS Secretary-General in accordance with the time limits prescribed in Article 52; 52.1 and 52.2 of the Statutes from the date of the publication of the Appeals Commission decision.

225.4.3 An Appeal to the Appeals Commission or to the FIS Court will not delay the implementation of any penalty decision of the Competition Jury, Appeals Commission or Council.

226 Violation of Sanctions

Where there is a violation of a sanction that has been imposed (according to ICR 223 or the FIS Anti-Doping Rules, the Council may impose such further and other sanctions that it considers appropriate.

In such cases, some or all of the following sanctions may apply:

226.1 Sanctions against individuals involved:

- a written reprimand;

and/or

- a monetary fine not to exceed the sum of CHF 100'000.--

and/or

- competition suspension at the next level of sanction - for example if a three month suspension for a doping offence was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a two year suspension; if a two year suspension for a doping offence was imposed, a violation of the suspension will cause a lifetime suspension;

and/or

- withdrawal of accreditation from individuals involved.

226.2 Sanctions against a National Ski Association:

- withdrawal of FIS funding to the National Ski Association;

and/or

- cancellation of future FIS events in the country involved;

and/or

- withdrawal of some or all FIS membership rights, including participation in all FIS calendar competitions, voting rights at the FIS Congress, membership of FIS Committees.

300 Cross-Country Competitions

300.1 FIS sanctioned competitions are governed by the following FIS publications: ICR – first section (200s), second section (300s), World Cup Rules, Rules and Guidelines of the FIS Points and annual Cross-Country Guidelines approved by the FIS Cross-Country Committee.

A. Organisation**301 The Organising Committee (OC)**

301.1 An OC must be appointed for an international competition. The OC consists of members appointed by the National Ski Association (NSA) and the OC. The OC administers the rights, duties and obligations of the organiser. See article 210.

302 The Competition Officials**302.1 Appointment of the Competition Officials****302.1.1 *FIS appointed officials are***

- At Olympic Winter Games (OWG) and World Ski Championships (WSC): the Technical Delegate (TD), Assistant TD, Jury Members and FIS Race Director (RD)
- At World Cup (WC): the TD, Assistant TD and FIS Race Director (RD)
- At Junior World Ski Championships (JWSC): the TD, Assistant TD and one Jury member
- At Continental Cups (COC) and FIS competitions: the TD

302.1.2 NSA appointed officials are

- At JWSC, WC, COC and FIS competitions: National Assistant TD

302.1.3 Organising Committee Appointed Members

302.1.3.1 The Organiser appoints all other members. For all Olympic Winter Games (OWG, YOG) and World Ski Championships (WSC, JWSC) the following key technical officials have to be submitted to the FIS Council for approval:

- Chief of Competition
- Ass. Chief of Competition
- Race Secretary
- Chief of Course
- Chief of Stadium

302.1.3.2 The Chair of the OC or his/her Assistant represents the OC to the public and chairs the meetings of the OC. He/she cooperates before and after the competition closely together with FIS. See art. 210.

Within the OC there must be one person appointed as the Chief of Competition who is qualified to conduct the competition and to supervise the technical aspects of the competition as well as be the main interface with the jury. The Competition Officials are specialists who are particularly well qualified for their assigned duties. Each official is allowed to do only one job. Officials must be easily recognized by their uniforms, armbands or badges.

302.2 Competition Officials Appointed by the Chief of Competition

- 302.2.1 The Competition Officials are
- Competition secretary
 - Chief of course
 - Chief of timekeeping and data processing
 - Chief of stadium
 - Chief of control and competition security

The chief of competition will appoint other officials as necessary.

302.3 The Competition Officials and their Duties

- 302.3.1 The chief of competition is responsible for all aspects of the competition and supervises the work of all other competition officials. He must periodically inform the jury about the preparatory work and about changes that may have to be made. He must provide course maps, course profiles, stadium plans, timetable etc to the jury members in due time prior their arrival to the competition site.
- 302.3.2 The competition secretary is responsible for all secretarial work concerned with the technical aspects of the competition: entries, team captains' meeting, minutes, publication of start lists and results, protests.
- 302.3.3 The chief of course is responsible for the preparation (grooming, markings, and fencing) of the competition course, ski testing areas, warm-up course as well as proper setup and safe placement of any commercial marketing frames and structures.
- 302.3.4 The chief of timekeeping and data processing is responsible for the direction and coordination of the officials working in the timing area (starter, finish referee, finish controller, manual timers, electronic timers, intermediate timekeepers and calculations officials' work).
- 302.3.5 The chief of stadium is responsible for all activities in the stadium "field of play" area. This includes the course preparation and markings in the stadium, proper setup and safe placement of any commercial marketing frames and structures in the stadium, safe and well marked pathways for competitors to the start. The chief of stadium is responsible for ensuring sufficient areas for athletes clothing, coaches, equipment suppliers, anti-doping officials and medical staff in the finish area as well as good cooperation with media and ceremonies in the finish area.
- 302.3.6 The chief of control and competition security is responsible to organise together with the Jury the suitable placing of controllers, to collect all pertinent information and control cards after the competition and to report any incidents to the Jury.

Two controllers are necessary for each post. The number and placing of the controllers is determined without notifying the competitors, coaches or other officials. The controllers at each post record violations and the passing of the competitors. They may use video equipment. After the competition they must inform the chief of control and competition security of any violations to the rules and be ready to testify before the Jury.

302.3.7 The chief of media is responsible for providing optimal working conditions for media, equipment suppliers and competition officials in the media areas. This includes responsibility for the layout, setup, signage and operation of the mix zone. The mix zone includes the interview positions for host broadcaster, TV stations, radio, and journalists, as well as an area for photographers. Rooms for press conferences and related media infrastructure must be provided. He is also responsible for the flow of pertinent information to the press, radio and TV.

302.3.8 The chief of medical and rescue services is responsible for the organisation of all medical and first aid arrangements and for the quick transport of patients to the nearest appropriate medical facility.

The first aid and medical services must be fully operational during all official training times.

Details of the Medical Support Requirements are given in chapter 1 of the FIS Medical Guide containing Medical Rules and Guidelines.

303 The Jury and its Duties

303.1 Members of the Jury

303.1.1 For all Olympic Winter Games (OWG) and World Ski Championships (WSC) the following will serve in the Jury:

- The TD, who is chair of the Jury (appointed by FIS)
- The Assistant TD (appointed by FIS)
- The Chief of Competition (subject to approval by the FIS Council)
- Two other foreign members (appointed by FIS)
- FIS Race Director (appointed by FIS)

They are appointed by the FIS Council on proposal by the FIS Cross-Country Committee.

303.1.2 For WC the Jury will consist of the following

- The TD, who is chair of the Jury (appointed by FIS)
- The Assistant TD (appointed by FIS)
- FIS Race Director (appointed by FIS)
- The Chief of Competition
- The National TD Assistant (appointed by the host NSA in cooperation with the regional TD coordinator)

303.1.3 For JWSC the Jury will consist of the following

- The TD, who is chair of the Jury (appointed by FIS)
- The Assistant TD (appointed by FIS)

- One Jury member (appointed by FIS)
- The Chief of Competition
- The National TD Assistant (appointed by the host NSA in cooperation with the regional TD coordinator)

303.1.4 For COC and FIS competitions the Jury will consist of the following

- The TD, who is chair of the Jury (appointed by FIS)
- The Chief of Competition
- The National TD Assistant (appointed by the host NSA in cooperation with the regional TD coordinator)

303.2 The Role of the Technical Delegate (TD) and Assistant Technical Delegate (ATD) at WC, WSC, OWG, JWSC, COC and FIS competitions

303.2.1 Authority

The TD is the delegate of the FIS to the organising body, and is a guarantor for the FIS that the competition is conducted in accordance with the FIS Rules. The TD must have a valid TD license. The TD has the responsibility to involve and utilize the FIS appointed Assistant TD and the NSA appointed Assistant TD in the preparation, the carrying out and the follow up of the competition. The TD is responsible for organising the work of the Jury.

303.2.2 Appointment

303.2.2.1 For OWG, WSC, WC and JWSC, the TD, Assistant TD and other Jury members must possess a TD-license for Cross-Country.

303.2.2.2 For all OWG, WSC and WC competitions the TD and Assistant TD must be from another nation. For other international competitions, TDs from the same nation may be appointed. Competitions which appear regularly in the FIS Calendar shall have a foreign TD at least every four years.

303.2.2.3 For OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC competitions the TD and Assistant TD are appointed by the FIS Cross-Country Committee. For OWG, WSC and JWSC the appointments of the FIS Cross-Country Committee must be confirmed by the FIS Council. For other international competitions the TDs are appointed by the Sub-Committee for Rules and Control. For JWSC, WC, COC and FIS competitions the NSA must appoint a National Assistant TD who is supervised and instructed by the TD.

303.2.2.4 Persons holding a position of responsibility for a Nations Team are not permitted to be nominated for the position of a TD or Jury member for OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC.

303.3 Duties of the Jury

303.3.1 The Jury must ensure that the competition is organised and carried out according to the FIS Rules. The responsibilities begin when the Jury is appointed and are ended when protests from the final competition have been decided and the official results are produced. The first Jury meeting should be held before the first official training.

- 303.3.2 The Jury must clarify and decide
- Whether a competition shall be postponed, interrupted or cancelled.
 - Whether the competition course shall be adjusted due to safety reasons, or that additional safety measures (fences, protective material, etc) shall be installed along the course
 - Whether late entries and substitutions may be accepted.
 - Whether protests should be accepted and sanctions or disqualification announced.
 - Whether to apply for sanctions against an athlete or coach.
 - Whether there will be a change of starting order and method of start in special cases.
 - Any questions not covered by FIS Rules.

303.3.3 Within the location, especially during the official training and competition times, each voting Jury member is authorized to issue verbal reprimands and withdraw the accreditation which is valid for the current event (see also 224.2).

303.4 Jury Duties before and during the Competition

303.4.1 All Jury members must arrive at the site in due time before the competition so that a check can be made before the beginning of the official training and that the correct preparations for training and competition are being carried out, and make any necessary improvements prior to the start of competition.

The TD is responsible that all Jury duties are carried out and should distribute tasks among Jury members according to their abilities and experience.

Jury members should be able to ski the course and make a judgment of the course preparations.

303.4.2 Jury duties before arrival to competition site

- Invitation
- Competition programme
- Entries and eligibility questions
- Course and stadium plans
- Snow conditions, contingency plans (in case of bad snow conditions)
- Site visits (if decided by FIS Cross-Country Committee)

303.4.3 Jury duties on competition site before competition

- Liability insurance (ICR 212.2)
- Course:
Homologation, preparation (snow conditions, grooming, grooming equipment, forerunners, snow patrols, plans in case of extreme weather conditions), course marking, safety measures, coach/no coach areas, feeding stations, ski doo access paths (if applicable)

- Team area:
Waxing facilities, test area, warm-up courses
- Stadium:
Detailed plans, markings, fencing, general logistics, information points, loudspeakers
- Medical service
First aid stations, rescue plans, doping control (facilities, chaperons)
- Team accommodation:
Level, distance, pricing, meal arrangements and quality
- Race office:
Location, organisation, equipment, opening hours, information for the teams, forms, lists (FIS Points, cup standings, written reprimand), entries (eligibility, quotas, FIS Codes, grouping – if applicable)
- Team Captains' meeting:
Place, schedule, room equipment, refreshments, agenda, presentation, information for teams, test draw (if applicable), monitor the meeting and make decisions during the meeting if necessary
- Timing:
Start and finish procedures, intermediate timing, photo finish, primary timing, backup timing, data processing, start list content and layout, result list content and layout, XML data transmission to FIS
- Competition control:
Posts, technique control, equipment, procedures, ski marking (if applicable)
- Jury:
Working conditions, identification, communication
- Ceremonies:
Schedule, award of prizes, protocol
- Media (if applicable):
Press center, media information, press conferences
- Security:
Accreditation system, identification, access points and access control
- Transportation and parking

303.4.4

Jury duties during competition

- All Jury members should be present on competition site in good time (normally 2 hours before first start)
- Can competitions start as scheduled (stadium and course preparation, weather conditions, teams on site?)
- Substitutions and late entries
- Changes to warm-up and ski test procedures on course
- Decide on re-grooming, rescheduling of forerunners and use of snow patrols if necessary
- Inform teams on Jury decisions
- Monitor the execution of competitions
- Decide on all reported infractions including ICR 207 and late starts (if force majeure was the reason for late start)

- Decide on valid protests
- Document Jury decisions along with used evidence to be used in case of appeal
- Check timing and results, calculate race penalty, declare official results
- Check that official results are published on FIS website
- TD must prepare his/her TD report within 3 days after the competition.

304 Reimbursement of Expenses

304.1 Requirements of the Organisers

304.1.1 The competition officials have a right to reimbursement for their travel expenses (highway taxes included), as well as free accommodation and meals during the assignment. This rule also applies to agreed inspections as well as the trip to the competition (train, first class; for longer distances air fare, tourist class; or payment of a per kilometer fee of CHF 0.70 or equivalent). In addition a fixed daily rate of CHF 100 is added for the travel days to and from, as well as each day of the assignment, which includes postage charges for mailing reports, etc. Double charges (e.g. travelling home on the same day as the last race) are not permitted. If overnight accommodation during the journey to and from the assignment is necessary, this must be justified and reimbursed separately.

The maximum payment for personal vehicle transportation cannot exceed the equivalent cost of an airfare in economy class.

304.1.2 Reimbursement applies as follows:

- For OWG, WSC and JWSC special regulations apply.
- At WC for the TD, the foreign Assistant TD and the National Assistant TD.
- At other international competitions for the TD and the National Assistant TD.

305 Team Captains' Meeting

305.1 Procedure

305.1.1 Before each competition a Team Captains' meeting is carried out. It should take place one day before the competition.

305.1.2 The date, time and place of the Team Captains' meeting have to be published in the competition programme (article 216). The Jury decides how many representatives per participating team and how many accredited officials are allowed to take part in the Team Captains' meeting.

305.1.3 At OWG, WSC, WC and JWSC competitions the seating arrangements of the participating teams have to be marked.

305.1.4 At OWG, WSC, WC and JWSC competitions the Team Captains' meeting is held in English and also in the original language of the organiser if necessary. Supplementary translations should be provided.

- 305.1.5 The Team Captains' meeting is conducted by the chief of competition.
- 305.1.6 At the Team Captains' meeting, a majority of the voting members is enough for a Jury recommendation. Each team has one vote.
- 305.1.7 When necessary, the Jury may decide to interrupt the meeting in order to make a decision on recommendations and bring this result back to the meeting (article 303.3.2).

305.2 Agenda

- 305.2.1 A written agenda has to be distributed for the Team Captains' meeting. It is prepared by the competition secretary in cooperation with the chief of competition and the Jury.
- 305.2.2 At all international competitions the agenda normally contains the following items
- Roll call
 - introduction of the members of the OC
 - introduction of the Jury, if necessary appointment of the Jury
 - weather forecast
 - checking of the entries or grouping of the competitors
 - draw or start list composition
 - description of the stadium (access, ski marking [if applicable], start, finish, exchange zone for relay, tents for clothes changing, exit etc.)
 - description of the course (access, profile, locations for intermediate timing and feeding, security problems, course markings etc.)
 - preparation of the course
 - time, locations and regulations for ski testing
 - times and courses for training
 - general information from the TD
 - general information from the FIS Race Director
 - general information from the Organiser
- 305.2.3 Minutes which contain all topics of discussion, Jury decisions and the recommendations made must be taken at the Team Captains' meeting.

B. The Cross-Country Competitions

310 Competition Formats and Programmes

310.1 Table for Distances and Course Lengths

Race Format	Competition Distance (km)	Course Length (km)
Interval start competition	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5, 7.5, 10, 15, 30, 50	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5, 7.5, 8.3, 10, 12.5, 15, 16.7
Mass Start competition	10, 15, 30, 50	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5, 7.5, 8.3, 10, 12.5, 16.6
Popular competitions	No limitations	No limitations

Skiathlon	5+5, 7.5+7.5, 10+10, 15+15	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5, 7.5, 10
Pursuit competition (2 nd part)	5, 7.5, 10, 15	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5, 7.5, 10
Relay competition (teams with 3 or 4 competitors, can include mixed gender)	2.5, 3,3, 5, 7.5, 10	2.5, 3.3, 3.75, 5
Individual Sprint Men	1 – 1.8	0.5 – 1.8
Individual Sprint Ladies	0.8 – 1.6	0.4 – 1.6
Team Sprint Men	2x(3-6) x 1 – 1.8	0.5 – 1.8
Team Sprint Ladies	2x(3-6) x 0.8 – 1.6	0.4 – 1.6

This table is valid for organising multi-lap races but when choosing a short course with many laps the overall distance, start format and course width must be considered.

Individual Sprint and Team Sprint competitions can be carried out on one or more laps.

310.2 Technique Definitions

310.2.1 Classical Technique

310.2.1.1 Classical technique includes the diagonal techniques, the double poling techniques, herringbone techniques without a gliding phase, downhill techniques and turning techniques.

310.2.1.2 Single or double-skating is not allowed.

310.2.1.3 Turning techniques comprise steps and pushes in order to change directions. Where there is a set track, turning techniques with pushing are not allowed. This will also apply to competitors skiing outside of the set track.

310.2.2 Free Technique

Free technique includes all Cross-Country skiing techniques.

310.3 The Programmes for OWG, WSC, JWSC, WC and FIS Competitions

310.3.1 As a principle the number of competitions in the two techniques should be equal in WC every year, and the same for the OWG, WSC and JWSC.

310.3.2 OWG and WSC

310.3.2.1 For the OWG and the WSC competitions, the programme is:

Interval start competitions:	Men:	15 km C/F
	Ladies:	10 km C/F
Mass start competitions:	Men:	50 km C/F
	Ladies:	30 km C/F
Skiathlon:	Men:	15 km C – 15 km F
	Ladies:	7.5 km C – 7.5 km F
Relay competitions:	Men:	4 x 10 km C/F
	Ladies:	4 x 5 km C/F

Individual Sprint competitions:	Men:	1.0 – 1.8 km C/F
	Ladies:	0,8 – 1.6 km C/F
Team Sprint competitions	Men	1.0 – 1.8 km C/F
	Ladies	0,8 – 1.6 km C/F

NOTE: Techniques (C/F) will alternate between OWG and WSC, as well as between Individual and Team Sprint competitions, and between Interval and Mass start competitions.

The composition of the programme can change due to the fact that there are more competition days available during the OWG than at WSC. The TV coverage will be a major factor in these considerations.

Skiathlon will always be conducted with classical technique first and then free technique.

The relay competitions will be conducted using two legs classical first and then two free technique legs.

310.3.2.2 At WSC a qualification competition will be scheduled for ladies with more than 120 FIS Points and for men with more than 90 FIS Points. The skiers achieving a top 10 ranking in this qualification competition will be allowed to start in the WSC interval start competition as part of their Nations quota.

310.3.3 World Cup

The programme for the World Cup season is determined by the FIS every year. Distances and techniques are decided annually. To be able to support development of the Cross-Country sport, test competitions can be a part of the WC programme. Long distance competitions may be included.

310.3.4 JWSC

For JWSC competitions the formats, distances and techniques will be

	Ladies	Men
Interval start	5 km F*	10 km F*
Skiathlon	5 km C + 5 km F	10 km C + 10 km F
Sprint	0.8 – 1.6 km C*	1 – 1.8 km C*
Relay	4 x 3.3 km C/F	4 x 5 km C/F

* Interval start and Sprint competitions will alternate techniques each year.

310.3.5 U23 WSC

	Ladies	Men
Interval start	10 km F*	15 km F*
Skiathlon	7.5 km C + 7.5 km F	15 km C + 15 km F
Sprint	0.8 – 1.6 km C*	1 – 1.8 km C*

* Interval start and Sprint competitions will alternate techniques each year.

311 Cross-Country Competition Courses

311.1 Fundamental Characteristics

311.1.1 Cross-Country courses must be laid out so that they provide a technical, tactical and physical test of the competitors' qualifications. The degree of difficulty should be in accordance with the level of the competition. The course should be laid out as naturally as possible to avoid any monotony, with rolling undulating sections, climbs, and downhill sections.

Rhythm should not be broken by too many sharp changes in direction or steep climbs. The downhill sections must be laid out so that they create a challenge to the competitors. At the same time it should be possible to ski the course even under fast conditions.

311.1.2 In principle, the Cross-Country course should consist of

- One third uphill defined as climbs with a gradient between 9% (1:11) and 18% (1:5.5) with height differences over 10 meters plus some short climbs steeper than 18%.
- One third undulating, rolling terrain, utilizing all terrain features with short climbs and downhills (with height differences of 1-9 meters).
- One third varied downhills, demanding versatile downhill techniques.

311.1.3 At OWG, WSC, JWSC, WC and COC Cross-Country competitions the courses may only be used in the direction established in the homologation certificates.

311.1.4 A ski glide testing area with testing tracks for all participating teams must be located close to the stadium. It should be close to the team wax cabins and warm-up track. The testing tracks must be prepared to the same standard as the competition course.

311.1.5 Warm up courses should be prepared as close as possible to the stadium.

311.2 The Homologation

311.2.1 All FIS Cross-Country competitions should be carried out on homologated courses. The details on homologation procedure are described in FIS Cross-Country homologation manual.

311.2.2 In competitions designed for Cross-Country sport promotion it is possible to use courses outside of the homologation standards providing they have been approved by the Sub-Committee for Rules and Control.

311.2.3 The organiser must supply copies of the approved course maps and the homologation certificate to its TD. A graduated scale and a north direction arrow must be included.

311.2.4 Definitions

311.2.4.1 HD (height difference) is the difference in height between the lowest and highest points of a competition course.

311.2.4.2 MC (Maximum climb) is the climb with the highest partial height difference, in other terms, the biggest uphill. The uphill can be interrupted by a section

of undulating terrain that does not exceed 200 m in length or a downhill that does not exceed 10 m PHD.

311.2.4.3 TC (Total climb) represents a total of all climbs on the course.

311.2.5 Norms for Cross-Country courses.

The HD, TC and MC of the homologated competition courses should be within the following norms:

Course distance	HD	MC	TC
Sprint F	max. 50m	0 – 30 m	0 – 60 m
Sprint C	max. 50m	10 – 30 m	20 – 60 m
2.5 km	max. 50m	30 – 50 m	75 – 105 m
3.3 km	max. 65m	30 – 65 m	100 – 135 m
3.75 km	max. 80m	30 – 80 m	100 – 150 m
5 km	max. 100m	30 – 80 m	150 – 210 m
7.5 km	max. 125m	30 – 80 m	200 – 315 m
8.3 km	max. 125m	30 – 80 m	210 – 350 m
10 km	max. 125m	30 – 80 m	250 – 420 m
15 km	max. 150m	30 – 80 m	400 – 630 m
longer than 15 km	max. 150m	30 – 80 m	

311.2.6 Course width categories

Course widths for particular competition formats should follow the following table:

Category	Minimum course width			Used for
	Uphills	Undulated terrain	Downhills	
A	3 m	3 m	3 m	Interval start C
B	4 m	4 m	4 m	Interval start F Relay C
C	6 m	6 m	6 m	Mass start C Skiathlon C part Pursuit C Relay F Sprint C Team sprint C
D	9 m	7,5 m	6 m	Mass start F Skiathlon F part Pursuit F Sprint F Team sprint F
E	12 m	9 m	9 m	Skiathlon (both techniques on the same course)

311.2.6.1 It is possible to use a lower category course for a particular format at COC or FIS level competitions providing it is approved by the TD. The number and level of competitors must be considered.

- 311.2.7 At OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC competitions, the highest point of a Cross-Country course should not exceed 1800 m.
- 311.2.8 For COC and FIS level competitions, courses with a minimum MC of 25 m and/or highest point above 1800 m can be homologated.
- 311.3 Preparation of the Course**
- 311.3.1 Pre-Season Preparation
- The courses must be prepared before the winter so that they can be raced even with very little snow. Rocks, stones, roots, stumps, brush and similar obstacles should be removed. Sections of the course that have drainage problems must be corrected. The summer preparations should be of a standard which allows for carrying out of competitions with approximately 30 cm of snow. Special attention must be given to downhill sections and the need for banking the curves.
- 311.3.2 General Preparation for the competition
- 311.3.2.1 The course should be completely prepared with mechanical equipment. If heavy machines are used, they should follow the original configuration of the ground as much as possible in order to preserve the undulations of the terrain.
- 311.3.2.2 The course must be prepared to the recommended width according to the Homologation Manual and the competition format (see ICR articles section C). The course must be prepared so that competitors can ski and pass unobstructed. On slopes where the courses traverse, they must be wide enough to allow for good preparation.
- 311.3.2.3 The courses and the warm up tracks must be completely prepared before the official training, correctly marked and with the kilometer signs in place..
- 311.3.2.4 The same conditions must be ensured for all competitors during the competition. If it is snowing or blowing hard, a sufficient number of qualified forerunners and/or especially equipped patrols must be available and utilized in order to maintain constant conditions. An action plan has to be prepared in cooperation with the Jury.
- 311.3.2.5 All use of artificial means in order to improve the glide on the snow are forbidden. In special cases use of chemicals to prevent a soft surface is allowed.
- 311.3.3 Preparation for Classical Technique
- 311.3.3.1 The number of tracks will be decided by the Jury according to the length, the width, the profile of the course, the competition format and number of entries (see ICR articles section C).
- 311.3.3.2 The tracks should be in general set along the ideal skiing line of the competition course. The track is normally set in the middle of the course except through curves.
- 311.3.3.3 In curves there should only be set track where the skis can glide unrestrained in the set track. Where the curves are too sharp and the speed is

considered to be too high for the skier to stay in the track, the track should be removed. In curves the track is to be set close to the fence to avoid the possibility to ski between the track and the fence.

311.3.3.4 To decide the proper course preparation and track setting, the best competitors and highest possible speed must be taken into consideration.

311.3.3.5 The ski tracks must be prepared so that ski control and gliding are possible without a lateral braking effect by any parts of the bindings. The two tracks should be set 17-30 cm apart, measured from the middle of each track. The depth of the track should be 2-5 cm, even in hard or frozen snow.

311.3.3.6 Where two or more tracks are used, they should be a minimum 1.20 meter apart measured from the middle of each pair of tracks.

311.3.4 Preparation for Free Technique

311.3.4.1 The course must be well-packed the entire width. The width of the course should be suitable with the competition format (see ICR articles section C).

311.3.4.2 The Jury determines where and how tracks will be set in the downhills.

311.4 Marking the Course

311.4.1 The marking of the course must be so clear that the competitor is never in doubt where the course goes. At OWG and WSC the colors of the markings have to be determined and described in the course descriptions.

311.4.2 Kilometer signs should mark the accumulated distance skied along the course.

311.4.3 Forks and intersections on the course must be clearly marked by visible signage, and fences or V-boards must be placed across unused parts of the course.

311.5 Refreshment Stations

311.5.1 The OC must at a minimum provide a refreshment station (in the finish area).

311.5.2 The Jury decides on positions or limitations on feeding stations on the competition course.

311.6 Course Protection

311.6.1 At OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC competitions the courses should be fenced along both sides at all places where spectators can potentially interfere with the competitors.

311.7 Training and Inspection of the Course

311.7.1 Competitors and team officials must be given the opportunity to train and inspect the course in competition conditions. When possible, the course should be open two days before the competition. The Jury may close the course or limit the use of the course to certain sections or hours.

312 The Cross-Country Stadium

312.1 Stadium Area

312.1.1 A Cross-Country stadium has to be prepared with a well-designed start/finish area.

312.1.2 The stadium arrangement should provide a functional entity divided and controlled as necessary by gates, fences and marked zones. It must be prepared in such a way that

- the competitors may pass through it several times,
- competitors, officials, media, service people and spectators may reach their respective areas easily,
- there is enough space to carry out all competition formats.

312.2 Start Zone

312.2.1 The first 50 m will be the start zone. This zone may be separated into corridors and classical tracks may be set. The number, width and length of corridors will be determined by the Jury according to the competition formats (see ICR articles section C) and the stadium layout.

312.2.2 The starting positions will be set according to the competition formats (see ICR articles section C).

312.3 Finish Zone

312.3.1 The last straight 50 to 100 m will be the finish zone. This zone is normally separated into corridors. They must be clearly marked and highly visible but the markings must not interfere with the skis. The corridors should be as long as possible. The number, width and length of corridors will be determined by the Jury according to the competition formats (see ICR articles section C) and the stadium layout.

312.3.2 The finish line must be clearly marked with a colored line. The width of the finish line is maximum 10 cm.

312.3.3 A control line is marked 10-15 meters after the finish line. Competitors are not allowed to take off their skis until after the control line (article 206.5). Violations will be reported to the Jury.

312.4 Exchange zone

312.4.1 In team events, the exchange zone should be sufficiently wide and long, clearly marked and located on flat or smoothly rising ground in the stadium.

312.4.2 The size (length and width) should be adapted to the competition formats (see also ICR articles section C) and the available space in the stadium.

312.5 Pit boxes

312.5.1 When ski exchange is allowed, the pit box area must be designed so that each competitor has a designated box marked by his/her bib number and an exit is provided that minimizes any chance for interference. A bypass corridor must be provided so that any competitors who do not enter their pit boxes will have the shortest skiing distance past this ski exchange area.

312.6 Working Conditions

- 312.6.1 Competition officials, Jury members, Coaches, media and service people must have proper working zones within the stadium area so that they can work without disturbing the process of start and finish. The access of these persons to the stadium area must be controlled.
- 312.6.2 Timekeeping and calculation should be located in a building with a good view of the start and finish.
- 312.6.3 At OWG, WSC, JWSC, WC and COC competitions, FIS Officials and Jury members must be provided a working room with a good view of the stadium, and in the immediate vicinity of the stadium.
- 312.6.4 A heated room must be provided for the medical office near the stadium.

312.7 Additional Facilities

- 312.7.1 In the immediate vicinity of the stadium at OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC a controlled (with fences or manual control) team preparation area with wax cabins and space for wax trucks must be installed. The cabins must be heated and well ventilated using forced air exchangers. Additional rules may apply for OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC.
- 312.7.2 Toilets and wash rooms must be installed for competitors near the stadium. They must be easily reached from the start area.

312.8 Current Information Facilities

- 312.8.1 A notice board showing results, important information from the OC and the Jury, and the air and snow temperature should be located close to the wax cabins and the stadium. The temperatures must be displayed for the following times: two hours before the start, one hour before the start, half an hour before the start, at the start, half an hour after the start, one hour after the start.
- 312.8.2 Temperature measurements must be taken in the stadium area and at places where extreme temperatures (low point, high point) can be expected.
- 312.8.3 Loudspeakers must be used for announcing the competition and important information.
- 312.8.4 In order to inform international competitors, trainers, spectators, English language must be used.

313 Official Entries for the Organiser

313.1 Procedure

- 313.1.1 Official entry forms must be sent by the Organiser to all relevant Nations in an electronic or paper form. An online registration process can also be provided.
- 313.1.2 As a minimum, the required data fields shown in the Official FIS Entry Form must be included.

- 313.1.3 For WC this entry process will be determined by the FIS Cross-Country Committee.
- 313.2 Receiving official entry information for a specific competition**
- 313.2.1 Official entries and grouping information (when required) must be received and checked by the competition secretary latest two hours before the Team Captains' meeting.
- 313.2.2 If grouping will be used to determine the starting order, then the competition secretary will use the order of the written entry to assign the competitors into groups unless other specific instructions are provided.
- 313.2.3 When the starting order will be determined according to the FIS Points, the Competition Secretary will be required to compile the current point values for each competitor within the valid points list.
- 313.3 Late Entries**
- 313.3.1 Late entries can be admitted by the Jury before the draw.
- 313.3.2 Late entries are not admitted after the draw.
- 313.4 Substitution**
- 313.4.1 After the draw a competitor can only be substituted if he cannot start due to force majeure (injury, illness, etc.) and if the Jury permits the substitution. This has to be certified by a medical doctor and communicated to the Jury until 2 hours before the start.
- 313.4.2 In the event of an accident during warming up the Jury can permit a substitution later than 2 hours before the start if the accident is reported to and certified by the Chief of medical and rescue service of the OC.
- 313.4.3 If the withdrawn competitor was selected for doping control then this test must still be carried out and must also be carried out on the substitute competitor. If the withdrawn competitor produces a positive test, no substitute will be allowed.
- 313.4.4 The starting position of the substitute competitor will be according to ICR articles section C „competition formats“
- 313.4.5 Competitors, who are on the starting list and cannot take part in the competition because of illness or other reasons, must be reported by the team captain to the competition secretary at latest 30 min. before the start. If any of these competitors were selected for doping control, they must still be tested.
- 313.5 Grouping**
- 313.5.1 If grouping is used to determine the starting order, the Team Captain must distribute his/her competitors evenly within the groups. This must be done latest 2 hours before the draw. If a nation enters more competitors than there are groups, the extra competitors must be distributed among the groups, one per group, at the option of the Team Captain. This rule also holds for teams with fewer competitors than groups.

Example:

Teams:		Groups:			
		I	II	III	IV
Team A	8 entries	2	2	2	2
Team B	6 entries	1	2	1	2
Team C	3 entries	1	-	1	1

313.5.2 With 20 competitors or less, use groups I and II; with 21 - 40 competitors, use groups I, II and III; with more than 40 competitors, use all four groups.

314 Starting Order

314.1 Principles

314.1.1 The start list can be created with a draw, using a point system, a cup standing, a stage event overall standing, a qualification system or other methods.

314.2 Draw

314.2.1 Manual and computer methods are allowed for the draw.

314.2.2 The draw is carried out by using a random double selection.

314.2.3 If grouping is used, the start numbers will be drawn within each group. The normal starting order of the groups will be I, II, III and IV. The grouping of the competitors cannot be changed during the draw.

314.2.4 If a competition has to be postponed to a different date, the draw must be repeated (article 217.6).

314.2.5 It is possible to have the draw conducted before the Team Captains' Meeting under the supervision of the Jury.

314.3 Manual Draw

314.3.1 In this method, each competitor receives one number from a sequence determined by the number of competitors in his group (for instance, 23 competitors in the group, the competitor is assigned a number between 1 and 23). In the first random selection, one of the numbers 1-23, is drawn. At the same time, a start number that has been assigned to that group is drawn (for example, group II with 23 competitors will race with bibs 45-67 inclusive). This number that is drawn is the start number for the competitor whose number was drawn in the first random selection. For both random selections, balls with the appropriate numbers on them are usually drawn by hand from a closed box or container. After the two balls are drawn, the nameplates of the competitors are transferred from the board with the grouping to the board with the starting order.

314.4 Computer Draw

314.4.1 The computer draw procedures must be inspected by a member of the Jury in order to validate the process.

- 314.4.2 This method requires that the names and the grouping of the competitors will be entered into the computer. The programme provides at least four stages of output on the monitor.
1. The list with the registered competitors and their sequential numbers within a group appears on the monitor.
 2. The computer randomly selects the name of one competitor and displays it on the monitor.
 3. The computer randomly selects a start number for this competitor. The start number and the name of the competitor now appear on the monitor.
 4. The monitor then shows the start list order with this competitor listed.

314.5 Using a Points System to Determine the Starting Order

314.5.1 The starting order can be made on the basis of the FIS Points; overall list, distance list or sprint list.

314.5.2 Refer to the Rules and Guidelines of the FIS Points to determine valid lists.

314.6 Seeded Group

314.6.1 The Seeded Group is an exception and is composed of the best athletes entered in a competition. The seeded group can be determined according to the FIS Points, to a current Cup Standing or a current stage event standing.

314.6.2 At OWG, WSC and WC, the Seeded Group is defined as the top 30 competitors in the current World Cup Standing (distance or sprint). The current Overall WC Leader is added as one additional if not already included. No men or ladies within the ranking of top 30 will be substituted if they are not entered.

314.6.3 All competitors who are eligible to be in the Seeded Group must start the competition within the Seeded Group.

314.6.4 The starting position of the seeded Group will be determined for each different competition formats by the Jury according to the specific competition rules. As a principle, the seeded Group should start with the most advantageous position.

314.7 Bibs (Start Numbers)

314.7.1 Design

Bibs must be readable from the back and the front. They must not hinder the competitor in any way. The size, the shape and the method of attachment cannot be changed. The Organiser is responsible for obtaining practical bibs. Bibs used in sprints and in competitions with handicap start and mass starts should also have numbers on both sides under the arms; this is also possible for other competitions.

314.7.2 Leg Numbers

314.7.2.1 For Mass Start, Skiathlon, Pursuit, Individual Sprints competitions it is required to affix bibs to the competitor's leg that is closest to the finish line camera.

314.7.2.2 For Team Sprint and Relay competitions it is required to affix bibs to the finishing competitor's leg that is closest to the finish line camera.

315 Start Procedures

315.1 Types of Starts

315.1.1 For competitions on the International Ski Calendar, interval start, mass start, handicap start, and heat start will be used.

315.2 Interval Start Procedure

315.2.1 Interval starts will normally use half-minute intervals and fifteen seconds for sprint qualifying round. The Jury may approve shorter or longer intervals.

315.2.2 The start command consists of a countdown starting 5 seconds before the start time ("5-4-3-2-1") and start signal ("GO!"). The command can be given verbally or by audible signals.

315.2.3 The competitor must have his feet behind the start line and remain stationary before the starter gives starting commands. The poles remain stationary and must be placed in front of the starting line and/or starting gate.

315.2.4 The competitor may start any time between three seconds before and three seconds after the start signal. If he/she starts more than three seconds before the start signal, it is a false start. If he/she starts more than three seconds after the start signal, it is late start and the start list time will count.

315.2.5 A competitor who starts late must not interfere with the start of others.

315.2.6 With both electric and hand-timing, the competitor's actual start time must be noted in case the Jury decides his late start was due to force majeure.

315.3 Mass Start Procedure

315.3.1 The mass start should be carried out using angled start lines in shape of an arrow. This means that the athlete with start number 1 has the most favorable start position followed by start number 2 etc. Each competitor should be separated by a fixed distance interval.

Number one will be in the middle position; even numbers are placed on the right and odd numbers on the left side of the arrow. The numbering mark should be placed to the right or in the middle of the track.

315.3.2 The starting procedures for a Mass Start will begin two minutes before the start signal. At this time instructions about the start will be given to all competitors assembled in their start lanes. These instructions should end with the competitors being instructed to stand at their start positions and a **"one minute to start warning"** is given. Next there will be the command **"30 seconds to start"**. When all competitors are motionless then the next sound will be the **start command or signal**.

315.4 Handicap Start Procedure

315.4.1 The starting order and intervals are set according the results of a first competition or a stage event current overall standing. The tenths of seconds will be deleted to establish the start list.

Rank	Name	Country	Final
1	SVENSSON, Lars	SWE	25:12.9
2	ARKJANOW, Nikolai	RUS	25:14.2
3	KRECEK, Jan	CZE	25:21.7

The start list should be prepared according to the following example:

Start number	Name	Country	Start time
1	SVENSSON, Lars	SWE	0:00
2	ARKJANOW, Nikolai	RUS	0:02
3	KRECEK, Jan	CZE	0:09

315.4.2 In order to avoid overlapping or competition taking too long, the Jury may allow a mass or heat start for the late starting competitors. The Jury is also allowed to reduce the number of starting competitors.

315.4.3 The handicap start is carried out without an electronic start gate. A video camera should be used to record the entire start such that a review by the Jury can be done.

315.4.4 In order to guarantee an exact start, a large display clock must be used for each starting lane together with bib number and starting times for respective competitors for that lane. The start must be prepared so that two or more competitors may start side by side.

315.5 Heat Start procedure

315.5.1 The start area is prepared with a start line and a pre-start line that are 1 meter apart.

315.5.2 Electronic and/or mechanical start gates can be used if approved by the Jury.

315.5.3 Competitors are organised on the pre-start line where instructions are given and start lanes designated. The starter gives the command “**take your start positions**” and the competitors advance to the start line and take a “set” position. When all competitors are in their set positions the starter will give the command “**Set**”. After the set command is given, all competitors must remain motionless and in their “set” position. After approximately 2-5 seconds from when the set command is given the starter gives the **start signal**.

315.5.4 Starts that do not use gates follow the same principles and procedures as stated above.

315.6 Duties of the Start Officials

315.6.1 Start officials must provide all competitors with the opportunity to start at their correct times. An assistant must be placed near the starter and is responsible for recording the details for any violations at the start.

315.7 False Start Consequences

315.7.1 For competitions using interval start or handicap start procedures a competitor who makes a false start will not be recalled to the start line. False start infractions must be reported to the Jury.

315.7.2 For all competitions using a mass start or heat start procedure, any false start will result in a “restart” of the competition. The starter is required to give a restart signal (second shot) and must have assistants placed an effective distance down the tracks where it is possible to turn the competitors back.

315.8 Marking of Skis

315.8.1 Ski marking will not be used unless requested in advance by the sanctioning body of the competition. For purposes of control, both skis are marked shortly before the start. The competitor must come to the official marking place in person and in due time wearing his starting bib.

315.9 Temperature

If the temperature is below -20° C, measured at the coldest point of the course, a competition will be postponed or cancelled by the Jury. With difficult weather conditions (e.g., strong wind, high air humidity, heavy snowfall, or high temperature) the Jury may, in consultation with the Team Captains of the participating teams and the Chief of medical and rescue service responsible for the competition, postpone or cancel the competition.

316 Timing

316.1 For all competitions listed in the FIS Calendar, electronic timekeeping must be used. Electronic timing will always be supplemented by hand-timing as a backup system and the results cross-checked between the two systems.

316.2 If the electronic timing temporarily fails hand times will be used by correcting the average time difference which develops between the electronic timing and the hand-timing. If the electronic timing fails frequently or completely during the competition, the hand times will be used for all the competitors. When hand times are used to calculate results, the actual start times must be used.

316.3 When using hand-timing, the time is taken when the competitor's first foot crosses the finish line.

316.4 Electronic Timing

316.4.1 The following electronic timing technologies can be used to identify the official finish times:

- Electronic timing system based on photo cells. The measuring point of the light or photo barrier must be at a height of 25 cm above the snow surface.
- Electronic timing system based on transponders.
- Photo finish system. The measuring point will be the toe of the first boot meeting the finish line.

- 316.5 In the case of competitors falling as they cross the finish line, the competitors will be assigned their finish time as per articles 316.3 or 316.4 if all the parts of their bodies are moved across the finish line without any outside assistance.
- 316.6 For the calculation of results all start and finish times will be recorded to at least 1/100 (0.01) precision. The calculated net time for each competitor is determined by subtracting the recorded start time from the recorded finish time. The final result for each skier will be determined to 1/10 (0.1) precision by truncating the calculated net time. For example, 38:24.38 becomes 38:24.3.
- 316.7 During the OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC, photo finish cameras must be used.
- 316.8 The finish referee is responsible for keeping a list of the order in which the competitors cross the finish line. He gives this list to the chief of timekeeping and data processing.

317 Results

317.1 Calculation of Results

- 317.1.1 The results are calculated by taking the difference between the finish and start times. In a stage event competition, the actual time, bonus seconds and time penalties from each stage are accumulated.
- 317.1.2 The ranking of athletes involved in a photo finish will be established according to the order they crossed the vertical plane of the finish line by the toe of the front foot.

317.2 Publication of Results

- 317.2.1 The unofficial result list will be posted on the official notice board as soon as possible after the competition, with the time of its publication noted.
- 317.2.2 The official result list must contain the final order of the competitors, their FIS Codes, starting number, times, intermediate times and competition points. Skiing technique, the number of competitors, names of the competitors who started but did not finish, any disqualified competitors, the technical details of the course; length, HD, MC, TC, the weather, temperature data, and the composition of the Jury.
- Examples can be found on the FIS Website Cross-Country and through the FIS Nordic Office.
- 317.2.3 In countries where the Latin alphabet is not used, information and results should also be given in Latin characters.
- 317.2.4 The competition secretary and the TD sign the official result list and certify that it is correct.

C. Competition Formats

321 Interval Start Competitions

321.1 Definition

At interval start competition, each competitor starts at his/her designated starting time and final result is determined by difference between finish time and start time.

321.2 Courses and stadium

321.2.1 Recommended Norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	A	B
Classical tracks	1 or 2 tracks in ideal line	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	1 corridor	1 corridor
Classical tracks	1	No
Length of tracks (after start line)	end of start zone	/
Distance between tracks	/	
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	4 m	9 m
Number of corridors	3 tracks	3 corridors (3 m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/

321.3 Entries - Substitution

321.3.1 Substitution is possible according to ICR art. 313.4.

321.3.2 The substitute athlete's start position will be determined by the Jury.

321.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

321.4.1 Interval start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.2)

321.5 Timing and results

321.5.1 If two or more competitors have the same time, they shall have the same ranking in the result list, and the competitor with the lower starting number will be listed first (article 219.2).

321.6 Jury and protests

No specific rules

322 Mass Start Competitions

322.1 Definition

At mass start competitions, all athletes start at the same time and final results are determined by finish arrival order.

322.2 Courses and stadium

322.2.1 Recommended norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	C	D
Classical tracks	4 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	Arrow start grid	Arrow start grid
Classical tracks	Odd number 5 or 7	Odd number 5 or 7
Length of tracks (after start line)	50 to 100 m	30 to 50 m
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	Minimum 1.2 m
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	6 m	12 m
Number of corridors	4 tracks minimum	4 corridors (3 m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/

322.2.2 There must be no factors along the course that cause congestion.

322.2.3 If ski exchange is allowed, the stadium must be organised in a way that athletes going to exchange skis will ski longer distance comparing to athletes that will not change skis.

322.3 Entries - Substitution

322.3.1 Substitution is possible according to ICR art. 313.4.

322.3.2 The substitute athlete's start position will be determined by the Jury, using the same procedure that established the start list. The athlete's start position will be in between the starting positions (lines) of the competitors adjacent to him.

322.3.3 The athlete takes the bib of the one he is replacing.

322.3.4 The original start position will be left empty.

322.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

322.4.1 Mass Start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.3).

322.5 Timing and Results

322.5.1 Overlapping Rules normally apply. For skiers who are lapped refer to ICR article 343.13.

322.6 Jury and protests

No specific rules.

323 Skiathlon

323.1 Definition

Skiathlon is a combined competition of a mass start in classical technique in first part, followed by mandatory ski exchange in a pit box in the stadium and then second part in free technique.

323.2 Courses and stadium

323.2.1 Recommended norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	C or E	D or E
Classical tracks	4 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	Arrow start grid	/
Classical tracks	Odd number 5 or 7	/
Length of tracks (after start line)	50 to 100 m	/
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	/	12 m minimum
Number of corridors	/	4 corridors (3 m each)
Distance between tracks	/	/
PIT BOXES		
Recommended size	length 2 m – 2.5 m	width 1.2 m – 1.5 m

323.2.2 Pit Box area

323.2.2.1 Within the exchange box area there is no technique control.

323.2.2.2 The course along the access to the boxes must be a minimum of 4 m wide. The course on the exit side of the boxes must be a minimum of 6 m wide.

323.2.2.3 The free technique equipment must be deposited into the assigned box before the mass start. Other equipment is not allowed to be deposited in the boxes.

323.2.2.4 All equipment exchanges must be done by the competitor within the assigned box without any assistance. The exchanged equipment must be left in the box until the competitor has finished the competition.

323.2.2.5 5 minutes before the start coaches or service people have to leave the exchange box area.

323.3 Entries - Substitution

323.3.1 Substitution is possible according to ICR art. 313.4

323.3.2 The substitute athlete's start position will be determined by the Jury, using the same procedure that established the start list. The competitor's start position will be in between the starting positions (lines) of the competitors adjacent to him.

323.3.3 The athlete takes the bib of the one he is replacing.

323.3.4 The original start position will be left empty.

323.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

323.4.1 Mass Start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.3).

323.5 Timing and results

323.5.1 Overlapping Rules normally apply. For skiers who are lapped refer to ICR article 343.13.

323.6 Jury and protests

No specific rules.

324 Pursuit

324.1 Definition

Pursuit competitions are carried out as combined competitions where starting times of athletes are determined by result(s) of previous competition(s) and the final result is determined by finish arrival order of the last competition.

324.2 Courses and stadium

324.2.1 Recommended norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	B	C
Classical tracks	4 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	2 – 5 corridors	2 – 5 corridors
Classical tracks	1 per corridor	1 per corridor
Length of tracks	End of start zone	10 m

(after start line)		
Distance between tracks	3 m	3 m
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	6 m minimum	12 m minimum
Number of corridors	4 tracks minimum	4 corridors (3m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/

324.3 Entries – Substitution

324.3.1 Substitution according to ICR 313.4 is only possible before the first part of Pursuit competition.

324.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

324.4.1 Handicap start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.4).

324.5 Timing and Results

324.5.1 The calculation of the final times in a pursuit competition will be done by combining the results (actual skiing time) in the previous race without the tenths of a second with the final results of the second race with the tenths of a second. For competitors that use the handicap start method the order of finish determines the final ranking.

324.5.2 Overlapping Rules normally apply. For skiers who are lapped refer to ICR article 343.13.

324.5.3 Under difficult weather conditions the Jury may decide to postpone the start or to cancel the competition. If it is cancelled the result from the first part of the competition will count as the final result.

324.6 Jury and protests

No specific rules.

325 Individual Sprint Competitions

325.1 Definition

Individual sprint competitions begin with a qualification round, organised as an interval start competition. After the qualification, qualified athletes compete in the sprint finals using elimination rounds (sprint heats).

325.2 Courses and stadium

325.2.1 Recommended Norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	C	D
Classical tracks	4 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	Extra corridor for qualification round,	Extra corridor for qualification round,

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
	6 corridors / gates for sprint heats	6 corridors / gates for sprint heats
Classical tracks	1 per corridor	1 per corridor
Length of tracks (after start line)	End of start zone	15 m
Distance between tracks	1.8 m	1.8 m minimum
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	6 m minimum	12 m minimum
Number of corridors	4 tracks minimum	4 corridors (3 m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/

325.2.2 The course used for the qualification round and the course used for the Finals heats should be the same.

325.2.3 Sections of the course must be designed straight, wide and long enough to make overtaking possible.

325.3 Entries – Substitution

325.3.1 Substitution is possible before qualification according to ICR art. 313.4

325.3.2 The substitute athlete's start position will be determined by the Jury.

325.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

325.4.1 Qualification

325.4.1.1 Interval Start procedure must be used (see ICR Art. 315.2). Start intervals can be 10, 15, 20 or 30 seconds.

325.4.1.2 If two laps are used an interval block start can be used.

325.4.1.3 In case of equal qualification times, the competitors who will be advancing to the quarterfinals will be ranked according to their FIS sprint points on the qualification results. The tie in qualification results will not change maximum number of qualified competitors (30 / 24 / 16).

325.4.2 Finals Heats (Quarterfinals, Semi-finals and Finals)

325.4.2.1 Heat Start procedure must be used (see ICR Art. 315.5)

325.4.2.2 In OWG, WSC, WC heats will include quarterfinals, semi-finals and the A-Final. In other competitions the heats will be decided by the organiser including the addition of a B-Final.

325.4.2.3 The starting positions are chosen by the athletes according to the following order:

- Quarterfinals: qualification times (rankings) are used
- Semi-finals: rankings from the Quarterfinals and qualification times are used
- Finals: rankings from the Semi-finals and qualification times are used.

325.4.2.4 The assignment of competitors to quarterfinal heats is determined from the finish rankings in the qualification round. Positions in subsequent heats are also assigned based on rankings or times in the previous round of

heats. The table below illustrates the principle of allocating the competitors to their heats when the heats are not timed.

325.4.2.5

Table A: quarter finals with 6 competitors in 5 heats

TABLE A Quarterfinals with 6 competitors in 5 Heats, maximum 30 advance					
Assigned to heats	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
Distribution 1 – 20	1	4	5	2	3
	10	7	6	9	8
	11	14	15	12	13
	20	17	16	19	18
Distribution 21 – 25	21	24	25	22	23
Distribution 26 – 30	30	27	26	29	28

Semi Finals (12)		Finals (6 + 6)	
S1	S2	B Final	A Final
Q1 #1	Q4 #1	S1 #4	S1 #1
Q1 #2	Q4 #2	S2 #4	S2 #1
Q2 #1	Q5 #1	S1 #5	S1 #2
Q2 #2	Q5 #2	S2 #5	S2 #2
Q3 #2	Q3 #1	S1 #6	S1 #3
R3-1*	R3-2*	S2 #6	S2 #3

* In competitions when the heats are not timed, the 6th positions in the semi-final heats are assigned from the 3rd ranked competitors in all the quarter final heats. The 3rd ranked competitor with the fastest qualifying time (Q R3-1) is assigned to the first semi-final heat S1 and the 3rd ranked competitor with the second best qualifying time (Q R3-2) is assigned to S2.

325.4.2.6

Or using Table B: quarter Finals using 4 heats

TABLE B Quarter Finals using 4 Heats, maximum 24 advance				
Assigned to heats	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Distribution 1 – 16	1	4	2	3
	8	5	7	6
	9	12	10	11
	16	13	15	14
Extended Distribution 17 – 20	17	20	18	19
Extended Distribution 21 – 24	24	21	23	22

Table B continued			
Semi Finals (8)	Finals (4 + 4)		
S1	S2	B Final	A Final
Q1 #1	Q3 #1	S1 #3	S1 #1
Q1 #2	Q3 #2	S1 #4	S1 #2
Q2 #1	Q4 #1	S2 #3	S2 #1
Q2 #2	Q4 #2	S2 #4	S2 #2

325.4.2.7 For OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC the heats must be timed and the assignment of competitors into the semi-final heats and the A-Final is according to the following principles:

For the 6th positions in the semi-final heats the next two fastest competitors from the quarterfinal heats who are ranked 3rd or 4th will be advanced. The fastest will be assigned to S1 and the next fastest to S2. For the A-Final the 1st & 2nd ranked competitor from each Semi-final heat are assigned to the A-Final plus the next 2 fastest competitors from either Semi-final heat who are ranked 3rd or 4th will also be assigned to the A-final, all other Semi-finalists are assigned to the B-Final.

In case of equal times in the heats for positions 5 and 6 (lucky losers), their qualification times will apply. If the tie still remains current sprint FIS Points will apply; if a tie still remains, then the positions are determined by a draw.

325.4.2.8 In sprint competitions with less than 20 competitors in the Qualification Round the Jury can decide to use a reduced version of Table A or they can assign competitors directly into the Semi-finals or the A-Final.

325.4.2.9 False starts due to an error by a competitor or due to a mechanical failure of the start gate may be declared by the starter. Following the first false start in a heat, any competitor who causes a subsequent false start in the same heat will be required to withdraw from the competition. The competitor will be ranked at the last position of these finals, semi-finals or quarter finals (rank 6, 12, 30 or 4, 8, 16).

325.5 Timing and results

325.5.1 For OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC sprint qualifying round and heats, start and finish times are recorded to 1/1000 precision and the final result is determined to 1/100 precision. For other FIS sprint competitions it is possible to use timing equipment that only has 1/100 precision but still the final results report the hundredths of a second.

325.5.2 Qualification

325.5.2.1 In case of equal qualification times, the competitors who will be advancing to the quarterfinals will be ranked according to their FIS sprint points on the qualification results. Competitors with the same qualification time who did not advance to the quarterfinals will have the same ranking on this result list.

325.5.3 Final heats

325.5.3.1 Competitors with the same rank in the quarterfinals or semi-finals (if there is no B-final) who do not reach the next round are ranked according their qualification times in the final results.

325.5.3.2 In sprint competitions with 30 competitors to the quarterfinal the result list will be made as follows:

31 st to last rank,	the results from the qualification round will be used
26 th – 30 th rank,	the 6 th place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round
21 st – 25 th rank,	the 5 th place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round
16 th /17 th - 20 th rank,	the 4 th place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round (Exception, if one of those 4 th place finishers will advance to the semi final)
13 th – 15 th /16 th rank,	the 3 rd place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final, who did not advance to the semi-finals will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round
7 th – 12 th rank,	based on the order of finish in the B final in case of no B Final, the athletes are ranked according their ranking in semi-final and their qualification round
1 st – 6 th rank,	based on the order of finish in the A final

325.5.3.3 In sprint competitions with 16 competitors to the quarterfinal the result list will be made as follows:

- 17th to last rank the results from the qualification round will be used
- 13th – 16th rank the 4th place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round
- 9th – 12th rank the 3rd place finisher from each heat in the quarter-final will be assigned based on their respective ranking in the qualifying round
- 5th – 8th rank based on the order of finish in the B final
- 1st – 4th rank based on the order of finish in the A final

With a different number of competitors in the sprint finals the same principles apply.

325.5.3.4 In case of a tie (“dead heat”) in quarterfinals or semi-finals, the competitor with the better qualification time is ranked ahead. If there is a tie in the A or B finals the competitors are ranked on the same place in the final results.

325.5.3.5 If the competitor does not start or ski the entire course in each heat, the competitor will be ranked in the last position of these finals, semi-finals or quarterfinals (rank 6, 12, 30 or 4, 8, 16).

325.5.3.6 If a competitor does not finish a heat due to force majeure he is ranked last in this heat.

325.6 Jury and Protest

325.6.1 In sprint heats at OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC the unanimous decision of minimum three Jury members (including TD) equates to a Jury decision.

325.6.2 Due to the timeline pressure of running successive heats it is not possible to allow protests during quarterfinals and semi-finals. Protests will only be accepted after the finals.

325.6.3 During quarter- and semi-finals, ICR 224.7 does not apply.

326 Team Sprint Competitions

326.1 Definition

Team Sprints are competitions carried out as relays with 2 athletes who alternately ski between 3 – 6 legs each. The numbers and distances of the legs have to be published in the official invitation.

326.2 Course and Stadium

326.2.1 Recommended Norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	C	D
Classical tracks	4 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	Arrow start grid	Arrow start grid
Classical tracks	Odd number 3 or 5	Odd number 3 or 5
Length of tracks (after start line)	End of start zone	15 m
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	1.2 m
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	6 m	12 m
Number of corridors	4 tracks minimum	4 corridors (3m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	/
EXCHANGE ZONE		
Length	45 m	45 m
Width	9 m	15 m

326.2.2 Sections of the course must be designed straight, wide and long enough to make overtaking possible.

326.2.3 A ski preparation zone must be provided close to the exchange zone. The Jury decides on the number of service men per team and the use of waxing tables.

326.3 Entries – Substitution

- 326.3.1 The names of the competitors actually competing and their starting order must be delivered to the organiser latest 2 hours before the Team Captains' Meeting.
- 326.3.2 Substitution is possible according to ICR art. 313.4.
- 326.3.3 The substitute athlete must start in the same Team position as the substituted athlete. The Team's starting order cannot be changed.
- 326.3.4 If the substitute athlete was entered in another Team, then this Team can not start.
- 326.3.5 In case of substitution, the Team will lose its starting position and will have to start at the end of the field. The start order at the end of the field will be the same as the original starting order. The original start positions will be left empty.

326.4 Starting Order and Start Procedure

- 326.4.1 Mass Start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.3).
- 326.4.2 Normally 2 semi-finals (example: A, B) will be used to select the teams for the final in a team sprint competition. The teams should be evenly distributed among semi finals using the following principle:
- Best team by total points will be assigned to semi final A
 - Remaining teams will be assigned in subsequent pairs by ranking (example team 2 and 3, team 4 and 5, etc.) to alternating semi finals.
- 326.4.2.1 In case the entered competitor does not have FIS Points or his FIS Points are higher than 160, 160 points will be used for calculation.
- 326.4.3 The number of teams in one semi-final heat should not exceed 15 and the number of teams in the final should not exceed 10.
- 326.4.4 Order of semi finals will be determined by draw.
- 326.4.5 Start position for the semi finals: the team with lowest total points using either sprint or distance FIS Points of the relay team members will start as number one. The team with the second lowest total points will start as number two and so on. In the case of more teams having equal total points, the team with the lowest point-holder starts ahead of the other. If this is not sufficient to determine the starting position, then starting position is drawn by lot.
- 326.4.6 The advancement of teams from the semi-final heats to the finals is done according to the following principles:
- If the semi-final heats are not timed, the top 5 teams from each of the 2 semi-final heats will advance.
 - When the heats are timed, then the top 2 teams from each heat will advance and the next 6 fastest teams from the 3rd - 8th ranked teams will advance.
- 326.4.7 The start position for the finals will be according to the results from the semi-finals (rankings followed by times).

326.5 Timing and results

326.5.1 For OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC team sprint semi-finals and finals, start and finish times are recorded to 1/1000 precision and the final result is determined to 1/100 precision. For other FIS sprint competitions it is possible to use timing equipment that only has 1/100 precision but still the final results report the hundredths of a second.

326.5.2 Overlapping Rules normally apply. For teams/skiers that are lapped refer to ICR article 343.13

326.5.3 The final results will be published according to the following:

All teams in the final will be placed in the results list according to their rank in the final. When semi-final heats are used the teams who do not advance to the final round will be placed on the results list so that each team with the same rank in their heat will be given a ranking for the next available rank on the result list.

As an example if 5 teams from two semi-final heats advance to the final then the teams ranked 6th in each heat will be given the rank of 11th and 12th according to their time in their respective semi-final heats, the teams ranked 7th in each heat will be given a rank of 13th and 14th etc. in the final results.

326.6 Jury and Protest

326.6.1 In team sprints at OWG, WSC and WC the unanimous decision of minimum three Jury members (including TD) equates to the Jury decision.

326.6.2 Due to the timeline pressure of running successive heats it is not possible to allow protests during the semi-finals. Protests will only be accepted after the finals.

326.6.3 During semi-finals, ICR 224.7 does not apply.

327 Relay Competitions

327.1 Definition

327.1.1 The relay team consists of three or four competitors, according to the invitation, of whom each may run only one leg. At OWG, WSC, JWSC and WC competitions, a relay consists of four competitors.

327.1.2 In OWG, WSC, WC and JWSC the first two legs will be raced using the classical technique on a classical course and the second two legs using free technique on a free technique course.

327.2 Course and Stadium

327.2.1 Recommended norms

Items	Preparation for	
	Classical technique	Free technique
COURSE		
Category	B	C
Classical tracks	2 tracks	/
Distance between tracks	Minimum 1.2 m	/
START		
Organisation/preparation	Arrow start grid	Arrow start grid
Classical tracks	Odd number 5 or 7	Odd number 5 or 7
Length of tracks (after start line)	End of start zone	15 m
Distance between tracks	1.2 m	1.2 m
FINISH		
Width (minimum)	6 m	12 m
Number of corridors	4 tracks minimum	4 corridors (3 m each)
Distance between tracks	1.2m	/
EXCHANGE ZONE		
Length	30 m	30 m
Width	9 m	9 m

327.2.2 The length of the first relay leg can deviate +/- 5% from the other legs, according to the stadium layout.

327.3 Entries - Substitution

327.3.1 The names of the competitors actually competing and their starting order must be delivered to the organiser latest 2 hours before the Team Captains' Meeting.

327.3.2 Substitution is possible according to ICR art. 313.4.

327.3.3 The starting order cannot be changed by substitution.

327.3.4 If the substitute athlete was entered in another Team, then this Team can not start.

327.3.5 The Team starting position on the start grid will remain the same.

327.4 Starting order and Start Procedure

327.4.1 Mass start procedure must be used (see ICR art. 315.3).

327.4.2 Start numbers will normally be drawn. At OWG, WSC and JWSC the placing in the previous OWG, WSC or JWSC will determine the starting order. At WC, placing in the current Nation's Cup will decide the starting order. Teams which do not appear in those results will be drawn after those that did.

327.4.3 When each nation can enter more than one official team, the first team for each nation must be placed on the start grid before the second teams and likewise for the third teams etc. Unofficial teams should have the least favorable starting positions.

327.4.4 Colors: Separate colors shall be used for the start numbers for each relay leg. For OWG, WSC and WC competitions they will be: 1st leg=red; 2nd leg=green; 3rd leg=yellow and 4th leg=blue.

327.5 Timing and Results

327.5.1 Intermediate times for the individual legs of the course are taken when the competitor crosses the line for the intermediate timing. This is also the starting time for the next competitor.

327.5.2 The total time of a relay team is the time which elapses between the start and team's final competitor crossing the finish line. The order in which the competitors finish the last relay leg determines the result list.

327.5.3 Overlapping Rules normally apply. For teams/skiers that are lapped refer to ICR article 343.13

327.6 Jury and Protest

No specific rules.

D. The Competition and the Competitors

341 Requirements of the Competitors

341.1 Age Categories

341.1.1 The FIS competition year is July 1st - June 30th of the following year.

341.1.2 Seniors (ladies and men) must be at least 21 years old during the calendar year (01.01.-31.12.). The right to start begins with the beginning of the competition season (e.g. for 2014 from 1st July 2013 onwards).

341.1.3 Junior ladies and junior men must be no older than 20 during the calendar year (01.01.-31.12.).

Nordic Junior World Ski Championships

A competitor must have reached his 16th birthday before the end of the calendar year (1st January – 31st December) in question.

Season	Age	Years of birth
2013/14	16-20	1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998
2014/15	16-20	1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

U23 ladies and U23 men must be no older than 23 during the calendar year (01.01.-31.12.). Years of birth for U23 from 2014 on:

U23 World Ski Championships Cross-Country

Season	Age	Years of birth
2013/14	21-23	1991, 1992, 1993
2014/15	21-23	1992, 1993, 1994

- 341.1.4 Junior ladies and junior men should normally start in their own classes. They may start in the respective ladies or men's classes.
- 341.1.5 At WC and WSC a competitor must have reached his 16th birthday before the end of the calendar year (1st January – 31st December) in question:
- WC 2013/14, competitors born 1998 and earlier
 - WC 2014/15 and WSC 2015, competitors born 1999 and earlier
 - WC 2015/16, competitors born 2000 and earlier

341.2 FIS Points System

- 341.2.1 The FIS Points are used particularly for establishing the qualification for OWG, WSC and World Cup competitions, grouping and start list creation (see: World Cup rules and Rules and Guidelines of the FIS Points available on the FIS Website).

342 Medical Examinations

342.1 State of Health

- 342.1.1 The National Associations are responsible for the health of the competitors they enter. The Chief of medical and rescue service will only carry out a medical examination at the request of the competitor's Team Captain, competitor or the representative of the FIS Medical Committee (see article 221).

343 Responsibilities of the competitors

- 343.1 In all training and competition situations the athlete must act with due care taking into account the course conditions, visibility and competitor congestion.
- 343.2 In all training and competition situations the athletes must always ski in the competition course direction.
- 343.3 Competitors must follow the instructions (course opening times, wearing bibs, training, ski testing, etc.) issued by the Jury or OC in order to ensure order on the course, in the stadium and in the team preparation area before, during and after the competition.
- 343.4 The competitor is responsible for arriving at the start and starting at the correct time.
- 343.5 If transponders or GPS are used it is mandatory for the competitors to wear these equipment.
- 343.6 Competitors must follow the marked course in correct sequence from start to finish and must pass all control points.
- 343.6.1 If a competitor skis on a wrong section or leaves the marked course, they must return to the point where they made the error. In order to do so, the competitor may have to ski against the correct ski direction and shall be totally responsible for ensuring that they do not obstruct or endanger other competitors. There will be no penalty for having committed the error as

long as no time / ranking advantage have been gained and there has been no interference with other competitors.

343.7 Competitors have to cover the whole distance on their skis using only their own means of propulsion. Help from pacemakers or pushing is not allowed.

343.8 In classical technique competitions, the competitors must use classical technique only.

343.9 In all competitions obstruction is not allowed. This behavior is defined as deliberately impeding, blocking (by not following best line), charging or pushing any competitor with any part of the body or ski equipment.

343.10 Overtaking

343.10.1 During an interval start competition a competitor who is being overtaken must give way on the first demand.

This applies in classical technique courses even when there are two tracks and in free technique courses when the skier being overtaken may have to restrict his/her skating action.

343.10.2 For all other competitions, when overtaking occurs, competitors must not cause any obstruction.

The responsibility for a correct passing without obstruction is on the overtaking skier. The overtaking skier must have his/her skis in front of the skis of the overtaken skier before skiing his/her best line.

343.11 In sections with marked corridors, the competitors must choose and ski within the chosen corridor. A competitor is allowed change corridors as long as the ICR 343.9 is upheld (except in start corridors where competitors are not allowed to change).

343.12 Equipment exchange

343.12.1 In all competitions poles may be changed.

343.12.2 Skis may be changed only if:

- The skis or bindings are broken or damaged. The equipment failure must be proven to the Jury after the competition.
- Equipment exchange boxes (pit boxes) are in place at the competition.

343.12.3 In the case of any ski exchange, the competitor must do it outside of the track without help from any other person.

343.12.4 When ski exchange boxes (pit boxes) are provided for long distance or Skiathlon competitions, the competitor is permitted to change skis inside the pit box one or more times. The maximum number of exchanges will normally be decided before Team Captains' meeting. It will be based on the course and lap length, but should be limited to:

- 3 times maximum at competitions up to 30 km
- 5 times maximum at competitions longer than 30 km
- 1 time maximum at Skiathlon competitions

343.12.5 When ski exchange boxes (pit boxes) are provided, overtaking along the access corridors to the boxes is only allowed on the side that is farthest from the boxes.

343.12.6 Waxing, scraping or cleaning of the competitor's skis during the competition is forbidden. Exception: In classical technique competitions competitors may scrape their skis to remove snow and ice, and add wax if necessary. Competitors may only be handed tools or materials and must do this outside of the track without help from any other person. It is not allowed to place branches, tools or materials on or adjacent to the groomed course.

343.13 Relay exchange

343.13.1 In a team event, the exchange is achieved by the arriving competitor, with a tap of the hand on any part of the next competitor's body while both competitors are in the relay exchange zone. The next competitor may only enter the relay exchange zone when summoned. Any method of pushing the starting competitor is forbidden.

343.14 Overlapping

343.14.1 In Pursuit competitions, Skiathlon, Mass start, Team Sprint and Relay competitions, competitors or teams, who are lapped or instructed by competition officials to stop the competition, must abandon the competition. In all competitions the competitors or teams will be ranked in the final results (no time) according to their ranking at their last intermediate timing point

343.14.2 ICR art. 343.13.1 must be applied for OWG, WSC and WC.

343.14.3 For all other FIS competition the Jury decides if ICR art. 343.13.1 applies.

343.15 Communication devices that support wireless communication between coaches and athletes or between athletes are not allowed during competition.

343.16 The competitors must comply with the instructions of competition officials.

343.17 The competitor must comply with all aspects of the medical code (see 221).

344 Responsibilities of Officials and Others

344.1 If required, the Jury will issue special regulations for officials, media and service people and any other non-competitors, to ensure order on the course, in the stadium and in the team preparation area before, during and after the competition.

344.2 For order and control on the courses the following principles apply:

- from 5 minutes before the start until the time the course closers have passed, all officials, coaches, non-competitors and other accredited persons, are not permitted to ski on the course. During the competition, these persons must take fixed locations beside the course and must stand without skis on.

- while giving intermediate times and information to competitors, officials, coaches and others are not allowed to run more than 30 meters beside the competitors
- while doing this work officials and others have to ensure not to obstruct competitors
- while giving refreshments to the competitors the coaches must ensure not to obstruct competitors and must maintain a fixed position.

344.3 In order to obtain clean TV coverage and for safety reasons parts of the competition course may be closed for all but the competitors taking part in the competition. The Jury can allow ski testing and warming up by competitors on parts of the competition course before and during the competition. Athletes and service personnel, wearing special bibs may be allowed to ski on these parts of the competition course.

344.4 Wax testing and warming up on the ski competition course must always be done in the competition course direction. Anyone testing skis on the competition course must consider the safety of others on the course and the course preparation. Electronic timing devices used for testing skis will not be allowed on the course during the competition or official training.

E. Not Permitted to Start, Sanctions

351 Not Permitted to Start

A competitor will not be permitted to start in any FIS international ski competition who:

- 351.1 wears obscene names and/or symbols on clothing and equipment (art. 206.7) or behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner in the start area (art. 205.5)
- 351.2 violates the FIS rules in regard to equipment (art. 222) and commercial markings (art. 207)
- 351.3 refuses to undertake a FIS required medical examination (art. 221.2)
- 351.4 If a competitor has actually started in a competition and is later determined by the Jury to have been in violation of these rules the Jury must sanction the competitor.

352 Sanctions

352.1 Procedure

When an infraction to the rules occurs, the Jury must meet and decide the appropriate sanction by taking into consideration:

- the specific circumstances
- the gain or advantage for the offender (see ICR art. 223.3.3)
- the negative impact on other competitors
- the impact on the final result or intermediate results (sprint heats or bonus sprints)

- the arguments from the athlete (see ICR art 224.7)
- the level of the competition
- the age and experience of the competitors
- the guidelines for Jury work published on the FIS Website

352.2 Disqualification

352.2.1 Disqualification should be used only for major infractions and for infractions with a clear impact on the final result of a competition.

352.2.2 In addition, a competitor should automatically be disqualified if he:

- participates in the competition under false pretences
- either jeopardizes the security of persons or property or actually causes injury or damage
- runs more than one leg in a relay competition (ICR art. 327.1.1)

352.2.3 A competitor who receives a second written reprimand in the same season will be automatically disqualified. Written reprimands given during the season are not valid in the WSC and OWG periods. Written reprimands given during WSC or OWG are valid until the end of the season.

352.2.4 During stage events, an offence that is normally sanctioned with a DSQ can instead be sanctioned by a time penalty (see ICR art. 352.4.2). Using DSQ or time penalty will be the Jury's decision.

352.2.5 After disqualification, the competitor's name will be shown on a revised result list indicating his/her status as DSQ and no times must be printed for this competitor.

352.2.6 In Sprint and Team sprint competition, if an infraction leads to disqualification and that infraction caused another competitor (or team) not to advance to the next round, the Jury may allow the competitor (or team) to proceed into the next round. In this case the competitor or team concerned will start in the least favorable start position.

352.3 Competition suspension

352.3.1 Competition suspension can only be used for ICR infractions during sprint heats and bonus sprints (both intermediate and finish).

352.3.2 In Sprint competitions, a competition suspension means that the competitor will be ranked last in the heat and last in the round (6th for final, 12th for 1/2 finals and 30th for 1/4 finals).

352.3.3 In Mass Start or Skiathlon competitions, a competition suspension means that the competitor will be relegated out of the result of a bonus sprint.

352.4 Time Penalty

352.4.1 Early start infractions should be sanctioned by time penalties:

352.4.1.1 In interval start competitions or sprint qualifications, early start infractions should be sanctioned by a minimum time penalty of 15 seconds (the competitor's actual skiing time + 15 seconds minimum penalty).

- 352.4.1.2 In competitions with handicap start, early start infractions should be sanctioned by a time penalty equal to the time gained (posted start time minus actual start time) + 30 seconds minimum penalty.
- 352.4.2 In stage events, the Jury can decide to substitute a DSQ with a 3 minutes time penalty (see ICR art. 352.2.4).
- 352.5 Written Reprimand**
- 352.5.1 Written reprimand should be used for all infractions of the rules that do not lead to a clear advantage for the offender.
- 352.6 Verbal Reprimand**
- 352.6.1 Verbal reprimand should be used only to inform a competitor that his technique or behavior is very close to being in violation of the rules.
- 352.7 Monetary Fine**
- 352.7.1 Monetary fines can be given to any accredited person.
- 352.7.2 Monetary fine should be used for infractions of advertising and commercial markings rules, for minor course discipline infractions, and for violation of restrictions on ski testing and warming up.
- 352.7.3 For competitors, a monetary fine may also be accompanied by a written reprimand.

F. Protests and Appeals

361 Protests

361.1 Types of Protests

361.1.1 Against admittance of competitors or their competition equipment,

361.1.2 Against the course or its condition,

361.1.3 Against another competitor or against an official during the competition,

361.1.4 Against timekeeping results,

361.1.5 Against decisions of the Jury. Also see exceptions 325.6.2 and 326.6.2.

361.1.6 Against clerical errors or violations of the FIS rules after the competition

361.2 Place of Submission

The various protests are to be submitted as follows:

361.2.1 Protests according to the art. 310 – 344.4 at the location designated on the official notice board or at a place announced at a team captains' meeting.

361.2.2 Protests concerning clerical errors or violations of the FIS rules after the competition must be sent by registered mail through the competitor's National Ski Association to the FIS Office within one month of the competition.

361.3 Deadlines for Submission

361.3.1 Against the admittance of a competitor

- before the draw

361.3.2 Against the course or its condition

- not later than 15 minutes after the end of official training

361.3.3 Against another competitor or competitor's equipment or against an official because of irregular behavior during the competition

- within 15 minutes after the posting of the unofficial result list.

361.3.4 Against the timekeeping

- within 15 minutes after the posting of the unofficial result list.

361.3.5 Against Jury decisions that are not sanctions

- within 15 minutes after the posting of the unofficial result list.

361.3.6 Against clerical errors or violations of the FIS Rules after the competition

- within one month of the competition.

361.4 Form of Protests

361.4.1 Protests are to be submitted in writing.

- 361.4.2 Protests must be substantiated in detail. Proof must be submitted and any evidence must be included.
- 361.4.3 CHF 100.– or the equivalent in another valid currency must be deposited with the submittal of the protest. This deposit will be returned if the protest is upheld. Otherwise it goes to the account of the FIS.
- 361.4.4 A protest may be withdrawn by the protesting party before the publication of a decision by the Jury. In this case, the money deposit must be returned.
- 361.4.5 Protests not submitted on time or submitted without the protest fee are not to be considered.

361.5 Authorization

The following are authorized to submit protests:

- the National Ski Associations
- Team Captains.

361.6 Settlement of Protests by the Jury

361.6.1 The Jury meets to deal with the protests at a predetermined place and time fixed and announced by it.

361.6.2 At the vote on the protest, only the Jury members are to be present. The TD chairs the proceedings. Minutes of the proceedings are to be kept and signed by all voting members of the Jury. The decision requires a majority of all voting members of the Jury, not just of those present. In case of a tie, the TD's vote is decisive.

The principle of a free evaluation of the evidence is maintained. The rules on which the decision is to be based shall be applied and interpreted in such a way that fair proceedings taking into account the maintenance of discipline are guaranteed.

361.6.3 The decision is to be made public immediately after the proceedings by posting on the official notice board with the publication time stated.

362 Right of Appeal

362.1 The Appeal

362.1.1 It can be made

- against all decisions of the Jury (see also ICR 224.11)
- against the official result lists. This appeal has to be directed exclusively against an obvious and proven calculation mistake.

362.1.2 Appeals must be submitted to the FIS by the NSA.

362.1.3 Deadlines

362.1.3.1. Appeals against the decisions of the Jury are to be submitted within 48 hours of the publication of the official results list

362.1.3.2 The appeals against the official results are to be submitted within 30 days, including the day of the competition.

362.1.4 The decision concerning the appeals are taken by

- the Appeals Commission
- the FIS Court.

362.2 Postponing Effect

The evidence submitted (protest, appeal) may not cause a postponement of the appeal.

362.3 Submission

All evidence must be in writing to be substantiated. Proof and evidence are to be included. Evidence submitted too late must be declined by the FIS (see 225.3). In order to file an appeal it must be accompanied with a deposit of CHF 500, which will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

G. Popular Cross-Country Competitions

380 Definition of Popular Cross-Country Competitions

380.1 Competitions

380.1.1 Popular Cross-Country Competitions are competitions open to all Cross-Country competitors, licensed and non-licensed, without limitation on competition distance or format.

380.1.2 "Popular" refers to a format in Cross-Country racing, with mass start distances of at least 30 km for ladies and 50 km for men, full length competition courses, and terrain dictated by the natural landscape.

381 Entries and Competitors

381.1 Entries

381.1.1 Entries should be forwarded promptly by e-mail, by facsimile transmission or online in accordance with regulations in the invitation. Early entries may receive a reduced entry fee. Additional fees may be charged for late entries.

381.2 Licenses

381.2.1 Licensed competitors are responsible for complying with the license requirements of their own NSAs.

381.3 Seeding

381.3.1 Competitors may be placed in different starting positions according to their competitive abilities. The seeding may include an elite start group. The seeding of the elite start group should be according to the competitors FIS Points and competitors without FIS Points should be seeded based on known previous performance or by nomination of the competitors NSA.

381.4 Grouping

381.4.1 Competitors may be grouped in accordance with results from previous years' competitions or other competitions. They may also be grouped by gender and age or by date of submission of competition entry.

381.5 Results

381.5.1 Separate result list must be published for men and ladies.

381.6 Competitors

381.6.1 Popular Cross-Country Competitions are organised for the enjoyment of all participating competitors. Because these competitions involve competitors with a wide range of experience and ability, good sportsmanship and courtesy toward other competitors are essential. Competitors who demonstrate unsportsmanlike behavior or do not follow these rules or the rules of the competitions may be disqualified by the Jury. During a competition competitors must

- follow the marked course from the start to finish passing all control points

- complete the course on skis using only their own means of propulsion and without assistance from others
- neither hinder nor interfere with other competitors
- make a reasonable effort to allow faster competitors to pass. Normally slower competitors should use the right track or side of the course, faster competitors the left.

381.7 For Popular Cross-Country races on the FIS World Cup or Marathon Cup calendar, all competitors placed in an elite group must comply with ICR article 207 “Advertising and Commercial Marking“ and with article 222 „Competition Equipment“

382 Information

382.1 Announcement

382.1.1 The announcement should contain the following information

- name of the competition
- competition site and the alternative site, if any
- course distance (s) and technique (s)
- competition date and starting time
- seeding procedures
- entry deadline
- registration fee
- lodging and transportation information
- prizes and awards
- refund policy if the competition is cancelled
- insurance regulations
- any other useful or necessary information

382.2 Information for Competitors

382.2.1 Before the start of the competition, competitors should receive information regarding the following

- starting time
- course description and profile
- technique(s)
- transportation information
- identification sticker and control card, if any
- ski marking
- starting procedures
- warm-up area and procedures
- feeding station locations and refreshments available
- procedure to follow if a skier does not complete the competition
- finish line procedure
- information regarding emergency medical procedures
- cut-off times, if any
- clothing drop off and pickup sites

- changing area, shower location, and food sites
- results service with grouping and announcements
- protest procedures
- prizes and awards
- procedures for short notice competition cancellation
- time and location of Team Captains' and Jury meetings, press conferences and other meetings
- communication services
- other necessary information

383 Jury

383.1 The Jury

383.1.1 In addition to being a forum for dispute resolution, the Jury should act as an adviser for the competition Organiser in dealing with various aspects of the competition. The safety of the competitor should be given priority. The Jury should consist of

- the TD who is the chairman of the Jury
- the National Assistant TD, appointed by the NSA
- the chief of competition

The TD may invite additional persons to attend Jury meetings where appropriate. These persons are advisory in capacity and do not carry a vote.

384 The Course

384.1 Width

384.1.1 All obstacles must be cleared from the course to a width that allows, at a minimum, double tracks to be set throughout the length of the course. For free technique competitions the course width should allow unhindered overtaking.

384.2 Start Area

384.2.1 The start area should be flat or nearly flat. It should lead directly into the course and be wide enough to avoid excessive crowding. The start should gradually narrow to the width of the course over a distance sufficient in length to allow competitors to spread out before entering the tracks. The start area should be organised to provide for

- ski marking
- control of competitor identification
- control of commercial markings
- competitor seeding
- crowd control.

384.3 Finish Area

384.3.1 The course should enter the finish area on a straight and flat approach. The finish area should be flat and sufficiently wide to allow several competitors to finish at the same time without impeding each other.

The last 200 meters should have a width of at least 10 meters and be divided into at least 3 lanes separated with appropriate markings. Where more than one competition (two races of different distances) are held over the same course at the same time, separate finishing lanes should be provided to ensure that the leaders in the longer competition are not hindered by slower finishers in the shorter competition. The finish area should be designed and equipped for the necessary control functions and to avoid crowding. Feeding, access to clothing, showers or transportation to such facilities should be clearly marked in different languages and available near the finish area.

384.4 Course Preparation

384.4.1 Pre-season

The course should be groomed and maintained to ensure that the competition can be held safely with a minimum of snow cover.

384.4.2 Winter preparation

The course should be packed and groomed throughout the winter to ensure a solid base for final preparation.

384.4.3 Free Technique

In free technique competitions, the course should be well packed and wide enough to allow two competitors to ski side by side. Where appropriate, one single track may be set along the side of the course. The last 200 meters should be prepared to a width of at least 10 m. This section should be divided into at least 3 lanes and separated with appropriate markings.

384.4.4 Classical Technique

Normally the course should be set with two tracks. Where the width makes it possible, more tracks should be set. In curves the tracks should only be set if the skis can glide unrestrained in the set track. Where the curves are too sharp or the speed is too high to remain in the tracks, then the tracks should be removed. In steep downhill or other locations as designated by the TD and chief of competition, no tracks should be set. In the finish area, the last 200 meters should be set with as many tracks as possible. In appropriate situations, with approval of the TD and the chief of competition, course grooming may take place during the competition.

384.4.5 Both Techniques

Competitions may be carried out in both techniques at the same time and on the same course. In such cases, the course for free technique should be separated from the classical course with appropriate barriers or markings so classical competitors do not have the opportunity to use the other course and vice versa. Each course should be packed and prepared in accordance with article 384.4.3 and 384.4.4.

384.5 Measuring and Marking

384.5.1

The competition course must be measured for length from start to finish by chain, tape or measuring wheel. Each kilometer should be marked. The last 500 meters and the last 200 m should also be marked. Places such as steep downhill, curves, crossings should be given special marking.

384.6 Feeding

384.6.1 Feeding stations should be provided approximately every 10 km. If the course is difficult, the distance between the feeding stations may be shortened. In easy terrain, the distance may be increased. For competitions longer than 50 km different types of drinks and other appropriate nourishment should be provided.

384.6.2 When team officials give refreshments to their competitors, they must follow ICR 344.2.

384.7 Course Layout

384.7.1 Popular Cross-Country competitions should be conducted to accommodate all levels of competitors from recreational racers to elite athletes. Course layout should be adapted to the skill levels of the participants.

384.8 Bonus sprints

384.8.1 When having sprints along the course, the final approach to the sprint should be at least 75 m straight that is wide enough for 2 competitors to sprint side by side. The bonus sprint finish line must be clearly marked. Sprint controllers must be assigned to each bonus sprint.

385 Control

385.1 Control Procedure

385.1.1 All aspects of the competitions must be controlled in a manner to ensure the safe and fair conduct of the competition for the competitors. The location of control points and utilization of controllers should be determined by the chief of competition in consultation with the TD, giving particular attention to the following

- technique control, if any
- completion of the entire competition course without shortcuts
- completion of the entire competition on skis marked as required by the Organiser (seeded competitors must comply with article 343.11, all others are allowed to change one ski during the competition)
- ensuring any support or assistance given competitors is in accordance with the ICR
- compliance with ICR commercial markings regulations
- providing a competition course free from obstructions
- ensuring competitors do not obstruct or hinder one another
- control at sprint positions and finish line
- other control aspects as required.

385.1.2 Controllers should be qualified to perform their assigned duties.

386 Medical and Safety

386.1 Chief of Medical and Rescue Service

386.1.1 A chief of medical and rescue service will be appointed for every PCCC. He will be a member of the Competition Committee, and may be invited to

attend the Jury meetings. The chief of medical and rescue service must be a licensed medical officer.

386.1.2 First Aid and Medical Service

The first aid and medical services must be completely operational during all training times. Details of the Medical Support Requirements are given in chapter 1 of the FIS Medical Guide containing Medical Rules and Guidelines.

386.2 Planning

386.2.1 The medical officer shall prepare an emergency first aid, evacuation, and notification plan for injuries, accidents, or deaths. Information regarding this plan and procedures to be followed in the event of injury, accident, or death should be provided to participants and competition officials.

386.3 Training

386.3.1 The medical officer shall designate, inform and train a sufficient number of medical, safety and emergency personnel to provide for the safety and medical needs of the competitors.

386.4 First Aid Stations

386.4.1 The location of first aid stations shall be marked by appropriate signs along the course. There shall be heated first aid stations in the start and finish areas.

387 Cold Weather Precautions

387.1 Background

387.1.1 There are three main factors to be considered by the Jury regarding cold weather safety: the temperature; the duration of the exposure; and, the clothing and other protection against cold weather. These factors together with any other relevant information such as the "wind chill factor" must be taken into consideration when a decision is made regarding cold weather.

387.2 Between minus 15 ° and minus 25 °C

387.2.1 If the temperature level is forecast to be between minus 15 °C and minus 25 °C at any point on the course, recommendations regarding cold weather protection should be made available to the participants. Under such conditions it is the responsibility of the participants to seek the information and to follow the recommendations given by the organiser.

387.3 Minus 25 °C and below

387.3.1 If the temperature in a major portion of the course is minus 25 °C or below, the competition shall be delayed or cancelled.

387.4 Warm Weather Precautions

387.4.1 If the temperature is forecast to rise above 5 °C during the course of the competition, and exposure to sunshine is expected, recommendations must be given to competitors concerning clothing, skin protection and the need to consume adequate liquid before and during the competition.

Feeding stations must ensure that they have adequate drinks to meet the increased demand. First aid stations must be briefed to be alert for signs of dehydration or any damage from sun exposure, and be prepared to take necessary measures in cases of dehydration or sunburn.

388 Cancellation Procedure

388.1 Policy

388.1.1 Normally the factors to be considered for the cancellation or the postponement of a competition are: temperature, weather conditions, snow conditions and course conditions. If a competition is postponed, a new date should be arranged with the NSA concerned.

388.1.2 Cancellation or Postponement more than six days before the competition

If a decision to cancel or postpone a competition is taken at least 6 days before the date of the original competition, the organising committee must immediately inform the NSAs, the media and post the information on the Internet. This decision will be made by the Organising Committee in consultation with the TD.

388.1.3 Short Notice Cancellation

A short notice cancellation is made six or fewer days before the date of the competition. However, a competition cannot be cancelled less than three hours before the scheduled start time except for the competitors' and officials' safety. The cancellation procedure must be included in the information to the competitors (see article 382.2). The cancellation decision shall be made by the Jury.

388.1.4 Refund Policy

If a competition is postponed, competitors who have paid the entry fee should be allowed to compete in the postponed competition without additional charge. If a competitor decides not to compete in the postponed competition, the entry fee will not be refunded. The policy for refunds in a cancelled competition should be stated in the announcement for the competition (article 382.1).

389 International Ski Competition Rules

389.1 Fundamental rule

389.1.1 All matters not covered within this section G are subject to the provisions in section A – H of the International Ski Competition Rules, book II.

H. Rollerski Competitions

396 Rollerski Competitions

396.1 Rollerski ICR Definitions

396.1.1 The matters covered within this section of the ICR are intended to focus on the unique aspects of Rollerski sport that are significantly different from the methodologies used in Cross-Country ski sport as outlined in the previous sections of this ICR publication.

396.1.2 The previous sections in this ICR will be used to give specific requirements in areas where there is direct similarity between Rollerski and Cross-Country.

396.1.3 In addition, the underlying principles that apply in the Cross-Country sections of this ICR must also be applied to Rollerski sport.

396.2 Competition Equipment

396.2.1 Rollerski sport equipment must be available as a commercially produced product that is available to the general public.

396.2.2 Random controls will be carried out during the competition.

396.2.3 The diameter of the wheels must not be more than 100 mm.

396.2.4 The distance between the axles of the Rollerskis must not be less than 530 mm.

396.2.5 Two ski poles with specific Rollerski or Cross-Country skiing tips must be used.

396.2.6 Approved cycling helmets and eye protection must be worn.

396.2.7 Shoes or ski boots have to be fixed on the Rollerskis with a Cross-Country binding.

396.2.8 Competitors are permitted to change or repair equipment during the competition but they must do this without any outside assistance other than being handed the replacement equipment or tools.

396.3 Competition Formats and Programmes

396.3.1 The following competition formats and recommended distances may be used and the competitions may be carried out in either classic or free technique:

Prologue

Uphill 4 – 6 km

all categories

Undulating 8 – 12 km

all categories

Interval Start

8-18 km

all Ladies and Junior Men

25-30 km

Senior Men

Uphill (Interval or Pursuit or Mass Start)

Up to 10 km

all Ladies and Junior Men

Up to 15 km	Senior Men
Individual Sprint 150 – 250 m	all categories
Individual Long Sprint (800-1500 m)	all categories
Pursuit	
8-18 km	all Ladies and Junior Men
12 - 30 km	Senior Men
Skiathlon 6-12 km + 6-12 km	all Ladies and Junior Men
Skiathlon 10-18 km + 10-18 km	Senior Men
Team Sprint Team Sprint (2 members per team)	
2 x 2 km x 3 laps	all Ladies and Junior Men
2 x 2 km x 5 laps	Senior Men
Mixed Team Sprint (2 members per team)	
2 x 2 km x 3 laps	Juniors (one man+one lady)
2 x 2 km x 5 laps	Seniors (one man+one lady)
Relay	
3 x 4 km	all Ladies and Junior Men
3 x 6 km	Senior Men

Actual competition distances can vary by $\pm 15\%$.

396.4 Course Design Standards

- 396.4.1 Rollerski competitions are held on asphalt or similar artificial or natural surfaces which are hard packed.
- 396.4.2 The course must be designed with the highest priority being given to the safety of competitors.
- 396.4.3 Obstacles or hazardous objects along or beside the track must be removed, or if not possible, they must be clearly marked and where necessary protected by padding.
- 396.4.4 The course has to be at least 4 meters wide.
- 396.4.5 The downhill sections must not have any sharp curves.
- 396.4.6 Warm up and cool down areas must exist and be secured.

396.5 General Course Preparations

- 396.5.1 Courses should be ready for inspection and for official training by the teams at least one day before the competition.
- 396.5.2 Courses must be closed to normal traffic. Only the OC, Jury, security cars/motorbikes are allowed to be on the course during the competition or during official training.

396.6 Requirements of the Competitors

- 396.6.1 The competition season is defined as 1st January to 31st December. See CC ICR article 341 for age categories.

- 396.6.2 Final entries should be received at least 14 days before the competition starts.
- 396.6.3 Methods of grouping
- 396.6.4 Refer to World Cup Rules for special seeding rules.

396.7 Refreshment Stations

- 396.7.1 During competitions which are 8 km or less, refreshment services are only permitted in the finish zone after the finish line.
- 396.7.2 For competitions longer than 8 km but less than 30 km, refreshment services are allowed along the course without the use of motorized vehicles. For competitions longer than 30 km, motorbikes may be allowed at the discretion of the Jury.
- 396.7.3 For uphill competitions Jury decides the location of the refreshment stations.

396.8 Start and Finish Requirements

- 396.8.1 The start line must be clearly marked on the surface using paint.
 - 396.8.1.1 Mass start areas must be a minimum of 6 m wide in order to permit a fair start.
 - 396.8.1.2 At mass start competitions, skating is not permitted for the first 70 m after the start.
 - 396.8.1.3 Handicap starts must have a minimum of two corridors that are a minimum of 10 m in length and each corridor must be a minimum of 2 m wide.
 - 396.8.1.4 For World Cup during Mass Starts and Pursuit Starts it is required to video tape the no-skating areas at the start and the finish with a minimum of two digital video cameras.
 - 396.8.1.5 There must be radio or phone contact between the start and the finish area.
 - 396.8.1.6 There must be a loudspeaker system at the start and the finish area.

396.8.2 Finish Area Requirements

- 396.8.2.1 Three finish corridors which are 2m wide must be marked for the final 50 m before the finish line. The final 150 m of the course should be relatively straight.
- 396.8.2.2 For Rollerski World Cup and Rollerski World Championships the finish corridors must be videotaped using a minimum of 2 digital video cameras. Play back units must be available in the Jury room.
- 396.8.2.3 The finish line must be clearly painted on the surface of the course.
- 396.8.2.4 The Finish Zone (Roll Out Zone) which follows the finish line must be a minimum of 100 m for sprint competitions. For distance competitions the Jury will decide on this.

396.8.2.5 The start area, the finish area and the exchange area must be secure from spectators and unauthorized coaches and service personnel.

396.9 Exchange Zone

396.9.1 The exchange zone for Team Relay or Team Sprint must be a minimum of 15 m wide and 30 m in length.

396.9.2 The exchange zone must be clearly marked with a line at the beginning of the zone. When the front wheel of the arriving competitor reaches this exchange line the corresponding team mate is allowed to depart the exchange zone. No physical contact between the competitors is required.