

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
- Atle Skaardal, Chief Race Director World Cup Ladies
- Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men
- Jean-Philippe Vuillet, Race Director World Cup Ladies Speed Events
- Hannes Trinkl, Race Director World Cup Men Speed Events
- Markus Mayr, Race Director World Cup Ladies Technical Events
- Emmanuel Couder; Coordinator Men's World Cup

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION

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

For information to:

- Gian Franco Kasper, FIS President
- Sarah Lewis, FIS Secretary General
- Bernhard Russi, Chairman Alpine Committee
- Stefano Pirola, Chairman Continental Cups
- Jenny Wiedeke, FIS Communications Manager
- Jürg Capol, Marketing Director
- Janez Fleré, FIS Alpine Technical and Administrative Coordinator

Oberhofen, 29.05.2018

**Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting for the Alpine World Cup
Westin Resort Costa Navarino (GRE), Wednesday, 16.05.2018**

Dear Ski Friends,

We are pleased to send you the minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting for the Alpine World Cup, which was held in Costa Navarino (GRE), 16th May 2018.

We kindly ask that you send any remarks to the FIS Alpine Office in Oberhofen by the **30th June 2018** (luessy@fisski.com).

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

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution.

Kindest regards,

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION



Niklas Carlsson
Chairman Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup

Enclosure: mentioned

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup**

**Minutes of the meeting Sub-Committee for Alpine World Cup
Wednesday, 16.05.2018, 08:00 hrs., Conference Room “Cosmos (1A/B)”**

All proposals and decisions of the Sub-Committee are subject to the confirmation of the Alpine Committee and to the approval of the FIS Council in May in Costa Navarino (GRE).

1. Welcome and opening of the meeting

2. Roll-call

Janez Fleré, Alpine Coordinator, calls the Roll (attached list).

3. Approval of the agenda

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) adds two points to the miscellaneous: the presentation of the City Event project in Moscow and the recommendation of use of helmets.
The agenda is approved by the Sub-Committee.

4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Zürich on 06.10.2017

The minutes are approved by the Sub-Committee.

5. Reports

a) from the Chairman Niklas Carlsson

The Chairman is proud to see that there is always big interest and passion for the World Cup meeting.

He congratulates Mikaela Shiffrin and Marcel Hirscher for their outstanding performances.

He affirms that the build up towards the Olympic Games was very interesting to follow this season.

He thanks all the stakeholder (broadcasters, media, rights holders, organisers, ...) for their tremendous work. They keep pushing the limits and the budgets to make the World Cup a better place.

The Chairman looks ahead to further developments of the World Cup. How to develop new markets but simultaneously satisfy the core markets?

He states that the World Cup is a very static structure that is not a fast reacting body. This can be good and bad. He wishes that the World Cup can consolidate what it has, but also constantly improve the way to do thing. Of course national interests are important, but we need to have a wider view of the World Cup.

Also, he reminds that it is very important that all the members of the Sub-Committee are present and active when there is a vote. It is not good when it comes down to the Chairman's vote because many were not present, as it was for the City Event

rule at the last meeting.

Niklas Carlsson remembers Bob Beattie, Co-Founder of the World Cup Tour, who passed away in April.

Going into the meeting, the Chairman announces that there are 13 rule change proposals on the table and is looking forward to a good meeting.

- b) from Markus Waldner, Chief Race Director World Cup Men
 Markus Waldner (FIS) starts by mentioning that it was a real winter, with a lot of snow (except early season in North America). This is great for tourism and for the ski industry, but was quite challenging for competitive skiing. It appeared that some organisers were not prepared for tough conditions with lots of snow. New strategies have to be put in place so the track is ready from the first day on.

All in all, it was a very successful season with 39 races scheduled. Only two had to be cancelled, the first and the last one, due to strong winds.

Many races were close to be cancelled, but thanks to the great effort of the organisers and creative solutions, most could be held. Heavy snowfall in Kitzbuehel, damaged road in Adelboden, storm in Wengen, it was an exceptional winter.

The highlight of the season was the Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang. Also in Korea there were very strong winds but many postponements and rescheduling, all the six events could be delivered. Safety, course conditions and accommodation were perfect. Only the lack of interest of the Korean community for the alpine events was to deplore.

He also mentions the World Cup Finals in Are, where both tracks were tested under difficult weather conditions (fog and wind). The weak areas have been identified and will be improved for the World Championships.

Markus Waldner (FIS) also takes the time to remember the two tragic accidents that caused the death of two athletes: David Poisson and Max Burkhardt.

On the World Cup Tour, the safety is on a very high standard on the race tracks. There will always be a rest risk, but everything is in place to avoid as much as possible.

He continues by explaining that through these incidents, the safety on the warm up tracks became a major topic. Additional safety installations for warm up are related to costs and manpower, but we need to guarantee safety also there.

The new giant slalom skis have been implemented this season. The change proved to be very positive, with more dynamic turns. The course setting didn't change much besides a slight speed controls on the flats.

Markus Waldner (FIS) explains that he met with the Top 20 downhillers in Kvitfjell to listen to their feedbacks. It is very good to keep the lines of communication open between the athletes and FIS.

He congratulates Marcel Hirscher for his seventh straight Overall win and recognises his very continuous performance throughout the season, despite a severe injury early season.

To conclude, he thanks all the partners of the World Cup: EBU, Infront, the broadcasters, Swiss Timing, the organisers, the FIS team, and all those who work behind the scenes to make it happen.

c) from Atle Skaardal, Chief Race Director World Cup Ladies

Atle Skaardal (FIS) starts by explaining that it was a great winter with lots of snow. It is hard to have both lots of snow and great weather, so there were many postponements and rescheduling. Thanks to the flexibility of the organisers and teams, in the end all 8 downhills, 9 super-gs, 2 alpine combineds, 2 city events, 1 parallel slalom and 9 slaloms were held. Only the finals giant slalom had to be cancelled in Are due to strong winds.

He continues by talking about their coaches working group meeting in spring. The feedback from the coaches was that too many sites struggle with conditions. Their wish is that FIS would be on site earlier to have a closer cooperation with the organisers and to allow the use of more water on the course preparation also on the speed side.

The Olympic Winter Games were a struggle in the beginning, but the organising committee did a great job and in the end, beside the low number of spectators, it was a success.

He also explains that the World Cup Finals in Are resulted in a very good and valuable test to guarantee great World Championships next year.

He affirms that looking forward, the focus will be on optimising the calendar and fighting for the starting times.

The introduction of a parallel race was a success, the race was attractive and the format is coming together. The goal is to establish it as a cup discipline.

Also he wants to introduce an award for the ski brands from next season on.

2017/18 was supposed to be the last year with plumbs on the racing suits. However, he'd like to have one more year of transition.

He ends by complimenting his colleagues for the great work throughout the winter and all the winning nations and athletes, especially Shiffrin who is showing how skiing is supposed to be done.

d) from Jürg Capol, Marketing Director

He affirms that in general, the number of viewers is stable and that the impact per race increases slightly. The core markets are the same and those five countries represent 80% of the viewers.

He repeats that the best time slots are later in the day.

He also reports from the broadcasters meeting that was held in Geneva. The feedbacks are similar to last year. They are committed to alpine skiing, but won't be able to face the loss of TV viewers in the long term. The reduction of the start field is still their main concern.

Jürg Capol (FIS) also explains that a fan survey has been made to find out who the alpine skiing fans are and what they want. It shows that they are happy with the formats and that what they want to see is "the best competitors in the most difficult courses and challenges".

Wolfgang Maier (GER) asks if the new starting order in speed had an impact on TV numbers as promised?

Jürg Capol (FIS) answers that it's a slight increase in Switzerland but stable in Austria. We started on a very high level, so there couldn't be an extreme increase.

Niklas Carlsson reminds that the wish to change the format came from the FIS Council, not only from the TV side.

6. Rules season 2018/19

6.1 Proposal RD, Cancellation during an event

18.1 Cancellation during an event and new allocation

Races, which have to be cancelled during an event due to a "force majeure", or non-fulfilment of requirements will, in exceptional cases, be rescheduled at events which already figure in the calendar.

~~*World Cup Opening: Races, which have to be cancelled during the Opening, will not be rescheduled.*~~

World Cup Finals: the schedule of events during the World Cup Finals cannot be changed.

Races, which have to be cancelled during the World Cup Finals, will not be rescheduled.

The race directors propose to delete the line that prevents the rescheduling of the opening race in case of a cancellation.

The proposal is unanimously approved by the Sub-Committee and will be forwarded to the Alpine Committee.

6.2 Proposal CAN, City Event Rules

City Event

Eligibility

2.

Eligibility and Quota:

A maximum of 16 competitors are qualified for the City Event. ~~The NSA may enter competitors according to their quota which is given by the number of competitors:~~

- *The best 12 present competitors from the WCSL of the event concerned (Slalom) If any of these competitors are not able to attend, then the start position will go to the next competitor from the event concerned WCSL (Slalom) ~~Ranked from 1 to 12 in the WCSL-SL plus;~~*
- *The best 4 present competitors from the WCSL Overall (if any of these competitors are not able to attend, then the start position will go to the next competitor from the event concerned WCSL (Slalom) ~~Competitors ranked from 1 to 4 in the WCSL Overall. If athletes of this group are already creating a quota for their NSA in the Top 12 of the WCSL-SL, the 5th and following of the WCSL-Overall are creating a quota for their NSA.~~*

~~Only those competitors are admitted who are classified within the top 20 of the WCSL-SL, competitors whose current total number of WCSL Points (sum of DH, SL, GS, SG, Combined of OWG/WCS and World Cup) is at least 500, or those competitors who are classified within the top 30 of the WCSL-overall.~~

~~If a NSA is not able to replace an athlete under these regulations, the quota spot goes automatically to the NSA of the 13th or following ranked athlete in the WCSL-SL.~~

In case of a tie in the WSCL-Overall or WSCL-event, tie breaking is done with the following priorities:

- *Event WCSL*
- *Event World Cup points,*
- *Event FIS points*
- *Overall ranking*

~~In case of a tie, the 11th or 12th rank of the WCSL-SL or in case of a tie in the 4th or following ranks in the WCSL-Overall, the competitor with the better total World Cup points in SL of the current season (in case of a tie in WC Points SL, according to FIS Points SL), creates the quota for his NSA tie breaking is done with the following priorities:~~

~~The host nation may apply for one wild card for Ladies and one for Men if the NSA has no quota created through the WCSL-SL or WCSL-Overall. In case a wild card for the host nation is granted, competitors ranked from 1 to 3 in the WCSL-Overall create a quota for their NSA.~~

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) explains that both the CAN and the ITA proposal are the same, and that they base on the proposal made by the USA in a previous meeting. The two proposals will be handled as one.

Martin Rufener (CAN): The idea is that if a qualified athlete can't participate, he is

replaced by the next athlete on the WCSL-Slalom, and not by another athlete from his or her nation. Also, the wildcard for the hosting nation has been cancelled.

The proposal is unanimously approved by the Sub-Committee and will be forwarded to the Alpine Committee.

6.3 Proposal ITA, City Event Rules

The proposal has been handled together with the previous proposal from CAN.

6.4 Proposal Athletes' Com, City Event

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) explains that the speed athletes don't get the opportunity to race in the City Events, and he would like to have a qualification for those events, so everyone has a chance to enter the race.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) recognised the good inputs from the athletes' commission, but explains that the parallel formats will most likely be reviewed in a near future, so it's not a good time for that kind of change. However, the feedback will be considered in the review of the parallel formats.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) says that he would like to see a qualification implemented as soon as possible. He will work on a new clear written proposal for the fall meetings.

6.5 Proposal Athletes' Com, 500 points

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) explains that with the lower number of speed events, it became very difficult for the speed racers to reach 500 points. He proposes to lower the limit to 450 points.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) adds that this season, it would have been 6 more men and 5 more ladies in this group with 450 points instead of 500.

Wolfgang Maier (GER) affirms that he would support that proposal.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) asks if it concerns only the World Cup Finals or if it would be valid for the whole season.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) answers that the idea was to implement this the whole season.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) says that he would agree on this rule if it's only for the Finals, but not for the whole season.

Bernhard Russi (FIS) precises that even though he understands the athletes' perspective, adding athletes to the start field is not the direction that the World Cup is trying to go.

Callum Clarke (USA) sees that this proposal and the one for the City Event are both linked to the balanced calendar. Finding a better balance between speed and tech in the calendar would solve both problems.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) calls the vote and asks who is in favour of the rule change.

With 4 “yes” and 11 “no”, the proposal is rejected.

6.6 Proposal Athletes’ Com, Starting Order

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) explains that this topic has been discussed in the Executive Board already and that the Executive Board is not in favour of that change.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes’ representative) says that the athletes understand the importance of selling the sport, but it can’t compromise the fairness. It seems that the current starting order didn’t make a significant difference for TV numbers, so the athletes’ wish is to have the top racers closer together to ensure that they have similar conditions and that the race is fair.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) answers that it is a long term discussion and that there can’t be adjustments every year. He is persuaded that this proposal won’t be supported by the alpine committee, so he suggests not to vote.

Maybe the subcommittee should think about reviewing the starting order only in the years with no big event, like for the ski changes, and not consider changes in between.

6.7 Proposal Athletes’ Com, Prize Money

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes’ representative) says that the athletes feel it’s not fair when there are 50’000 spectators on site and they get only the minimum prize money. He suggests to increase the prize money.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) sees that the athletes are laying down incredible performances and that they are the key to sell our sport. However, based on discussions with the Club 5, he thinks that it will be hard for the organisers to bring the money together.

Srecko Medven (Club 5) says that he supports the idea to increase the prize money, but not the proposal that’s on the table right now. We need to ask ourselves who will pay this. Organisers have high budgets, lots of spectators, but also very high costs. It’s a more complex situation and the situation needs to be global.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) adds that the organisers also pay a lot of expenses to the teams, and this is a part of the pay back, even if it’s not cash for the winning athlete. Reducing the start field would reduce those costs and maybe allow raising the prize money. Both are related.

Srecko Medven (Club 5) explains that the marketing side is showing which direction the World Cup need to go to better sell this product. If there is no reaction, the TV numbers will decrease and maybe the organisers won’t be able to pay the CHF 120’000.- prize money anymore.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) recognises that there is a will to increase the prize money, but that the way to achieve this need to be discussed further. He tables this

proposal.

6.8 Proposal Athletes' Com, Balanced Calendar

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) sees that the long term calendars go in that direction and that there is a better balance between the speed and tech races. He formulated a proposal so this topic doesn't get lost and forgotten.

6.9 Proposal CAN, COC Rule 5.4 Personal Qualification

Personal qualification for Continental Cup winners

9.1.2.3. Competitors without injury status

The winner of the Overall Title of a COC Tour (EC, NAC, SAC, FEC, ANC) and was subsequently injured for a minimum of 8 months and was unable to start in any FIS race the year the qualification was achieved (COC 5.4. Personal Qualification for World Cup) will be granted a personal World Cup qualification limited to the first returning season subsequent to the injury, excluding World Cup Finals.

Martin Rufener (CAN) explains that COC winners should be able to keep their personal qualification for the next season if they couldn't start due to an injury.

Wolfgang Maier (GER) adds that this proposal was discussed and supported in the European Cup committee.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) explains that the injury status was introduced to protect a ranking, not a specific status. Accepting this proposal would open the door to many others (junior world champion, ...)

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) reminds that the step into the World Cup Tour is quite hard and says that the athletes would support this proposal.

The question is raised is the proposal is for any athletes that earned a personal qualification (only winner or Top 3? Only overall or also per discipline?).

After discussions, Martin Rufener (CAN) confirms that the proposal is meant only for the Overall winner. As written in the upper proposal on the screen.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) asks to change the wording from "starting in any race" and not only "in a World Cup race".

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) agrees and calls the vote.

The proposal is approved by the Sub-Committee and will be forwarded to the Alpine committee.

6.10 Proposal AND, Special Quota organising Nation Final

Josep Maria Ramentol (AND) explains that as a small nation it is very difficult for Andorran athletes to qualify for the World Cup Finals and it would be very important for the community to have athletes from the home nation.

Wolfgang Maier (GER) affirms that he would support the proposal for the Team

Event, but not for the individual disciplines.

Callum Clarke (USA) agrees with Germany.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) adds that this topic has been discussed in the Executive Board and that the idea was to make an exception, without changing the rule.

The Sub-Committee supports to make an exception for Andorra for the team event and will be forwarded to the Alpine Committee.

6.11 Proposal AND, Special Quota organising Nation ATE Final

Idem 6.10

6.12 Proposal CAN, Parallel Events with qualification run – PSL or PGS

Niklas Carlsson explains that on Friday, the FIS Council will take a decision concerning an individual parallel event at the World Championships. If this proposal is accepted, then the Sub-Committee would have to work on the harmonisation of the different parallel rules. So he suggests that this proposal is tabled for now.

Martin Rufener (CAN) is wondering if the rule could still be implemented for 2018/19 if the proposal is tabled to the fall meetings.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) says that as it is a rule adaptation and not a new rule, it would be possible to vote in Zurich and implement in the upcoming season.

6.13 Proposal CAN, Parallel Events Slalom & Giant Slalom

Idem 6.12

7. Calendars 2018/19

Atle Skaardal (FIS) goes through the 2018/2019 ladies' calendar, mentioning the following events:

- The slalom opening in Levi has been moved back one week.
- The PSL has been introduced in St. Moritz
- An alpine combined has been added in Val d'Isère
- Courchevel stays as a Friday-Saturday race due to accommodation issues before Christmas.
- Spindeleruv Myln stays as a Friday-Saturday race due to logistical challenges moving to Soldeu.
- Oslo has been fixed in the calendar.

It makes a total of 40 competitions in 21 resorts, with a quite tight schedule but a good balance between disciplines.

Markus Waldner (FIS) goes through the 2018/19 men's calendar, mentioning the following events:

- The rescheduling of Levi complicated the travels to Lake Louise, but only very few athletes race in both venues.
- A super-g will be held in Bormio instead of an alpine combined.
- Oslo is now confirmed in the calendar.
- Tight transfers at the end of the season between Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Are,

between Stockholm and Bansko, between Kranjska Gora and Soldeu. Probably with charter flights.

- The Norwegian Federation made a change in the organisational structure in Kvitfjell.

It makes a total of 42 competitions in 20 resorts.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) asks if there was a chance to have an additional super-g in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on Friday.

Wolfgang Maier (GER) answers that he will talk to the organisers and study this proposal.

Fabien Saguez (FRA) adds that France would love an additional race as well. This is not the correct way to add events to the calendar.

Niklas Carlsson also says that the marketing side is showing that week day races don't have a good TV value. So this is not the direction we want to go.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) also mentions that for speed racers, January is a heavy block and it would be good to invert Adelboden and Wengen.

Markus Waldner (FIS) answers that he talks with the organisers already but it is not possible for Wengen to organise the races earlier. Also he reminds that those kind of changes need to be thought through on a long term perspective.

8. World Cup calendar proposals 2019/20 – 2021/22

Atle Skaardal (FIS) goes through the 2019/2020 calendar for the ladies' Tour and mentions the following events:

- St. Moritz took his new position in the calendar. For the next four year it will be at the beginning of December.
- Killington is confirmed.
- We are trying to put a rotation in place with Maribor, Sestrière and Ofterschwang.
- The Finals will take place in Cortina as a test event for the WCS.

Bernhard Russi (FIS) asks if it wouldn't make sense to remove the mention "SL" or "GS" from the calendar, as we don't know in which direction the individual parallel races are going.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) answers that for now he would leave it on this technical document so the teams know which discipline/equipment we are talking about, but he agrees that in the future the communication needs to be clearer.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) remarks that there are still alpine combineds in the calendar and asks what the idea is behind it?

Atle Skaardal (FIS) answers that many answers will be given after the FIS Council meeting on Friday. The focus is on parallel events and there can't be more events in the calendar, so the alpine combined will disappear. That's the trend and what we are aiming for.

Martin Rufener (CAN) says that it is a crucial point also for the Continental Cup organisers and the National Ski Associations need clear answers on the future of the alpine combined.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) repeats that it is a direction, but there are not concrete answers for now.

Tom Stauffer (SUI) asks if adding parallel event necessarily comes with removing the alpine combined.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) confirms. At this point, the discussion for the World Championships is to add an individual parallel event, which wouldn't necessarily mean deleting the alpine combined. But there is no clear answer for the World Cup and the lower levels yet. He will address this issue to the FIS Congress and ask to have a wider view on this matter.

Bernhard Russi (FIS) reminds that only very few countries are supporting this discipline with dedicated athletes and coaches. The alpine combined is no longer at the level of a World Cup discipline, so we can't keep it on the World Cup Tour for ever. However, it's another reflection for the Olympic Winter Games and the World Championships. The IOC wouldn't accept more medal events, so it would have to be a replacement. At this point, FIS has 15 disciplines that want to become Olympic. So we need to be careful not to lose an event in alpine skiing.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) goes on by going through the 2020/21 calendar and mentions the following events:

- Crans-Montana is now in January.
- An alpine team event is added in Sölden.
- The test event for Beijing 2022 is scheduled beginning of March.
- The highlight will be the World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo.

Peter Obernauer (AUT) says that Semmering would be the organiser for Austria in December.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) answers that this will be discussed in summer.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) asks what the plan is with a City Event at the beginning of the season.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) answers that the idea is to find an organiser in the US.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) continues with the ladies' calendar 2021/22, mentioning the following events:

- Still looking for a good date for Are, who would like to have speed events.
- Italy asked for Sestriere to be considered as the second organiser in the calendar, instead of Kronplatz.

Markus Waldner (FIS) takes over with the men's calendar, starting with the 2019/20 season.

- Due to the calendar, Madonna di Campiglio has been moved to the end of the

year.

- The first test event for Beijing 2022 is on the schedule with Yanqing. The track is 2h away from Beijing, on a very demanding hill with lots of vertical drop. Tree cutting is done, now the terrain work has started. The Olympic village will be built close to the venue. Many experts are sent to China to build up knowledge in the organising committee.
- Chamonix is back on the calendar. The course has been improved and Chamonix is flexible regarding the disciplines.
- Hinterstoder is also on the calendar with a very tough super-g.
- The Finals will be in Cortina. The race line is clear now. The men's start is higher than the ladies and the athletes will have to walk up.
- The problem right now is the 5 weeks block for the speed racers. At this point, we consider a switch between China and Japan.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) remarks that the week days are not correct in the calendar for Bormio and Madonna.

Markus Waldner (FIS) apologises and says he will make the change.

Markus Waldner (FIS) goes on with the 2020/21 calendar.

- The tendency is to eliminate the alpine combineds.
- There is an official bid from Russia for a City Event in Moscow, with the wish to be later in the season.
- Bansko is back in the calendar.
- There is a perfect balance between tech and speed races.

Markus Waldner concludes with the men's 2021/22 calendar.

- The Olympic Winter Games in China.
- The weekend before the OWG is off.
- The City Event on January 1st is to be determined but Oslo is very motivated.
- The Finals are to be determined according to World Championships organiser 2023.

Patrick Lang (AIJS) asks if the parallel event in Sölden is an idea from FIS or if AUT is on board for this event?

Markus Waldner (FIS) answers that at this point, it's far from a concrete project, but the wish comes from FIS. Sölden is involved and the terrain has already been adapted.

9. Reduction of startfield

Quotas reduction

3.3 National quota

For each event a national quota is calculated periodically according to the World Cup Starting List (WCSL). The periods are adapted to the respective calendar planning and fixed before the start of the competition season. The quota is established on the basis of the number of competitors per nation, classified within rank 1 to max. 60 of the WCSL in the event concerned. There is no moving up.

A National Ski Association may enter a maximum of eight (8) (seven (7))

for Men's' competitions) additional competitors (under consideration of art. 3.2).

- 3.5 *Number of participants at the race /Downhill training*
A team may enter a maximum of nine (9) Ladies and eight (8) Men's active competitors for each event (not included are competitors from art. 3.8).
For teams of 8 and more qualified competitors, 3 additional competitors are allowed to participate in the official training for one Downhill, 4 in case of two Downhill competitions.
These additional competitors for training must fulfill the minimum requirement of a maximum of 80 FIS points in Downhill.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) starts by explaining that it is a very complex topic that will affect the team structures. At this point, the problem is not the same on the ladies' and men's side and the big starting fields became a problem on the men's Tour. The question is how can we reduce the quotas and have less athletes at the start?

He answers that there are two options: either by reducing the nations quotas or by cutting down the basic quota. Looking at the start lists, the main reason at this point is the big nations, this is why we came up with this proposal.

He adds that it is a slight change overall, but he feels that it is already an important issue for the big nations.

What is important, is to show that the subcommittee recognises and acknowledges the problem and is willing to take steps to reduce the start field.

Peter Obernauer (AUT) says that he understands and would be in favour of reducing the starting field to 60 athletes, but Austria can't accept the proposal on the table. Spectators want to see the best athletes at the start and the quality on the World Cup Tour need to remain high.

Martin Rufener (CAN) asks for precisions as it seems that the quota would affect the ladies only in trainings.

Atle Skaardal (FIS) answers that the rule 3.5.1 is the existing one, and it now becomes valid only for ladies, as men would have a specification.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) affirms that Switzerland cannot agree with this proposal, as it would take away one of their spots. He mentions downhill training, where super-g athletes would no longer be able to participate and the impossibility to replace an athletes if he gets injured between the trainings and the race.

Wolfgang Maier (GER) goes back to the wishes from the marketing side. Spectators want to see the best athletes at the start. So he says that the best solution for him would be to get rid of the basic quota and enrol the athletes according to a World ranking. It is important to make the entry to the World Cup more difficult and to have high quality on this Tour.

Alfons Thoma (ITA) says that his national federation needs this spot to introduce younger athletes to the World Cup.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) adds that for the athletes, it is crucial to keep the level high. If many newcomers participate in a race, the course and the difficulty will have to be adapted for safety reasons and become less challenging and less attractive. The entry to the World Cup based on the World ranking seems like a good option.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) says he is concerned that refusing this proposal, that makes only a slight change in the structure, would mean that the subcommittee is not willing to take any steps towards a reduction of the starting field.

Srecko Medven (Club 5) adds that the World Cup will run in circles, because everyone agrees that it is necessary, but no NSA agrees to give away even one single quota spot. The whole system is based on the World Cup right now, maybe the key is in improving and giving more value to the second league. Maybe with this the big nations would have an acceptable alternative.

Hannes Reichelt (Athletes' representative) asks if it was ever an option to have the European Cup races as qualifications for the World Cup.

Niklas Carlsson answers that in the future there will be more interactions between the Continental Cups and the World Cup, but many details need to be discussed and there is no clear proposal on that at the moment.

Thomas Stauffer (SUI) asks for clarification on what the exact proposal is.

Niklas Carlsson explains that 3.5.1 would be removed and 3.3 and 3.5 changed as showed on the screen.

The big nations raise their concern to take further steps in that direction. They can accept this proposal but no further loss of quota, which would result in loss of quality on the World Cup Tour.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) calls the vote.

The proposal is unanimously approved by the Sub-Committee and will be forwarded to the Alpine Committee.

10. Miscellaneous

Moscow is bidding for a City Event and makes a report on the new concept on an existing hill.

Niklas Carlsson (FIS) explains the recommendation to use helmets when moving on the race slope.

The proposal is unanimously approved by the Sub-Committee.

11. Next meeting – Zürich (SUI), 25.-29.09.2018

12. Closing of the meeting

The Chairman concludes by saying that it was a very productive meeting, with many proposals and interesting discussions. That's the way to bring the sport forward.

He thanks to the FIS staff on the hill and at the office for their tremendous work and closes the meeting.