



Editorial

Dear Speed Skating Friends,

There will be important changes this year. Because the number of Masters' International Speed Skating Competitions has grown in the meantime to 13, it is not longer possible to report in our International Masters Speed Skating News "ICEOVAL" about all events with reports and results of the gone season and to take up all announcements. We had already two booklets of "ICEOVAL" since two years because the announcements needed the space of a second booklet. And a further expansion of "ICEOVAL" will be too expensive and too labour-intensive.

Last year, at the work for the update of our address files, I could see that in the meantime already 90 % of the Masters have their own email address and thus the possibility to look at our Websites www.imssc.org and www.imssg.org. So we decided, as already announced last year, that "ICEOVAL" will no longer be sent automatically to all participants of Masters' Competitions with IMSSC fee. And the announcements for the Masters' Competitions will no longer be issued in "ICEOVAL". But all announcements will be published in October in the above-mentioned websites as well as the whole content of "ICEOVAL". The announcements and all documents of "ICEOVAL" will be issued as pdf-documents and can be printed easily from our Websites in the internet (see above).

If you want to get "ICEOVAL" nevertheless as paperback, you can subscribe it, as described in the Imprint in "ICEOVAL". We will have reports and results in "ICEOVAL" of the largest competitions Masters' ALLROUND GAMES and Masters' SPRINT GAMES every year and of an additional third competition of special interest. That's this year the Masters' DAVOS MEETING, which will have 10th Annual Jubilee in the coming season.

For all the nice Masters' International Competitions in different countries, especially for the wonderful Masters' Allround Games in Erfurt with more than 200 participants, we have to say heartily thanks to all organizers, organization committees, to all juries and other coworkers, in the most cases volunteers. They all did help that we could have excellent competitions and much fun during these competition days.

At the 28th IMSSC Session, which was held in conjunction with the Masters' Allround Games in Erfurt this February, important decisions were taken. Besides the Masters Allround Games we will have also Masters Sprint Games from the coming season. The 1st Masters' International Sprint Games will be held in Inzell/Germany in February 2009. The Masters' Allround Games 2010, which were planned for 2010 in Kolomna/RUS were canceled because of difficulties with the applicant for hosting the Games. These Allround Games 2010 will take place for the first time in Innsbruck/Austria and the Allround Games in 2011 will be held again in Calgary/Canada, as already 2007.

Nearly all competitions of the last season will take place again in the beginning season. But there are also some changes. The Masters' Sprint Classics in Inzell/GER will not be held this year because of the Masters Sprint Games in Inzell/GER. The Masters' International Canadian Open will not be in Calgary/CAN in the coming season, but they will be held in the New Olympic Richmond Oval in Vancouver where in 2009/2010 the Olympic Games will take place. That is an attractive possibility to skate in the Olympiahall of Vancouver 2009/2010 already in February 2009. And the Grishin Memorial (one day competition) in Kolomna/RUS was changed against the Masters' International Russian Allround Championships (two day competition). The reason was, that it is more interesting to have a two days competition, especially because of the known travel difficulties to Russia (Visa).

I wish you a successful speed skating season 2008/2009 with much fun and hope to see you at one or several of our International Masters' Competitions.

With best regards,

Volker Serini