

Proposals for the 32th IMSSC Session in Baselga di Pinè/ITA in Feb 2010

Arrival at IMSSC Office:
14.01.2010, 01:22 h

PROPOSALS FROM USA AND CANADA

PROPOSAL 1:

The IMSSC should present an award, in the name of the IMSSC, to the oldest skater participating in a senior National Championships or World Cup/Olympic trials qualifier. Each country would receive one award to present (or not present) at the discretion of the IMSSC member.

REASON:

The IMSSC's mission is to grow speedskating, and to recognize the amazing things that can be done by older athletes both on skates and in life.

We have grown to a point where the federations are starting to sit up and take notice, and becoming even more respectful of what we have accomplished. This is crucial **advertising** for the IMSSC.

We also do have some funds available, so a nice trophy would be a good use of those funds to recognize outstanding Masters Athletes, and show the seniors that there is a "competitive path" for them as they get older.

Every country has a different speedskating "culture", so some discretion of each member is needed, but this award has a universal meaning.

PROPOSAL 2:

If an IMSSC member does not attend 2 years of meetings in a row. Then their seat is declared open, and other individuals may apply to be the IMSSC representative for their nation.

REASON:

The idea behind this proposal is that a rep should be an "activist" member of our speed skating community. Creating events, excitement, and inspiring athletes to attend international competitions is the job of a rep. There are quite a few members of the IMSSC who we have never met. Are there other people out there, who might be better representatives for their nation?

For discussion: What are the expectations the IMSSC should reasonably have of its reps? Should a rep be "required" to host events in their country to grow masters speedskating? To be a rep is a privilege, and also a responsibility. What are the components of this responsibility?

PROPOSAL 3:

Going ahead to change the names of our own two premier competitions to "Masters Sprint World Championships" & "Masters All Around World Championships". We have the support of many national associations to make this change. The ISU's resistance, at this point, is silly. This change would reflect the reality of our organizational accomplishments.

We can just make a unilateral decision, and the ISU will choose to follow or not. We are tired of waiting.

This is a proposal that deserves serious contemplation, of our positive & negative associations with the ISU. How much are they helping? and how much are they hindering our mission? We have 17 years of large scale international Masters competitions, we deserve this respect.

Arrival at IMSSC Office:
14.01.2010, 01:59 h

PROPOSAL ONLY FROM USA

PROPOSAL:

The IMSSC summer session should be changed so that we may vote on issues & have the ability to change IMSSC regulations during the summer session, the same way that we do in the winter session.

We would hold the meeting over 2 days, and have much more time to revisit the activities of the winter session, and consider new proposals. This will evolve our organization at a much more thoughtful pace. I would advocate that the summer meeting would be our main LEGISLATIVE meeting of the year.

The Summer meeting MUST be set up with AUDIO/VIDEO-CONFERENCE capability. So reps who live far away may still be vital parts of the organization. Long plane flights are very expensive in both an individuals' time and financially to the IMSSC. Audio/video is often impossible during the winter meeting due to location restriction, but it must be a part of the summer meeting location choice.

This technology is simple, affordable, and common. It must be tested from the meeting location before the meeting date.

Proposals for the summer session would be due 1 month before the meeting.

REASON:

The winter session is always stressful due to the impending games, and it adversely impacts competitors. Our organization is growing extremely rapidly, and we need to be able to act with deliberation. I have left several meetings with the regret that we rushed

important items, or did not accomplish things that we all deeply wished to accomplish.

It is still very important for us all to meet face to face, and even take the time during meetings to collaboratively write proposals that we can vote in during the next session of the IMSSC.

This proposal, if accepted, will greatly change the pace of the IMSSC organization. I believe that it will enable much more discussion, deliberation, and thorough proposals. Change will be able to happen much faster within the IMSSC, but more importantly, we will have MORE TIME to consider & discuss changes.