

Editorial

Dear Speed Skating Friends,

Krefeld, 20. September 2011

The announcements of our International Master Competitions 2011/2012 will be published from 01 October 2011 on our website www.imssc.org and you can make your entries there on



Electronic Entry Forms comfortably. Additionally the whole content of this “ICEOVAL 2011”, our Masters’ International Speed Skating News as hardcopy, will also be issued on this website very soon. The announcements and all documents of “ICEOVAL 2011” will be issued as pdf-documents and can easily be printed by yourself from this website.

In “ICEOVAL 2011” we have issued reports and results of the largest Master competitions in the previous season 2010/2011, of the Masters’ SPRINT GAMES in Berlin/GER 2011 and of the Masters’ ALLROUND GAMES 2011 in Calgary/CAN. As additional report of special interest we have added a report about the 1st Masters’ International RUSSIAN SINGLE DISTANCE RACES in Kolomna/RUS in April 2011.

For all the nice International Masters’ Competitions in different countries, especially also for the 3rd Masters’ SPRINT GAMES in Berlin/Germany 2011 with 209 competitors from 16 Nations and the 20th Masters ALLROUND GAMES in Calgary/CAN 2011 with 222 participants from 12 Nations, we have to say heartily thanks to all organizers, organization committees, to all juries and other co-workers, in the most cases volunteers. They all helped the Masters to have excellent competitions and much fun during these competition days.

In the season 2011/2012 we will again have more International Masters’ Competitions than last season. 14 competitions are planned, 11 already confirmed. We hope for good ice at the 12th Masters’ DAVOS MEETING, which had to be cancelled last season for the first time because of some warm days (natural ice). The 15th Masters’ SPRINT CLASSICS can be held this season in the new Max-Aicher-Arena in Inzell. The 4th Masters’ CANADIAN OPEN, last year not possible, will be held in the new Enerplex Icehall in Fort St. John/British-Columbia/CAN. For the first time we will have a competition in Astana/Kazakhstan at the new Alau Oval with the 1st Masters’ ALLROUND TROPHY. The two season highlights besides the other interesting Masters’ Competitions on the Masters’ Competition Calendar 2011/2012 are naturally the SPRINT GAMES in Heerenveen/NED with 240 participants and the ALLROUND GAMES in Erfurt/GER with 200 participants.

We are not very happy with our ISU contacts at the moment. The ISU Council has blocked the budget 2011 of the ISU Masters’ Working Group (IMSSG), being appointed by the ISU Council, and will release the budget only if I as coordinator agree with a **restriction in the Masters’ age to a maximum of 75 years**. That would mean that we could not have age groups 75 (75 – 79), 80 (80 – 84), 85 (85 – 89), etc., as we use them successfully already for about 20 years. Also other large international sports federations have such high age groups, as for example in swimming (FINA), athletics (WMA) and tennis (ITF). I could not agree with the wish of the ISU Council, see under “IMSSG - ISU Contacts” and “IMSSG Letter to the ISU Council”, pages 56 and 58 of this “ICEOVAL 2011”. I hope for a positive answer of the ISU Council to my letter 29.03.2011 at its Autumn Session in Florence/ITA on 14 – 16 Oct 2011.

I wish you a successful speed skating season 2011/2012 with much fun and hope to see you at one or several of our International Masters’ Competitions.

With best regards,

Volker Serini