



# International Masters' Speed Skating Committee

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Helsinki, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008

## Minutes

### 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IMSSC in Erfurt, Germany, 2008

The 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IMSSC was held  
in the Haus des Thüringer Sports, Werner-Seelenbinder-Str.1, 99096 Erfurt/GER,  
Session Room, on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2008, 09:00 – 14:00 h  
and

the Extraordinary Prolongation of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the IMSSC was held  
in the Gunda-Niemann-Stirnemann-Halle, Arnstädter Str. 53, 99096 Erfurt/GER,  
Session Room, on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2008, 17:30 – 18:30

Participants:			Session	Prolongation
AUT	Hubert Kreutz	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
CAN	Brett Arnason	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
EST	Indrek Aarna, Ph.D.	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
FIN	Matti Kilpeläinen	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
FIN	Dr. Ulla-Maj Björnes	(Assistant)	x	x
GER	Dr. Volker Serini	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
GER	Dr. Jens Kroll	(Assistant)	x	
ITA	Antonio Nitto	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
KOR	Jae-Seok Choi	IMSSC Member)	x	
NED	Bram de Vries	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
NED	Tjeerd Smies	(Assistant)	x	x (partly)
NOR	Sven-Åge Svensson	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
NOR	Ragnvald Naess	(Assistant)		x
RUS	Vladimir Tkachenko	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
SUI	Markus Ulmer	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
USA	Andrew Love	(IMSSC Member)	x	x
USA	Marty Haire	(Assistant)	x (partly)	

### Distribution of the Minutes:

Participants of the Session	
Further Members of the IMSSC	
Ottavio Cinquanta	ISU President
Gerhard Zimmermann	ISU 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
David M. Dore	ISU 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
ISU Council	Members
ISU TC Speed Skating	Chairman and Members
Fredi Schmid	ISU Director General
Peter Krick	Chair Sports Directorate
Hugo Herrnhof	ISU Sp.Sk. Sports Director
Rhea Schwarz	Coordinator ISU Adult Fig. Sk. Gr.

## **Opening:**

Dr. Volker Serini welcomed the participants to the session and distributed the IMSSC Record Diplomas of Season 2007/2008 to the national IMSSC representatives.

It was decided that the Finnish representative and assistant will write the minutes of this session.

## **Item 1:**

### **Approval of the Minutes 27<sup>th</sup> IMSSC Session Krefeld/GER**

Sven-Åge Svensson stated that he was not correctly cited in item 1 page 2 on the financial accounting. Instead of "He had questions about how some of the accounting was itemized", it should read: "He had objections to the way Office Costs were booked since they did not show in the accounting". The financial accounting of IMSSC is further discussed in item 8 of this session.

The minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> IMSSC Session Krefeld were approved.

## **Item 2:**

### **Decision about the place for the 19th International Masters' Speed Skating Games 2011**

Bram de Vries mentioned his discussions with the KNSB (Dutch Speed Skate Association), that the matter will be discussed in The Netherlands in May. Serini told, that the decision must be made during this session.

Hubert Kreutz informed about the application from Innsbruck for 2011 and showed an invitation. The application is supported by many different organizations. The track is the same as for the Olympics in 1964 and 1976. It will be an out-door competition, which balances the situation between skaters from different countries. Innsbruck applies for the first time. The date would be 26th- 27th February 2011. The formal applicant is Skating Club Innsbruck. Innsbruck can take 200 participants.

Serini replied to Hubert that the IMSSC Application Form must be filled in.

Arnason said that Calgary has applied and can take 300 skaters. The date would be the end of February or beginning of March depending on the ISU schedules. Arnason said that Calgary is possible in 2011 or 2012 but not 2010 because the staff will be needed during the Olympics in Vancouver.

There was a discussion on this matter and about the location of Sprint vs Allround Games.

Voting on the applications (Calgary and Innsbruck):

Calgary 3 votes and Innsbruck 9 votes.

**Decision:** Innsbruck (Application form must still be filled in).

## **Item 3:**

### **Decision about the Nations' Quota of Competitors for the Games Bjugn/NOR 2009**

The organizer of the 18<sup>th</sup> Masters' International Speed Skating Games Bjugn/NOR 2009 can accept 200 participants. Taken into account the usual 15% loss of participants due to illness, injuries etc. the quota of entries for the different nations were discussed. The Netherlands would not accept the proposed quota, and after discussion they got 12 skaters more. Also USA received 1 more. The quota of the other countries were slightly reduced.

The **quota of entries** for the different nations are **CAN 12, FIN 12, GER 23, ITA 12, NED 57, NOR 68, RUS 17, SUI 11, USA 9 and Other Nations 14.**

The rules for defining the quota were discussed, whether they should be on a %-basis and how much the organizing country should have. Discussions will be continued later.

#### **Item 4:**

#### **Masters' International Competitions besides the Games**

**4.1. Erfurt/Ger, 5<sup>th</sup> Masters' International CRITERION, 29 & 30 Nov.**

**4.2. Baselga di Pinè/ITA, 3<sup>rd</sup> Masters' International REVIVAL, 6 & 7 Dec**  
Confirmed if the roof for the 400 m track is not in building phase. Antonio Nitto will inform Serini as soon as possible.

**4.3. Milwaukee/USA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Masters' International AMERICAN SPRINT, 3 & 4 Jan 2009**

**4.4. Davos/SUI, 10<sup>th</sup> Masters' International DAVOS MEETING, 10 & 11 Jan 2009**

**4.5. Hamar/NOR, 7<sup>th</sup> Masters' International SINGLE DISTANCE RACES, in principle 24 & 25 Feb 2009**

**4.6. Inzell/GER, 1<sup>st</sup> Masters' International SPRINT GAMES**  
The whole week before there is opportunity to practise.

**4.7. Vancouver/CAN, 2<sup>nd</sup> Masters' International CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
(120 skaters), in principle 14 & 15 Feb 2009

**4.8. Berlin/GER, 13<sup>th</sup> Masters' International MASTER CUP, 14 & 15 Feb 2009**

**4.9. Milwaukee/USA, 11<sup>th</sup> Masters' International AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 21 & 22 Feb 2009**

**4.10. Kolomna/RUS, 3<sup>rd</sup> Masters' International RUSSIAN ALLROUND CHAMPIONSHIPS, 7 & 8 March 2009**

**4.11. Heerenveen/NED, 2<sup>nd</sup> Masters' International HEERENVEEN SPRINT, 18 & 19 March 2009**

**4.12. Heerenveen/NED, 6<sup>th</sup> Masters' International LONG DISTANCE RACES, 20 March 2009**

**4.13. Salt Lake City/USA, Masters' International Competition**  
Andrew Love will clear up the possibility.

Details about the competitions 4.1. – 4.13. see attachment "Masters' International Speed Skating Competition Calendar 2008/2009".

Because of the alterations concerning the News ICEOVAL 2008 Sven-Åge Svensson and Bram de Vries agreed on the IMSSC fee also for all participants of the SDR Hamar, the LDR and the HEERENVEEN SPRINT provided an overall reduction in the IMSSC fee. Sven-Åge Svensson concluded that the number of competitions is growing high, the dates and names of the competitions must be checked.

#### **Item 5:**

#### **Age groups for Masters in NED, USA, CAN**

The age groups in these countries were discussed. The Netherlands question is technical, and can be solved. USA has made a proposal to use IMSSC age groups. Brett Arnason said that

the matter will take time in Canada due to the biluanguistic requirements. The proposal might be accepted in June 2008.

Antonio Nitto suggested that Volker Serini, as coordinator for ISU Masters' Group should write a letter to present the national IMSSC Members to their national federations. It was decided that Andrew Love and Antonio Nitto will prepare this letter.

## **Item 6:**

### **Proposals**

The proposals had been sent to the members of the IMSSC before the session.

#### **6.1. Proposal 1 (GER)**

##### **Masters' International Speed Skating Sprint Games (to insert into Rule 2)**

Besides the Masters' International Speed Skating Games, being an Allround Competition (see IMSSC Rules 2.1.1), separate Masters' International Speed Skating Sprint Games are introduced:

*The Masters' International Speed Skating Sprint Games shall be held every year with rotating country and location. They may be organized by a club or a national Speed Skating Association. The distances for these Sprint Games are:*

*Ladies and Men:       500 m, 1000 m (first day)  
                              500 m, 1000 m (second day)*

This text will be included into the IMSSC Rules as paragraph 2.1.2. The present paragraph 2.1.2. will become 2.1.3.

Voting: All in favour.

#### **6.2. Proposal 2 (GER)**

##### **IMSSC Records at Competitions approved by the IMSSC (to insert into Rule 3.3)**

.....reached in International Masters' Competitions "*approved by the IMSSC at the preceding Winter Session*" which fulfil .....

There was a discussion also on IMSSC Records in all International Competitions included in the ISU Calendar .

Voting: All in favour.

#### **6.3. Proposal 3 (GER)**

##### **Entries of Foreigners at International Masters' Competitions (to insert into Rule 2)**

*At Masters' International Speed Skating Competitions a minimum of 50 % of the possible entries for participants has to be held open for foreigners until the deadline for entries. If this quota for foreigners is not used totally, the remaining free places can be given to skaters on the waiting list from the country in which the Competition is held.*

The matter was postponed for further discussion.

#### **6.4. Proposal 4 (GER)**

##### **Distances for Ladies at Allround Games**

*The distances for Ladies at the Masters' International Speed Skating Allround Games are:*

*Ladies 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m       (age groups 30 – 60)*

*Ladies 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m                 (age groups 65 and higher)*

The proposal was not accepted. It was decided to stick to the old rule.

Voting: 11 for not accepting, 1 abstension.

## **6.5. Proposal 5 (GER)**

### **Deletion in Rule 3.4.1**

..... ” or with other age groups from 30 years for a limited time ..... (because of a small number of expected Master skaters from 30 years)” .....

Voting: All in favour

## **6.6. Proposal 6 (NOR)**

### **Concerning Part 1, Article 3, paragraph 1, 2 and 3 (of four)**

#### **Proposed text:**

#### **Article 3: Sessions and Decisions of the IMSSC**

*The IMSSC holds two sessions a year, the Winter Session during the Masters’ International Speed Skating Games in winter and the Summer Session in summer. If a Member of the IMSSC cannot take part at an IMSSC Session, the Member can send a deputy who has the right to vote for the IMSSC Member, but only if the IMSSC Office is informed by the IMSSC Member by written word in a letter, a fax or an email until one week before the session (arrival at the IMSSC Office).*

*Decisions by vote about alterations of the IMSSC Constitution and Regulations can only be made at the Winter Session. Such decisions can only be based on Proposals that have to be made by written word in a letter, a fax or an email until 6 weeks before the Winter Session (arrival at the IMSSC Office). Decisions on the Constitution and Regulations get validity from the following July 1.*

*The Summer Session is a working session and can only make decisions by vote to fulfil the decisions of the Winter Session, e.g. distribution of tasks and work progression.*

*At the opening of a session a secretary to write the Minutes must be appointed. Within two months after the session the secretary must present a draft of the Minutes to the participants for review and possible corrections. The final Minutes must be distributed by the IMSSC Office to all IMSSC Members and relevant ISU officials within 3 months after the session.*

Voting: All in favour

## **6.7. Proposal 7 (NOR)**

### **Concerning Part 1, Article 3, last paragraph (of four)**

#### **Proposal 7A (NOR):**

*Remove the last paragraph of Article 3 describing the possibility to vote by email and/or regular mail.*

Sven Åge Svensson presented the proposal.

The possibility of voting by email was immediately used to try to quickly make major alterations of the IMSSC Rules – alterations that normally requires formal proposals, thorough considerations and discussions.

There is another problem about when the decisions are going to take effect. Normally the decisions take effect on July 1. That is when the new season starts, and it is normally problems to make changes in the middle of a season. Since the winter session is held end February/beginning of March, there is a 4 month “window” where this voting can take place. The voting procedure takes two months as an absolute minimum, resulting in a marginal time for use.

There is also a problem about the documentation. Today all decisions are to be found in the minutes of the IMSSC winter sessions. With the possibility to vote by email and/or ordinary mail, the documentation is not so obvious.

Voting: 7 votes for accepting the proposal, 5 against.

**Decision**: There will be no email voting.

**Proposal 7B (alternative, NOR):**

This proposal described a more strict procedure for the email voting and was only relevant if proposal 7A would have been rejected. Since 7A was accepted, this proposal was withdrawn.

**6.8. Proposal (USA) from Bram de Vries, supported by NED, CAN, SWE  
Time limits**

Bram de Vries had asked Volker Serini by email to add this proposal to the others.

“Time Limits as proposed by Bram de Vries in his extensive emails thru Aug 23 2007 and discussed at the Summer Meeting. On that meeting was decided that this proposal could not be discussed by email, but had to be discussed at the Winter Session of 2008. So please be so kind to add this proposal to the others from The Netherlands and supported by Switzerland, Canada and Sweden.”

Serini told that the proposal did not arrive in time as a formal proposal formulation. The formalities are stated in the Constitution and Rules.

There was a discussion on the formalities.

Voting on whether it is a valid proposal or not: 9 votes for and 3 against.

**Decision**: It is a valid proposal.

Bram de Vries explained the proposal. Time limits should be maximum skating times to avoid the extremes, which are very slow and might cause dangerous situations. Brett Arnason told that in Canada they use 20% of the age group's WR in international games. Definition of the time-limits was discussed.

Sven-Åge Svensson pointed out that there was no text, that could be included in the Constitution and Rules. The type of time limits should be defined.

Voting on who likes to have time limits: 4 votes in favour, 7 against, 1 abstention.

Brett Arnason and Bram de Vries will make an appropriate proposal to be discussed by email and in the Summer session to come to a definite proposal in next Winter session .

**Item 7**

**Activities of the ISU Masters' Speed Skating Group (IMSSG)**

It was decided at the 5th Session of the IMSSG on the previous day, that the IMSSG now will make minor proposals to the ISU Council on the incorporation of Masters' Rules into the ISU Rules. The IMSSG hopes that the ISU Council will not refuse these propositions, as it did with the comprehensive proposal, which was submitted to the ISU Council in autumn 2007.

**Item 8**

**Financial Situation**

Tables on the Income and Expenditures of IMSSC 2006, a Cash-Audit Report and a Balance Sheet 31.12.2006 had been distributed to the members. Sven-Åge Svensson and Bram de

Vries have made suggestions about improvements. Some difficulties were discussed concerning the reimbursements.

What IMSSC members need to see from the accounting, is:

- Income
- Expenditures (not in detail)
- Consolidated result (plus or minus)
- Assets (what IMSSC owns)
- Depts (what people owe to IMSSC)
- Liabilities (what IMSSC owes to people)

Voting on the accounting: 10 votes in favour of a release for Volker Serini, 1 abstention (1 member had left the meeting).

**Decision**: Volker Serini was released for 2006.

2007 will be a new start. After a slight correction made by Bram de Vries on the reimbursements of Serini, the Balance Sheet IMSSC of 31.12.2006 was accepted as the start for 1.1.2007.

## **Item 9**

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **9.1. Letters from Mr. Kazakov/RUS**

Copies of two letters received from Mr. Vladimir Kazakov, Vice-President of the Interregional Masters Speed Skating of Russia (IMSSUR) letters had been sent to all the members before the session. The case was discussed and no decision was made. IMSSC would like the Russians to cooperate. Vladimir Tkachenko said that he is willing to cooperate.

#### **9.2. The Ice Oval**

From next season there will be changes in the Masters Speed Skating News ICEOVAL 2008. The Announcements of Masters International Competitions will not be issued in ICEOVAL in the future but only on the Masters' Websites. The participants of the Master Competitions of the last season will not receive automatically and free ICEOVAL 2008. But ICEOVAL 2008 can be subscribed (yearly fee 10 EUR). All informations given in ICEOVAL 2008 can also be found in the Masters Websites [www.imssg.org](http://www.imssg.org) and [www.imssc.org](http://www.imssc.org). Andrew Love suggested that all money saved could be spent on improving the web-site.

#### **9.3. Voting on the place for the accepted Sprint Games 2009**

Including of the Sprint Games was decided in this session (Item 6.1). Normally there is a 3 year perspective from appointing the host of the Games. To get a quick start, there is the idea to ask Inzell to reorganize their Masters' International Sprint Classics 2009 to be the first Sprint Games.

All votes were in favour of Inzell/GER.

## **Item 10: Masters' International Games 2010**

(dealt with at the Extraordinary Prolongation of the 28<sup>th</sup> IMSSC Session in Erfurt/GER, see above)

In connection with Item 9.1 (see above) there were several incidents before, during and after the 28th IMSSC Session two days before. There had been aggressive and inappropriate behaviour of Dr. Ramir Kuramshin and Mr. Vladimir Kazakow. Such behaviour is not acceptable for the IMSSC. Dr. Kuramshin additionally has told Mr Serini that he and the IMSSUR have finished co-operation with the IMSSC.

Dr. Ramir Kuramshin and Vladimir Kazakow are President and Vice-President of the Interregional Masters Speed Skating Union of Russia (IMSSUR) and took part in the Games as competitors. This Union has made the application for hosting the Games 2010 in Kolomna/RUS with the signature of Dr. Kuramshin.

Mr. Serini therefore called for an extraordinary prolongation of the session on Saturday March 1. The question arose if it could be wise to cancel the Games in Kolomna and change the Games 2010 to Innsbruck/AUT and 2011 to Calgary/CAN. Calgary has made an application for 2011. The matter was extensively discussed and then the following voting was made:

Voting on Cancelling the Games 2010 in Kolomna:

Not Kolomna: 7 votes. For Kolomna: 1 vote. Abstentions: 3.

### **Decision:**

The IMSSC Office shall inform the IMSSUR/Dr. Kuramshin and the Sport Committee of Moscow Region about this decision. The letter shall contain the remark that the decision is not against the place Kolomna and that we can imagine to be there with the Games some years later. A drafting committee shall try to find the right formulation.

Vote on the places for the Games 2010 and 2011:

The Masters' International Speed Skating Games 2010 will be arranged in Innsbruck/AUT if possible. If not the request will go to (in order of priority) 1) Collalbo/ITA, 2) Berlin/GER, 3) Baselga di Pinè/ITA or 4) Inzell/GER. If Innsbruck cannot arrange the Games 2010, they will arrange the Games 2011. If Innsbruck arranges the Games 2010, the Games 2011 will be in Calgary. Vote: Unanimous.

### **Item 11: Other Issues**

**(dealt with at the Extraordinary Prolongation of the 28<sup>th</sup> IMSSC Session in Erfurt/GER, see above)**

The location and time for the Sommer Session 2008 was discussed and decided. The Session will be in Krefeld/GER on Saturday, 2008, 14<sup>th</sup> June.

### INTERNATIONAL MASTERS' SPEED SKATING COMMITTEE (IMSSC)

*Matti Kilpeläinen*

(IMSSC Member, FIN)

*Ulla-Maj Björnses*

(Assistant, FIN)

**Attachment:** Masters' International Speed Skating Calendar 2008/2009  
IMSSC Rules 2008/2009

### **IMSSC Members:**

*Hubert Kreutz (AUT), Willy Caboor (BEL), Brett F. Arnason (CAN), Petr Novák (CZE), Indrek Aarna, Ph.D. (EST), Matti Kilpeläinen (FIN), Dr. Volker Serini (GER), Antonio Nitto (ITA), Jae-Seok Choi (KOR), Lasma Kauniste (LAT), Bram de Vries (NED), Sven-Åge Svensson (NOR), Miklos Jenei (ROM), Vladimir Tkachenko (RUS), Markus Ulmer (SUI), Donald Drielsma (SWE), Andrew Love (USA)*

### **IMSSC Honorary Members:**

*Roland Hagemann (GER), Dominik Wehling (GER), Aris J. Dijkman (NED), Drs. Harry G. Falke (NED), Peter Reimann (SUI)*