

III. Proposals to the Section of Special Regulations for Speed Skating

A. SPEED SKATING

154. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 200, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

1. International races may be held over the following distances:

100, 500, 1000, 1500 meters (called short distances), 3000, 5000, 10000 meters (called long distances) and either over each of these distances with an award of prizes for each distance, or over several distances with one prize.

Reason: The 100m. distance has now been established as part of the competition program in the World Cup Speed Skating and is also introduced in some national championships. It should therefore be included as one of the basic distances.

155. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 200, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

2. In addition to the distances prescribed in paragraph 1, races may also be held over other shorter and longer distances, including pursuit races. Team competitions may be held as Team pursuit races, relay races, etc. (see also Rule 256). Such races do not need to be held on the ordinary tracks. Specific regulations must be announced by the organizer, and should refer to relevant regulations or guidelines issued or endorsed by the ISU.

Reason: Other distances and events have become more used, also as demonstration events in the World Cup Speed Skating, in which case specific regulations will be issued by the ISU or agreed between the organizer and the ISU. Organizers including this kind of events in their competitions should therefore make it clear how their regulations might differ from specific regulations that might have been issued by the ISU for such events.

156. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 201, paragraphs 1 & 2

Revise to read:

1. The distances, and the order of races, for the World Allround Championships are for Ladies 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters and for Men 500, 5000, 1500 and 10 000 meters.

2. The World Allround Championships are organized over two days. On the first day of the World Allround Championships the races are over 500 and 3000 meters for Ladies; over 500 and 5000 meters for Men. On the second day the races are over 1500 and 5000 meters for Ladies; over 1500 and 10000 meters for Men.

Reason: Since the new format (24 skaters per category) for these Championships was introduced in 1999, the two-days option has been used by almost all the organizers, and this appears as the better format for the allround competition over 4 distances. As a consequence, the order of distances may and should be fixed in the regulations. The proposal means that regulations on the program of the World Allround Championships are given in paragraph 1 and 2, for the European Championships in paragraphs 3 and 4 (see following proposal for new paragraphs 3 and 4).

157. ITALY

Rule 201, paragraphs 1 & 2

Amend to read:

1. The distances for the World All Round and for the European Championships are for Ladies: 100, 500, 1500, 3000, 5000 meters plus Team pursuit.

2. The distances for the World All Round and for the European Championships are for Men: 100, 500, 1500, 5000, 10000 meters plus Team pursuit.

Reason: In order to promote ice speed skating through the organization of amazing events, which involve public, the International Skating Union is requested to give more official character to the 100 m. races with heats of three athletes (heats, semi-finals, finals A and B), to the relay races and to team pursuit races both Ladies and Men.

We propose to include these races in the official program of the World Single Distances Championships, title as a prize, starting from 2005 Championships, and in the Olympic program starting from 2006.

We also suggest that for Relay and Team pursuit competition just one team should represent the entered nation and no team composed by different nations should be admitted.

We propose to hold the drawing of the Team pursuit race without taking into account the results of the other distances and to take times of the third athlete that must close the race. If the third athlete doesn't finish his race, the team should be disqualified.

158. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 201, paragraphs 3 & 4

Revise to read:

3. For the individual competitions at the European Open Championships the distances, and the order of races, are for Ladies 500, 3000, 1500 and 5000 meters; for Men 500, 5000, 1500 and 10 000 meters.

As team competition for national teams of 3 skaters each, Team pursuit races is held over the distances of 6 laps for Ladies and 8 laps for Men.

4. The European Open Championships are organized over three days. The distances may be run according to one of the following two programs at the option of the organizer in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

Option A:

Day 1: 500 and 3000 meters Ladies, Team pursuit races Men.

Day 2: 500 and 5000 meters Men, 1500 and 5000 meters Ladies.

Day 3: 1500 and 10000 meters Men, Team pursuit races Ladies.

Option B:

Day 1: 500 and 5000 meters Men, Team pursuit races Ladies.

Day 2: 500 and 3000 meters Ladies, 1500 and 10000 meters Men.

Day 3: 1500 and 5000 meters Ladies, Team pursuit races Men.

The orders of races for each competition day are determined by the organizer in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

Reason: The European Championships were established, and have been retained for 110 years, due to the historical dominance of European countries in the most traditional part of speed skating – the “allround” (4 distances combined) competition format. As the sport has become more global, the justification is less for maintaining an ISU Championship for European Members only, without similar ISU Championships for non-European Members. However, recent ISU Congresses have rejected proposals to create ISU (“4 Continents”) Speed Skating Championships for the non-European Members. Since the allround competition format remains attractive to a European audience, it is proposed to continue the tradition of the European Championships, but to allow participation for all ISU Members (this has in fact been the case for certain periods in the past). With European *Open* Championships the tradition of a top level allround competition in Europe in the first part of the season can be maintained, while at the same time creating an ISU Event that will serve as a most appropriate qualifying event for the World Allround Championships. The present system with regional qualifying events has been unsatisfactory for non-European Members. The creation of one qualifying event for the World Allround Championships will make the overall planning of the ISU competition calendar far less complicated, and make it possible to create a more balanced season calendar.

Participation in the European Open Championships should not be too restricted (similar entry requirements as for the European Championships or the World Cup). The Championships would have to extend over 3 competition days, and this makes it feasible to include a team competition. It is therefore proposed to include the Team pursuit, like in the World Junior Championships. With essentially all active Speed Skating Members attending, this will be a good occasion for introducing a team event at ISU Championships at the senior level.

159.NORWAY

Rule 201, paragraphs 3 & 4:

Revise to read:

3. The distances for the European Open Championships are for Ladies 500, 1000, 1500 and 3000 meters; for Men 500, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters.

4. The European Open Championships are organized over two or three days, at the option of the organizer in consultation with the ISU Council.

The distances may be run according to one of the following four programs at the option of the organizer in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee:

	A	B
a) first day	500 Men 500 Ladies 3000 Men	500 Ladies 1500 Ladies
b) second day	1000 Ladies 1500 Men 1500 Ladies	1000 Ladies 3000 Ladies 500 Men 3000 Men

c) third day	3000 Ladies 5000 Men	1500 men 5000 Men
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	C	D
a) first day	500 Men 3000 Men	500 Ladies 500 Men 1500 Ladies 3000 Men

b) second day	1500 Men 5000 Men 500 Ladies 1500 Ladies	1000 Ladies 1500 Men 3000 Ladies 5000 Men
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c) third day	1000 Ladies 3000 Ladies
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Rule 224 would need to be updated if this proposal is accepted.

Reason: If proposal 157 from the Speed Skating Technical Committee is accepted, the European Open Championships will be quite similar to the World Championship Allround, and with far more competitors.

In this way we will get a “different competition” compared to the World Championship at the same time we might see more of the middle distance skaters participate, which will make this competition more open and exciting than a traditional program. This will be an opportunity to create a competition where sprinters/middle distance and long distance skaters can compete on more equal terms in the same competition. By changing the longest distance for Men from 10 000 to 3000 meters and for Ladies from 5000 to 3000 meters the duration of the Championship will also be more acceptable.

160.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 201, paragraph 5

5. The distances for the World Sprint Championships are for Ladies and Men 500 and 1000 meters. On the first day of the World Sprint Championships the races are over 500 and 1000 meters; on the second day also over 500 and 1000 meters. From 2007 The World Sprint Championships will be incorporated in the World Single Distances Championships, as a competition based on the combined results achieved by the skaters competing in both 500m and 1000m: The results counting in the World Sprint Championships competition are the total points after these two distances, adding the points of the best time of the skater in the two 500m races and the points of the time in the 1000 m.

Reason: The justification for having separate World Sprint Championships is less obvious after the introduction of the World Single Distances Championships. The experience over the last 8 seasons consistently shows that the medal contenders in the World Sprint Championships are also strong medal contenders in one or both distances at the World Single Distances Championships. Usually almost all the top 20 skaters in the World Sprint Championships qualify and compete in the World Single Distances Championships. This is different from the allround program, where e.g. in 2003 both the World Champion and the silver medallist for Men failed to qualify for their national team in the World Single Distances Championships. Having a separate World Sprint

Championship also complicates the international season calendar, in particular the World Cup calendar, i.e. by limiting the opportunities to organize World Cup events with all distances included.

The proposal is recommended to become effective as from the season 2006-07, since the World Sprint Championships for 2005 and 2006 have already been allotted.

To include a combined sprint competition in the World Single Distances Championships will require certain adjustments in the regulations for these Championships:

- The qualification criteria for the 500 and 1000 meters need to be adjusted, extending the maximum allowed number of competitors in the two distances, and permitting skaters highly qualified in one of the distances to compete in the other distance (see separate proposal for change of Rule 220, paragraph 2 f).
- The competition rule for the 500m should be adjusted in such a way that skaters entered for the sprint combination would be allowed to start in the second 500m even if the skater did not complete the first 500m race (redrafting of Rule 261, paragraph 2).

161. CANADA, Speed

Rule 201, paragraph 8 a) & b)

Amend to read:

- a) for Ladies: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters
- b) for Men: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 5000 and 10 000 meters

Reason: The 100m is now skated in the World Cup as a series of events, which could be used for qualifying to the World Single Distance Championships. It gives another event to the Single Distances that spectators could compare to Athletics.

162. CANADA, Speed

Rule 201, paragraph 9

Amend to read:

Option A

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| a) first day | b) second day |
| <u>100 Ladies</u> | <u>100 Men</u> |
| 500 Men (1) | 3000 Ladies |
| ... | ... |

Option B

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| a) first day | d) fourth day |
| <u>100 Ladies</u> | <u>100 Men</u> |
| 1500 Ladies | 1000 Ladies |
| ... | ... |

Reason: The 100m is now skated in the World Cup as a series of events, which could be used for qualifying to the World Single Distance Championships. It gives another event to the Single Distances that spectators could compare to Athletics.

163. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 201, paragraph 10

Add new paragraph and renumber current paragraph 10 into 11:

Competitions to award World Champions titles and Championships medals in Team Pursuit, will be included in one of the existing ISU Championships or another ISU Speed Skating Event, according to a decision made by the

ISU Council in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee. The allotment of these Team Pursuit Competitions will be decided in connection with the decisions on the final allotment of ISU Championships and other ISU Events in speed skating for the season concerned. The detailed competition program, qualification criteria and entry rules will be published in an ISU Communication.

Reason: This is linked to the proposal to establish titles as World Team Pursuit Champions. Proposal No. 143, as submitted by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, assumes that these Team Pursuit competitions are included in a proposed European Open Championship. However, World Team Pursuit Champions titles should be introduced irrespective of the Congress decision on this proposal for a European Open Championships. In the present calendar of ISU Events in Speed Skating the alternative choices for allotting competitions for the World Team Pursuit Champions titles would be the World Single Distances Championships or a competition in the Speed Skating World Cup, preferably the final World Cup competition of the season.

164. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 202, paragraph 1

Add as follows:

1. The distances for the Olympic Winter Games are:
 - a) for Ladies: 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 meters;
 - b) for Men: 500, 1000, 1500, 5000 and 10000 meters;
 - c) for Ladies national teams of 3 skaters: Team pursuit races over 6 laps
 - d) for Men national teams of 3 skaters: Team pursuit races over 8 laps

Reason: To have included a team event in the speed skating program of the Olympic Winter Games. Team Pursuit races have been skated in World Junior Championships since 1997 and were introduced in the Speed Skating World Cup in the season 2001-02. A proposal to establish a World Team Pursuit Champions title has been prepared for the 2004 Congress by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

The above proposal is submitted on the condition that the IOC will accept to introduce the Team Pursuit events without deleting any part of the present Speed Skating Program at the Olympic Winter Games.

165. CANADA, Speed

Rule 202, paragraph 1 a) & b)

Amend to read:

- a) for ladies: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 3000, 5000 meters;
- b) for men: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 5000, 10000 meters

Reason: The 100m is now skated in the ISU World Cup. The distance has attracted substantial spectator interest and will add an exciting element/event to the sport and attract a new group of skaters into the sport.

166.SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 202, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

2. The 500 meters for Ladies and Men will be skated twice on the same day respectively. The final result will be based on the total time in the two races (see also Rule 260, paragraph 4).

Reason: The adaptation the rule as used today in the World Single Distances Championships.

167.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 202, paragraph 4

Add new sentence:

The team pursuit races will be included in the overall speed skating program on available competition days inside the period of the total speed skating program at the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: If IOC accepts to adopt the Team Pursuit in the Olympic program already from 2006, it will be necessary to find the best scheduling of these events without disturbing too much the already announced Olympic competition program. The most suitable solution appears to be that each of the 500m events (for Ladies and Men, respectively) are skated on one day instead of spreading the two races over separate days) and that the Team Pursuit competitions take place on the two days thus released between the two 500 meters. For the future other variations of the program may be considered. According to paragraph 3 of Rule 202 the final competition schedule will need the approval of the ISU Council.

168.ITALY

Rule 202, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

Run in the same day the 1st trial of the 500 meters Ladies and Men an on the following day the 2nd programmed trial Ladies and Men.

Reason: in this way it would be possible to shorten 2 days the Olympic program for Speed Skating or it would be possible to make a break between the race days

169.CANADA, Speed

Rule 202, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

Subject to paragraph 3 above, the distances will be skated in the following order:

100 meters round 1 Men, 100 meters round 1 Ladies, 5000 meters Men, 3000 meters Ladies, 100 meters round 2 Men, 100 meters round 2 Ladies, 500 meters Men, 500 meters Ladies, 1000 meters Men, 1000 meters Ladies, 100 meters quarter finals Men, 100 meters quarter finals Ladies, 1500 meters Men, 1500 meters Ladies, 100 meters semi final Men, 100 meters semi final Ladies, 10 000 meters Men, 5000 meters Ladies, 100 meters final Men, 100 meters final Ladies

Reason: The 100m event is suited to multiple rounds and with a starting list of 24 will require the following progression: Round 1 (8 heats of 3 skaters, top 2 progress to round of 16); round 2 (8 heats of 2 skaters, winners progress to quarter final); round 3 (4 rounds of 2 skaters, winners progress to semi final), semi final (2 rounds of 2 skaters, winners progress to 1st / 2nd final, second place getters progress to 3rd / 4th final). Places 5 to 24 are determined by best times recorded in each progression.

170.NETHERLANDS

Rule 203, Examples of Standard Speed Skating Tracks

Add new measurement of a 333 1/3 m. track:

333 1/3 m Track

Radius inner curve 25m

Width of each track 4 m

$$1 = 2 \times 80,22 = 160,44$$

$$2 = 25.5 \times 3,1416 = 80,11$$

$$3 = 29.5 \times 3,1416 = 92,68$$

$$4 = \sqrt{80,22^2 + 4^2} - 80,22 \quad 0,10$$

333,33 m

Reason: This is one of the most wanted 333.33m tracks and can also be used as the most wanted Skeeler track in the summer.

171.NETHERLANDS

Rule 207, paragraph 1

Add at the end of the last sentence:

"...and is valid for a maximum of one year."

Reason: The Referees receive often a very old signed protocol of the track with many mistakes.

172.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 207, paragraph 6

Revise to read:

6. For coaches (maximum two (2) persons for each participating skater) there shall be a specially marked area on the crossing side of the track. A line of two (2) centimeters has to be drawn one meter from the outside edge of the track. The line begins 20 meters from the end of the curve and goes all along the crossing area until 10 meters before the entrance of the next curve. During the starting procedure the coaches must stay at least 20 meters away from both the Starter and the starting lines of the skaters. During Team pursuit races the coaches' area for each team is on the opposite straight of where the respective team starts. The same applies for quartet starts conducted according to Method B of Rule 275, paragraph 3. The Referee may exclude from the ice coaches who do not respect the restrictions on the coaches' area or who acts in a way that is seriously disturbing the competitors or creating dangerous situations. The exclusion may extend till the end of the distance or the competition concerned.

Reason: To avoid disturbances at the start and during the race, and to increase the safety for the skaters throughout the race. An appropriate regulation for Team Pursuit races is introduced.

173.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 208

Revise to read (as a consequence of the proposal to create European Open Championships):

The ISU Championships must be run on a 400 meters standard Speed Skating track. The European Open Championships shall be held on a covered track in Europe.

Reason: Firstly, to include in the Regulations the (obvious) condition that the European Open Championships are to be staged in Europe. Secondly, because of a relatively large number of competitors, it is deemed necessary to use a covered track to ensure reasonably equal circumstances for all competitors.

174. NETHERLANDS

Rule 220, paragraph 2 a)

Revise to read:

Entries for World Single Distances Championships will be accepted only for skaters who are qualified through results achieved in the Speed Skating or in other World Championships during the season.

ISU Members may enter a maximum of 4 competitors for the 500m, 1000m and 1500m and a maximum of 3 competitors for the 3000m, 5000m and 10 000m.

If more than the mentioned numbers of skaters from the same Member are among the qualified skaters according to subparagraph c) below, etc. (same wording)

Reason: To enter the same number of skaters - in the non-Olympic years - as in the Olympic Winter Games. The World Single Distances Championships are not organized in the Olympic Year.

A better chance to have the best skaters in the Championships, and to have 24 skaters on the distance.

175. CANADA, Speed

Rule 220, paragraph 2 b) & c)

Amend to read:

b)...	100 meters Ladies and Men:		12
	500 meters Ladies and Men:		24
...			
c)...	By World Cup Ranking	By time Ranking	Total
<u>100m</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>
500m....			

Reason: The 100m is now skated in the World Cup as a series of events, which could be used for qualifying to the World Single Distance Championships. It gives another event to the Single Distances that spectators could compare to Athletics.

176. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 220, paragraph 2 c)

Revise to read (as a consequence of the proposal to create European Open Championships):

c) Skaters may qualify for a distance by World Cup ranking (their ranking in the World Cup classification on the distance), or by time ranking (based on times achieved in World Cup Competitions or in ISU Championships). For the time ranking only the best time of a skater will count.

Reason: With the proposed European Open Championships all the ISU Speed Skating Championships will be open to all ISU Members. This would also give an additional qualifying opportunity for the World Single Distances Championships, without extending the number of ISU Events.

177. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 220, paragraph 2 e)

Revise to read:

e) If, for a certain distance, the ISU Member hosting the Championships has no qualified skater, but has a skater on the reserve list, then this skater may be entered in replacement of the otherwise last qualified skater.

f) If an ISU Member has no qualified skater for the Championships, but has entered a skater placed on the reserve list for a distance, this skater will be allowed to

start in replacement of the otherwise last qualified skater on this distance.

Reason: Clarification of the second part of the present rule, by spelling it out separately (change of wording, not of content).

178. Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 220, paragraph 2, new sub-paragraph g) (effective from 2007)

Add to read:

g) Members may enter for participation in the Sprint Combination (competing for the World Sprint Championships title), a maximum of 3 skaters. Skaters that have been entered for both distances in the World Single Distances Championships and who are qualified to compete in both distances in these Championships according to Rule 220, paragraph 2 c), will automatically be considered as entered for the Sprint Combination. Any other skater that may be entered for the Sprint Combination, must be qualified for either the 500m or the 1000m in the World Single Distances Championships and be among the maximum of 3 skaters entered for the respective distance by the ISU Member concerned. These skaters will then be considered as participants in the World Single Distances Championships also for the sprint distance where they have not been entered by the Member according to Rule 220, paragraph 2 a).

Reason: To ensure that the competition for the World Sprint Championships competition will gather all top sprinters participating in the World Single Distances Championships. It will make it possible that some Member may have more than 3 (but normally not more than 4, corresponding to the present maximum entry quotas for the World Sprint Championships) skaters competing at one or both of the sprint distances. It will also mean a certain increase in the total number of competitors in the sprint distances, thus giving additional opportunities for sprinters to compete in both the 500m and the 1000m at the World Single Distances Championships. This would not have any significant impact on the logistics (no additional participants in the Championships), the time scheduling or duration of the Championships, since there will be only a few more pairs in distances of short duration.

179. ITALY

Rule 220, paragraph 3

Amend to read:

The qualifying times must have been achieved in ISU or national Championships, World Cup or International Competitions during the season concerned, but after October, 1st. In addition to the minimum qualifying time decided by the Speed Skating Technical Committee for the first two distances (Ladies and Men) in the World All round Championships the groups of athletes will be drawn as follows:

- Times achieved in World Cup Competitions
- Times achieved in International Competitions
- Times achieved in national competitions

Reason: In order to give everybody the same possibility, we propose that qualifying times to form the groups for the drawing of the first two distances in the European and Continental, must have been achieved after October 1st, each year. In addition to the minimum qualifying time, decided by the ISU Technical Committee for the first two

distances (Ladies and Men) in the World Allround Championships, we propose to form the groups of athletes that will be drawn as follows: times achieved in World Cup Competitions, times achieved in International Competitions and times achieved in national competitions.

180.ITALY

Rule 220, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

Bring to 16 the number of male athletes from Europe, considering the number of nations that really takes part in the continental Championships.

Reason: following the current rules in the Asian Championships can take part 6 nations, but they are less; in the American Championships can take part 4 nations (including New Zealand & Australia) but they are two; in the European Championships can take part 17 nations, with the current rules some nations have already guaranteed the qualification for the World Championships.

181.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 220, paragraphs 4 & 5

Revise to read (as a consequence of the proposal to create European Open Championships):

4. a) The number of participants in the World Allround Championships is restricted to 24 Ladies and 24 Men.
- b) The entry quotas for the ISU Members are determined by the results in the European Open Championships held in the same season. The entry quotas correspond to the number of skaters from the respective Members placed among the top 24 in the final classification (see Rule 260, paragraph 4) at the European Open Championships. If some Members do not make full use of their entry quota, the Members with skaters placed 25 and onwards will have their entry quotas increased accordingly. However, the Member hosting the World Allround Championships has the right to a minimum entry quota of 1 skater per category, subject to paragraph 3 above (achieved qualifying times). If the hosting Member of the World Allround Championships fails to qualify for a start position through the European Open Championships, but exercises its right to enter one skater, the entry quota of the Member with the last qualified start position, will be reduced by one skater.
- c) Within its entry quota for the World Allround Championships an ISU Member may enter any skaters who have achieved the required qualifying times (see paragraph 3 above).
5. a) The European Open Championships are open to participation for all ISU Members.
- b) The maximum entry quotas for a Member in the individual competitions of the European Open Championships is four (4) Ladies and four (4) Men. Subject to paragraph 3 of this Rule, each Member may enter 2 competitors for Ladies and 2 competitors for Men, plus as many competitors as the number of skaters from this Member that were placed among the 28 best in the final classification the last time the Championships were held.
For 2005 the entry quotas in the European Open Championships will be determined by specifically assigned World Cup Competitions. If the World Cup series will include a special allround competition

(which may be in the distance programs used for the World Junior Championships), a Member may enter in the European Open Championships two competitors plus the number of skaters from the Member placed among the 28 best in the final ranking of this allround competition. Alternatively, the entry quotas will be determined by the current World Cup rankings in the 1500m and the long distances, so that a Member may enter in the European Open Championships two competitors plus the number of skaters from the Member placed among the 28 best in either of these World Cup rankings.

c) For the Team pursuit a Member may use other skaters than those entered for the individual Championships, but only on the condition that at least two of the skaters in the team have achieved the applicable qualifying time for the individual Championships.

d) Each ISU Member may enter substitutes for the individual Championships corresponding with the number of ordinary entries.

e) The organizer of the European Open Championships is responsible for paying room and meals for all individual competitors and one team leader from each participating Member as specified in Rule 137, paragraph 10.

Reason: To ensure that the European Championships will give all ISU Members a reasonable chance to qualify skaters for the World Allround Championships, and also to give a certain possibility for specializing skaters for the Team pursuit competition – but then without adding to the financial obligation of the organizer. Subparagraph e) should be cross-referenced by Rule 137, paragraph 10.

182.ITALY

Rule 220, paragraph 4 a)

Revise to read:

- a) the number of participants in the World All Round Championships is determined as follows:
The 24 start positions are shared between European Members and non European Members with 4 start position each plus as many as the number of skater from European and non European Members, respectively, among the 16 best in the final classification (see Rule 260, paragraph 4) from the preceding World Allround Championships. The maximum number of participants from one Member is 4.
In addition to the 24 athletes, each excluded nation may enter an athlete in the World Championships, if this athlete has achieved the qualifying times determined by the ISU Technical Commission.

Reason: Each event, including the sport event, has a great importance if there are great results, but first of all if there are a great number of nations joining this event. The participation in the World Allround Championships is a great opportunity for all ISU Members, both for the interest towards the previous national training and for the importance and prestige of a World Championship with a lot of nations taking part. We suggest returning to the previous regulation, which allowed each nation to take part in the World Allround Championships with at least one athlete. To guarantee an adequate participation in the World Allround Championships, a qualifying time on the

5000 m. must have been achieved by the athletes. The ISU Technical Committee decides this qualifying time every season.

183.ITALY

Rule 220, paragraph 4 a)

Amend to read:

The number of participants in the World Allround Championships is 24 Ladies and 24 Men. The 24 start positions are shared between European and non European Members as follows:

- 16 athletes for European Members

- 8 athletes for non European Members

The maximum number of participants for one Member is 4.

Reason: In alternative to the above-mentioned proposal and due to the same reason, (a bigger participation in the World Allround Championships, which is a historical event of great tradition for ice speed skating), we suggest 16 Ladies and 16 Men taking part for Europe. Moreover: a maximum entry quota of 3 athletes per nation is fixed. The World Champion in charge is admitted by full right. That because, taking into consideration the number of non European nations, the present regulation allows America and Asia to be represented by their athletes in the World Allround Championships. Number of nations that usually take part in the Championship: Europe: 15, North America: 2, Asia: 5.

184.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 221, paragraphs 1 to 5

Revise to read:

1. A country may enter in the Olympic Winter Games only skaters who have achieved qualifying times set by the ISU for the respective distances. Times will be recognized only if skated during the season concerned at the following competitions:

- ISU Championships

- World Cup Speed Skating Competitions;

- Other ISU Events

- International Competitions open to all ISU Members;

- Country matches announced in accordance with Rule 110;

- National Championships (when announced according to Rule 104, paragraph 14).

The qualifying times, and the conditions under which they must have been achieved, shall be announced in an ISU Communication. The qualifying times may be differentiated, so that a faster time may be stipulated as a condition for accepting more than one entry per distance. In the case that IOC would stipulate a maximum total number of competitors in speed skating, and the total number of entered skaters would exceed this maximum number, ISU reserves the right to adjust the originally announced qualifying times proportionately in order to achieve the necessary reduction in the number of eligible entries.

2. The total number of competitors from any country may not exceed ten (10) Ladies and ten (10) Men.

3. For each of the distances a country may enter a maximum of three (3) competitors.

4. For the 500, 1000 and 1500 meters there is no specific upper limit to the total number of competitors in each event.

5. For the 3000 meters Ladies and the 5000 meters Men, a maximum of 28 skaters will be permitted to participate in each event. If more than 28 skaters have been entered, the selection of 28 skaters will be made in the following steps, subject to paragraphs 1 and 3 above:

a) Skaters who are among the 12 best in the current World Cup ranking for the long distances, by order of ranking.

b) Additional skaters from a time ranking list for the distance based on results only from World Cup Competitions or other ISU Events open to all ISU Members held during the season and prior to the final date of entry for the Olympic Winter Games, by order of ranking. When 24 skaters have been selected, skaters from countries that have not already been represented with a qualified skater, will be given priority.

c) If some countries do not enter their qualified number of skaters, additional skaters will be selected from the time ranking list, with preference for skaters from countries that have not already been represented with a skater, until the number of 28 competitors is reached. If there is a tie in the last qualifying position, this start position will be decided by lot.

d) A country may replace one of its qualified skaters, according to subparagraphs a) and b) above, by another skater who has also achieved the qualifying time (see paragraph 1).

Reason: IOC has requested a slight reduction in the overall number of participants in the Olympic Skating Events. This could be achieved solely by defining more demanding qualifying times, and it is therefore proposed to include an option to set a higher qualifying time requirement for a second entry in a distance (this kind of criteria is used by other sports federations). Since it will be difficult to predict the actual qualifying times necessary to stay below a given limit for the total number of competitors in Speed Skating, it is proposed that the ISU may issue revised qualifying time standards. By imposing these additional requirements, skaters with results closest to the originally announced qualifying times would then be excluded from participation.

In addition, it is proposed to limit the maximum number of competitors for the 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men to 28 (from 32) and to set the same maximum entry quota of 3 participants per event (corresponding to the other ISU sports) for all the distances. The justification for this is that when an upper limit would be imposed on the total number of entries, then it is reasonable to have somewhat more restrictive entry rules for the distances with the largest number of participants. Some adjustments in the wording and editing have been made for clarification and to be consistent with possible changes in the status of the European Championships.

185.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 221, paragraph 7

Add new paragraph 7 and renumber following paragraphs:

7. For the Team Pursuit races ISU will organise one or several competitions (e.g. at World Cup events) to establish a qualification process to select 8 teams (8 teams for Ladies, 8 teams for Men) for participation in the Olympic Team Pursuit Competitions. The actual

qualifying competitions and the detailed qualifying criteria will be announced in an ISU Communication.

Reason: Team pursuit races have been included as an official demonstration event for the Speed Skating World Cup season 2003/04. The planned next step is to make Team Pursuit races an official World Cup “distance category” for national teams, and a proposal to create a World Champions title will be submitted to the ISU Congress. This means that there will be adequate international competitions available to establish a fair qualification process prior to the deadline for entries for the OWG.

186.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 223, paragraph 4

Delete Paragraph.

Reason: There are no strong reason why two skaters from the same country should not compete in the same pair at the first two distances in the Allround (and Sprint) Championships. According to the present Regulations, skaters from the same country may be drawn or paired together in the remaining part of the Championships, as well as in the World Single Distances Championships and the World Cup Speed Skating. This rule has also created some confusion in the past, because of different interpretations among the Referees and difficulties to explain the logic in special cases.

187.SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 223, paragraph 4

Delete Paragraph.

Reason: Today it is very common that skaters from the same country compete in the same pair. This happens in almost every World Cup and very often at the second day of the ISU Championships. This also affects Rule 224.

188.SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 224, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

2. The competitors placed in the same group shall be paired together by drawing their starting numbers. The first two drawn skaters from Group III form the first pair on the distance concerned. However, if there is an odd number of skaters entered there shall also be a blank note to fill up to even numbers. After Group III has been drawn, Group II follows etc.

Reason: It is not fair that a skater who is single in the pair also has to start in the first pair. The pressure can be too hard. In our proposal it is the lot that decides in what pair the single skater will start. This proposal also affects Rule 225 paragraph 3 and Rule 228 paragraph 2.

189.CANADA, Speed

Rule 224, paragraph 4 a)

Amend to read:

In the fourth distance all skaters shall start. A skater who has been disqualified in a distance or has not completed all three preceding distances of the Championship (see also Rule 261, paragraph 2 and Rule 270, paragraph 3) loses the right to start in the final distance.

Reason: To allow all qualified skaters to compete in the World Championships over 4 distances.

190.CANADA, Speed

Rule 224, paragraph 4 b)

Amend to read:

For the arrangement of the pairs for the last distance the skaters are placed in three groups, with the same number of skaters in each group. The skaters with the best rank after three distances are placed in Group 1, the next 8 ranked skaters are in Group 2, and the remaining skaters are placed in Group 3. If some skaters are equal...in this distance, etc.

Reason: Clarify the make-up of the Groups.

191.CANADA, Speed

Rule 224, paragraph 4 c)

Amend to read:

c) In each group...in the following way:

- All the pairs of Group 3 shall start before the pairs of Group 2.
- All the pairs of Group 2 shall start before the pairs of Group 1.
- All skater in Group 3 shall skate in quartets

Reason: Clarify starting order of pairs.

192.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 224, paragraph 4 d)

Revise to read:

d) If a skater, who has been entitled to start in the fourth distance, withdraws after the draw, this skater may be replaced by the next qualified skater according to the criteria given in paragraph a) above.

Reason: This is the same principle as the one used in e.g. the World Single Distances Championships, when there are skaters available on a prioritized reserve list. There is every reason to avoid having a single pair in the last distance, if this can easily be avoided.

193.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 224, paragraph 5

Revise to read:

5. For the European Open Championships the drawing will be made in the following way:

- a) For the three first distances the skaters will compete in two divisions. Division A will consist of 20 skaters and division B of the remaining skaters. The results from the two divisions will form a single list of results from the competition. For the first two distances Division A will consist of skaters entered by Members that had skaters among the 20 best in the final classification from the preceding Championships (for 2005 these entry quotas will be determined by the results in the 2004 World Allround Championships). For the third distance, Division A will consist of the 20 best skaters in the ranking based on total points from the first two distances.
- b) The races of Division B will be completed before the competition of Division A starts for the competition day concerned. For 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men the Division B races may be skated in quartets, even if quartet starts are not applied for Division A.
- c) When drawing the first two distances, the competitors, both in Division A and Division B, shall be placed in three groups, according to paragraph 1 above.
- d) With the adjustments following from subparagraphs a) to c) above, the drawing procedures for the World

Allround Championships, as given in paragraph 1-4 above, apply.

Reason: A division system is proposed in order to present a compact session of the most competitive part of the competition, so as to facilitate the promotion of the event towards spectators and TV producers. Since the results from both Divisions will form a single list of results from the competition, skaters starting the Championships in Division B may advance to Division A in the third distance. Skaters might also qualify for the last distance even if they have started all the three first distances in Division B.

194.CANADA, Speed

Rule 224, paragraph 6 e)

Add new sub-paragraph e):

e) The seeding for the 100m shall be conducted in accordance with Communication 1227 paragraph 5.5.

Reason: To explain seeding for the 100m and advancements to the next round.

195.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 225, new paragraph 4

Add new paragraph:

4. The Team Pursuit Competition will be organised with a set of elimination rounds, so that the final race will be a deciding race for the Olympic gold and silver medals.

a) For each round of races (time trial round, elimination rounds, semi-finals, finals and other placement races) the races both for Ladies and Men are completed before the next round of races.

b) The competition starts with a set of "Time trial" races, with the purpose of establish a ranking among the teams as a basis for the composition of heats in the first elimination round. The composition of the heats of the time trial races will be determined by an initial ranking of the teams derived from the qualifying competition. The details will be published in an ISU Communication.

c) In the first elimination round the fastest team from the time trial races shall compete in the last heat against the team with the slowest time from the time trials. In the second last heat the team with the second fastest time from the time trials competes against the team with the 7th fastest time from the time trials, etc.

d) The time trials and the first elimination round are skated on the first competition day of the Team Pursuit, the semi-finals, finals and placement races are skated on a following day.

e) The winners of each of the 4 heats of the elimination round qualify for the semi-finals. The team with the best time of the 4 heat winners skate in the second semi-final against the team with the slowest winning time.

f) After the completion of the semi-finals, the 4 teams that did not qualify from the elimination rounds will skate placement races for the final ranks 5-8. At first, a race between the two slowest losers from the elimination rounds will determine final ranks 7 and 8, and thereafter a race between the two fastest losers from the elimination rounds will determine final ranks 5 and 6.

g) The winners of each semi-final will advance to the final to compete for the gold and silver medals. The losers will compete in a B-final for the bronze medal (the loser ending up at rank 4). The B-final will be skated first.

Reason: To create competitions format where each race will be decisive, and the whole event being concluded with a head-on fight for the Olympic title.

196.NETHERLANDS

Rule 229, paragraph 2 b)

Revise to read:

If the pairs have been decided by lot (by a draw) the substitute shall start in the group based on the best approved qualifying time or a ranking.

The sick skater shall be replaced by the highest qualified skater from the next lower group, and so on.

The substitute shall start on the place of the last moved skater, taking into account the group of the substitute.

If the pairs have been arranged based on a seeding or ranking of the participants, the pairs shall be rearranged, taking into account the seeding or ranking of the substitute.

Reason: The purpose to make groups for the first draw is to have a better competition with more equal skaters. A substitute can disturb this.

In Division A of the World Cup a withdrawal in the group of the top 6 skaters can be replaced by the best ranked skater from the group of the paired skaters.

197.NETHERLANDS

Rule 229, paragraph 4

Add at the end of the last sentence:

" , until 1 hour before the start of the distance"

Reason: It is necessary to give the officials time to rearrange and to make new starting lists.

198.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 237, paragraph 2

Revise to read:

2. The Referee is empowered:

a) to introduce alterations in the announced program of the competition, in so far as these do not conflict with the Regulations. For ISU Events such alterations can only be made in consultation with the ISU Representative(s) assigned for the competition;

b) to decide whether the condition of the ice permits the holding of the event;

c) if unfavorable circumstances arise, to alter the shape and size of the track and to change the distances;

d) to accept, in agreement with the organizing Member or affiliated club, another rink for the holding of the event;

e) to decide whether, where and when, a race that has been declared invalid, shall be rerun;

f) if necessary, to exclude skaters from the competition and coaches from the coaches' area (see Rule 207, paragraph 6);

g) to replace the Starter or other Officials;

h) to suspend skating until order is restored, in the case that the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;

i) to cancel or postpone the competitions in case of extremely cold weather (see also paragraph 4 b) below).

Reason: Wording changes for clarification and to be consistent with current practice (for item a), in particular); change of substance in item f) to be consistent with Rule 207, paragraph 6 (see proposal for change in this rule).

199.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 238, paragraphs 1 to 4

Revise to read:

1. a) The Starter initiates the starting procedure by calling the skaters on to the track after having received the confirmation that the timekeepers are ready. The Starter shall give the starting orders in English (see Rule 250, paragraph 2).
b) The skaters stay under the command and control of the Starter during the whole starting procedure, i.e. till a valid start of the pair or heat has been completed. The Starter shall decide all disputes relating to the starting procedure. However, exceptions to this may apply if equipment to disclose false starts is used (see paragraph 3 below).
2. The Starter shall take his position so that he has a clear view of the skaters starting in the pair or heat.
3. Electronic equipment, like photocells or sensitive cameras, may be used to disclose false starts. Such instruments may be used for the sole purpose of supporting the Starter during the starting procedure. However, they may also be used to verify a false start in the case that the skater has left the starting line without having been recalled by the starter. If, in such a case, an invalid start is disclosed, this decision may be taken by a specially assigned official in charge of observing the evidence given by the detection instrument.
4. At ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games, the Starter gives the orders by means of a microphone connected to two loudspeakers placed near the starting lines
Reason: To better incorporate in the Rule procedures to be followed when detection instruments are used to disclose false starts. The change in paragraph 4 is proposed in order to be consistent with established practice, where microphones are used by the Starter also in World Cup Competitions.

200.NETHERLANDS

Rule 246, paragraph 3

Revise to read:

Over all distances, with the exception of the 500m and shorter the time shall be measured and recorded in the protocol to the accuracy of one hundredth of a second.

Over the 500 m and shorter distances the time shall be measured and recorded in the protocol to the accuracy of one thousandth of a second.

If the watches display accuracy beyond one hundredth respective one thousandth of a second, these decimals shall be ignored when deciding the official time.

- Reason:
- a) For all the distances the number of points must be calculated to three decimals.
 - b) Less skaters with a tie.

201.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 248, paragraphs 2 & 3 plus new paragraph 4

Revise to read 2 & 3 and add 4:

2. All international races must be run on a standard track, in pairs and against time, with exceptions as stated in Rule 200, paragraphs 2 and 3, in paragraph 4 below and in Rule 256 (team competitions).
3. a) The competitor who skates on the inner lane shall change to the outer lane each time he arrives at the crossing straight and vice versa for the competitor who skates in the outer lane (for exception see

paragraph b) below). A breach of this Rule constitutes a foul, and the penalty shall be a disqualification (see Rule 270).

b) In the first straight of the 1000 meters and the 1500 meters when racing on a 400 meters standard track there is no changing of lanes. Similar exceptions may have to be made on tracks of other sizes for these or other distances.

4. a) For sprint competitions over the distance 100 meters or shorter distances, there may be three skaters in each heat, with separate lanes for each skater. These competitions may be organized with elimination rounds, where skaters will advance to the next round based on their placing in the heat and/or their achieved time.

b) Competitions may be organized as mass start races (in "pack style format"), for which the track will be laid out with only one competition lane. Rule 254 ("pace-making") will not apply for mass start races. Special rules must be announced in order to prevent that skaters may obstruct or impede other competitors in the race. The result of such races may be based on a system adding points for intermediate ranks at certain stages of the race and points for the ranks at the finish. The competition rules may stipulate that one or more skaters placed last at certain stages of the race will be taken out of the race at that stage.

Mass start races may be organized as pursuit races, i.e. with staggered starts where the skaters have predefined "handicaps", for example based on results from previous races in the competition.

When mass start races are included in International competitions on standard speed skating tracks, special regulations should be issued in accordance with Rule 200, paragraphs 2 and 3.

Reason: To ensure consistency with new competition formats, in particular to incorporate in the regulations the competition format of 100m as introduced in the World Cup Speed Skating, as well as recognizing mass start as a valid competition format to be included in International competitions.

202.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 250, paragraph 1

Revise to read:

1. The skaters starting in the inner and outer lanes shall be identified by white and red armbands, respectively. In the case of 100m or shorter distances being arranged in heats of 3 skaters, the skater in the middle lane shall wear a yellow armband. The skater themselves are responsible for having the correct armband and to report in the correct starting lane.

Reason: Clarification, to emphasize the responsibility of the skater to wear the correct outfit and to prepare properly for the start. Moreover, to set a standard procedure as to how skaters and competition lanes should be identified in the case of 100m being skated with three skaters per heat.

203.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 250, paragraphs 2 & 3

Revise to read:

2. a) When the Starter orders "Go to the start" the skaters shall place themselves between the pre-start line and the starting line. The distance between these two lines

shall be two (2) meters. The skaters have to take a stable position before the Starter calls “Ready”, whereupon they are to take their starting position and keep this position absolutely until the shot is fired. Skaters must keep all of their skates entirely behind the starting line and may not have their skates on or over the starting line. In addition, skaters may not touch the starting line or be in contact with the ice beyond the starting line with any parts of their body or equipment.

b) There shall be a distinct interval between the moment when the skaters have taken their starting position and the firing of the shot. This distinct interval should be between 1 and 1.5 seconds. If a skater leaves the starting position after the word “Ready”, but before the shot is fired, it is a false start (see also Rule 238, paragraph 3). If one or both (all) skaters intentionally are slow in taking their starting position, the offending skater(s) shall be given a false start. If one of the skaters breaks from his mark, thereby causing the other skater to follow, only this skater shall be given a false start. The skater committing a false start shall be disqualified from the race concerned.

3. In the event of a false start, the skaters shall be recalled by a second shot or a whistle from the Starter. On the order of the Starter the skaters will also receive a stop signal, at a distance of 50-60 meters from the starting line. The stop signal may be given by an assistant to the Starter with a red flag in front of the skaters, or it may be in the form of a red light clearly visible for the skaters. However, in competitions over 100m (or shorter) with up to 3 skaters per heat, the Starter may not recall the skaters in the case of a false start. The disqualification will then be announced to the skater after the completion of the race. If light signs are used to indicate which skater is given a false start, a red light should be used to indicate a disqualification. The light pedestals for the starting lanes should have colours corresponding to the colours of the armbands of the respective skaters.

Reason: The option to allow one false start is creating a difficult situation, both for the starter and the skaters. In major competitions it can be expected that instruments to detect false starts will become normal in use, so that the skaters will not be subject only to the subjective assessment of the Starter concerning the call of false starts. The risk of immediate disqualification will obviously have the effect that skaters will behave more disciplined at the start. Combined with the use of detection systems to disclose false starts, the principle of no false starts will make it very difficult for skaters to manipulate the starter and the starting procedure to their unfair advantage.

In the wording referring to disqualification the term “distance” is replaced with “race”. This is mainly to adapt to the situation of the 100m where the principle of elimination rounds may be used. It will then not be reasonable that skaters advancing through several elimination rounds, would be disqualified from the whole distance if being disqualified in a race (heat) at a late stage of the competition. The proposed wording of paragraph 3 would also be consistent with the starting rules issued for the 100m World Cup competitions last season.

204. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 250

Revise to read:

1. The skaters starting in the inner and outer lanes shall be identified by white and red armbands respectively. The skater himself is responsible for having the correct armband. In case of 3 skaters on the starting line, the most inner skater and most outer skater will be identified by white and red armbands respectively.

2. a) When the starter orders „Go to the start“ the skaters shall place themselves between the pre-start line and the starting line. The distance between these two lines shall be two (2) meters. The skaters have to take a stable position before the Starter press the “Ready-button” on a starting device which calls an electronically “Ready”. Skaters must keep all of their skates entirely behind the starting line and may not be in contact with the ice beyond the starting line with any parts of their body or equipment.

b) Within a set interval of 0.6 seconds, which should be 1.6 – 2.2 seconds after the command “Ready”, the starting device will fire the shot randomly. If a skater breaks the starting line after the word “Ready”, but before or within 0.10 seconds after the gun, (reaction time), this is considered a false start and the skater will be disqualified for the distance concerned. The starting line shall be monitored by photocells, which are connected to the starting device and controlled by the starter.

3. In the event of a false start, the skaters shall be recalled by a second shot from the starter, or automatically by the starting device. On the order of the Starter, the skaters will also receive a stop signal, at a distance of 50-60 meters from the starting line. The stop signal may be given by an assistant to the Starter with a red flag in front of the skaters, or it may be in form of a red light clearly visible for the skaters.

4. The Starter shall disqualify the skater who caused the false start for the distance concerned. The remaining skater/skaters will be recalled to the starting line for a new start.

Reason: A much better way to avoid false starts.

205.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 256

Revise to read:

1. a) Team competitions may be announced for pursuit races with either 3 or 4 skaters in each team. In both cases the finishing time (see Rule 255) of the team will be determined as the finishing time of the third skater in the team. If less than three skaters of the team finish the race, the team is considered not to have completed the race and shall be disqualified.

b) In Team pursuit races the two teams shall start simultaneously at each side of the track, at the middle of the straights.

c) The track must be laid out with only one competition lane, e.g. by making use of the demarcation between the inner lane and the warm-up lane on a standard track.

d) If some skater(s) of a team is overtaken by skaters from the other team, Rule 253, paragraph 2, applies.

e) If the competition format for the Team pursuit competition is based on elimination rounds, a team overtaking the other team before the full distance has

been skated, will already at that moment be declared the winner of the race (heat). The definition of overtaking is in this case that the third positioned skater of the team has overtaken the third positioned skater of the other team.

2. a) Team competitions may be announced for relay races with either 3 or 4 skaters in each team. The distances for each leg of the relay may vary, but recommended distance for each leg is 400 or 800 meters (1 or 2 laps on a standard track). Relay races may be skated in different formats. Two recommended formats (A and B) are described in paragraph b) and c) below.

b) Competition format A for relay races:

Two teams are competing in pairs, starting in separate lanes and changing lanes according to Rule 248, paragraph 3, throughout the race. Each leg shall consist of 1 or 2 full laps. The race will start and finish at the 1000m finishing line. The exchange zone will have a length of 40 meters, extending from 20 meters before and up to 20 meters after the 1000m finishing line. The start and finish of the 40 meters exchange zone should be marked with orange cones. Relaying will take place when the skater completing a leg is passing the skater who is about to start the next leg. A team relaying outside the exchange zone will be disqualified.

c) Competition format B for relay races:

Maximum 4 teams compete in the same heat. In the first part of the first leg (through the first curve) the ordinary separate lanes (inner and outer) are used, with up to two skaters starting in each lane. After the exit of the first curve, only the inner lane is used. The race will start at the 1500m starting lines and finish at the finishing line of the 500 and 1500m. The distance of the first leg should in this case be either 700m or 300m. The length of the following legs should be 1 or 2 full laps. The exchange zone will have a length of 75 meters, ending at the finishing line. The start of the exchange zone should be marked with orange cones. Relaying will take place when the skater completing a leg has touched the skater who is about to start the next leg. A team relaying outside the exchange zone will be disqualified. For overtaking, the principles of Rule 252, paragraph 2 will apply.

3. If a skater of a pursuit or relay team is disqualified for violation of racing rules according to Rules 250, 251, 252, 253 or 276, the disqualification also applies for the team. A disqualification for the team will follow also if a member of the team is disqualified according to ISU General Regulations (e.g. because of breaches of eligibility rules or the ISU anti-doping code).

4. The rules concerning fresh starts given in Rule 257 apply also for Team pursuit and relay races. Therefore, the team shall be allowed a fresh start if one of the skaters of the team is interfered with as described in Rule 257, paragraphs 1-3.

Reason: The proposed changes will make the rules for Team pursuit races more complete. Paragraph 1 e) could not be a general rule, since it would be to the disadvantage of teams facing the most competitive opponents, in the case that the results are determined by times only. Relay races, using to the proposed competition format A, have a long tradition with some ISU Members, and should be incorporated in the ISU Regulations. Competition format

B is based on the rules laid down for a demonstration event at one of the Sprint World Cups 2003-04. The proposed change of paragraph 3 makes this rule more complete concerning disqualification/invalidation of results from team competitions.

206.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 268, paragraph 2

Revise to read:

2. For ISU Championships the official protocol must be published according to specifications in the ISU Memorandum and must be sent to the ISU General Secretary by the ISU Members concerned.

Reason: The present rule refers to a printed version of the official protocol. The use of electronic media (DVD, CD-ROM) may be more convenient, and the Regulations should not stipulate a specific technology.

207.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 274, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

The Speed Skating World Cup is a series of International Competitions. World Cup points are awarded in each Competition. The final World Cup standings for each distance or distance category, and for Team events, will be decided by the total World Cup points accumulated by each competitor or national team during the season.

Reason: Team pursuit races have been included as an official demonstration event for the Speed Skating World Cup season 2003/04. The obvious next step will be to make Team Pursuit races an official World Cup “distance category” for national teams. The proposed amendment to Rule 274, paragraph 2 will be consistent with this line of development.

208.NETHERLANDS

Rule 275, paragraph 2 b)

Add new sentence:

If the participating skaters can not form a full quartet only the first quartet may be incomplete. (Even the first quartet can consist of one single skater)

Reason: We use this rule in the World Cup, but it is not in the Regulations.

209. SWEDEN, Speed

Rule 275, paragraph 2 d)

New paragraph:

2. d) In case of odd numbers a skater shall never start single in a pair. If this happens there shall be one “triple” and one “normal” pair.

Reason: Referring to what has happened in World Cups it is bad PR for speed skating with a single skater in the first “pair” and after that quartets. It is also unfair to the single skater, and our proposal gives the skaters a better possibility to skate on equal terms.

210.Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 276, paragraph 2 a)

Revise to read:

2. Skates:

a) A skate is a passive mechanical extension of the leg, meant to facilitate the gliding technique. The skate consist of a blade and a shoe of any material with dimensions which do not change significantly during a

competition, and a construction which connects the shoe to the blade. This construction may allow any translation and rotation of the shoe relative to the blade, in order to enable an optimal utilisation of the physical capacity of the skater, as far as it does not jeopardise the safety of the skaters. The movement of the blade relative to the shoe may be controlled by a programmable mechanism that can act upon information derived from the actual movements of the skater (for example the number of strokes). For this purpose only the skate may include an energy source (a battery), and this source may not have any other effect than controlling the construction connecting the blade to the shoe. There may not be any other connection between the skater and the skate, and no other transmission of energy, matter or information to the skate, other than via the anatomical structures of the lower leg and foot.

The skate may not contain any element that would violate the requirement that all energy expended during the speed skating exercise originates from metabolic work liberated by the skater during the race. In

particular, it is not permitted to heat the blades of the skates from any external source or by means of any artificial mechanism.

Reason: The so-called "semi-klap system" is considered a natural technological development of the modern type of speed skates. This must be seen as a more marginal refinement than the introduction of the klap-skate in replacement of the traditional skates with blades fixed to the shoes. "Intelligent products" with embedded computer chips and batteries with ultra-low energy levels, are all around us in sport and as consumers. From the definition of a skate in the ISU Regulations, it is obvious that the mechanism connecting the blade and the shoe and enabling the relative movements of the blades, is an area for equipment perfection and sophistication. The present rule is open to interpretations concerning the allowed limits of sophistication. It is recommended to define clearly that this is an area where producers of skating equipment should be encouraged, rather than discouraged, to look for further technological developments.

B. SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

211.ITALY

Rule 280, paragraph 1 a)

a) For the ISU Championships, the Olympic Winter Games and all other ISU Events the track shall be an oval of 100 meters on an ice rink with minimum measurements of 60x30 meters (see diagram).

Reason: Our proposal is about a track of 100 meters per lap with straight stretch 26,45 meters long and radius of curve 7 meters always with 7 blocks. It is safer because the track is further from the banister and so larger pads could be use to improve safety of skaters. The measure, both in straight and in curve, where skaters could make overtaking is shorter and so they are obliged to go slowly. Other consequences of this new track are:

- in 500 m it would be one more curve to do, and this help to get the speed slower, in 1000 m it would be two curves more, and so on
- it would be only one line both for start and for the finish; it will be more comfortable for the judges

See the two attached diagrams on pages 49 & 50.

212.FRANCE

Rule 280, paragraph 6 a)

Amend first sentence to read:

For ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and all other ISU Events, electronic equipment capable of producing an image of the finish and the times of the competition shall be used.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

213.FRANCE

Rule 280, paragraph 6 c)

Amend to read:

For ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and all other ISU Events, only computer software approved by the Technical Committee shall be used to document the results of races, prepare the make-up of the next round of races, and produce the final results and Protocol of the competition.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

214.NETHERLANDS

Rule 281

Delete present Rule and replace with the following:

B. Competitions

Rule 281

1. Short Track Speed Skating Competitions consist of races with mass start:
 - a. Individual races
 - b. Relay races
2. For each distance the progression from first round heats to the final will be by elimination.
3. For International Competitions an All Finals progression system may be used, in which all skaters qualify for final races in different levels.

Reason: The All Finals competition system has been successfully applied in many local competitions and in the Global Club Competitions in 2001 and 2003 as well, and has proved to be the most successful system for club

competitions. This proposal should encourage Members to use the All Finals system in local and international club competitions.

215.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 282, paragraph 1 c)

Remove the word “winners”

Reason: The ISU has a system to ensure there is only one ISU Champion in each division, ISU Rule 282, paragraph 5 section f. So there can only be one winner at the end of an ISU Competition.

216.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 282, new paragraph 1 e)

Add new sub-paragraph e):

e) Event: Competition

event: Race

Reason: Clarification. Some inconsistency and unclearness has been found in the ISU Rules. The word “Event” has been used throughout all Rules with totally different meanings.

217.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 282, paragraph 2 e)

Change “Heat winners” to “Race winners”

Reason: In ISU Rule 282 paragraph 1 c) the word ‘heat’ is defined as a specific series of preliminary races ‘i.e. preliminaries, heats, quarter finals, semi finals. Since Rule 282 paragraph 2 e) refers to all preliminary races the word race is more appropriate than heat.

218.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 2 f)

New sub-paragraph f):

A- and B-finals will be held over 500, 1000 and 1500 meters. The best skaters in semi-finals will qualify for the A-final according to Rule 282, paragraph 2 e). The next skaters in semi-finals, excluding those that have been disqualified or have failed to finish the race, will be qualified for the B-final, up to the number of skaters specified in Rule 282, paragraph 2 d).

Reason:

1. The concept of “finalist” (i.e. places 1 to 8) is a very important one for national institutions as well as potential sponsors. Therefore, we believe it is necessary to hold B-final, like in the Olympic Winter Games, which will allow to rank the skaters from 5 to 8 (500 and 1000m) and from 7 to 12 (1500m) according to their rank and time in semi-finals (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 6).

2. In our current system, 6 skaters get Final Points over 1500m, while only 4 get Final Points over 500 and 1000m. This is unfair because of the importance of Final Points in the overall ranking. We believe there should be 8 skaters scoring Final Points on each distance, which is possible with a B-final where skaters get Final points (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 5).

3. More races for the audience. When getting to the finals, there is currently more ice resurfacing time than racing time, which is detrimental for the audience and TV and thus the attractiveness of our sport.

219.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 282, paragraph 3 b)

Revise to read:

- b) The conditions of contest shall be set out in the published program.

Reason: There is no need to copy into the announcement what is clearly printed in the ISU Rulebook.

220.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 4 a)

Amend to read:

Entries for all ISU Events can be made only through the respective Members.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

221.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 5 b)

Amend to read:

The points 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2 and 1 are awarded in descending order commencing with first place down to last place in A-final, and then with first place in B-final.

Reason: new awarding of Final Points to reflect introduction of B-final (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 2).

222.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 282, paragraph 5 e) & f) and paragraph 6

Revise to read and renumber remaining paragraphs:

6) For each of the distances a classification will be made in which the participants are ranked:

- by group/blocks; Finalists, Semi-Finalist, Quarter-Finalists, etc.
- by position (finish place) within the respective group
- by number of Seeding points on the distance concerned
- by number of victories, and if needed best places, on the distance concerned
- by best time in any race over the distance concerned

7. a) For the Final Classification the skaters having scored Final Points and having qualified for the Super Final, are ranked first:

- by total number of Final Points
- by position on the last distance, e.g. Super Final (finish place)

b) For the Final Classification the remaining skaters are ranked:

- by Final Points
- by combined ranking over all Distance Classifications
- by total number of Seeding Points over all Distances
- by number of victories, and if needed best places, over all distances concerned
- by best time over the longest distance on the program.

Reason: Clarification and improvement of Distance Classification and Overall Classification.

223.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 6

Amend to read:

first by groups/blocks: A-finalists, B-finalists, Semi-finalists (if applicable), Quarter-finalists, etc.

Reason: new distance classification to reflect introduction of B-final (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 2)

224.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 6

Amend to read:

Third by time (last time skated in the distance concerned)

Reason: Clarification to reflect current practice

225.CANADA, Speed

Rule 282, paragraph 8

Amend to read:

... both lower legs the name of the country or the official abbreviation...

Reason: By removing the word thigh, we now ensure the implementation of rule 102 without affecting rule 282, ensuring that competitors are easily identifiable via photo-finish.

226.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 9 a)

Amend to read:

Helmet-covers, yellow with black numbers, supplied by Organizers of ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games, clearly mentioning the skaters' number, must be worn.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

227.FRANCE

Rule 282, paragraph 9 b)

Amend first sentence to read:

After each distance of an ISU Event the organizers will supply to the skaters having attained the highest total of Final Points a helmet cover with a contrasting color.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

228.FRANCE

Rule 283, paragraph 1 e)

Amend to read:

The order of the finals and their respective preceding qualifying rounds will be 1500, 500, 1000 and 3000 meters. The B-final will be raced before the respective A-final.

Reason: Precision to reflect introduction of B-final (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 2).

229.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 283, paragraph 2 d) & e)

Revise to read:

d) If a skater is not able to start on the first day due to illness after the names have been officially presented to the Competitors Steward in accordance with Rule 282, paragraph 4 f), that skater may be replaced by another entered skater of the Member concerned.

e) In cases when a competitor withdraws after the names have been officially presented to the Competitors Steward in accordance with Rule 282, paragraph 4 f), this competitor is not allowed to be entered again in the individual part of the Championships.

Reason: Towards the make up of the races it is better to strengthen the moment when the names are submitted officially.

230.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 284, paragraph 4

Revise to read:

4. a) The order in which the races are to be skated is not drawn. Prior to the respective bracket the Competitors Steward and the Referee shall draw the start position for the first race of each distance using the names of the participating countries. For all other races on the distances concerned each country will move to the next lane position. The country that was in the last lane position will move to the first start position.

Reason: In this way each country gets all start positions.

231.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 284, paragraph 4

Add new sub-paragraph b):

b) Before the start of each distance the team leader will report with his complete team in the heat box. For each race the coaches will announce over a special PA-System the skater of his/her team that will start in the upcoming race in the order of the start positions. Each coach will get 20 seconds to make his/her announcement. In the case this announcement is not made within the prescribed time the team loses its right to start in the respective race.

Reason: Great improvement to make the Team Championships even more intensive and exciting.

232.FRANCE

Rule 285, paragraph 1 d)

Amend to read:

First day heats 2000 meters relay ladies/men

Second day semi-finals 2000 meters relay ladies/men

Reason: Clarification to reflect reality: there are usually more than 8 ladies/men relay teams during World Junior Championships, hence the need to run heats (and possibly quarter-finals) before the semi-finals (in 2003: 13 Ladies teams and 20 Men teams).

233.FRANCE

Rule 285, paragraph 2 d)

Amend to read:

In cases when a competitor withdraws after the official opening draw has taken place, this competitor is not allowed to be entered again in the individual part of the Championships

Reason: This rule was written when there was no relay during World Junior Championships. There is now a relay (exhibition) so we can align the rule with World Championships (Rule 283, paragraph 2 e) and European Championships (Rule 287, paragraph 2 e).

234.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 285, paragraph 3

Add to read:

For Junior skaters without a World Ranking, the best season time over 1000 meters will be used to determine a ranking for the make up of the first round of the first distance. These times must be submitted with the final entry. Only times skated in competitions listed on the ISU calendar of event will be accepted.

Reason: Clarifying the procedure at World Junior Championships.

235.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 286

Replace complete Rule with text as follows:

1. For the Olympic Winter Games the distances are:

a) 500, 1000 and 1500 meters individual distances for Ladies and Men

b) 3000 meters relay for Ladies

c) 5000 meters relay for Men

2. Qualification for the Olympic Winter Games will be through the World Cup Series. In the Olympic Season there shall be only 4 World Cup Competitions of which all count for the World Cup Classification. The following calendar is used for the Olympic season

- World Cup 1 and 2

- World Cup 3 and 4

- Olympic Winter Games

3. The World Cups hold on the same Continent as the Olympic Winter Games will be taken into consideration when determining the participants in the forthcoming Olympic Winter Games. For this purpose a special classification will be made over these two competitions.

- 500 meters

- 1000 meters

- 1500 meters

- Relay

These special classifications will be made following the same rules and principles as the World Cup classifications. See Rule 288.

4. Entry in the two designated World Cups will be considered as a confirmation of the Members intent to participate in the Olympic Winter Games with the same number of athletes as qualified.

5. Entries in the two designated World Cups are subject to the rules and principles of the World Cup competitions. See Rule 288.

6. Number of participants per individual distance at the Olympic Winter Games: 32 per distance (500, 1000 and 1500 meters), including Host Member in all distances.

7. Number of participants per relay distance: 8, including the Host Member

8. Members qualified for the relay events may enter a maximum of five (5) competitors in total for the relay. The competitors competing in the individual events must be among the five (5) competitors in the relay team. Members not qualified for the relay event may bring one additional skater than qualified subject to a reduction system.

9. Maximum entry of accompanying Officials per Member: 1 coach, 1 team leader.

10. a) Members having 3 (three) or more skaters amongst the top 10 (ten) in the special classification over 500 meters will be allowed to enter 3 (three) participants on this distance at the Olympic Winter Games.

b) Members having 2 (two) or more skaters amongst the top 22 (twenty-two), and not 3 (three) or more amongst the top 10 (ten), in the special classification over 500 meter will be allowed to enter 2 (two) participants on this distance at the Olympic Winter Games.

c) Members having skaters in the special classification over 500 meter of which 2 (two) or more are not amongst the top 22 (twenty-two) and 3 (three) or more

are not amongst the top 10 (ten), may enter 1 (one) competitor on this distance at the Olympic Winter Games in the order of the special classification until the total number of participants at the Olympic Winter Games is 32.

11. The same applies for the distances of 1000 and 1500 meters.

12. If the Host Country of the Olympic Winter Games is not amongst those qualifying on the basis of the special classification they will replace the skaters ranked 32 in the special classification in each distance.

13. In the case of a tie in the special classification determining the 10th and 20th place for 500, 1000 and 1500 meters, a tie breaking system will be used to determine these places. The tie breaking system is as follows:

- World Cup Points over 2 World Cups
- Best place in one of the 2 World Cup Rankings
- Sum of Final points over two World Cups
- Sum of Seeding points over two World Cups
- Number of victories during two World Cups
- Number of best places during two World Cups
- Best time on the distance during two World Cups
- Other times on the distance during two World Cups
- World Cup Points over 4 World Cups
- Best place in one of the 4 World Cup Rankings
- Sum of Final points over four World Cups
- Sum of Seeding points over four World Cups
- Number of victories during four World Cups
- Number of best places during four World Cups
- Best time on the distance during four World Cups
- Other times on the distance during four World Cups
- Draw

14. Members having a team in the special classification over the relay may enter a team in the relay at the Olympic Winter Games in the order of the special classification until the total number of participants at the Olympic Winter Games is 8. In case of a tie on the 8th place, the tie breaking system described in paragraph 13 above will be used.

15. If the Host Country of the Olympic Winter Games is not amongst those qualifying on the basis of the special classification they will replace the team ranked 8 in the special classification.

16. Countries qualifying a relay team may enter 5 skaters for the Olympic Winter Games. Countries not having qualified a relay team may enter a number of skaters on the basis their highest number of starting places on any distance plus one.

Reason: Qualification for the Olympic Winter Games per distance.

236.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 2 a)

Change to read:

Olympic Qualification Competition

- a) ISU Member countries can qualify up to a maximum of 3 positions for individual distances and 1 team for relay events from the overall rankings of their skaters from the 2004 / 2005 ISU World Cup and the finish position of their skaters in the 2005 World Short Track Championship in accordance with Rule 286, paragraph 3

Reasons: In order to permit ISU Members to fully prepare for the 2006 Winter Olympic Games qualification should be completed well in advance of the Olympic Games. The 2004 / 05 season will comprise a full schedule of World Cup and World Championship events and permits a more accurate and comprehensive ranking of the skaters. By using the ISU World Cup and World Championships member countries have more opportunities to qualify for the Olympic Games. By using individual distance qualification there is greater opportunity for more member countries to qualify for the Olympic Games.

237.FRANCE

Rule 286, paragraph 2 a)

Amend to read:

An Olympic Qualifying Competition will be held as an ISU Event in the period from October through November 15th preceding the Olympic Winter Games.

Reason: Clarification: the Olympic Qualifying Competition is an ISU Event.

238.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 2 b)

Change to read:

As per the qualifying procedure detailed in Rule 286 Paragraph 3 & 4, each ISU Member will be allowed to enter the following number of skaters, per distance, up to the total maximum stated in paragraph 5 :

- Individual: number of qualified entries plus one (1) substitute respectively
- Relay: One (1) team per category plus one (1) substitute
- A coach or team leader per category

Reasons: This will ensure the highest level of competitiveness at the Olympic Games. Presently medal contenders can be eliminated because of the limited number of entries for their country.

239.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 2 c), d) & e)

Remove sub-paragraphs

Reason: As per articles 286 a) and b)

240.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 3 a) to d)

Amend to read:

Qualification for entry into the forthcoming Olympic Winter Games will be determined on the results of the following qualifying system:

Individual Distance

- a) Members qualify a maximum of two (2) skaters per distance from the 2004 / 2005 ISU World Cup Ranking for that distance. Skaters must be ranked in the top 45 of that distance in order for their country to qualify a position.
- b) Following the allocation of any positions through Rule 286, paragraph 3a) the host country will be allocated one (1) position per distance if they have not already qualified a skater in that distance. Any remaining positions in a distance will then be allocated to member countries in order of finishers at 2005 World Championships (max of 1 additional position per country) until such time as all 32 positions for a distance are allocated.

Relay

- c) The top 5 member countries per gender from the 2004 / 2005 ISU World Cup Ranking for relays will qualify one (1) relay team for the forthcoming Olympic Games
- d) Following the allocation of the five (5) relay positions through Rule 286, paragraph 3c) the host country will be allocated one (1) relay position if they have not already qualified a relay team. Any remaining relay positions will then be allocated to member countries not already qualified in order of the finish of relay teams at the 2005 World Short Track Speed Skating Championships until such time as all 8 positions for the relay are allocated.

Reasons: In order to permit ISU Members to fully prepare for the 2006 Winter Olympic Games qualification should be completed well in advance of the Olympic Games. The 2004 / 05 season will comprise a full schedule of World Cup and World Championship events and permits a more accurate and comprehensive ranking of the skaters. By using the ISU World Cup and World Championships member countries have more opportunities to qualify for the Olympic Games. By using individual distance qualification there is greater opportunity for more member countries to qualify for the Olympic Games.

241.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 3 e)

Remove sub-paragraph

Reason: Does not apply to currently proposed system.

242.CANADA, Speed

Rule 286, paragraph 4

Amend to read:

Members who qualify for the relay events may enter a maximum of five (5) competitors plus one (1) substitute for that gender in which they qualify the relay team. Any of these five (5) competitors can then compete in an individual distance or relay event in which their country has qualified.

All other members may enter up to a maximum of three (3) competitors plus one (1) substitute as follows:

Number of different skaters that earned qualification for the member country	Number of Olympic entry positions allocated to the member country
3 +	3
2	2
1	1

Any of the competitors entered for the Olympic Games can then compete in an individual distance in which their country has qualified.

Reasons: The Olympic Games are conducted as a single distance competition. In order to be consistent, qualification for the Olympic Games should therefore be on a single distance basis.

By qualifying on a single distance basis the quality of competition in any single distance at the Olympic Games will be of a much higher quality as skaters will then be able to concentrate on their specialist distance.

By qualifying on a single distance basis, more members may qualify skaters for the Olympic Games.

243.NETHERLANDS

Rule 286

Delete paragraphs 2 to 6 and replace with the following:

2. The maximum number of competitors is thirty-two (32) for 500 and 1000 meters and thirty-six (36) for 1500 meters, Ladies and Men. The maximum number of relay teams is eight (8) for Ladies and Men.

3. To determine the number of entries per Member, four World Cup Competitions and an Olympic Qualifying Competition will be held before November 15th preceding the Olympic Winter Games.

4. A maximum of twenty-four (24) entries in the individual distances will be determined by the World Cup Classification of the respective distance. Members having 3 or more skaters placed in the top 24 of the respective World Cup Classification may enter three (3) competitors for the respective distance. If a country has more than 3 skaters placed in the top 24 of the World Cup Classification of a distance, the 4th and subsequent skaters of that country will be replaced by the skaters ranked 25, 26 etc. to determine the 24 entries. In case of a tie on the 24th position, less than 24 starting places are awarded.

5. A maximum of five (5) entries in the relay distances will be determined by the World Cup Classification of the respective relay distance. In case of a tie on the 5th position, less than 5 starting places are awarded.

6. The remaining open entries available will be filled by Members in order of the ranking of their skaters on the respective distance at the Olympic Qualifying Competition. Only one starting place per Member may be earned for each distance. Only Members who have earned not more than one starting place at the World Cup in the respective distance may enter 2 competitors for the respective distance in the Olympic Qualifying Competition. Only Members who have not qualified for the respective relay distance may enter a team for the respective relay distance in the Olympic Qualifying Competition. If not otherwise qualified the Host Member of the Olympic Winter Games will replace the last qualifying position of the respective distance, including the relay distances.

7. The total number of competitors from any country may not exceed:

five (5): for Members who have qualified a relay team.

four (4): for Members who have qualified three (3) competitors in one or more distances.

three (3): for Members who have qualified two (2) competitors in one or more distances.

two (2): for Members who have qualified one (1) competitor one or more distances.

These numbers apply for both Ladies and Men.

Reason: To give skaters more than one opportunity to qualify for the Olympic Games.

244.FRANCE

Rule 287, paragraph 1 e)

Amend to read:

The order of the finals and their respective preceding qualifying rounds will be 1500, 500, 1000 and 3000 meters.

Reason: Align the rule for European Championships with that for World Championships (Rule 283, paragraph 1 e).

245.FRANCE

Rule 287, paragraph 1 e)

Amend to read:

The order of the finals and their respective preceding semi-finals will be 1500, 500, 1000 and 3000 meters. The B-final will be raced before the respective A-final.

Reason: Precision to reflect introduction of B-final (see proposal to change Rule 282, paragraph 2).

246.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 288, paragraph 2

Add new sub-paragraph:

- All Assistant Referees, Starters and Competitors Steward must be at least on the ISU List of Officials for International Competitions with a mark “W” for World Cups.

Reason: Differentiation between Officials on the International List to guarantee the level of officiating at World Cups.

247.CANADA, Speed

Rule 288, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

- Each ISU Member may enter four (4) competitors for the individual part of the competition and a relay team for the relay part of the competition. Participation in relays only is not allowed.

Reasons: The present format of having only 3 competitors per Members in the individual part of the competition has proven to be ineffective while being costly for Members. Some Members are presently considering not participating in some World Cup competitions because the cost of sending some skaters who will only participate in relays. It should be the objective to maximize the participation and competition opportunities for athletes attending an event.

248.CANADA, Speed

Rule 288, paragraph 2

Amend to read:

- ISU assigned Referees, Starters and Competitors.....

Reasons: For Clarification of the existing rule and its current application.

249.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 289, new Rule, renumber current 289 into 290, 290 into 291, 291 into 292, 292 into 293, 293 into 294, 294 into 296, 295 into 296.

Add:

The Global Club Competition will be organized biannually, starting in 2001, as an ISU Event under the responsibility of the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee. Basic principle of the Competition is one overall Club Classification so that only a club can win this Competition. Every Club affiliated to an ISU Member is eligible to participate.

Conditions of Contest, Entries, additional Rules and details are published in the Announcement.

Reason: Implementation of Special Rules as consequence of an addition to the General Rules.

250.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 289, paragraph 1

Change “he will act as a liaison” to “they will act as a liaison”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

251.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 289, paragraph 4

Change “or his Assistant” to “or their Assistant”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

252.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 290

Replace wherever necessary:

Replace “for the Olympic Qualifying Competition” into “for the World Cups designated for Olympic Qualification”.

Reason: Qualification for the Olympic Winter Games per distance.

253.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 290, paragraph 5

Renumber current paragraph to sub-paragraph a) and add new sub-paragraphs b) & c)

b) The Technical Committee may mark Officials on the List for ISU Championships with an “A” indicating they may only officiate in an assisting capacity at these Championships.

c) The Technical Committee may mark Officials on the International List with a “W” indicating they may officiate at World Cups also.

Reason: Differentiation between Officials to guarantee the level of officiating.

254.FRANCE

Rule 290, paragraph 6 b)

Amend to read:

To be reconsidered as an ISU Championship Official the individual shall maintain the following qualifications

Reason: Clarification to better distinguish Officials for ISU Championships and Officials for International Competitions. The term “ISU Official” is already used in Rule 290, paragraph 1 e) in a generic way.

255.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 290, paragraph 7 a)

Revise to read:

- The Officials for the Olympic Winter Games and for the ISU Championships are appointed in accordance with Rule 126, paragraph 8, and Rule 129, paragraph 5, respectively.

- The Referee, one Assistant Referee, one Starter and one Competitors Steward for each World Cup Competition shall be appointed by the ISU President or with the consent of the former, by the Vice President for Speed Skating.

Reason: At all ISU Events there should be at least one Official from the Championships List in each major position in order to guarantee the level of Officiating.

256.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 290, paragraph 7 a)

Revise to read:

The Referee, one Assistant Referee, one Starter and one Competitors Steward shall be appointed in accordance with Rule 126, paragraph 8 for the Olympic Winter Games and in accordance with Rule 129, paragraph 5 for ISU Championships and for the Olympic Qualifying Competition.

Reason: This will ensure that the ISU controls the appointment of all the major Officials at the ISU Short Track World Cups.

257.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 290, paragraph 7 c)

Revise to read:

During each race there shall be two Assistant Referees positioned off ice, one at each end near the beginning or end of the curves. At the description of the Referee the Assistant Referees may change position with the condition that either the Referee or the first Assistant Referee is On Ice.

Reason: Clarification.

258.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 290, paragraph 7 d)

Add new sentence:

Any Official on the current List for ISU Championships who is appointed and/or invited for more than three ISU Championships and/or World Cups must inform the ISU Secretariat immediately and ask for approval.

Reason: Improved usage of all ISU Officials.

259.FRANCE

Rule 290, paragraph 7 d)

Amend to read:

For the ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and all other ISU Events, all Officials required (other than the Representative of the Technical Committee and the Technical Delegate), not appointed by the ISU President or by the Vice President for Speed Skating, shall be appointed by the Members in which the event is held.

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

260.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 291, paragraph 1

Renumber current 1 into 1 a) and insert new sub-paragraph 1 b):

b) If Instant Digital Replay, approved by the ISU, is available, only 3 Assistant Referees shall be appointed.

Reason: Implementation of recent experiences with Instant Digital Replay.

261.FRANCE

Rule 291, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

The following Officials for the ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and all other ISU Events must be appointed;

Reason: Drafting change to adopt the same terminology as in Rule 280, paragraph 1 a).

262.FRANCE

Rule 291, paragraph 1

Amend to read:

Referee, 4 Assistant Referees and 2 Competitors Stewards;
Reason: Clarification.

263.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 3

Change “His decision shall be final” to “Their decision shall be final”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

264.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 4 c)

Change “he is conducting” to “they are conducting”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

265.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 4 f)

Remove the words “The Referee is responsible for”.

Reason: The term is redundant as it is already stated at the start of paragraph 4 and just repeated in section f).

266.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 5 g)

Change “assist him to carry out his duties” to “assist them to carry out their duties”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

267.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 5 h)

Change “if he feels” to “if they feel”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

268.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 291, paragraph 5 i)

Revise to read:

i) If the Referee is in doubt concerning any action on the field of play then he is authorized to view the Instant Digital Replay, at full speed, slow motion or still picture.

Reason: Implementation of recent experiences with Instant Digital Replay.

269.FRANCE

Rule 291, paragraph 5 k)

New sub-paragraph k):

The Referee may stop the race and order an immediate re-start of the race if any irregularity does take place during the race affecting the result or causing potential danger to the skaters (e.g. skater or object fallen and remaining on the ice)

Reason: The first part of the paragraph is currently in Rule 292, paragraph 5 a) about disqualifications. We feel this should belong to Rule 291, paragraph 5 where powers of the Referee are detailed. Moreover, we propose to add the

possibility to stop the race in case of danger to better avoid accidents.

270.FRANCE

Rule 291, paragraph 5 l)
New sub-paragraph l):

If during the race any irregularity affecting the result does take place and the distance has been completed the Referee may order a re-run of the race after respecting the rest time according to Rule 282, paragraph 2.

Reason: Same as proposal for new paragraph 291, paragraph 5 k): we feel this paragraph, currently in Rule 292, paragraph 5 a) should belong to Rule 291, paragraph 5 where powers of the Referee are detailed.

271.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 7 a)

Change “do his job” to “do their job”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

272.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 291, paragraph 7 c)

Revise to read:

One Assistant Referee shall observe the Instant Digital Replay at all times, report on each part of the competition of any infringement of the rules and prepare recordings of these infringements for review by the Referee, if wanted.

If there is no Instant Digital Replay installation available, two Assistant Referees are positioned off ice, one at each end near the beginning or end of the curves.

Reason: Implementation of recent experiences with Instant Digital Replay.

273.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 8 a)

Change “He shall give” to “They shall give”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

274.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 8 b)

Change “shall take his position, so that he has a clear view” to “shall take their position, so that they have a clear view”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

275.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 11 c)

Change “and he shall” to “and they shall”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

276.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 12 a)

Change “He shall report” to “They shall report”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

277.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 14 b)

Change “ensure that he and the timekeepers” to “ensure that they and the timekeepers”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

278.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 14 d)

Change “He will warn” to “They will warn”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

279.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 15 a)

Change “and he will” to “and they will”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

280.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 17

Change “by the Referee he will” to “by the Referee they will”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

281.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 291, paragraph 18

Revise to read:

“Preferably two, but at least one, track steward shall work at each end of the track. The track stewards must be experienced skaters and have knowledge of the English language.

Reason: Clarification.

282.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 18

Change “so that he will not” to “so that they will not”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

283.BELGIUM, Speed

Rule 291, paragraph 18

Revise to read:

Only ~~one~~ two track stewards ~~is~~ are needed at each end of the track. If possible the track stewards should be positioned so that ~~he~~ they will not interfere with the

skaters and Officials but can readily replace missing blocks.

Reason: To correspond with the actual situation: at almost every competition there are two track stewards at both sides.

284.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 292, paragraph 1 c)

Change “may continue his race” to “may continue their race”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

285.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 292, paragraph 1 d)

Revise to read:

If a skater is lapped twice, that skater shall leave the race unless there are one or more other skaters very close to his/her current race position. Skaters who have left the race on the basis of this rule shall be recorded as not finished. If the Referee, at his discretion, feels that the skater was prevented from finishing due to reasons beyond the skaters control then the Referee may declare the skater having reached the finish but no time shall be recorded.

Reason: Clarification.

286.FRANCE

Rule 292, paragraph 5 a)

Delete third paragraph.

Revise last paragraph to read:

In case the Referee orders a re-start or re-run of the race, should any of the skaters have been disqualified in the initial part of the race, then they will not take part in the re-start or re-run.

Reason: This proposal is related to the 2 proposals for new paragraphs k) and l) in Rule 291, paragraph 5. The third paragraph is not a disqualification rule and should not appear here. The last paragraph has then to be amended accordingly.

287.NETHERLANDS

Rule 292, paragraph 5 a)

Delete second paragraph (“no contest”)

Reason: The referee should not interfere with the racing tactics of the skaters.

288.CANADA, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 3 f)

Amend to read:

- f) A competitor may be relayed at any time during the race including in the case of a fall

Reason: It is inconsistent to have different rules during the race. If a skater in the last two laps falls they are allowed a relay change, but if a skater has not fallen they are not allowed to change and can be disqualified if their changeover occurs after the finish line.

In heats and semi finals different tracks are used but the finish line stays in the same position. As a result some heats will have up to an extra 5 meters longer distance in which to complete their changeover before the last two laps. In this case the race conditions are different for

different heats. If this rule is removed then all races will be conducted under the same conditions and fair to all teams.

289.CANADA, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 3 g)

Delete paragraph

Reason: No longer necessary after amendment to rule 292, paragraph 3 f)

290.BELGIUM, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 4 a)

Amend to read:

When there are more than five skaters, all skaters are placed at the starting line at an equal distance of each other (500 m and 1000 m). For the distances 1500 m and 3000 m, five skaters are placed at the starting line, the others at a second row one meter behind the starting line.

Reason: To put it clear where the starting position is of each skater in the case of more than five skaters in a single race.

291.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 4 b)

Change “If a skater takes his starting position before the command “ready” or leaves his position or moves any part of his body” to “If a skater takes their starting position before the command “ready” or leaves their position or moves any part of their body”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

292.ITALY

Rule 293, paragraphs 4 d) & e)

Delete sub-paragraph d), re-number following sub-paragraphs.

Amend e) to read:

e) The skaters shall receive the same order as it is the first start. The skater or skaters, who made the false start, will be assessed a false start. The skaters must stand on their starting position waiting for the command “go to the start”. The skaters have to stand still until the starter calls “ready”, whereupon they have to take their starting position with the center of the body over the respective dot and keep this position absolutely until the shot is fired.

Reason: To make the start procedure more simple.

293.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 4 g)

Change “from his marks, thereby causing other skaters to follow him” to “from their marks, thereby causing other skaters to follow them”.

Reason: The change in wording will bring this statement/rule into line with the rest of the ISU Rules governing Short Track in that the rules are for both male and female not just males.

294.AUSTRALIA, Speed

Rule 293, paragraph 4 h)

Remove the words “The Starter shall tell a skater after a false start”.

Reason: The statement does make sense. In ISU Rule 293, paragraph 4 d) the Starter has to indicate to the skater who has committed a false start by line number.

295.Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee

Rule 294, paragraph 1

Delete sub-paragraphs b), c), d) and g).

Reason: These matters have been clearly ruled in the Communication regarding Cut Resistancy.

296.BELGIUM, Speed

Rule 294, paragraph 1 d)

Amend to read:

Long sleeved and long legged clothing. The wrists and the ankles have to be covered up entirely;

Reason: To put it clear that no part of the skin may be seen at the wrists or the ankles.

297.NETHERLANDS

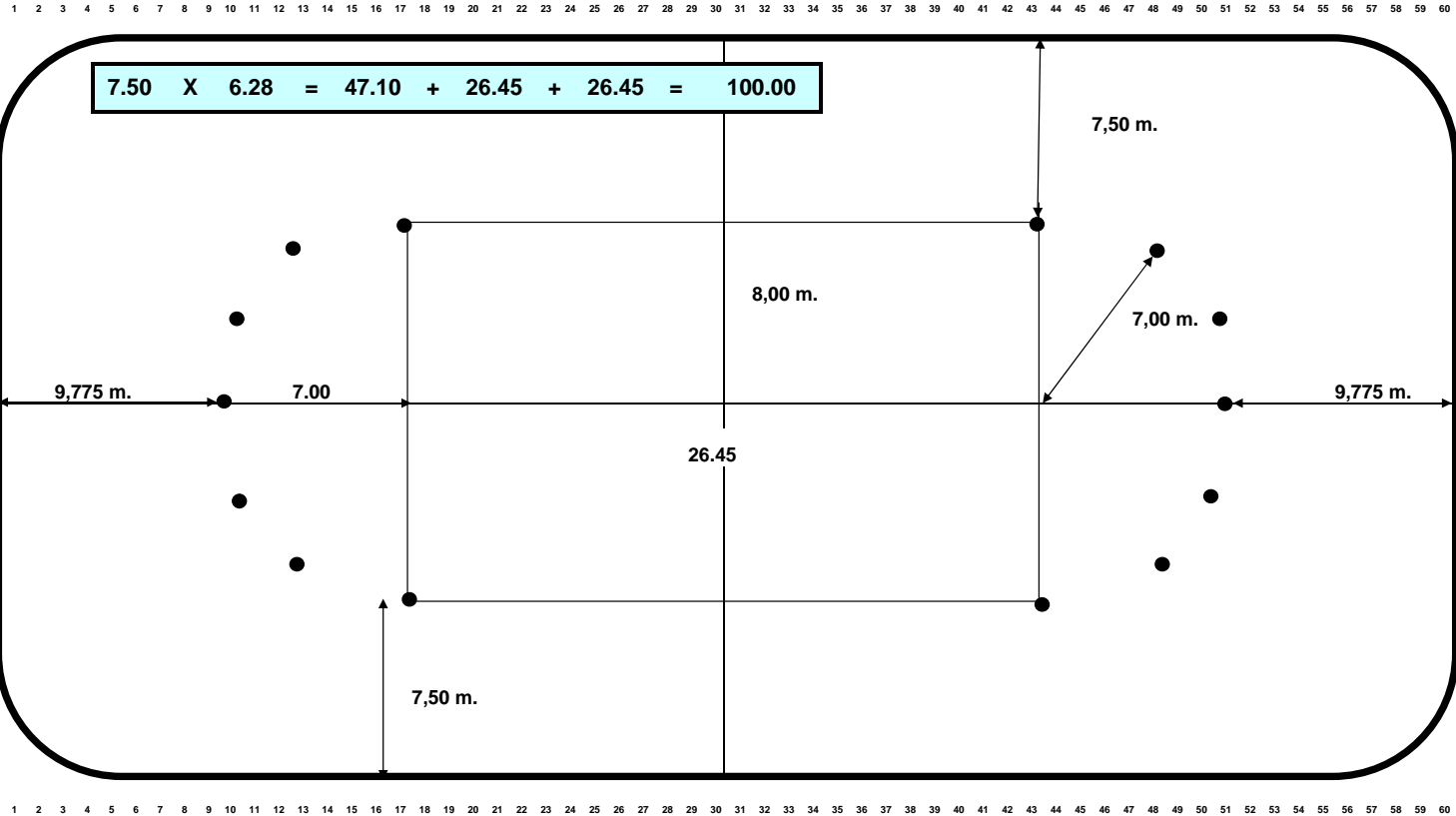
Rule 294, paragraph 3

Add to read:

This applies only to ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games, Olympic Qualifying Events and World Cup Competitions. Use of equipment according to these specifications is recommended for other international competitions.

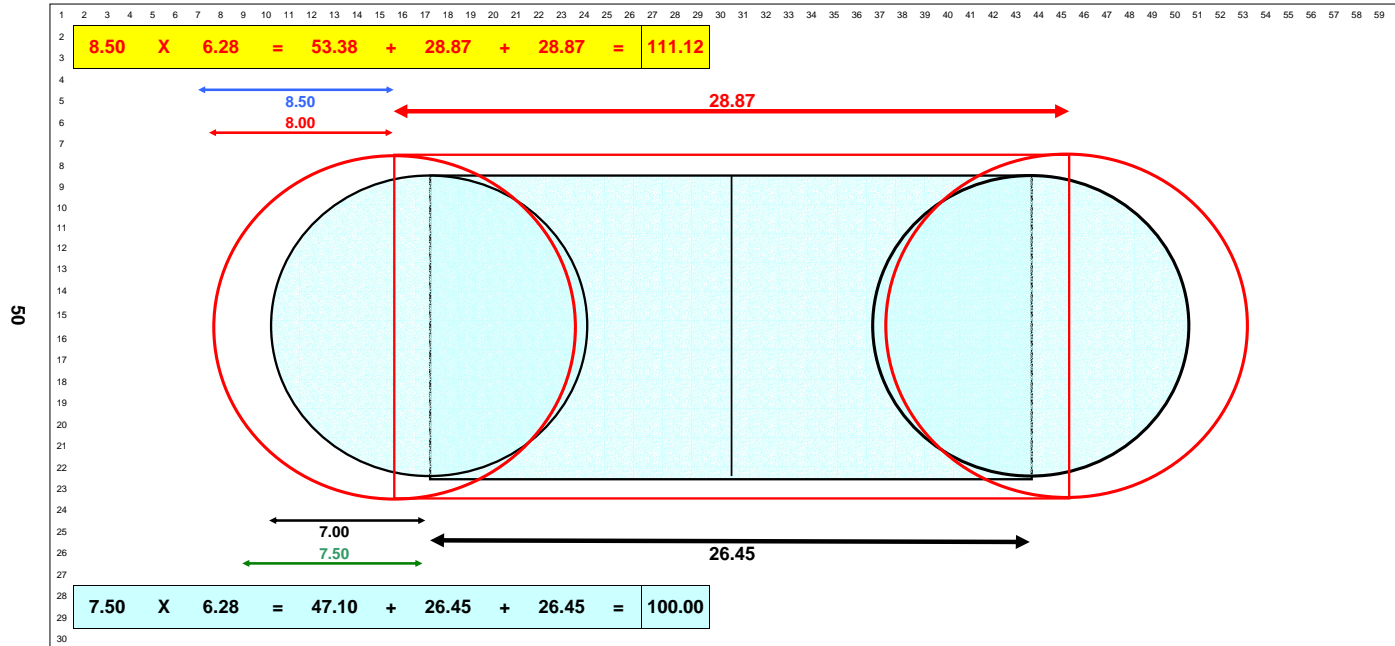
Reason: Expensive, high-tech equipment may be necessary for top skaters, but not for intermediate and low-level skaters. Really important specifications for equipment should be included in the Regulations, not only in ISU Communications.

Attachment 1 to Proposal No. 211, ITA



1	15	53.431
2	26.45	111.131
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4	9.275	47.1
5		52.9
6		100
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Attachment 2 to Proposal No. 211, ITA



$$8.50 \times 6.28 = 53.38 + 28.87 + 28.87 = 111.12$$

$$7.50 \times 6.28 = 47.10 + 26.45 + 26.45 = 100.00$$