INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1326

Decisions of the ISU Council

The ISU Council held meetings on June 3-5 in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The following decisions were taken during these meetings (this Communication does not include items that have been dealt with in previous or separate Communications):

1. Allotment of ISU Championships

a) Definite allotment of 2006 ISU Championships

The Council decided to confirm the following definite allotments for 2006 Championships:

ISU Championships 2006

Speed Skating

European Speed Skating Championships, January 13 - 15, 2006

Norges Skøyteforbund: Hamar/ Norway

World Sprint Speed Skating Championships, January 21 – 22, 2006

Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond: Heerenveen/ The Netherlands

World Junior Speed Skating Championships, March 10 - 12, 2006

Deutsche Eisschnellauf-Gemeinschaft: Erfurt/ Germany

World Allround Speed Skating Championships, March 18 – 19, 2006

Speed Skating Canada: Calgary/ Canada

Short Track Speed Skating

World Junior Short Track Speed Skating Championships, January 6 - 8, 2006

Romanian Skating Federation: Miercurea Ciuc/ Romania

European Short Track Speed Skating Championships, January 20 - 22, 2006

Polish Speed Skating Association: Krynica Zdroj/Poland

World Short Track Speed Skating Team Championships, March 25 - 26, 2006

Speed Skating Canada: Montreal/Canada

World Short Track Speed Skating Championships, March 31 – April 2, 2006

U.S. Speedskating: Minneapolis/ USA

Figure Skating

European Figure Skating Championships, January 16 – 22, 2006

Fédération Française des Sports de Glace : Lyon/France

Four Continents Figure Skating Championships, January 23 – 29, 2006

United States Figure Skating Association: Colorado Springs/ USA

World Junior Figure Skating Championships, March 6 – 12, 2006

Slovene Skating Union: Ljubljana/ Slovenia

World Figure Skating Championships, March 20 – 26, 2006

Skate Canada: Calgary/ Canada

Synchronized Skating

World Synchronized Skating Championships, March 31 - April 1, 2006

Czech Figure Skating Association: Prague/ Czech Republic

Provisional Allotments 2007 ISU Championships:

The ISU Council maintained the following provisional allotments:

Provisional Allotments ISU Championships 2007

Speed Skating

European Speed Skating Championships, January 12 - 14, 2007

Federazione Italiana Sport del Ghiaccio: Collalbo/ Italy

World Sprint Speed Skating Championships, January 20 – 21, 2007

Norges Skøyteforbund: Hamar/ Norway

World Allround Speed Skating Championships, February 10 - 11, 2007

Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond: Heerenveen/ The Netherlands

World Junior Speed Skating Championships, February 23 - 25, 2007

Österreichischer Eisschnellauf Verband: Innsbruck/ Austria

World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships, March 8 - 11, 2007

U.S. Speedskating: Salt Lake City/ USA

Short Track Speed Skating

World Junior Short Track Speed Skating Championships, January 12 - 14, 2007

Czech Speed Skating Federation: Mladá Boleslav/ Czech Republic

European Short Track Speed Skating Championships, January 19 – 21, 2007 National Ice Skating Association of UK: Sheffield/ UK

World Short Track Speed Skating Team Championships, March 10-11, 2007 To be decided

World Short Track Speed Skating Championships, March 16 - 18, 2007 Federazione Italiana Sport del Ghiaccio: Milan / Italy

Figure Skating

European Figure Skating Championships, January 22 - 28, 2007 Polish Figure Skating Association: Warsaw/ Poland

Four Continents Figure Skating Championships, February 5 - 11, 2007 To be decided

World Junior Figure Skating Championships, February 26 – March 4, 2007 Deutsche Eislauf-Union: Oberstdorf/ Germany

World Figure Skating Championships, March 19 – 25, 2007 Japan Skating Federation: Tokyo/ Japan

Synchronized Skating

World Synchronized Skating Championships, March 30 – 31, 2007 Skate Canada: London, Ontario/ Canada

Provisional Allotments ISU Championships 2008 and not yet allotted ISU Championships 2007

The Council, based on Article 17, paragraph 1.m) of the ISU Constitution, decided to postpone, until its meeting scheduled for October 2005, further consideration of the applications made by Members for the 2007 ISU Championships not yet allotted, as well as for the 2008 Championships.

The postponement was considered advisable to permit more precise clarification of TV and other criteria under evaluation for many of the applications received. This concerns the 14 ISU Championships scheduled for 2008, as well as for the 2 Championships not yet allotted for 2007.

Taking into account the current economic conditions for sport, the Council also decided to consider proposals for 2008 that envisages a reduction or waiver of the ISU contribution and/or that proposes the sharing of profit with the ISU.

2. Evaluation of Figure Skating Officials

The ISU Council reviewed the Officials evaluation procedure as implemented during the season 2004/05, in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1275.

All ISU sanctioned International Competitions, from the beginning of the 2005/06 season, must be conducted using the ISU Judging System. In light of this fact that the 6.0 based Judging System will not be used anymore, the Council has decided not to take into account possible Assessments of competitions that were conducted under the previous 6.0 based Judging System.

The Council acknowledged and ratified the "Assessments" given to Officials in accordance with the procedure established in this Communication and in accordance with Rules 421 and 427 (Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2004), Rules 588 and 590 (Special Regulations Ice Dancing 2004) and Rules 815 and 822 (Special Regulations Synchronized Skating 2004).

During the 2004/2005 season the Assessments were determined jointly by the assigned Officials Assessment Commission members and by the Technical Committees and can be summarized as follows:

a) Single and Pair Skating:

Assessment 1: 41 Assessments Assessment 2: 1 Assessment

Total season 2004/05: 42 Assessments

Out of which 35 concerning Program Components

13 concerning Technical Elements

6 concerning both Program Components and Technical

Elements

Previous Seasons Assessments:

Total season 2003/04**: 20 Assessments Total season 2002/03*: 11 Assessments Total season 2001/02*: 13 Assessments

b) Ice Dancing:

Assessment 1: 43 Assessments
Assessment 2: 9 Assessments
Assessment 3: 3 Assessments
Assessment 4: 1 Assessment

Total season 2004/05: 56 Assessments

Out of which 18 concerning Program Components

44 concerning Technical Elements

6 concerning both Program Components and Technical

Elements

Previous Seasons Assessments:

Total season 2003/04**: 9 Assessments

Total season 2002/03*: 4 Assessments Total season 2001/02*: 14 Assessments

c) Synchronized Skating:

No Assessments were given.

Previous Seasons Assessments:

Total season 2003/04**: 1 assessment
Total season 2002/03*: 2 assessments
Total season 2001/02*: 0 assessments

The concerned Officials have been notified about the Assessments through their Members.

The Council acknowledged that the detailed scoring data and video tapes, available from competitions conducted under the ISU Judging System, has introduced a new level accountability. The system has enabled a thorough, rigorous, consistent and fair evaluation process to be put in place. This has resulted in a substantial increase of the so-called "Assessments" (Warnings). The elaborate evaluation system has also contributed to the education of Officials, which is indicated by the decrease in the number of Assessments towards the end of the season. The fact that the vast majority of "assessed" Officials were subject to Assessment 1 only, also demonstrates a successful deterrent effect.

Contrary to previous seasons, the evaluation process and applicable Assessments were monitored as the season progressed rather than at the end of the season. This proved to be a key factor contributing to the above-mentioned prevention and education throughout the season.

The Council also acknowledged that key to the success of the evaluation process was the cooperation of 2 bodies, independent from each other, i.e. the Officials Assessment Commission (OAC) and the respective Technical Committees. This independence ensured a neutral, consistent and fair process. The exchange of opinions between the 2 bodies guaranteed a thorough review of each case until a fair consensus was achieved. Furthermore, the anonymity of the Judges for the major ISU Events ensured that the bodies evaluating the Judges would not be subject to any kind of favouritism or biased reprimand (note: neither the OAC nor the TC members are informed of the identity of the Judge under evaluation until an Assessment has been mutually confirmed). Finally, the detailed data, the possibility of video tape review and monitoring by 2 specialized internal bodies also guarantees consistency in the evaluation of the Officials. In the past, such evaluation was largely dependant on the Referees' input. Based on the varying experience of the many different Referees, this input could fluctuate greatly, which created the risk of inconsistency from one competition to another.

The Council noted that one Assessment 4 has been given in Ice Dancing for which the procedure, in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1275, Paragraph II. F) i), is in progress. This procedure ensures that the Official(s) concerned, before/if facing a possible demotion has/have a fair chance to explain their officiating to the respective Technical Committee including the possibility to review on video the key skating sequences which constituted the basis of the Assessments.

^{* =} Assessment based on the previous 6.0 based Judging System.

^{**=} Assessments based on partly the ISU Judging System, partly the previous 6.0 based Judging System

Based on this positive experience during this second season of the ISU Judging System and enhanced evaluation process, the Council decided to continue the established procedure as outlined in ISU Communication No. 1275, with some minor adjustments.

In particular but not limited to, the assigned OAC members to a competition will have a greater impact on the determination of the limits for the acceptable scores (the so called corridor). In order to ensure consistency of the OAC evaluation with the established principles in the Rules as well their application, it will be mandatory for OAC members (as selected by the ISU Council) to attend the educational ISU Seminar which will be held in Frankfurt/Germany on July 11-17, 2005 (see ISU Communication No. 1314). For more details regarding the continuation of the Figure Skating Officials evaluation process please refer to ISU Communication No. 1327.

3. ISU financial Assistance to Figure Skating Members in acquiring the equipment for the ISU Judging System

The Council confirmed that, as a one time exceptional decision, the ISU shall reimburse each ISU Figure Skating Member the cost of one set of the identified ISU Judging System hardware equipment. This support is offered on the condition that the Member concerned buys and uses such equipment in the course of the next 2 seasons. Furthermore, the Council decided that the necessary software will be made available free of charge to ISU Members. For details on this ISU assistance, please refer to the dedicated ISU Communication No. 1328.

4. 2006 Olympic Winter Games – Torino – Single & Pairs Skating and Ice Dancing Judges Draw

The ISU Council, came to the conclusion that in view of the importance of the Olympic Winter Games, all Judges Panels officiating at the 2006 Olympic Winter Games should be composed of 12 Judges.

For this reason, the ISU Council decided, under Article 17, paragraph 1, m. of the ISU Constitution, to modify Rule 401, paragraph 1. b) of the Special Regulations for Single and Pair Skating and Rule 572, paragraph 1.d) of the Special Regulations for Ice Dancing to read as follows:

"The Panels of Judges shall consist of 12 Judges. In case that not enough Judges and alternates can be nominated for the draw according to paragraph 1 of this Rule, an additional number of Judges will be nominated after the Olympic Qualifying Competition (Vienna, October 12-14, 2005) and in accordance with the results of that Competition.

Therefore, the draw for the Judges Panels for the 2006 Olympic Games has been postponed until October 15, to be held in Geneva on the occasion of the scheduled ISU Council meeting".

5. Recognition of new World records Speed Skating

Upon the recommendation of the Speed Skating Technical Committee, the Council has recognized the following World records:

Men			
1500 meters Shani Davis, USA	Salt Lake City	09.01.2005	1.43,33
•			,
<u>3000 meters</u>	~ .	10.00.00.0	
Chad Hedrick, USA	Calgary	10.03.2005	3.39,02
500/5000/1500/10 000 meters			
Shani Davis, USA	Salt Lake City	08/09.01.2005	149,359 p.
Team Pursuit			
USA	Hamar	13.11.2004	3.48,56
(KC Boutiette, Chad Hedrick, Derek	•	21 11 2004	2.46.44
Netherlands (Mark Tuitert, Carl Verheijen, Erben	Berlin Wennemars)	21.11.2004	3.46,44
	,		
Ladies			
1500 meters	0 1/1 1 0"	00.01.2005	1 52 05
Cindy Klassen, CAN	Salt Lake City	09.01.2005	1.53,87
500/3000/1500/5000 meters			
Cindy Klassen, CAN	Salt Lake City	08/09.01.2005	159,605 p.
Team Pursuit			
Canada	Hamar	14.11.2004	3.05,49
(Cindy Klassen, Clara Hughes, Krist	ina Groves)		
Canada	Berlin	20.11.2004	3.03,07
(Cindy Klassen, Clara Hughes, Krist	ina Groves)		
Junior Men			
3000 meters	C 1	10.02.2005	2 44 52
Wouter Olde Heuvel, NED	Calgary	10.03.2005	3.44,72
<u>5000 meters</u>			
Sven Kramer, NED	Berlin	20.11.2004	6.28,27
Sven Kramer, NED	Heerenveen	18.12.2004	6.26,63
Sven Kramer, NED	Heerenveen	07.01.2005	6.24,29
500/3000/1500/5000 meters			
Wouter Olde Heuvel, NED	Calgary	09/11.03.2005	148,614 p.
Team Pursuit			
Russia	Moscow	12.12.2004	4.00,45
(Aleksey Yunin, Pavel Bakhayev, St	epan Solovyev)		

Junior Ladies			
<u>1000 meters</u>			
Annette Gerritsen, NED	Salt Lake City	23.01.2005	1.16,14
Ireen Wüst, NED	Calgary	11.03.2005	1.15,93
<u>1500 meters</u>			
Ireen Wüst, NED	Calgary	10.03.2005	1.56,69
2000			
3000 meters	3.6	07.00.007	4004
Ireen Wüst, NED	Moscow	05.02.2005	4.08,15
Ireen Wüst, NED	Calgary	11.03.2005	4.07,71
500/1000/500/1000			
500/1000/500/1000 meters		22/22 01 2005	152 200
Sang-Hwa Lee, KOR	Salt Lake City	22/23.01.2005	153,200 p.
500/1500/1000/5000 matara			
500/1500/1000/5000 meters	Colcomy	09/11.03.2005	157 426 n
Ireen Wüst, NED	Calgary	09/11.05.2003	157,436 p.
Team Pursuit			
Netherlands	Moscow	12.12.2004	3.12,38
1 TCHICH and 5	MIOSCOM	14.14.4004	J.14,JO

6. Recognition of new World records Short Track Speed Skating

(Ireen Wüst, Annette Gerritsen, Janneke Ensing)

Upon the recommendation of the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee, the Council has recognized the following World records:

Men

5000 meters Relay

Canada Beijing 13.03.2005 **6.39,990** (Charles Hamelin, Steve Robillard, François-Louis Tremblay, Mathieu Turcotte)

Junior Men 1500 meters

Ho-Suk Lee, KOR Belgrade 08.01.2003 **2.13,340**

Milan,

July 1, 2005

Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, General Secretary