

To the
- Members of the Nordic Combined Committee

For information to:
- National Ski Associations
- Member Athletes Commission
- Walter Frey, SUI (Medical Committee)
- Michel Vion
- Sandra Spitz

**INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD
FEDERATION**

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Oberhofen, 11th September 2024

**Minutes Meeting Nordic Combined Committee
Grand Hotel Bernardin, Portoroz (SLO), Wednesday, 08.05.2024, 17:30 – 20:30 hrs CET**

Dear Ski Friends,

We have pleasure sending you today the Minutes of the Meeting of the Nordic Combined Committee held in Portoroz on 8th May 2024.

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Nordic Office in Oberhofen until **30th June 2024**.

We would also like to take the opportunity of informing you that the minutes are available on the Member Services section of the FIS Website: www.fis-ski.com.

Thank you very much for your valuable contribution. We wish you a nice and beautiful summer.

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION



Lasse Ottesen
Race Director Nordic Combined



Jacqueline Stark
Chair Nordic Combined Committee

Enclosure: ment.

**INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION
Nordic Combined Committee**

**Minutes Meeting Nordic Combined Committee
Grand Hotel Bernardin, Portoroz (SLO), Wednesday, 08.05.2024, 17:30 – 20:30 hrs CET**

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Members present
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Approval of the minutes of the Nordic Combined Committee Zurich 29.09.2023
5. Report from the past season
 - Sub-Committee for Officials, Rules and Control
 - Sub-Committee for NC/SJ Youth & Children's Questions
 - FIS World Cup presented by Viessmann
 - FIS Continental Cup
 - FIS Youth-Cup
 - Equipment control
 - Other important reports
6. New proposals "Funnel System" discussion and decisions
 - Rules
 - Calendars
7. Proposals to the FIS Council
8. TD Nominations
9. Other items arising
10. Next meetings

All proposals and decisions of the Nordic Combined Committee are subject to the approval of the FIS Council in its online meeting, 04.06.2024

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chair Jacqueline Stark (AUT) welcomed all members and guests to the meeting of the Nordic Combined Committee.

Appointment of a Secretary

Sophie Hargesheimer (FIS) was appointed to be secretary.

2. Members Present

	Nation	Remarks
Ait Ouarchikh Hicham	MAR	Not present
Bukovnik Janez	SLO	
Chashchyn Leonid	BLR	Excused
Chudy Peter	SVK	
Dubrovsky Stanislav	RUS	Excused
Bieri Joel	SUI	
Huettel Horst	GER	
Michalczuk Jakub	POL	
Nazarova Lena	UKR	Not present
Pertile Ivo	ITA	
Slavik Tomas	CZE	
Loit Rauno	EST	
Vangolu Sebahattin Yenai	TUR	Not present
Vervevkin Andrey	KAZ	
Woolsey Jim	CAN	
Jacqueline Stark	Chair	
Sato Tomoki JPN	Executive Board	Replaced by Takanori Kohno
Demong Bill, USA	Executive Board	
Gouy Etienne, FRA	Executive Board	
Pelkonen Jyri, FIN	Executive Board	
Fossheim Edgar, NOR	Executive Board	
Csar Günter AUT	for S.C. NC for Rules & Control	
Rydzek Johannes, GER	for Athletes' Commission	Excused
Hagen Ida Marie, NOR	for Athletes' Commission	
De Martin Topranin Virginia	Women's Nordic Disc.	
Ponikvar Uros SLO	Cross-Country	
Kojonkoski Mika FIN	Ski Jumping	
Haim Harald AUT	Youth & Children	
Aarhus Harald NOR	Honorary Member	
Ginther Werner AUT	Honorary Member	
Klinga Esa FIN	Honorary Member	
Lamb Joe USA	Honorary Member	
Weinbuch Helmut GER	Honorary Member	
Ottesen Lasse	FIS Race Director	
Grave Jan Rune	FIS Assistant Race Director	
Kraus Guntram	FIS Coordinator / Equipment Controller	

Löscher Kerstin	FIS Equipment Controller
Neumayer Michael	FIS COC Coordinator
Hargesheimer Sophie	FIS Media Coordinator
Nappey Madeline	FIS Nordic Assistant
Rochat Jessica	FIS Nordic Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Johan Eliasch	FIS President
Michel Vion	FIS Secretary General
Sandra Spitz	FIS Event Director
Roman Kumpost	FIS Vice President
Mario Stecher	AUT
Claes-Tommy Herland	NOR
Alexander Emde	Infront
Lorenzo Pala	Infront
Filip Grabowski	Infront
Michael Simmank	Swiss Timing
Benjamin Flohr	Swiss Timing
Luca Gianmoena	LOC Fiemme
Cristina Bellante	LOC Fiemme
Silvia Vaia	LOC Fiemme
Marisa Giacomuzzi	LOC Fiemme
Marica Defrancesco	LOC Fiemme
Pietro De Godenz	LOC Fiemme
Petra Kronberger	AUT
Jarkko Ruhanen	LOC Ruka
Age Skinstad	LOC Trondheim
Gro Eide	LOC Trondheim
Kristin Stemland	LOC Trondheim
Rex Bell	USA
Tom Hilde	NOR
Kristi Loit	EST
Darryl Landstrom	USA

3. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was sent out on 03.04.2024.

4. Approval of the minutes of the Nordic Combined Committee Zurich 29.09.2023

5. Report from the past season

- **Sub-Committee for Officials, Rules and Control**
Report from Chair Günter Csar
- **Sub-Committee for NC/SJ Youth & Children's Questions**
Report from Harald Haim
- **FIS World Cup**
Report from Lasse Ottesen (FIS)
- **FIS Continental Cup**
Report from Michael Neumayer (FIS)

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) added that the events in YOG were very successful and a good representation of Nordic Combined, also thanks to the athletes role models present.

- **FIS Youth Cup**
Report from Günter Csar
- **Equipment control**
Report from Guntram Kraus (FIS)

Horst Hüttel (GER) asked Roman Kumpost if he is satisfied with the fluor testing of all FIS disciplines.

Roman Kumpost (FIS) answered that he is satisfied overall, but there is always room for improvement.

Michel Vion (FIS) added that there will be a higher investment in fluor testing machines in the next season to make the procedure easier for the testers.

- **Media report**
Report from Sophie Hargesheimer (FIS)

Rauno Loit (EST) asked if there is a long-term strategy plan for social media.

Sophie Hargesheimer (FIS) answered that there will be a long-term plan worked out together with FIS M&M for the next season and years to come.

Jim Woolsey (CAN) asked, if there is any monetization happening yet?

Sophie Hargesheimer (FIS) answered that there will be monetization with posts happening in the future, but for now there have only been some calculations with posts to find out the market values.

- **NC Development Fund (NCDF)**
Report from Lasse Ottesen (FIS)

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) added that the deadline for the application for the 2024-25 season is 01.09.24

6. New proposals “Funnel System” discussion and decisions

Rules

- ICR 526.1 Bibs (Reserve bibs)
Funnel: YES: 15 No: 0 Confirmed
- WCNC-M rule 4.1 Number of participants for NSAs
Funnel: YES: 14 No: 1 (AUT) Confirmed
Jacqueline Stark (Chair) commented that some athletes are not ready to fill

the quota spots

- WCNC-W rule 1.2.1 (Exception for LH event)
Funnel: YES: 15 No: 0 Confirmed

Ida Marie Hagen (AR) commented that the athletes commission supports the proposal.

Horst Hüttel (GER) commented that it should be a Compact race to have a closer starting field.

Ida Marie Hagen (AR) agreed. Proposal to change the points per minute, like done in Schonach as an alternative.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) commented that the development of NCW is a lot faster than in SJW. Therefore, the product presented has to be good.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) proposed to evaluate again after the experiences during SGP.

Ivo Pertile (ITA) commented that there will be less athletes jumping during SGP, because of the large hill event. Proposal to have a criteria like SJW with Skiflying, to select who will be allowed to start.

- WCM/WCW rule 4.3 Triple
Funnel: YES: 15 No: 0 Confirmed
- WCM/WCW rule 5.2 Mass Start Trophy
Funnel: YES: 15 No: 0 Confirmed
- WCM rule 4.1.3 Starting right Official Training
Funnel: YES: 15 No: 0 Confirmed
- WCM/WCW rule 4.2 Super Sprint
Funnel: YES: 13 No: 2 (AUT-GER) Postponed

Horst Hüttel (GER) commented that GER is not against the Super Sprint, but the Compact race was successfully added last year. Instead of adding a new format it would be better to use existing formats (TS, MT) more often, to not look "helpless". Proposal to add a new format after the OWG.

Jacqueline Stark (AUT) commented that the Super Sprint needs too much time for a good TV product. Additionally, AUT presented a Sprint format that only takes 40min together with the Working group. Concern that the Super Sprint will not be broadcasted live and without TV AUT can't host events.

Jan-Rune Grave (FIS) commented that the Prologue will not be shown on TV and therefore, the event will only be 30min long.

Mario Stecher (AUT) added that there is a concern that the event could not be finished, when the SJ part will be cancelled due to weather.

Rauno Loit (EST) commented that the same "issue" could occur during a Mass Start, but the excitement of the format is higher in value than the concern of a cancellation.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) commented that the format was successfully tested multiple times and is very exciting to watch. Agreed with Horst Hüttel, that it is maybe too many formats, so it is up to FIS if and when it will be added to the calendar.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) said that the new format is not yet in the TV contract. Therefore, it is not guaranteed to be in the calendar next season, but only the option with having it in the rules.

Roman Kumpost (FIS) commented that the Working group is there to help NC to stay in the OWG. Full support of the Compact format because of the exciting competitions presented on TV. Agreeing with Edgar Fossheim, that exciting sprints are necessary, but the risk with having the SJ part after the CC is always a risk. It is important to keep the media impact in mind, because the IOC will be watching closely, so there should be a careful selection of what to add to the World Cup, because a cancellation is the worst that can happen to NC right now.

commented that the traditional format ends on the CC course and that's what people are used to.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) commented to protect the traditional Gundersen format, but the laser line helps people to understand who is winning on the hills.

Tomas Slavik (CZE) added that new formats should work and need to be tested. Therefore, the AUT proposal needs to work before it can be added to the World Cup.

Jacqueline Stark (Chair) answered that the Sprint will be tested in the Alpen Cup.

Age Skinstad (NOR) commented that rollerski sprints are working in Norway very well, because they happen every summer. The format can therefore also be tested in summer.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) added that the feedback from TV was that no more formats are necessary. Therefore, it is not sure yet if the Super Sprint will be added already this winter.

Günter Csar (AUT) proposed to test the Austrian sprint proposal and the Super Sprint and decide in spring which one to add to the rules.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) agreed and proposed to add the Super Sprint to the "tool box" and test both to find out which one works better.

Jyri Pelkonen (FIN) agreed with Edgar Fossheim.

- WCNC-M/W 6.2.2 Travel expenses
Funnel: YES: 12 No: 2 (CAN-AUT) Abstained: SLO Confirmed

Jim Woolsey (CAN) commented that this means more costs for the teams.

- ICR 542 Mass Start bonus sprints
Working group was established to present a calculation in fall.

Age Skinstad (LOC Trondheim) commented that the bonus seconds are very valuable in cross-country tours. In individual events it is bonus WC points.

- Common Waxing (1 weekend next season)
Funnel: YES: 13 NO: 2 (AUT-NOR) Confirmed

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) commented that the health issues are concerning. Common waxing in a tent has to be safe for all waxers.

Rauno Loit (EST) said that Hakuba would be the best test venue.

Jacqueline Stark (Chair) commented that the grinding of the skis is still different and benefits the bigger nations. Also, the LOCs have higher costs and effort to find a wax company to work with, if there is no support from FIS. Only cost saving would happen with an overseas event.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) commented that LOCs would save money and teams as well. The test in Oberstdorf was more expensive for the LOC because they doubled up on everything, although Holmenkol provided everything (wax, tent, staff). The LOC Oberstdorf just didn't follow the requests, which made them not save any money.
If there is no sustainable solution found for the test, it will not be executed

Equipment

- Marking of suits (2 suits/athlete for SGP 2024)
- Jumping boots (minimum weight) – Postponed until fall, test in SGP
- Underwear (no zipper allowed)
- 3D scan in equal underwear (during SGP)

Tomas Slavik (CZE) commented that SJ will use new measurements during SGP, but there is no decision for NC yet how and when the measurements will be taken. Question if SJ staff can also take measurements?

Guntram Kraus (FIS) answered that the NC staff will take the measurements of NC athletes. One exception last year for team Japan. Big trust from the teams towards the NC staff, so the measurements should be taken by them during SGP. If not everybody is able to come, a second date for scanning will be set. Decision about round-about measurement usage will be made in fall.

New Proposals

- ICR 528.2 WSC Program 2025

Proposal from the working group to replace the IG NH with a IC NH

Roman Kumpost (FIS) commented that the IC is a chance to show the new and exciting format to a big audience and the IOC.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) agreed.

Horst Hüttel (GER) supported the proposal to add the IC, but proposed to use the IC on the LH.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) commented that logistically it is easier to do the IC on the NH in the first week. Also, the gaps are not as big on the NH as they are on the LH, so the events would be more balanced.

Rauno Loit (EST) commented that the announcement is too short notice. Additionally, the goal should be to get more nations on the podium and the IC doesn't help. Also, the Estonian government only supports the formats that are in the OWG, which means only one chance to get the funding for the Estonian athlete.

Jim Woolsey (CAN) commented that an open mind is important, although everybody loves the IG format, it is not an ideal format for big events.

Ida Marie Hagen (NOR) said that 8 months are not enough time for the athletes to prepare. The entire athletes group is against the proposal. Additionally, it should be a gender equal program.

Jyri Pelkonen (FIS) supported the proposal because it shows the diversity of Nordic Combined.

Edgar Fossheim (NOR) added to trust the working groups expertise.

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) commented that convincing the athletes is an important point.

Horst Hüttel (GER) added that the voice of the LOC is strong and if they support the proposal, it should be executed.

Rauno Loit (EST) asked why it is not a IC for the women?

Age Skinstad (LOC Trondheim) answered that the womens MS will start right after the CC sprint, so a full stadium can be expected. Also, there is no time in the program to jump earlier that day.

Voting:

NO: 2 (EST – AR)

Decision will be sent out after discussion with LOC Trondheim and Sandra Spitz.

- WSC 2025 Courses

Confirmed

- **Calendars**

Lasse Ottesen (FIS) presented the calendars.

- FIS Youth Cup
- FIS Continental Cup
- FIS World Cup
- FIS Summer Grand Prix
- FIS World Cup (2025-26)

7. TD Nominations

JWSC 2025 (Lake Placid)
TD: Daniel Köhler
TDA: Vesa Koppinen

8. Other items arising

Development camps Summer 2024

- Planica 14.-21.7. – All nations (fully booked)
- Lillehammer 9.-12.9. – All nations
- Klingenthal 2.-7.10. – All nations

President Statement

Johan Eliasch (FIS President) pointed out the positive effect that the centralisation will have on for Nordic Combined.

Due to the digitalisation, there will be more options for advertising, broadcasting and promoting Nordic Combined.

He challenged the committee members to find a more efficient way to improve popularity and relevance towards the IOC.

Edgar Fosshem (NOR) asked if Nordic Combined not being gender equal at the OWG yet, will have a negative impact on the IOC decision in the future.

Johan Eliasch (FIS) answered that the popularity of Men's Nordic Combined has to improve, when it comes to participation and audience. Afterwards adding the women to the OWG will be possible.

Michel Vion (FIS) mentioned that the missing women's events are not dangerous for the future of Nordic Combined, but the not optimal performance of the men.

9. Next meetings

FIS Autumn meetings take place from 23.-29.09.2024 in Zurich (SUI).

Closing of the Meeting

The Chair Jacqueline Stark (AUT) closed the meeting at 21:04 pm.