

To the

- Members of the Sub-Committee for Masters Racing

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Niklas Carlsson, FIS Deputy Secretary General

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**Minutes of the Meeting Sub-Committee for Masters Racing
FIS Spring 2024 Technical Meetings**

Dear Ski Friends,

We have pleasure in sending you the Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee for Masters Racing, held yesterday in Portoroz (SLO) during the FIS Spring Technical Meetings.

Additionally, we would also like to take the opportunity of informing you that the Minutes will be available on the Member Section services on the FIS Website: www.fis-ski.com.

Thank you very much for the valuable cooperation.

Kindest regards,



Stefano Arnhold

Chairman Sub-Committee for Masters Racing

INTERNATIONAL SKI AND SNOWBOARD FEDERATION

Sub-Committee for Masters Racing

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the delegates and thanked everyone for taking the trip to Portoroz (SLO).

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Stefano Arnhold (Chairman)
Rolando Galli (ITA)
Julie Lemieux (CAN)
Patricija Mali (SLO)
Bob Davis (USA)
Hanruedi Frueh (SUI)
Helmut Kaufmann (AUT)
Marija Kosic (MNE)
Igor Lapikov (UKR)
Hiroshi Sawano (JPN)
Luka Vucinic (CRO)
Peter Seidl (CZE)

Guests:

Stefan Bessman (SWE)
Didier Bonvin (SUI)
Timo Saarevuo (FIN)
Erika Holand Toesse (NOR)
Martyna Mital (POL)
Krzysztof Mazurek (POL)
Juli Sala (ESP)

FIS Office

Alexandra Blum
Augusto Gillio
John Lanz

Zoom

Jean-Marie Hennes (FRA)*

(*) only for presenting one Report

One minute of silence was observed to, in the name of Erik Larchey (FRA) and Anna Fabretto (ITA), honor the Masters that left us since the last Meeting.

3. **Languages Required** – The Meeting was held in English.

4. **Approval of the Minutes from the last Meeting:**

The Minutes of the last Meeting held in Zuerich (SUI), September 28th 2023 were approved.

5. Reports

The Report from the Season were circulated electronically.

Mr. Jean Marie Hennes (FRA) presented his Report that can be seen attached and suggested that a rule should be proposed to better define the requirements of the arrival area.

6. MAS CALENDAR

6.1 Approval of the Calendar for the Season 2024-25

Attached please find the approved Calendar for the Season 2024-25 that contains a total of 86 Races (76 FMC & 10 MAS) organized by 18 different NSAs in 26 Venues comprising 13 SG, 30 SL, 40 GS and 3 AC in 3 Continents.

The Chairman explained that the confirmation on the location of the South-American Races (CHI or ARG) will be soon defined and informed to the Sub-Committee.

Mr. Arnhold also thanked Mrs. Mali (SLO) for her great contribution for this Season Calendar.

It was explained that if RCP # 7 on the introduction of the FIS Masters Indoor Grand Prix was approved, FIS would be responsible for calculating the Overall Results per age class and to design the medals that would be purchased and distributed buy the organiser of the last race which would be reimbursed by FIS for the cost of such medals.

6.2 WCM 2025

Mr. Thibaut Combre from the OC in Val Thorens (FRA) made a small presentation that can be seen attached and proposed the following Program for the World Criterium Masters (WCM) 2025 on March 17th to 22nd:

- 17.03 SG Training (official)
- 18.03 SG C and GS B
- 19.03 SL all 3 Categories
- 20.03 SG A and GS C
- 21.03 SG B and GS A
- 22.03 GS all 3 Categories (FMC Race)

The Program shall be approved at the Fall Meeting.

6.3 FMC Finals 2025

The FMC Finals are confirmed for Pila (ITA) April 3rd to 5th, 2025.

6.4 Long Term Calendar

The Chairman shall contact GBR to confirm their interest in organising the WCM in 2026.

2026 – GBR (TBC)
FINALS Sierra Nevada (ESP) SL/GS

2027 – WCM Pila (ITA)
FINALS USA (TBC) SG/SL

2028 – WCM SUI
FINALS Cortina D'Ampezzo (ITA) SG/GS

2029 – WCM Sierra Nevada (ESP)
FINALS FRA SG/GS

7. IT Items

Mr. John Lanz attended the meeting and will report back about the possibilities of live timing for the Masters.

8. Equipment Rules

Mr. Arnhold attended the Equipment Committee Meeting just after the Masters meeting where he presented Rule Change Proposal # 2 from CAN which was approved. No equipment rule related to Masters was presented or approved at the meeting.

9. Rule Change Proposals (RCP)

The RCPs can be seen in the file attached.

The following proposals were approved by the Sub-Committee.

- # 1A – Return min VD for SG to 300m
- # 2 – Add clarification sentence to MAS Equipment Rules
- # 3 – Introduce mandatory Communication Chanell for OCs
- # 4 – Introduce Category D for Women 60 years of age and above
- # 5 – Update use of IMF
- # 6 – Update Organisers Duties
- # 7 – Introduce the FIS Masters Indoor Grand Prix

The Chairman thanked FRA for withdrawing RCPs # 8, 9, 10, and 11 in favour of RCP # 4.

Mrs. Alexandra Blum, from the FIS Office, made a detailed presentation for RCP # 4, showing the results of a study of the last seasons that simulated the creation of Category D and the split of the categories between courses of A+C and B+D. Also the study confirmed that for a better balance of the two courses, Category D with 60+ was better than Category D with 55+.

The proposed system with the introduction of Category D and the course split A+C and B+D showed very balanced numbers: for SL the current system in the last Season had an average split of 36% - 64% while the new proposed system shows a much more balanced split of 47% - 53%. For GS and SG the new system would have reached in the past season an average of 49% A+C and 51% for B+D in both events.

The Chairman congratulated all participants for this important Rule Change that takes Masters Racing to a new level of Gender Balance.

10. Finances

The Chair gave a detailed explanation on the status of the accounts related to the IMF – International Masters Fund and informed that unfortunately 8 organisers did not pay their fees and urged them to liquidate those outstanding values at their earliest convenience and remembered that the rules call for a payment in maximum 14 days after the last race and that organisers that have pending fees cannot organize races in the next season. As promised in the Fall Meeting, the Chairman presented a proposal for the use of the funds (see item 13 below).

11. Congress Items

No Congress items for the Sub-Committee.

12. Ban on Fluorinated Waxes

Mr. Augusto Gillio gave detailed explanations on the implementation of the fluorinated wax ban last season in a presentation that can be seen attached. Mr. Gillio also reinforced that the total ban is in force and that there are going to be random tests in Masters Races in the next Season.

13. Open Discussions

13.1 Part Time Race Director

For a democratic use of the IMF resources that would benefit 100% of the Masters the Chairman proposed the hiring of a part time Race Director (RD) that would contribute for safer and better prepared courses and help organisers reach a new standard of racing with the

goal of having Masters leave the races with a “big smile” on their faces.

The Sub-Committee Members asked the Chairman to prepare a more detailed proposal for the Fall Meeting that would include a better estimate of the costs related to this activity and a job description including the relationship/hierarchy between RD and TD.

13.2 Reporting System

Mrs. Julie Lemieux (CAN) suggested that a new Reporting System could be introduced that would involve a larger group of people and a broader system for the collection of information.

Mrs. Lemieux and Mrs. Mali were tasked to present a detailed proposal for the Fall Meeting.

14. Next Meeting

Next Meeting, Zurich (SUI) September 23rd to 27th, 2024.