

To the

- Members of the Alpine Committee
- Members of the Alpine Conference

For information to:

- Johan Eliasch, FIS President
- Michel Vion, FIS Secretary General
- Sandra Spitz, Sport & Event Director
- Bruno Sassi, FIS Communications Manager
- Christian Salomon, Chief Commercial Director

Oberhofen, 28.05.2024

Minutes Alpine Committee Meeting, Wednesday, 08.05.2024, 14:00hrs

Dear Ski Friends,

We have pleasure in sending you today the Minutes of the 98th Meeting of the Alpine Committee held on 08.05.2024.

You are kindly asked to send any remarks to the FIS Office in Oberhofen no later than 30th June 2024 (flere@fisski.com).

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.

Kindest regards,



Massimo Rinaldi
Chairman Alpine Committee



Janez Flere
Alpine Technical Coordinator

**INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
Alpine Committee**

**Invitation Meeting Committee for Alpine Skiing
Wednesday, 08.05.2024, 14:00 hrs.**

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Welcome | Massimo Rinaldi |
| 2. Roll Call | Janez Fleré |
| 3. Approval of the Agenda | Massimo Rinaldi |
| 4. Approval of the Minutes of the 97 th meeting held in Zurich (SUI) October 2023. | Janez Fleré |
| 5. Reports | |
| 5.1 Chairman | Massimo Rinaldi |
| 6. Executive Board | Massimo Rinaldi |
| Sub-Committees / Working Groups: | |
| 7. Evaluation | |
| 7.1. Data and Timing Working Group | Daniel Defago |
| 7.2. Classification of Alpine Competitors | Jeff Weinman |
| 8. Women's Alpine Skiing | Karen Korfanta |
| 9. Alpine Courses | Elena Gaja des Ambrois |
| 10. Alpine Rules | Michael Huber |
| 11. Alpine Technical Delegates | Markus Malsiner |
| 12. Alpine World Cup | Walter Vogel |
| 12.1. Working Group Coaches Women | Paul Kristofic |
| 12.2. Working Group Coaches Men | Thomas Stauffer |
| 13. Intercontinental Cup | Stefano Pirola |
| 13.1. European Cup | Herbert Mandl |
| 13.2. Nor-Am | Chip Knight |
| 13.3. Far East | Michihiko Nakamura |
| 13.4. South American Cup | Ernesto Cingolani |
| 13.5. Australia New Zealand Cup | Jono Howson |
| 14. Youth Questions | Stefan Havnelid |
| 14.1. Junior World Ski Championships | Jordi Pujol |
| 15. Ski Cross | Klaus Waldner |
| 16. Material and Equipment | Massimo Rinaldi |

17. Athletes Commission

Verena Stuffer
Leif Nestvold Haugen

18. Reports from Organisers of the previous and next major championships:

18.1. 2025 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Saalbach Hinterglemm (AUT)

18.2. 2026 Olympic Winter Games, Milano-Cortina (ITA)

18.3. 2027 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Crans Montana (SUI)

19. Questions, Various

20. Next Meeting, FIS Technical Committee Autumn Meeting
23rd to 27th September 2024, Zurich (SUI)

All proposals and decisions of the FIS Alpine Committee are subject to the approval of FIS Council in June 2024

1. Welcome and Opening of the Meeting

The Chairman, Massimo Rinaldi (ITA), welcomed all members present to the 98th Alpine Committee Meeting. He also welcomed FIS General Secretary Michel Vion, FIS Council members and Working Group members.

All presents stood for a minute of silence to remember the colleagues who passed away, Charlie Kahr (AUT) and Dieter Posch (AUT).

2. Roll Call

Janez Fleré (FIS) conducted the Roll Call. Apologies were received from Executive Board members, Tanja Poutianen-Rinne (FIN) and Tommy Eliasson (SWE); Markus Malsiner (ITA), Chairman Alpine Technical Delegates Sub-Committee; Jono Howson (NZL) Chairman ANC Cup Sub-Committee and Ernesto Cingolani (ARG), Chairman SAC Cup Sub-Committee.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda, without additions or remarks, was unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of the 97th Meeting held in Zurich (SUI) in September 2023 were, without comments or remarks, unanimously approved.

5. Reports

5.1 Chairman (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

If we remember from where we came from, what prognoses and difficulties we faced, we can say that we had a hard Season, probably worse than the Pandemic Season.

The changes of the climate were more evident than expected with all the consequences we have experienced, A reserve day was in major cases the usual business, there is nothing new and nothing wrong with this. Pressures come from the weather, from travel concerns or internal problems, and this requires a programmed change to find the best solution.

Last winter this arose more often than normal, cases that were not easy to handle, and sometimes borderline decisions had to be made.

There are pressures from different stakeholders, and it is at times difficult to identify a common solution between the sport, media, spectators, and the athletes.

Looking back, the responsible persons, and particularly the race directors, did a wonderful job. Thank you again to you and your team. Great competitions were held on different days and on different time schedules than planned.

It will be our task now to act in the best interest of our sport and the athletes.

The fascinating part of our sport is the movements on snow and the control of speed, the course setting and natural terrain are unfortunately also accompanied by bad crashes, I'd like to wish all injured athletes the best and fast recovery, in a way to come back stronger than before.

We must keep in mind that a certain risk always remains in our sport.

And that despite ongoing safety measures, we must daily improve and develop our sport with the support of the Athletes Health Unit.

During the past season there weren't major events like World Championships or Olympic Winter Games, but we cannot forget the great protagonists as we all know, the different Continental Cups, as well as all 2800 FIS competitions which took place all over the world.

At the end of my report, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the numerous volunteers around the world, as well as the trainers, coaches, and all the organisers of races that may not have received attention on the main stage.

6. Executive Board (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

The Executive Board met twice this week. The agenda was not so busy, however we had a good discussion after the presentation of the task and ongoing project of the Athletes Health Unit, for example the mandatory use of the Airbag for the upcoming season and the cut resistant pants mandatory starting from the season 2025/2026.

We knew every concern we have, like an injury, we shall react promptly but considering the test period and all the measurements must be on place before preparing a new rule and make it mandatory.

The qualification system for the 2026 Milano-Cortina OWG in Italy, is now approved by the Sport Department of the International Olympic Committee and it is going to start from July 1st, 2024, until January 18th, 2026.

Thanks again to all Executive Board members, I am very proud to lead this Board!

7. Evaluation

7.1 Timing Working Group (Daniel Défago, FIS)

Daniel Défago reported briefly on behalf of the Working Group.

We proposed to update the ICR article 611.2.2 to allow memorising electronically as well the Hand times.

ICR 611.2.2 Hand Timing

Manual (hand) timing, completely separate and independent of the electronic timing, must be used for all competitions listed in the FIS Calendar. Stopwatches or hand operated battery powered timers that are installed at both the Start and the Finish and capable of expressing the time of day to at least 1/100th (0.01) precision qualify as proper hand timing devices. They must be synchronised prior to the start of the first run, with the same time-of-day as system A and system B (see art. 611.2.1). Printed records, (either automatic or hand-written) or memorised electronically, of recorded hand times must be immediately available at the start and at the finish.

Supported by the Alpine Committee

A common homologation test with EIF (Equestrian International Federation) is now concluded.

As was announced in Zürich, four new timers and two new photocells are homologated and listed on the homologated timing device list.

I have also to announce that from July 1st, 2028 on, 8 (eight) devices will not be valid anymore.

Company name	Device model	Until season	Homologation number
AGIL	IMHP 870	2028	AGI.078T.09

ALGE	S4	2028	ALG.005T.10
LONGINES	TL5005	2028	LON.003T.10
MICROGATE	RACETIME2	2028	MGA.002T.11
OMEGA	OGM5005	2028	OME.001T.97
SEIKO	CT-400	2028	SEI.002T.11
SEIKO	CT-500	2028	SEI.084T.11
SEIKO	MPT-07	2028	SEI.075T.09

And one more device will be no more Valid from July 1st 2029 on

Company name	Device model	Until season	Homologation number
DIGITECH	MASTER 3	2029	DIG.087.14

Some of those devices were still used during the previous season (2024) in 7 (seven) different nations: AUT, CAN, FRA, ITA, JPN, SUI, USA.

7.2 Classification of Alpine Competitors (Jeff Weinman, USA)

The Chair reported regarding the meeting held in Portoroz (SLO).

- The qualification period for the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina (ITA) 2026 start in July 1st and the [Qualification System document](#) is published since November 2023 on the FIS Website.
- The WCSL (World Cup Starting List) with the injured athlete's integration will be published next week
- Electronic board/draw is used now also for the FIS level, which is good news, I hope that we can have less and less paper board in the future. This feature is using the same technology as the live timing.

Two rule proposals were presented in the Sub-Committee and will be send to FIS Council for final approval:

Request for Special Quotas

7.6.3 Special Quotas

The FIS ~~Council~~ Alpine Committee can allow special quotas for certain countries and regions. National Ski Associations concerned must provide send direct specific event requests and approval to the FIS Sub-Committee for Classification of Alpine Competitors a minimum of 10 days two weeks before the first Team Captains' autumn meeting. ~~For the Southern Hemisphere: two weeks before the spring meeting.~~

Minimum penalty for Citizen events

The Sub-Committee approved the minimum penalty from 23.00 to 40.00.

Both proposals were supported by the Alpine Committee

8. Women's Alpine Skiing (Karen Korfanta, USA)

The Women's Sub-Committee for Alpine met on Monday 6th May and we covered several topics and issues.

First, thanks to Peter Gerdol (FIS) and his team reporting on last year's Women's World Cup season and Jordi Pujol (FIS) for the Women's European Cup season. Looking forward to a successful 2024/25 season.

We appreciate what all the entire team does for Women's Alpine skiing, they work hard and diligently, and we all know that the weather has the most control.

A presentation on the FIS Digital Gates Measurement Project was done. It was a very interesting and significant tool to assist the Race Directors and Teams.

Our meeting was prior to most of the Alpine Sub-Committee meetings but we discussed proposals and agenda items.

Our most robust discussion was about gender equity. It has been almost 10 years since we have been discussing this item for officials, Technical Delegates, Juries, Committee memberships, etc.

We proposed the National Ski Associations take a more urgent approach to meet the FIS requirement of 60/40 by the 2024/2025 season.

9. Alpine Courses (Elena Gaja des Ambrois, ITA)

Alpine Courses met on Tuesday 7th May with 10 out of 16 members present or represented, together with some inspectors and the World Cup Race Directors and Europa and Continental Cup coordinators, whose advice and information are always much appreciated.

Since the previous meeting in Zurich last September, 320 reports were received and corresponding homologation Certificates issued; at the moment there are still 236 requests for homologation or re-homologation to deal with during next summer, number set to rise slightly in the coming weeks: the relevant list has been shown and confirmed.

3 proposals for exception were discussed: two of them concern World Cup competition courses of the Women's tour (the SG in Cortina and the GS in Are) where in the past few seasons we were racing with a vertical drop above the maximum, while the third exception concerns a GS competition course in Hassela (SWE) where, because of the low average gradient, it's very difficult to respect the maximum number of direction changes; the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses unanimously decided to grant these exceptions, for which we ask as well the Alpine Committee's support.

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO (ITA), Homologation nr. 15271/12/23, course Olympia delle Tofane, event SG:

the actual start positions of the World Cup event (the most suitable for men, the only possible spot for women) are making a vertical drop above the maximum authorized:

- Men start currently 2210m → real one 2230m, making a Vertical Drop of 670m (max is 650m)
- Women start currently 2160m → real one 2195m, making a Vertical Drop of 635m (max is 600m)

ARE (SWE), Homologation nr. 11801/10/15, course Störtloppsbacken, event GS: same as above, but only for Women

Women start real 812m, making a Vertical Drop of 416m (max is 400m)

HASSELA (SWE), Homologation nr. 12147/11/16, course Andre-backen, event GS: because of the low average gradient (below the 20%), it's very difficult to respect the maximum number of direction changes (track too flat); the Sub-Committee for Alpine Courses unanimously suggested to let the rules governing gate distance take precedence over those concerning the percentage of the vertical drop: this suggestion will be added to the Inspection Report in order to let the TDs be aware of the topic when arriving on site.

Finally, Susanna Sieff (FIS), the Sustainability Director, came to talk about the FIS approach to become sustainable: a small working group will be put in place to see what

can be done from our side to help the course owners in this difficult task.

10. Alpine Rules (Michael Huber, AUT)

The Meeting Sub-Committee Alpine Rules was split in two parts.

FIRST – DECISIONS

ICR art. 601.4.1.4 and 601.4.2.3 was decided unanimously to support the FIS statutes about gender equality. For Olympic Winter Games and World Ski Championships Juries must include at least one person of a different gender. Already decided Juries for upcoming Major Alpine Events have to be checked, as it is valid in both ways. For World Cup, Continental Cups, and all other levels, it still is meant as a should. A lively discussion took place to change the should into a must for lower levels. Common opinion was, it might still take some time to study consequences, but one day it might be mandatory as well.

Appointment of the Jury for Olympic Winter Games and FIS World Ski Championships

601.4.1.4 The Jury ~~of a women race~~ must include at least one ~~woman~~ person of different gender.

Appointment of the Jury for International Races (World Cup: see World Cup Rules)

601.4.2.3 For international races, ~~for women~~ the Jury should ~~where possible~~ include ~~a woman~~ one person of different gender

ICR art. 601.4.5.6 was decided unanimously, to adjust rules to the FIS statutes, in case of Jury minutes, that the English language has to be used.

Language Jury Minutes

601.4.5.6 The Minutes must be written in the language specified in the FIS Statutes (currently English language). ~~at least one of the FIS languages (English, French or German)~~.

ICR art. 611.2.2 was decided unanimously, based on a proposal coming from data & timing workgroup, about a technical adjustment of hand timing. (See under point 7.1)

ICR art. 607.3 about the limitation of starts valid for FIS points for 1st and 2nd year U18 Athletes proposed by Youth & Children was adopted unanimously. (See under point 14)

All proposals are supported by the Alpine Committee

SECOND – DISCUSSIONS

Based on the early time of the year, there was no chance to prepare coordinated proposals, so eight items were only for discussion, some of them to be expected to vote for at the fall meeting to become valid in Spring 2025. In short:

ICR art. 601.4.2.4 about the Chief of Race, if must or should belong to the organising National Ski Association. Open to further discussions.

ICR art. 614.3.2 about technical issues of the course inspection, that athletes should not ruin the course preparation. Some words are in favor, but a better wording is looked for. Asked for, the old rule to carry bibs during inspection was not seen as a problem.

ICR art. 614.4 does not exist yet. But general support given establishing the use of "slip crews" as part of the ICR. Including not only members of the Organiser, but also Team officials and Athletes.

ICR 621.12 to increase the number of competitions on the same day and same site from 2 to more than 2 was not supported.

ICR 661.4 a proposal to update rules about the correct passage in single Slalom was

not seen necessary.

ICR 669.3 supports preparing a change about the fact that the Jury will determine the number of gate judges for all levels, not only for Olympic Winter Games, World Ski Championships and World Cup.

ICR 621.11 to have more rules about Slalom and Giant Slalom with 3 or even more runs was not supported.

ICR 601.3.9.5 what would be a new rule about the Video Controller, to create another member and official of the Organising Committee (as an option). This was discussed controversially.

Members of Alpine Rules were asked for “homework” during summer to come back with precisions or additional arguments of the items discussed and supported.

FINALLY – a “no appeal” report was given by Josef Zingerle, what gives a specific satisfaction that the rules work fine and are updated.

11. Alpine Technical Delegates (Markus Malsiner, ITA)

The meeting of the Alpine Technical Delegates was held on Monday 06th May with mostly members present.

The Commissioners made their report about the clinics and update from the last season, 15 in total covering all the National Ski Associations involved in the TD system.

The last winter season went all in all on a good way, even if we were facing a lot of postponements and cancellations because of the sometimes difficult weather situations.

There was a discussion how to improve more women as alpine TDs as requested, to have a better balance, as actually the percentage of female TD's is less than 20%.

Our TD colleague Arno Heikkala from FIN made a new proposal for the practical examination of the TD candidates in future and the Sub-Committee decided to create a small working group to elaborate a new concept for the examination.

The Sub-Committee for Alpine TD's decided unanimously to propose Hans Groggl (AUT) as an Honorary Member of this Sub-Committee. I kindly ask you to support our request and to forward this proposal to the FIS Council.

12. Alpine World Cup (Walter Vogel, GER)

At our meeting this morning, we took a critical look back at the last season. We had a lot of cancellations especially at the start of the season. As a result, there was a lot of criticism of the calendar planning, the replacement of races and the mental and physical overload of athletes, which ultimately led to injuries. Even though every injury has an individual background, the fact that we lost many top athletes was reason enough to draw some conclusions for future calendar planning.

These guidelines are:

- Follow the snow to avoid cancellations.
- Only speed events will be rescheduled on predefined days. In the 2024/25 season, these days are Thursday in Val Gardena/Gröden (ITA) or Friday in Kvitfjell (NOR), depending on when a race is cancelled.
- We are not planning three speed races on one weekend. An exception can be a rescheduled race.
- We are not planning double events on a race weekend.
- We try to allow enough time for recovery and logistics, especially when travelling by plane.

Exceptions to these guidelines are possible due to organisational constraints.

The 2024/25 and 2025/26 calendars have been adapted and discussed in accordance with the guidelines.

At the end of the meeting, the Race Directors gave an overview of the development of speed in our ski events and provided information on the status of injury protection measures.

We forward following rule adjustments of some World Cup rules to the Alpine Committee:

Payment of expenses

4.1.2 Duration

All expenses for accommodation and food incl. non-alcoholic beverages must be paid, from at least the night before the first official training day / race day, until the morning after the last competition at which the competitor participated. This is also valid if the races do not take place on consecutive days. The official arrival and departure dates will be published on the website.

Under no circumstances is the Organiser or the hotel manager allowed to demand the vacating of the rooms by the teams on the day of the competition before the competition.

Arriva/Departure

The Organiser only has to pay for the accommodation and full board according to the World Cup rules.

Only if an earlier arrival date is requested by the team leader according to art. 4.4, an agreement may be made with the Organiser regarding the duration. In any case the above-mentioned precisions cannot be extended.

Additional costs due to an early arrival or a late departure have to be paid by the teams. In case of late arrival or early departure there is no right of compensation. In necessary cases, the Chief Race Directors can decide special agreements.

Late arrivals, early departures of athletes (according 3.3 – 3.5) and officials (according 4.2) can't be charged to the Teams during the duration of payment of expenses (according 4.1.2) if announced within 2 days to the LOC.

Actual no shows will be charged t the team.

Upon request of a Team Captain the Organiser (or Hotel) must hand over a corresponding confirmation after regular settlement is made. The confirmation is valid for the group of persons registered trough the FIS online system.

4.1.3 Precision

Latest when the start lists are ready, the Organiser must hand out to the Team Captains a voucher which shows the total number of nights for free accommodation and full board (art. 4.1 & 4.2) and the total number of persons (art. 4.3) who pay the maximum price of CHF ~~120~~140.—for accommodation and full board (incl. tourist/city tax).

The maximum price of CHF 120.—should be increased to CHF 140.—in all articles (4.3/4.3.2).

4.2.2 Duration for payment of expenses

The duration for the payment of expenses as well as the regulation of arrival / departure must correspond to the regulation for competitors as mentioned in art. 4.1.2.

During this period allocation of single rooms per team must be made according to the following table:

1 to 3 officials	=	1 single room
4 to 6 officials	=	3 single rooms
7 officials or more	=	5 single rooms

In case of an uneven number of athletes, the team is entitled to an extra single room.

4.3 Additional officials / Service Personnel

The total number of additional officials and/or service personnel per country registered through the FIS online entry system is limited and depends on the total number of different athletes who started in training and competitions of the event:

up to 3	different competitors	6	persons
4 - 6	" "	9	"
7 - 8	" "	10	"
9 - 10	" "	11	"
11 - 15	" "	15	"
more than 15	" "	19	"

For these additional officials (all NSA accredited persons) / service personnel (SRS service staff related to a National Team) accredited by FIS, the maximum price that can be charged for accommodation with full board incl. non-alcoholic beverages must not exceed CHF 120.-- per day (or the equivalent) including tourist/city taxes if these persons are registered through the FIS online entry system by the corresponding Team Captain and the accommodation is arranged by the Organising Committee (team accommodation).

This limited group of team service persons who are registered online in principle has the right to access the start area and eventual catering tent / team hospitality for athletes.

In case of a justifiable suspicion of abuse, the OC has the right to ask the Team Captains to present the relevant FIS season accreditations.

9.4 Public Bib draw / presentation / Show up time

In case of a SL, GS, (AC if 1st run = SL) event, competitors 1 to 15 on the board are obligated to meet at a certain time for the public draw.

In case of a DH, SG or AC event, competitors 1 to 10 on the board are obligated to meet at a certain time for the public draw.

~~In case of a PAR event, competitors 1 to 16 on the board are obligated to meet at a certain time for a public presentation.~~

~~If competitors do not check-in in person for a public draw by their defined show up time specified by FIS on the official daily program, without an official excuse, a sanction of CHF 999.-- may be pronounced. In case of recurrence, this sanction may be increased to CHF 5'000.--.~~

~~If competitors miss a public draw or presentation without excuse or don't attend in time, If competitors do not check-in in person for a public draw by the start of their designated draw group without an official excuse, the athletes will be given the last remaining bib number from their draw group and they will automatically be enrolled according to their event FIS points after start number 45 (the 500-point rule isn't applicable).~~

~~Additionally, a sanction up to CHF 999.-- may be pronounced. In case of recurrence, this sanction may be increased to CHF 5'000.--.~~

All proposals were supported by the Alpine Committee

12.1 Working Group Coaches Women (Paul Kristofic, USA)

Peter Gerdol (FIS) reported on behalf of the Working Group Coaches Women and highlighted the very good cooperation and communication between the Head Coaches and the FIS Team during the past winter season. There were quite some meetings done during the season, both at tech events, as well as at the speed events. The FIS Team together with the Head coaches analysed some situations

that happened, specifically injuries, course-setting and some logistical issues, for which proper solutions were found and some decisions were taken.

Next step will be the Spring Coaches Group Meeting which is scheduled for May 15th and 16th in Zurich (SUI). The Agenda include, among the rest, collecting feedback from the 23/24 season, some preliminary information for the next one and the vote for the position of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Working Group.

12.2 Working Group Coaches Men (Thomas Stauffer, SUI)

Report was given by Thomas Stauffer (SUI) Chair of the Working Group.

After the Autumn meeting in Zurich the Working Group had 4 more meetings during the winter season. A proposal was made to try to avoid the problems some organisers are facing with accommodation. In general, we would like to have more help from the organisers and support from the Race Directors.

We discussed about safety, injuries and slope preparation during these meetings as well.

We need to have a look into the FIS points system and discuss the rankings. The system basically is correct but, in some categories, (like EC) the reward is not enough if you compare it with another race levels.

13. Intercontinental Cup (Stefano Pirola, CHI)

As already informed in Zurich the Southern Hemisphere Cups ANC and SAC faced different situations, in the ANC Cup the events in AUS were cancelled and only NZL could organise technical events despite a limit snow conditions but with good preparations from the Ski Resorts. On the other side, the South American Cup organised quite the full calendar with some cancellations in speed events due to bad weather or lack of snow.

Regarding the Northern Hemisphere Continental Cups, the Europa Cup had a challenging season due to the weather and lack of snow with cancellations, especially in DH and SG, but with the great work of the coordinators and good collaboration with National Ski Associations and Organising Committees, they could replace some of these cancelled races. Nor Am Cup being able to run most of the races with few cancellations before the finals in Panorama (CAN). Finally in the Far East Cup they had a historical season with the comeback of the speed events in Yanqing (CHN), where for the first time in many years Downhills and Super G were held in the 2022 Olympic course with great success.

At the end, 178 events were held in the season 2023/2024:

EUROPA CUP	62
NOR AM CUP	44
FAR EAST CUP	30
SOUTH AMERICAN CUP	34
AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND CUP	8

Regarding the future, the ANC and SAC they already have their calendars ready for the next season and will be distributed and presented by each Chairman later.

Finally, I would like to thank the COC and EC Coordinators Jordi Pujol (FIS) and Wim Rossel (FIS) for their work and, to all the NSA and Organisers for their big contribution to the development of our sports and to the Chairman's of each Cup and last but not least, to all the staff at the FIS Office, specially Tatjana Luessy and Janez Flere, for their constant support.

13.1 European Cup (Herbert Mandl AUT)

Looking back on a very challenging but interesting winter season on all the different FIS levels. Many thanks and big congrats to all organisers and to all people involved in the European Cup.

Special thanks to the Coordinators, Jordi Pujol (FIS) and Wim Rossel (FIS). As usual they had to deal with different cancelations and replacements of races. All in all, was a successful race season with good races. The efforts for course preparations were on a high level and it is valued by the racers.

Due to the weather situation and warm temperatures, it was especially difficult on the speed side.

On the other hand, was facing the challenging economic situation for the Organisers. The Chairman is a bit afraid to lose more and more Organisers in future.

Considering how to develop speed skiers the Alpine European Cup series for women and men are very important. The Alpine European Cup builds the step to the World Cup but needs more support and attention to guarantee a successful and valuable second league in Alpine skiing. That means more media attention, more financial support but also more attraction for all the athletes to take part. Indeed, it is the selection for the World Cup.

A big issue is the financial situation for all the Organisers. To guarantee the high value of races we must consider raising the amount for accommodation.

It would be fair for alle Organisers, who are struggling with financing the races in the future.

Over and beyond it is to think about giving support from FIS for Organisers of speed disciplines. Only World Cup Organisers can bear the costs for safety installations and course preparations.

The Chairman also would like to mention the future for the second league of skiing. We must think about the attractivity for the European Cup. Maybe we must install a Working Group dealing with new formats. May be a new point system over all the levels could be a solution.

The following proposal was presented for approval:

7.2 Additional competitors and officials (*NAC)

For the additional competitors who do not meet the above qualification, and additional officials of each team whose expenses will not be paid according to the preceding quotas, as well as for officially entered team service personnel, the maximum price that can be charged for complete room and board is CHF 11090-- per day or equivalent for the duration of the event. This includes one training day before the first race for technical events. This is a maximum price. In case the normal price of the hotel is lower, only the normal price may be charged.

The proposal was supported by the Alpine Committee

13.2 Nor-Am Cup (Chip Knight, USA)

The NorAm Cup had a successful season in 2023-24 with 44 races contested across four events: 6 DH, 8 SG, 15 GS, and 15 SL. Unfortunately, eight calendared events had to be cancelled due to weather: two DH, four SG, one GS and one SL. The speed races scheduled for April were particularly challenging, where we lost 30% of the scheduled DH and SG events for the season.

This year the NorAm Sub-Committee continued its effort to grow speed participation by starting the calendar with DH and SG races at Copper Mountain (USA) in December. We also held a joint USA/CAN DH training camp at Copper

Mountain (USA) for four days beforehand to allow athletes training time before the event. Men's participation was up year-over-year, but women's participation dropped.

Continuing our effort from previous years, we held NorAm technical races on World Cup venues, returning to Beaver Creek (USA) with the men and adding Mont Tremblant (CAN) to the calendar for the women. These were great races that pushed our young athletes to perform on world class hills. That effort will surely yield results in the years to come as athletes strive to compete on the World Cup circuit.

Average NorAm penalties were down for our women's races in every event except DH. The events at Mont Tremblant (CAN) after the World Cup helped contribute to this improvement. For the men, average penalties were up slightly. For that reason, we are aiming to host the first NorAm events in November next year when higher level athletes will be able to attend.

Still, ongoing challenges remain for the NorAm Cup. 14% of our scheduled races were lost due to the increasing effects of climate change and the fickle nature of our current weather patterns. Extremely high winds, "atmospheric river" snowstorms, winter thunderstorms, and rapid temperature shifts from warm rain to deep freezes are the new normal and it is very difficult to plan ski races in such conditions.

Additionally, hill preparation continues to be an enormous undertaking for individual race organisers and the host NSAs. U.S. Ski & Snowboard and Alpine Canada both commit a large amount of financial and human resources to create elite-level venues with very little outside support. More broadly, rising costs are a consistent issue for our sport. NSA hosting expenses and athlete travel costs are rising at a rate higher than inflation. Combined with the difficulty of finding and maintaining appropriate speed venues, these issues present a massive developmental concern for our sport. Of course, we feel this problem acutely in the U.S. and Canada due to our geographic size, our physical separation from the heart of the sport in Europe, and the economic model of our North American ski resorts, but these core challenges are certainly shared around the world. We urge FIS to investigate these issues more closely to keep our sport healthy at the Continental Cup and younger levels.

Looking ahead, we are actively planning the calendar for the 2024-25 season. There are 26 events per gender on the current draft. The calendar starts in November with the first block of races in Colorado (USA). In the middle of the season, we will shift to Canada for two blocks of racing before the World Junior Championships. The Finals are scheduled in the eastern U.S. just before and during the planned World Cup Finals in Sun Valley (USA).

13.3 Far East Cup (Michihiko Nakamura, JPN)

It was a challenging season for everyone, so we were also suffering with unstable weather, massive snow fall, rain, strong wind, unexpectable weather.

On behalf of the FEC Sub-Committee, I would like to thank all event organisers and NSAs who tried so hard to establish the events.

We had a special challenge bringing back DH events into FEC Cup. We would like to thank Chinese Ski Association and local organisers who worked so hard to make our dream come true, first DH event in the region since 2014.

We needed to restart the events with the right guidance by FIS. We'd like to thank Mr. Markus Malsiner (ITA) and Janez Flere (FIS) who supported our plan to have the first FIS speed clinic in Asia. We needed support and proper guidance to run the speed events, not only for athletes, but for coaches and other officials to run the event.

Other Technical events, started in December in China, with stable weather condition all 8 planned races were done.

In Korea the weather was tough in the beginning of the series, so we lost a couple of races.

In Japan, it was weather fighting operation. We managed not to lose these races by changing programs. As the result we lost only 1 race out of 4 planned races.

Once again, the Sub-Committee thanks everyone who is involved in our races.

As a secondary league, it will be a demanding project, however, we have a huge population of athletes in the Asia region and there is potential for growth. We strongly feel the importance of our direction to accomplish all 4 events.

For next season, we will once again face to fight with planning, weather, financial tactics, and motivation. Right now, we are still working on planning.

We would like to propose, place and dates will be defined.

December China. 8 races, (2 for all events)

February Korea. 8 races, (4 technical events)

March Japan. 8 races, (4 technical events).

Total 24 races

Financial point of view, the same as other Cups, we are always facing financial problems. There was a proposal from Japan to raise maximum price for accommodation, however we agree and support EC's proposal of 110 CHF.

As the end of my report, this meeting will be my last meeting. I am stepping down as the Chairman for FEC Sub-Committee. We will have the Sub-Committee meeting to make election and will be proposing a new chairman to FIS Congress.

I thank you all for putting up with me for all these years. Without your support we would not have come to this day.

Once again, I thank you all and wish you all the best.

13.4 South American Cup (Ernesto Cingolani, ARG)

The Chairman was excused, and short report was given by Martin Begino (ARG) In regard of the past season (July-October 2023) we started with a very complicated situation due the lack of snow, we had to cancel some races but at the end we could finish 34 races in total, 17 per gender with a good mix between technical and speed events, so we can say at the end that we had a successful season.

The visit for the second year in a row of the Continental Cup Coordinator, Jordi Pujol (FIS), is always a pleasure to welcome a friend but is also very important for us to keep improving on the level of our organisation, mostly considering the quality of athletes we are having in South America now. Thanks for your help.

We had for the first time a formal protest about the use of fluor wax at the end of the season in Corralco (CHI), unfortunately we had no tools to do anything about it, so it would be very important to set up a protocol to help the TDs in these cases.

About the upcoming season we already published the calendar with 38 races, 19 per gender and as usual the technical events are mostly organised in Argentina and speed events in Chile.

The good news is that snowing has already started on both sides of the Andes range so even considering that is very early, I hope it would predict a very good season for us.

13.5 Australia / New Zealand Cup (Jono Howson, NZL)

The Chairman was excused, and a following report was distributed.

Preparations for the 2024 ANCs are well underway in New Zealand and we are glad to report that Australia is making a return to the ANCs after a two-year absence. The calendar dates for technical events only are fixed with the New Zealand leg running from August 28th until September 1st, 2024, and at Thredbo (AUS) from September 3rd to September 7th for the Australia leg.

The LOC for the New Zealand leg will continue to be Winter Games NZ, a multi-sport event organised by the Winter Games New Zealand Trust with support from the Government of New Zealand, Sport and Recreation New Zealand and the New Zealand Olympic Committee. The host resort will continue to be NZSki at Coronet Peak (NZL), the home of Alpine ski racing in New Zealand.

14. Youth Questions (Stefan Johnsen Havelid, NOR)

The 38th meeting was scheduled on Monday 6th May in Portoroz (SLO). It was a meeting with good discussions for the future of alpine skiing. SRS is keen to gain expert knowledge in prevention of injuries in young athletes and is working with the FIS Athlete Health Unit. Rudi Huber (SRS) requesting that a small WG should be set up to look at this, maybe 3-5 people; reports/feedback will pass between the Sub-Committee and the AHU, and all will get updates and be able to give feedback. The Chair agreed to set up a working group.

Short summary from the Race Organisers Committee with Janez Dekleva (SLO).

It had been a difficult winter for many OCs, with cancellations and changed competition events. The success of many events depended on having a good relationship with the ski centres.

Calendars for 2024/2025 season are not yet finalised and will be circulated in Zurich (SUI).

The following proposal was approved by the Sub-Committee by 12 to 9 votes in favour.

607.3 Classification at International Competitions

Admitted years of birth

.....

Start limitation for U18 Competitors

1st year U18 athletes: maximum number of starts per season in Giant Slalom and Slalom events counting for FIS points = 30. Athletes must not participate beyond the maximum of 30 starts for the first year U18. All results beyond 30 starts are cancelled and therefore do not count for FIS points. There is no limit to participation in the speed events Downhill, Super-G, and Alpine Combined.

2nd year U18 athletes: maximum number of starts per season in Giant Slalom and Slalom events counting for FIS points = 40. Athletes must not participate beyond the maximum of 40 starts for the second year U18. All results beyond 40 starts are cancelled and therefore do not count for FIS points. There is no limit to participation in the speed events Downhill, Super-G, and Alpine Combined.

World Junior Championships, Youth Olympic Games, World Cup, World Championships, and Olympic Winter Games are excluded from the start limitation.

The Youth Sub-Committee will inform the Classifications Sub-Committee and Alpine Executive Board of any infringements of the rule and any recommended sanctions. The Classification Sub-Committee will inform the FIS Council.

Proposal supported by the Alpine Committee

14.1 FIS Alpine Junior World Ski Championships (Jordi Pujol, FIS)

Jordi Pujol (FIS) explained that, during the Youth & Children meeting the FFS (French National Ski Association) presented a video recap from the World Junior Championships held in Portes du Soleil Haute Savoie (FRA).

He said that this World Juniors was an amazing event, with five different venues working professionally together and everything was perfect. For sure all teams and especially all the athletes, will have good memories of this World Junior Championships.

The organiser of the next World Junior Championships 2025 to be held in Tarvisio (ITA) presents a video, a compact venue with demanding and interesting slopes, all the side events and different facilities will be reachable at a short distance.

For the World Junior Championships 2026, 2027 and 2028, some contacts and meetings have been made but, remains open to confirm final candidates.

15. Ski Cross (Klaus Waldner, FIS)

The Committee was informed that Ski Cross will still be part of the Freestyle/Snowboard discipline. No additional report was given.

16. Equipment (Massimo Rinaldi, ITA)

The Equipment Committee will hold his meeting afterwards and the following proposal will be presented:

1.5.3 Cut resistant undergarment

Parameter	Value
Cutting force (N)	100Min
Uncut length (mm)	200Min

Minimum values for 1 FIS-star (*)

Parameter	Value
Uncut length (mm)	200 _{Min}
Cutting force 1 star level (N)	100
Cutting force 2 star level (N)	200
Cutting force 3 star level (N)	300
Cutting force 4 star level (N)	400
Cutting force 5 star level (N)	500

3.5.3 Cut resistant undergarment

3.5.3.1 Definition

Cut-resistant undergarment are clothing items worn underneath the competition suit, designed to improve the athlete's protection against cut injuries.

3.5.3.2 General Specifications

In order to provide appropriate protection, the cut-resistant undergarment must be sized correctly based on producer's guidelines and worn in strict compliance with manufacturer instructions of use. The undergarment shall be used without alteration/modification, as certified by the manufacturer. Cut-resistant undergarment is intended to provide supplementary protection and not infinite cut protection. and will adapt well to the movements of the body without impeding them. This protective clothing must be made with a textile design and the

surfaces must not be plasticised or treated by any chemical means (gaseous, liquid or solid)
The cut-resistant undergarment must be worn underneath the competition suit.

3.5.3.3

Technical specifications

The cut-resistant undergarment level of protection is defined by which corresponds to the specifications of the FIS-DITF test standard 2021. is intended to provide supplementary protection and is not intended to provide complete infinite cut protection.

Basic definition parameters are:

The minimum uncut measuring length for each level are: 1-FIS-star level: 200mm, cut resistance at cutting force of the corresponding level. 400N
 4 out of 5 tests of the same textile must have the corresponding cut resistance in 3 directions of textile positions: 0° / 45° / 90°. The direction with the lowest cut resistance value defines the FIS star level.

For 1-FIS-star level the entire garment must meet the minimum parameters.

Repeatability, 4 out of 5 tests of the same textile must have a cut resistance of at least 200mm in 3 directions of the textile: 0° / 45° / 90°, the direction with the lowest cut resistance value defines the FIS-star level.

Force (N)	100	200	300	400	500
FIS-star	*	**	***	****	*****

Label attesting conformity with FIS specifications for cut resistant undergarment.

Fulfilment of requirements is to be attested by these standardised conformity labels, affixed on the outer side of the protection garment **in a non-removable way at the back of the lower left leg above the top of the ski boot cuff area.**

“Conforms to FIS Specifications CRU 2021” and depict the achieved FIS-star(s) level.

The conformity label certifies that the manufacturer has obtained the required certifications (FIS-DITF 2021) **and obtained a test protocol confirming that the cut-resistant undergarment textile** fulfils the above requirements. **To receive the label, the test protocol must be submitted to FIS Athlete Health Unit. Upon request**



Label attesting conformity with FIS specifications for cut resistant undergarment.

~~3.5.3.4~~ ~~General reminder~~

~~It is reminded that the manufacturers remain the only entities liable in regard of product liability in connection with manufactured cut resistant undergarment. It is further reminded that cut resistant undergarment must be worn in strict compliance with manufacturer instructions of use, and do not by any means offer an absolute protection against the consequences of accidents.~~

~~3.5.3.5~~ ~~Alteration/modification/additional element~~

~~The undergarment shall be used without alteration/modification, as certified by the manufacturer.
Cut resistant undergarment with FIS conformity label is recommended for all events and levels.~~

3.5.3.4 Implementation of cut resistant undergarment

The use of cut-resistant undergarment is strongly recommended for all disciplines events at all levels. The use of cut-resistant undergarment pants is mandatory for all events disciplines at category race level 0 and 1 from season 2025/2026 onwards. The mandatory implementation requires a minimum protection level of 3 stars according to the FIS-DITF test standard everywhere between the iliac crest and the onset of the ski boot. Further protective zones will be defined until spring 2025.

17. Athletes' Commission (Verena Stuffer, ITA-Leif Kristian Nestvold Haugen, NOR)

Leif Kristian Nestvold Haugen (NOR) as Chair of the Athletes Commission made his report. See the summary below:

Calendar Planning:

- The main topic of discussion was the calendar. Emphasis was placed on creating a balanced calendar, considering the economic and logistical needs of the teams.
- Positive dialogue with Race Directors was highlighted, and athletes were invited to meet with the directors to propose an alternative calendar.
- Decision: No more double events or replacements for classic events.
- The new calendar has been significantly influenced by athlete input, and there is satisfaction with being involved and heard.
- Proposal: Implement replacement venues (now in effect) and establish a long-term calendar (minimum 2-3 years).
- Future changes: Expect more radical changes where climate conditions, team financials, and logistics play a major role.

Safety Measures:

- Discussion on safety and the implementation of new safety equipment, such as cut-proof garments.
- Positive dialogue with the athletes' health unit was noted, recognizing the importance of their work and data collection in determining the necessity and timing of safety measures.

Event Alternatives:

- Exploration of alternatives to evening events at venues, such as prize-

- giving ceremonies, bib draws, and meet-and-greet sessions.
- Focus: Enhance event experience without unnecessarily exhausting the athletes, especially the prominent ones.

Broadcasting Improvements:

- Satisfaction was expressed with the improved and engaging broadcasting features.
- Desire for continued and progressive development in broadcasting was noted.

The report concluded with a mutual agreement on the importance of collaboration between all stakeholders (athletes, race directors, and health unit etc.) to ensure a balanced and safe calendar while enhancing the overall event experience and broadcasting quality.

18. Reports from Organisers of the previous and next major Championships:

There followed a series of short presentations by representatives of the venues briefing Committee members on the final reports or current states of preparation.

18.1. 2025 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Saalbach Hinterglemm (AUT)

18.2. 2026 Olympic Winter Games, Milano-Cortina (ITA)

18.3. 2027 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships, Crans Montana (SUI)

19. Questions, Various

The Chairman thanked all Committee and Sub-Committee members, Working Groups and the Executive Board for the hard work carried out during this week and wished all the best for the next winter season, some snowflakes are already on the mountains of the Southern Hemisphere.

A very special thanks for those Chair's who are with us for the last time, Karen Korfanta (USA), Alpine Women's Sub-Committee and Michihiko Nakamura (JPN), FEC Sub-Committee. A big applause was given from the rest of the Committee members.

For more details regarding all Sub-Committee meetings see www.fis-ski.com under Members Section.

20. Next Meetings

The FIS Autumn Meeting will be held between 23rd and 27th September 2024, in Zurich (SUI).

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 16.00hrs

For the Minutes, Janez Fleré

Read and approved by Massimo Rinaldi, Chairman Alpine Committee