

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1958

ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2015/16

(revised version January 22, 2016 – paragraph 6.1)

1. General Conditions

- 1.1 The ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2015/16 will be organized as a series of International Competitions subject to regulations given in this ISU Communication. The World Cup series is an ISU Event. Relevant parts of the ISU General Regulations apply, in particular Rules 105, 106 and 136.
- 1.2 International TV rights and advertising rights for the ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2015/16 belong to the ISU. Organizers of Competitions are obliged to respect commercial and TV contracts entered into by the ISU. Before concluding any commercial agreements the organizers should consult the ISU Director General in order to prevent conflicts with ISU contracts.
- 1.3 An ISU Memorandum, specifying contractual obligations and guidelines for the organization of ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions, will be made available to organizing ISU Members and Organizing Committees.
- 1.4 For each World Cup Competition the ISU assigns an ISU Representative, an ISU Event Coordinator and a Representative from the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, who shall observe that the Competition is conducted in accordance with regulations in this Communication, ISU Statutes and ISU Memorandum.

2. Basic rules

- 2.1 The World Cup Speed Skating is organized as a series of Competitions in the following *event categories*, with the indicated number of Competitions/races scheduled for the season 2015/16:
 - 500 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 12 races
 - 1000 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 7 races
 - 1500 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - Long distances (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - for Ladies the long distances are 3000m (5 races) and 5000m (1 race);
 - for Men the long distances are 5000m (5 races) and 10000m (1 race).
 - Mass start races(Ladies and Men) 5 Competitions / 5 races
 - Mass start races are over 16 laps; both for Ladies and for Men.
 - Allround combination Ladies: 1500m + 3000m 1 Competition, consisting of 2 races
 - Allround combination Men: 1500m + 5000m 1 Competition, consisting of 2 races
 - Sprint combination Ladies and Men: 500m + 1000m 1 Competition, consisting of 2 races
 - Team Pursuit (national teams, Ladies and Men): 4 Competitions / 4 races
 - for Ladies the Team Pursuit races are over 6 laps; for Men over 8 laps.
 - Team Sprint (national teams, Ladies and Men): 4 Competitions / 4 races
 - for Ladies and Men the Team Sprint races are over 3 laps.

Skaters will accumulate points determining a final World Cup ranking for each individual event category and for an overall World Cup season ranking (“Grand World Cup”).
- 2.2 The World Cup ranking for each event category is determined by the accumulated World Cup points for each Skater or (for the Team events) national team over the season.
- 2.3 The Grand World Cup ranking is determined by the accumulated “Grand World Cup points” for each Skater over the season.
- 2.4 Individual events are organized in a format where Skaters compete in two divisions, A and B. The Skaters with the currently best World Cup ranking in the category compete in Division A. Each competition day has a core session consisting of the races for Division A for all the events skated on that day.
- 2.5 The Competitions are open to all ISU Speed Skating Members. Entry quotas are based on the final World Cup rankings 2014/15, for the World Cup final on World Cup rankings 2015/16.
- 2.6 Prize money, as determined by the ISU, will be awarded as follows (for details see paragraph 8):
 - For each Competition: to the 3 best Competitors in individual events and to the 3 best teams in the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint events. At the World Cup Competition in Stavanger (WC №5) Prize money will also be awarded to the 3 best Competitors in the Sprint Combination (1x500 & 1x1000 meters, Ladies and Men) and in the Allround Combination (1500/3000 meters Ladies & 1500/5000 meters Men).

- Based on the final World Cup ranking: to the 10 best ranked Skaters in each event category (except the Allround combination and the Sprint Combination) and to the 5 best ranked Teams in the Team Pursuit and the Team Sprint events.

2.7 A special prize will be awarded to the best Skater (one winner for Ladies, one winner for Men: “Grand World Cup winner”), based on a grand total of points earned from World Cup races throughout the 2015/16 season.

3. ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2015/16

3.1 Competition calendar

| Dates | Place | Country | Distances / events |
|------------------------|----------------|---------|---|
| November 13 – 15, 2015 | Calgary | CAN | Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP, TS Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP, TS |
| November 20 – 22, 2015 | Salt Lake City | USA | Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TS Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 10 000m, Ms, TS |
| December 4 – 6, 2015 | Inzell | GER | Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP |
| December 11 – 13, 2015 | Heerenveen | NED | Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP, TS Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP, TS |
| January 29 – 31, 2016 | Stavanger | NOR | Ladies: 2x500m, 2x1000m, 1500m, 3000m Men: 2x500m, 2x1000m, 1500m, 5000m |
| March 11 – 13, 2016 | Heerenveen | NED | Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP, TS Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP, TS |

Ms – Mass start races, TP – Team Pursuit races, TS – Team Sprint races

3.2 Distribution of distances / events

If not otherwise decided, distances (Division A) will be skated according to the following programs regarding the order of distances (L – Ladies’ races, M – Men’s races):

| № | Place | Date | Program |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| WC №1 | Calgary, CAN | 13 November 2015, Friday 14 November 2015, Saturday 15 November 2015, Sunday | 5000 M, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 3000 L 1000 L, 1000 M, TP-M, TP-L; TS-M, TS-L 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M |
| WC №2 | Salt Lake City, USA | 20 November 2015, Friday 21 November 2015, Saturday 22 November 2015, Sunday | 5000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1500 M 10000 M, 500 L-2, 1000 M, 1500 L 1000 L, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M; TS-M, TS-L |
| WC №3 | Inzell, GER | 4 December 2015, Friday 5 December 2015, Saturday 6 December 2015, Sunday | 3000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-M 1000 L, 1000 M, 5000 M, TP-L 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M |
| WC №4 | Heerenveen, NED | 11 December 2015, Friday 12 December 2015, Saturday 13 December 2015, Sunday | 3000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-M, TS-L, TS-M 1000 L, 5000 M, TP-L, 1000 M 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M |
| WC №5 | Stavanger, NOR | 29 January 2016, Friday 30 January 2016, Saturday 31 January 2016, Sunday | 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1000 L-1, 1500 M 500 L-2, 1000 M-1, 1500 L, 5000 M 500 M-2, 1000 L-2, 1000 M-2, 3000 L |
| WC №6 <i>Final</i> | Heerenveen, NED | 11 March 2016, Friday 12 March 2016, Saturday 13 March 2016, Sunday | 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 3000 L, TP-M, TS-L 500 L-2, 1000 M, 1500 L, 5000 M, TP-L, TS-M 500 M-2, 1000 L, 1500 M, Ms-L, Ms-M |

3.3 World Cup Competitions as qualifying events for ISU World Championships 2016

- World Cups №1, №2, №3 and №4 are qualifying events for the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2016. ISU Members qualify quota places for the Championships based on the results of their Skaters in these World Cup Competitions.
- World Cup №5 is a qualifying event for the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2016 and for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2016. ISU Members qualify quota places for the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2016 based on the combined results (one 500 and one 1000 meter) of their Skaters in this World Cup Competition. ISU Members qualify quota places for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2016 based on the combined results (1500 and 3000 meters for Ladies, 1500 and 5000 meters for Men) of their Skaters in this World Cup Competition.

3.4 Entry rules

3.4.1 Entry quotas

- Entry quotas for individual events are based on the final World Cup rankings 2014/15 for the respective event categories, with a maximum entry quota of 5 for each individual event. However, for the Mass start event the maximum entry quota will be 3, with maximum 2 Skaters allowed to compete in the same Division.
- For each of the Team events an ISU Member may enter only one team per gender (Ladies and Men).
- The organizing Member of a World Cup Competition (except for the World Cup final) will be granted maximum entry quotas for all events.
- For the World Cup final entries are based on World Cup 2015/16 results and rankings, see paragraph 4.4.

a) Entry quotas for World Cups №1, №2, №3 and №4 are determined as follows:

| Number of skaters in Top 40 Final World Cup ranking 2014/15 | Entry quotas for the Mass start event 2015/16 | Entry quotas for other individual events 2015/16 |
|---|---|--|
| None (0) | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 3 or 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 or more | 3 | 5 |

b) Entry quotas for World Cup №5 are determined as follows:

Entry quotas are based on the entry quotas for World Cups №1 to №4. Because the Competition acts as a quota qualifying event for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2016 and the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2016, the entry quotas will be extended, within a maximum entry quota of 5 per distance. For each distance the entry quota available for the ISU Member will be one more than its maximum quota (for World Cups №1 to №4) for either of the two distances counting for the quota qualification (Sprint distances: 500 and 1000 meters; Allround distances: 1500 and 3000 meters for Ladies, 1500 and 5000 meters for Men).

c) Summary of entry quotas for the World Cup Competitions 2015/16 prior to the World Cup final:

| LADIES | | | | | ISU Member | MEN | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|--------------|------------|------------|--------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|------------|---|---|---|---|
| WC № 1 – WC № 4 | | | | | | WC № 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 500 | 1000 | 1500 | 3000 5000 | Mass start | | 500 | 1000 | 1500 | 3000 | 500 | 1000 | 1500 | 5000 | Mass start | | | | |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | AUT | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | BEL | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | BLR | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | CAN | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | CHN | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | CZE | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | DEN | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | EST | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | FIN | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | FRA | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | GER | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | HUN | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | ITA | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | JPN | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | KAZ | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | KOR | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | LAT | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | NED | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | NOR | 5* | 5* | 5* | 5* | 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | NZL | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | POL | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | RUS | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | SUI | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | SWE | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | USA | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |

* as hosting ISU Member

ISU Speed Skating Members not listed in the table above, may enter a maximum of 1 skater for each distance in World Cups № 1 – № 4, and a maximum of 2 Skaters for each distance at World Cup № 5.

3.4.2 Qualifying times

Entered Skaters must have achieved qualifying times for the respective distances, as follows:

| DISTANCE | LADIES | MEN |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 500m | 40,00 | 36,20 |
| 1000m | 1.20,00 | 1.11,90 |
| 1500m | 2.03,00 | 1.51,00 |
| 3000m | 4.24,00 | ---- |
| 5000m | 7.25,00 or 4.15,00 | 6.48,00 |
| 10000m | ---- | 13.40,00 or 6.35,00 |

However, for results achieved outside the ice rinks in Calgary (Olympic Oval) and Salt Lake City (Utah Olympic Oval) the following qualifying time limits apply:

| DISTANCE | LADIES | MEN |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 500m | 40,50 | 36,60 |
| 1000m | 1.21,00 | 1.12,80 |
| 1500m | 2.05,00 | 1.52,50 |
| 3000m | 4.28,00 | ---- |
| 5000m | 7.32,00 or 4.20,00 | 6.52,00 |
| 10000m | ---- | 13.50,00 or 6.40,00 |

- For a result to be a valid qualifying time, it must have been achieved in ISU Events, International Competitions or National Championships in the period between *July 1, 2014* and the entry deadline for the World Cup Competition concerned.
- For World Cup №5 a Skater having achieved the qualifying time for only one of the distances counting in the qualification of quota places for an ISU Championship (for the World Allround Speed Skating Championships: 1500m and 3000m for Ladies, 1500m and 5000m for Men; for the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships: 500m and 1000m) may be entered also for the other distance. However, for each distance a Member may enter maximum one Skater without the required qualifying time for the distance.
- For the *Team Pursuit, Team Sprint and for the Mass start events* any one of the listed qualifying times will apply. However, for these events an ISU Member may enter maximum one Skater (per gender) who has not achieved any of the above qualifying times. The qualifying time limit for such a skater will be:
for Ladies: 2.10,00 in the 1500 m; for Men: 1.57,50 in the 1500 m.
Such an exception can be made for maximum one Skater (per gender) for each World Cup Competition.

3.4.3 Entries of Competitors

ISU Members must submit their entries using the *ISU Online entry system*. The entries must indicate the distance(s) to be skated by each entered Competitor, including maximum one substitute per distance, and entries for Team events. An entered Competitor may be replaced by an entered substitute *not later than at the Team leaders' meeting preceding the draw* for the distance or at a specifically announced deadline. Replacement of a Competitor by an entered substitute *after the draw* may exceptionally be accepted, but only if the Referee has been duly informed at least two hours before the start of the first race (division A or division B) of the distance.

4. Competition formats

4.1 Individual events skated in separate divisions

For each individual event the entered Skaters compete in two separate divisions with the currently best ranked Skaters competing in Division A; the remaining Skaters in Division B. However, all Skaters compete together in Division A in the following cases:

- When the number of entered Skaters does not exceed a certain limit, as indicated in paragraph 4.1.1.
- For all events in the last World Cup Competition of the season, see paragraph 4.1.5.

4.1.1 Number of Competitors in Division A

- For 500m, 1000m and 1500m, Ladies and Men:
 - If not more than 28 Skaters have been entered, all compete in Division A
 - If more than 28 Skaters have been entered, Division A shall consist of 20 Competitors
- For 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men:
 - If not more than 20 Skaters have been entered, all compete in Division A.

- If the number of entered Skaters is between 21 and 24, Division A shall consist of 12 Competitors.
 - If more than 24 Skaters have been entered, Division A shall consist of 16 Competitors.
- c) For *5000m Ladies and 10000m Men*:
- The number of Competitors in Division A shall be (maximum) 12.
- d) For *Mass start, Ladies and Men*:
- Not more than 2 Skaters from the same Member may compete in the same Division. Division A will have maximum 20 Competitors if the number of entries, counting maximum 2 Skaters per Member, is not more than 28. Otherwise Division A will have 24 Competitors.

Summary table regarding number of Competitors for Division A:

| Number of entries* | Number of Competitors in Division A | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------|-----|----------|
| | WC № 1-5 | | | | WC Final |
| | Up to 20 | Up to 24 | 25-28 | >28 | |
| 500 / 1000 / 1500 | all | all | all | 20 | 12 |
| 3000L / 5000M | all | 12 | 16 | 16 | 12 |
| 5000L / 10000M | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | n. a. |
| Ms-L* / Ms-M* | all* | 20 | 20 | 24 | 20 |

* For Mass start "Number of entries" refers to the number of entries counting maximum 2 Skaters per Member.

4.1.2 Selection of Skaters for Division A

- a) In the *first Competition* the composition of Division A is determined by the final 2014/15 World Cup ranking for the event category concerned and by the seeding of the entered Competitors, as submitted by the respective Team leaders before the opening draw (see paragraph 5.1). The 2014/15 World Cup ranking determines the number of quota places for the ISU Member in Division A (subject to the entry quotas listed in paragraph 3.4.1, and to the upper limit of 2 Skaters from the same Member for Mass start), while the seeding submitted by the Team leader determines which Competitor will fill the respective quota places.
- b) In *all other Competitions* (also for the first competition over 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men, and for the second 500m race of WC № 1) the selection for Division A shall be based on the current World Cup ranks of the entered Skaters. When 500m or 1000m are skated with two races in the same World Cup Competition, each race is considered a separate Competition regarding the selection of Skaters for Division A.
- c) However, except for the World Cup final, the following of the entered Skaters shall compete in Division A (with possible exception for the Mass start event, see paragraph 5.5.2 below):
- Competitors placed among the 6 best, ties included, in Division A in the preceding Competition.
 - Competitors promoted from Division B in the preceding Competition. Promotion is granted for Competitors who finished among the 3 best (ties included) in Division B. However, when Division A will consist of only 12 Competitors (5000m Ladies and 10000m Men), only the winner of Division B from the preceding Competition will be granted promotion to Division A.
 - Competitors with a "Wild card":
 - A Skater may use a "Wild card" for Division A only the first time the Skater competes in the event (category) concerned in the World Cup 2015/16. A "Wild card" may be granted only if the Skater was placed among the 10 best in the final World Cup 2014/15 ranking or among the 10 best in the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2015 for the event category concerned.
 - The request for a "Wild card" should be made when the Skater is entered for the Competition, and must be confirmed at the Team leaders' meeting before the draw for the event concerned. A "Wild Card" can neither be used in the first World Cup Competition of the season nor in the World Cup final.

4.1.3 Scheduling of Division A races

- a) For each day of a World Cup Competition the races of Division A for all events shall be scheduled as one block of races. The starting time for the block of Division A races shall be stated in the announcement.
- b) Quartet starts shall not be used in Division A.

4.1.4 Scheduling of Division B races

- a) The races of Division B should be skated on the same day as the races of Division A for the event concerned, before or after the Division A block. The time schedule for the races of Division B shall be announced at the Team leaders' meeting.
- b) Quartet starts should be used for the long distances.

4.2 Competition format for the Team events

Team Pursuit races will be skated in accordance with ISU Technical Rule 261, paragraph 1, with national teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 6 laps for Ladies and 8 laps for Men.

Team Sprint races will be skated in accordance with ISU Technical Rule 261, paragraph 3, and Rule 265, paragraph 8, with national teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 3 laps for Ladies and 3 laps for Men.

- All teams compete in Division A
- The Competitors must wear National Team racing uniforms of the Member concerned, as confirmed by the ISU;
- Only Skaters entered as a participant or a substitute for an individual event at the World Cup Competition concerned may compete in a Team event;
- The deadline for entry of names of the Skaters that may compete in the team (possibly more than 3 names) will be announced by the Referee during the team leaders' meeting the day before the Team event;
- The final composition of the team shall be declared by the team leader and submitted to Competition management not later than 30 minutes before the start of the Team event concerned.
- For the first Team Pursuit World Cup Competition of the season the teams shall be seeded according to the final 2014/15 World Cup Team Pursuit ranking;
- For the first Team Sprint World Cup Competition of the season the teams shall be seeded according to rank of the second best Skater from the Member in the 2014/15 World Cup 1000m ranking; For the subsequent Competitions teams shall be seeded according to the current World Cup Team event ranking.
- The sequence of races of the Team event competitions is determined by seeding or ranking of the teams, with the two best ranked teams competing in the last race.

Further details on the organization of the Team event races may be given in a separate document issued ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

4.3 Competition format for the Mass start events

Mass start races will be organized based on ISU Technical Rule 253, paragraph 4.b) and ISU Communication No. 1957, with additional specifications as listed below or in any updated documents issued by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

4.3.1 Safety measures

a) Competitor MUST wear:

- A helmet that conforms to the shape of the head. The helmet shall comply with the specifications for Short Track Speed Skating (ISU Special Regulations, Rule 291, paragraph 1 a)
- Cut-resistant racing suit or underwear, in accordance with specifications for Short Track Speed Skating (ISU Communication No. 1265)
- Knee-shin guards, made of plastic or cut resistant material
- Cut resistant or leather gloves
- Cut resistant neck and ankle protection

b) The back part of the blades must be rounded off, with an indicative radius of 1 cm.

c) Other specially announced safety measures may apply.

4.3.2 Basic competition format

- a) Distances are 16 laps for Ladies and 16 laps for Men. The warm-up lane is considered as part of the racing track.
- b) Start in the middle of the finishing straight (at the 1000m finishing line), finish at the end of the finishing straight. The Competitors line up at the start according to their World Cup ranking, in rows of 6 Skaters with the highest ranked Competitors in the first row. Unranked Competitors line up according to their starting number for the World Cup Competition concerned. For World Cup № 1 the line-up will be based on the seeding of the Team leaders and the World Cup Mass start ranking 2014/15, cf. paragraph 5.1.
- c) During the race there will be three intermediate sprints, which will be concluded at the finishing line after 4, 8 and 12 laps. A bell signal will be given one lap before the sprint; that means when the lap counter shows 13, 9 and 5 laps left, respectively. Another bell signal will be given when the lap counter shows 1 lap left, signaling the final sprint.
- d) The race points awarded for the sprints are as follows:
- Intermediate sprints: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 5 – 3 – 1 points
 - Final sprint: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 60 – 40 – 20 points
 - The result (final ranking) of the race will be determined by the accumulated race points gained in the intermediate sprints and at the final sprint. The winners of the final sprint points (places 1 to 3) will be ranked 1-2-3 in the race.
 - The other Competitors will be ranked according to their accumulated points in the intermediate sprints. For Competitors with the same total of sprint points, the order of finish in the final sprint will break the tie.

- For Competitors that do not finish the race in a regular manner, points allocated from the intermediate sprints will not be considered for the final race result. Such intermediate sprint points will not be reallocated to other Competitors.
- Competitors without race points will be ranked according to their order of finish at the final sprint.
- Competitors not finishing the race will be ranked according to the number of laps they have completed before being lapped or otherwise having abandoned the race.

4.3.3 World Cup points

World Cup points and Grand World Cup points are awarded based on the final race results, according to the points scoring tables listed in paragraph 6.

4.4 Entry and selection of Skaters for the World Cup final (WC №6)

- The maximum number of Competitors will be restricted as follows:
 - For each of the individual distances (500m, 1000m, 1500m and 3000m/5000m): 12 Competitors
 - For the Mass start events: 20 Competitors
 - For each of the Team events: 4 Teams
- For each event the maximum entry quotas listed in paragraph 3.4.1 apply, and only the following Skaters or Teams may be entered:
 - for the individual distances: Skaters placed among the 20 best in the current World Cup ranking for the distance (category) concerned
 - for the Mass start event: Skaters placed among the 28 best in the current World Cup ranking, and Skaters placed among the 8 best in the Grand World Cup ranking before the World Cup final
 - For the Team events: Teams placed among the 6 best in the current World Cup ranking
- “Wild Card” entries are not possible.
- If the actual number of entries will exceed the maximum number of Competitors stated in item a) above, the entered Skaters or Teams with the lowest World Cup ranking will not be admitted. However, a Skater who has been entered for Mass start based on a top 8 ranking in the Grand World Cup, will get priority for this event.

4.5 Demonstration events

With the consent of the ISU World Cup Coordinator and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, the organizer of a World Cup Competition may include demonstration events.

5. Drawing - Composition of pairs/heats and starting order, issuing of start lists

5.1 Team Leaders' meeting and draw meetings

- A Team leaders' meeting shall take place before the first day of the Competition, with the purpose to confirm the final entries and to present race schedules and other logistic information. On subsequent days the Team leaders' meeting may be replaced by a procedure where Team leaders submit this information by a give deadline, and where information on race schedules etc. for the following day will be distributed to the Team leaders by other means.
- Before the first day of a World Cup Competition there will be an opening draw meeting to announce the composition and starting order of pairs for the first competition day. On subsequent days the start lists for the following day will be determined by the Referee based on the entries confirmed at the Team leaders' meeting and the rules given below. At the first World Cup Competition of the season, however, a draw meeting will be held following the team leaders' meeting before each day of competition.
- Each participating ISU Member is obliged to attend Team leaders' meetings, but participation is restricted to one person (the officially entered Team leader or another person authorized by the Team leader).

5.2 Drawing at the first World Cup Competition for individual events (except Mass start)

- The entered Competitors shall be placed in 10 (ten) groups. Group 1-9 will have 4 Competitors each. Remaining Competitors shall be placed in Group 10.
- Respecting the entry quotas defined in paragraph 3.4 above, the number of Competitors for an ISU Member in Group 1 corresponds to the number of Skaters from this ISU Member among the 4 best in the final World Cup ranking 2014/15, and similarly for Groups 2 through 9.
- Before noon (12:00) on the day of the Opening draw meeting for the Competition the Team leaders must submit to the Referee a seeding of their entered Competitors, by order of quality, for all distances to be skated in the Competition. The Referee then places the Competitors in the respective groups, considering that Group 1 shall include the Skaters of highest quality.
- For the short distances (500m, 1000m and 1500m) Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed into Groups 1 through 5; for the long distances (3000m/5000m) Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed

into Groups 1 through 4. Division B shall consist of the remaining Competitors. Adjustments will be made in case of exceptional number of Competitors in Division A as per paragraph 4.1.

- e) Pairs are drawn within each group. The pairs of Group 10 shall be drawn first, then the pairs of Group 9, etc. The two last drawn Competitors from Group 1 will form the last pair of Division A. In the case of an odd number of Competitors, the first pair will consist of a single Skater.
- f) In case of withdrawals after the draw meeting, a withdrawn Competitor shall be replaced in the pair by the next ranked of the entered Skater or substitute (according to the seeding submitted by the Team leader) from the ISU Member concerned, etc. If no substitute is available, and the consequence is that less than 4 Competitors remain in a group the Competitor with the highest rank from the next group will be moved to complete the pair, etc. Further rearrangements may be done according to Rule 245.

5.3 Pairing and drawing after the first World Cup Competition

- a) Competitors, both in Division A and in Division B, shall be paired according to their individual World Cup rank. An extended World Cup ranking is established by ranking Competitors with no World Cup points according to their best achieved time in World Cup races during the season 2015/16. Competitors with no results from World Cup races held during the season shall be ranked thereafter, based on their best achieved qualifying time. The starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors – so that the Competitors with the highest ranks will start in the last pair, and so on. The better ranked Competitor in a pair shall start in the inner lane.
- b) The above procedure applies also for the first (and only) competition in 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men, with the drawing based on the current extended World Cup ranking in the long distances.
- c) In case of withdrawals after the draw, pairs shall be rearranged according to Rule 245. Substitutes shall be placed in the Division and the pair corresponding to their individual World Cup rank, with rearrangements made accordingly. However, for withdrawals announced later than two hours before the start of the distance and Division concerned, adjustment of pairs may be made according to Rule 245, paragraph 3.

5.4 Composition of quartets

In the case of quartet starts the four Competitors with the best World Cup ranking shall form the last quartet, and only the first quartet may be incomplete.

5.5 Mass start – composition of Division A and starting orders.

- a) Maximum two Skaters from the same ISU Member may compete in the same race. This applies both to Division A and Division B races.
- b) If Division B would consist only of Skaters from Members that have 2 Skaters competing in Division A, the Division B race will be cancelled if less than 8 Competitors are entered.

5.5.1 The first World Cup Competition of the season

Selection of Skaters for Division A will be made according to paragraphs 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 a) above. The seeding of the entered Skaters (according to the same criteria as for the individual distances) will determine the starting order (lineup of Skaters) for both Divisions.

5.5.2 After the first World Cup Competition

- Skaters will be selected for Division A based on paragraphs 4.1.1, 4.1.2 b) and 4.1.2 c) above, respecting the rule that not more than 2 skaters from the same Member may compete in the same race.
- If the criteria given in paragraphs 4.1.2 b) and 4.1.2 c) would indicate that 3 Skaters from the same Member should be selected for Division A, one of these 3 Skaters would be moved to Division B and be replaced in Division A by the best ranked Skater initially placed in Division B. In this case the priority order for placing the maximum 2 of the 3 Skaters from the Member concerned in Division A will be as follows (ties in each "group" will be broken by World Cup ranking of the Skaters concerned):
 - i) Skater(s) with a Wild Card
 - ii) Skater(s) that have earned promotion from Division B in the preceding Competition.
 - iii) Any other entered Skater(s),
- If an ISU Member would have entered 3 Skaters, and none of them would be placed in Division A according to the procedures above, only 2 Skaters from the ISU Member concerned would be admitted to the Division B race.

5.6 Team events

The composition and sequence of races will be determined according to paragraph 4.2 above.

6. Points and ranking system for World Cup rankings

6.1 Grand World Cup points

A special ranking is established to determine an overall World Cup winner (“Grand World Cup winner 2015/16”), both for Ladies and for Men. For each competition in individual distances, and also for the combined Allround and Sprint rankings established at WC № 5 to determine quota places for the ISU World Allround and ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships, the top 5 ranked Competitors will gain “Grand World Cup points”, as follows:

| Rank | Competitions before the World Cup final | World Cup final |
|-------------|--|------------------------|
| 1 | 100 (50) | 150 (75) |
| 2 | 80 (40) | 120 (60) |
| 3 | 70 (35) | 104 (52) |
| 4 | 60 (30) | 90 (45) |
| 5 | 50 (25) | 76 (38) |

The points in brackets are awarded for each 500m race and each 1000m race in Competitions where the distance will be skated twice.

6.2 World Cup points

Based on the results of Division A and Division B, World Cup points are awarded according to the points tables below. Tables A1, A2 or A3 are used for Division A, and tables B1 and B2 for Division B. For the combined Allround and Sprint rankings established at WCNº 5 to determine quota places for the ISU World Allround and World Sprint Championships, points table A1 will be used.

| Rank | A1 For >16 entries | A2 For 12-16 entries | A3 World Cup Final (all events) | Rank | B1 In combination with A1 | B2 In combination with A2 |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|--|--|
| 1 | 100 | 100 | 150 | 1 | 25 | 32 |
| 2 | 80 | 80 | 120 | 2 | 19 | 27 |
| 3 | 70 | 70 | 104 | 3 | 15 | 23 |
| 4 | 60 | 60 | 90 | 4 | 11 | 19 |
| 5 | 50 | 50 | 76 | 5 | 8 | 15 |
| 6 | 45 | 45 | 45 | 6 | 6 | 11 |
| 7 | 40 | 40 | 40 | 7 | 4 | 9 |
| 8 | 36 | 35 | 36 | 8 | 2 | 7 |
| 9 | 32 | 30 | 32 | 9 | 1 | 6 |
| 10 | 28 | 25 | 28 | 10 | - | 5 |
| 11 | 24 | 21 | 24 | 11 | | 4 |
| 12 | 21 | 18 | 21 | 12 | | 3 |
| 13 | 18 | 16 | 18 | 13 | | 2 |
| 14 | 16 | 14 | 16 | 14 | | 1 |
| 15 | 14 | 12 | 14 | 15 | | |
| 16 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 16 | | |
| 17 | 10 | | 10 | 17 | | |
| 18 | 8 | | 8 | 18 | | |
| 19 | 6 | | 6 | 19 | | |
| 20 | 5 | | 5 | 20 | | |
| 21 | 4 | | | 21 | | |
| 22 | 3 | | | 22 | | |
| 23 | 2 | | | 23 | | |
| 24 | 1 | | | 24 | | |

6.3 Points for tied ranks

If two or more Skaters (or Teams) have obtained the same rank in the classification, each Skater (or team) will receive the full points score for this tied rank.

7. World Cup Speed Skating ranking rules

7.1 Grand World Cup ranking rules (to determine the overall World Cup winner)

For the Grand World Cup ranking a tie between Skaters with the same number of “Grand World Cup points” (as defined above) will be resolved according to the following criteria (in order of priority) for determining the better ranked Skater:

- i) The Skater with the higher number of World Cup victories;
- ii) The Skater with the higher total of Grand World Cup points in the latest Competition held;
- iii) The Skater with the higher number of races where Grand World Cup points have been scored.

7.2 World Cup rankings for each event category

The World Cup ranking for each event category is determined by the number of points the Skaters (or national Teams) accumulate during the season. In the final World Cup ranking, as well as in the intermediate ranking during the season, a tie between Skaters/Teams with the same total of World Cup points will be resolved according to the following criteria (in order of priority) for determining the better ranked Skater/team:

- i) The Skater/Team with the higher number of World Cup victories;
- ii) The Skater/Team with the higher score of points in one single competition (race);
- iii) The Skater/Team with the higher score of points in the latest competition (race) held.

If neither of these criteria resolves the tie, the Skaters (teams) shall have the same World Cup rank.

8. Prizes

For each distance (category) prize money will be awarded for each Competition and for the final classification at the end of the season. For each Competition prize money is awarded to the top 3 Skaters of Division A and the top 3 teams in Team events. For the final World Cup ranking prize money is awarded to the top 10 Skaters in each of the individual distance categories, to the top 5 Skaters in the Mass start event, and to the top 5 ranked teams in the Team events.

| <i>Prize money for Grand World Cup winners</i> (amount for each gender) | | | | US \$ 20.000 | | |
|--|--|-------|---|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Prize money for final ranking</i> | | | | <i>Prize money for each Competition</i> | | |
| Place | Amount (for each individual distance category) | Place | Amount for Team Pursuit and Team Sprint | Place | Full amount for a distance | Half* amount for a distance skated twice |
| 1. | US \$ 15.000,- | 1. | US \$ 5.000,- | 1. | US \$ 1.500,- | US \$ 750,- |
| 2. | US \$ 10.000,- | 2. | US \$ 3.000,- | 2. | US \$ 1.000,- | US \$ 500,- |
| 3. | US \$ 7.000,- | 3. | US \$ 2.500,- | 3. | US \$ 800,- | US \$ 400,- |
| 4. | US \$ 5.000,- | 4. | US \$ 2.000,- | <i>Team Pursuit & Team Sprint prize money</i> | | |
| 5. | US \$ 4.000,- | 5. | US \$ 1.500,- | 1 st team | US \$ 2.100,- | |
| 6. | US \$ 3.500,- | | | 2 nd team | US \$ 1.500,- | |
| 7. | US \$ 3.000,- | | | 3 rd team | US \$ 1.200,- | |
| 8. | US \$ 2.500,- | | | <i>Sprint & Allround Combination**</i> | | |
| 9. | US \$ 2.000,- | | | 1. | US \$ 1.500,- | |
| 10. | US \$ 1.500,- | | | 2. | US \$ 1.000,- | |
| | | | | 3. | US \$ 800,- | |

*) These amounts apply for each 500m race and each 1000 m race in Competitions where the distance is skated twice.

**) These amounts will be distributed at the World Cup in Stavanger, NOR, for the Sprint combination (500 & 1000 meters) and Allround combination (1500 & 3000/5000 meters) for both Ladies and Men.

In case of ties, the prize money will be the average amounts for the applicable ranking positions.

The prize money for the final rankings is transferred from the ISU to the respective ISU Members on the same conditions that apply for ISU Championships (see ISU Communication No. 1924 or later updates). Payment of prize money for each individual competition is handled by the organizing ISU Member.

9. Cancellation of Competitions

If an organizing ISU Member considers it impossible to hold the World Cup Competition it has been allotted according to the schedule given in paragraph 3, it must urgently give the reasons in writing to the ISU Secretariat to permit the ISU to authorize the cancellation. If circumstances during a Competition would make it impossible to complete some scheduled races, the Referee in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee representative is authorized to cancel distances or races. The ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee decides if cancelled distances or races shall be rescheduled for another date and/or another venue.

10. Requirements for the organization of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions

A Memorandum issued by the ISU gives detailed requirements and guidelines for the organization of an ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competition. A summary is given below:

- 10.1** The organizer is responsible for publishing the announcement for the Competition, in accordance with Rule 110 and guidelines given in the Memorandum. The draft announcement shall be submitted to the ISU Secretariat for approval. The announcement should be sent by email to ISU Speed Skating Members not later than 60 days before the Competition, and it should be made available on a suitable website with other relevant information.
- 10.2** Referees, Assistant Referees and Starters are appointed by the ISU President, based on nominations made by the organizing ISU Member, in consultation with the ISU Vice President, ISU Sports Director and Speed Skating Technical Committee. The Referee and at least one Starter (both for the Ladies' and the Men's competitions) must be ISU Officials for the season 2015/16, as given in ISU Communication No. 1949. At least *two* of the ISU appointed Officials should belong to an ISU Member other than the hosting ISU Member.
- 10.3** The organizer must provide the Referees with adequate secretariat assistance, i.e. a "Sport Technical Expert" as described in Rule 210, paragraph 1 k). Computer support for the preparation and conduct of the drawings will be offered by ISU.
- 10.4** Timekeeping by automatic timekeeping procedure, with installation of a photofinish system, and of a transponder-based system for Team and Mass start events, is mandatory. An automatic timekeeping system based on optical cells or transponders must be connected to a scoreboard displaying live the split times and the unofficial final times and results.
- 10.5** Anti-doping tests must be carried out according to the valid ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures, as given in the applicable ISU Communications (ISU Communication Nos. 1871, 1872, 1922 & 1941 or later updates).
- 10.6** The organizer is responsible that appropriate accommodation is available for participants and team leaders, officials, sponsors and media. For the participating teams the organizer is obliged to announce a set of guaranteed (maximum) board and lodging rates at available hotels ("official hotels"), as follows:
 - Hotel room rates for single and double room (without meals or only including breakfast);
 - Rates for full board and lodging (three meals per day).
- 10.7** The organizer is responsible for covering expenses for travel, board and lodging for the ISU appointed Officials, and for the board and lodging for the ISU Representative and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative.
- 10.8** The organizer must provide a transportation service from the official hotels for the teams during the period of the competitions and the announced training sessions. Convenient means of transportation between the competition site and the nearest international airport must be available.
- 10.9** The organizer is not obliged to provide services (hotel reservations, accredited entrance to the ice rink, transportation etc.) for an excessive number of team officials or other accompanying persons from participating ISU Members. Names and functions of all team officials must be submitted to the organizer before the deadline given in the announcement for the Competition. Guidelines for accreditation etc. are given in the Memorandum.
- 10.10** The organizer must provide ice-training possibilities for at least 3 hours per day during the last four days prior to the Competition. Adequate safety protection must be in place at the rink during the official training and the competition periods, as per guidelines given in the Memorandum and the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules.
- 10.11** The organizer is responsible for the payment of prize money for the Competition according to procedures and financial terms agreed with the ISU.
- 10.12** The organizer is responsible that results are forwarded to international press and news service agencies (see also paragraph 12 below).

11. Distribution of results

The organizer of a Competition must *immediately* send complete results for the races *by electronic mail* to:

- ISU Secretariat, prahin@isu.ch
- ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Chair, te@rcn.no
- ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative at the Competition

The organizers should ensure that results are posted continuously during the Competition at an announced Internet web site. The official protocol, in appropriate digital format, must be sent without delay to the ISU Secretariat.

12. World Cup Speed Skating Coordination

The ISU Council has appointed Vice President Mr. Jan Dijkema as ISU World Cup Speed Skating Coordinator. Any questions concerning the rules and conditions given in this Communication or concerning the organization of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2015/16 should be addressed to:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|--|
| ISU Secretariat | Tel. | + 41 21 612 6666 |
| Av. Juste-Olivier 17 | Fax: | + 41 21 612 6677 |
| CH – 1006 Lausanne, Switzerland | E-mail: | prahin@isu.ch |

Milan,
August 3, 2015
Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President
Fredi Schmid, Director General