

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 2112

ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2017/18

1. General Conditions

- a) The ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2017/18 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.
- b) International TV rights and advertising rights for the ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2017/18 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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

- a) The ISU World Cup Speed Skating is organized as a series of Competitions in the following event categories, with several number of Competitions/races scheduled for the season 2017/18:

Ladies, individual events: 500, 1000, 1500, Long distances (3000 and 5000m), Mass start races (16 laps)
Ladies, team events: Team Pursuit (6 laps) and Team Sprint (3 laps)
Ladies allround combinations: 500*+1000*m, 1500+3000m

Men, individual events: 500, 1000, 1500, Long distances (5000 and 10000m), Mass start races (16 laps)
Men, team events: Team Pursuit (8 laps) and Team Sprint (3 laps)
Men, allround combinations: 500*+1000*m, 1500+5000m

*only one race from the event concerned will count for combination

- b) 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.
- c) The Grand World Cup ranking is determined by the accumulated "Grand World Cup points" for each Skater over the season.
- d) 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.
- e) The Competitions are open to all ISU Speed Skating Members. Entry quotas are based on the final World Cup rankings 2016/17 and for the World Cup Final on World Cup rankings 2017/18.
- f) Prize money, as determined by the ISU, will be awarded for each Competition, for the final World Cup ranking in each event category and for the Grand World Cup winners (for details see paragraph 8).

3. ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2017/18

3.1. Competition calendar and 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*	Heerenveen, NED	10 November 2017, Friday 11 November 2017, Saturday 12 November 2017, Sunday	500 L-1, TP-M, TP-L, 500 M-1, (SF Ms-L, SF Ms-M)** 500 M-2, 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, Ms-L, Ms-M 1000 L, 1000 M, 3000 L, 5000 M, TS-L, TS-M,
WC №2*	Stavanger, NOR	17 November 2017, Friday 18 November 2017, Saturday 19 November 2017, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1000 L, 1000 M 500 L-2, 500 M-2, 1500 L, 1500 M 5000 L, 10000 M, TS-L, TS-M
WC №3*	Calgary, CAN	01 December 2017, Friday 02 December 2017, Saturday 03 December 2017, Sunday	3000 L, 5000 M, TS-L, TS-M 1000 L, 1000 M, TP-L, TP-M, (SF Ms-L, SF Ms-M)** 500 L, 1500 M, 1500 L, 500 M, Ms-M, Ms-L
WC №4*	Salt Lake City, USA	08 December 2017, Friday 09 December 2017, Saturday 10 December 2017, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-L, TP-M, (SF Ms-L, SF Ms-M)** 500 L-2, 500 M-2, 1500 L, 1500 M, Ms-L, Ms-M 1000 L, 1000 M, 3000 L, 5000 M
WC №5	Erfurt, GER	19 January 2018, Friday 20 January 2018, Saturday 21 January 2018, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1000 L-1, 1500 M 500 L-2, 1000 M-1, 5000 M, 1500 L 500 M-2, 1000 L-2, 1000 M-2, 3000 L
WC №6 <i>Final</i>	Minsk, BLR	17 March 2018, Saturday 18 March 2018, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-L, TP-M, 1000 L, 1000 M, 3000 L, 5000 M 500 L-2, 500 M-2, 1500 L, 1500 M, TS-L, TS-M, Ms-L, Ms-M

* *Olympic Qualifying Competitions for entry quotas*

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

** Provisional, see section 4.1.1. d) below.

3.2. ISU World Cup Competitions serving as qualifying events for ISU Championships 2018 and Olympic Winter Games 2018

3.2.1. World Cups №1, №2, №3 and №4 are qualifying events for:

- the ISU European Speed Skating Championships 2018: European ISU Members qualify for quota places for the Championships based on the results of their Skaters in these Competitions;
- the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018: ISU Members qualify for quota places for the OWG 2018 based on the results of their Skaters in these Competitions.

3.2.2. World Cup №5 is a qualifying event for:

- the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2018: ISU Members qualify for quota places for the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2018 based on the combined results (best one 500 and best one 1000m) of their Skaters in this Competition;
- the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2018: ISU Members qualify for quota places for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2018 based on the combined results (1500 and 3000m for Ladies, 1500 and 5000m for Men) of their Skaters in this Competition.

Details of the qualification process for ISU Championships are given in Rule 208, paragraphs 4 to 6, and in a special ISU Communication (to be released). Details of the qualification process for the Olympic Winter Games 2018 are given in Rule 209 and in ISU Communication No. 2101.

3.3. Entry rules

3.3.1. Entry quotas for World Cups №1 to №4

- Entry quotas for individual events are based on the final World Cup rankings 2016/17 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 2, and each ISU Member may enter 2 Skaters (subject to qualifying times).
- For each of the Team events an ISU Member may enter only one team per gender (Ladies and Men).
- The organizing ISU Member of an ISU World Cup Competition (except for the World Cup Final) will be granted maximum entry quotas for all events.
- For the ISU World Cup Final, entries are based on World Cup 2017/18 results and rankings, see paragraph 3.3.3.
- Entry quotas for World Cups №1, №2, №3 and №4 are determined as follows:

Number of Skaters in Top 40 in the final World Cup ranking 2016/17 of the distance	None (0)	1	2	3 - 4	5 or more
Entry quotas for the distance in season 2017/18	1	2	3	4	5

3.3.2. Entry quotas for World cup №5

Entry quotas for World Cup №5 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 2018 and the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2018, 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 Members will be one more than its maximum quota (for World Cups №1 to №4) for both of the two distances counting for the quota qualification (Sprint distances: 500 and 1000m; Allround distances: 1500 and 3000m for Ladies, 1500 and 5000m for Men).

Summary table of entry quotas for ISU World Cup Competitions 2017/18 prior to the ISU World Cup Final:

ISU Member	LADIES								ISU Member	MEN								ISU Member
	WC № 1 – WC № 4				WC № 5					WC № 1 – WC № 4				WC № 5				
	500	1000	1500	3000 5000	500	1000	1500	3000		500	1000	1500	5000 10000	500	1000	1500	5000	
AUS	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	AUS	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	AUS
AUT	2	2	2	1	3	3	3	3	AUT	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	AUT
BEL	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	BEL	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	BEL
BLR	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	BLR	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	BLR
CAN	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	CAN	5	4	4	3	5	5	4	4	CAN
CHN	5	4	3	3	5	5	4	4	CHN	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	CHN
TPE	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	TPE	2	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	TPE
CZE	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	CZE	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	CZE
DEN	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	DEN	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	DEN
FIN	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	FIN	3	2	1	1	4	4	2	2	FIN
FRA	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	FRA	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	FRA
GER	2	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	GER	2	4	2	3	5	5	5*	5*	GER
ITA	2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	ITA	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	ITA
JPN	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	JPN	5	4	4	3	5	5	5	5	JPN
KAZ	2	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	KAZ	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	KAZ
KOR	4	3	2	2	5	5	3	3	KOR	4	4	3	2	5	5	4	4	KOR
NED	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	NED	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	NED
NOR	3	3	3	2	4	4	4	4	NOR	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	NOR
NZL	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	NZL	1	1	2	3	2	2	4	4	NZL
POL	1	2	4	5	3	3	5	5	POL	4	4	4	2	5	5	5	5	POL
RUS	4	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	RUS	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	RUS
SWE	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	SWE	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	SWE
SUI	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	SUI	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	SUI
USA	4	4	3	2	5	5	4	4	USA	2	5	4	1	5	5	5	5	USA

* 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.

3.3.3. Entry quotas and selection of Skater and Teams for the ISU World Cup Final

The entry quotas given in paragraph 3.3 apply as maximum entry quotas.

- a) For each event only the following Skaters or Teams may be entered:
 - for 500, 1000 and 1500m: Skaters placed among the 24 best in the current World Cup ranking for the distance concerned;
 - for 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men: Skaters placed among the 20 best in the current World Cup long distances ranking;
 - for the Mass start event: Skaters placed among the 24 best in the current World Cup ranking.
 - for the Team events: the 8 best teams in the current World Cup ranking for the Team event concerned.
- b) If the actual number of entries will exceed:
 - 6 for a Team event
 - 12 for any distance event
 - or 16 for the Mass start events,

then the entered Teams or Skaters with the lowest World Cup ranking will not be admitted. However, the best ranked Skater entered from the host ISU Member will in any case be admitted for an individual distance (including Mass start), if the Skater meets the criteria as listed in subparagraph a) above.

3.3.4. Qualifying times

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

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

However, for results achieved at the ice rinks in Calgary (Olympic Oval), Salt Lake City (Utah Olympic Oval) and Ürümqi (Xinjiang Ice Sports Center) the following qualifying time limits apply:

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

- a) 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, 2016* and the entry deadline for the ISU World Cup Competition concerned.
- b) For each World Cup before the World Cup Final, a Skater having achieved the qualifying time for only one of the two distances counting in the qualification of quota places for an ISU Championship (for the European and World Allround Championships: 1500 and 3000m for Ladies, 1500 and 5000m for Men; for the European and World Sprint Championships: 500 and 1000m) may be entered for the other distance. However, in each Competition an ISU Member may enter maximum one such Skater without the required qualifying time for each distance.
- c) 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 ISU World Cup Competition.

3.3.5. Entries of Competitors

ISU Members must submit their entries using the *ISU Online entry system* at <http://www.isu.events>. 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:

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

4.1.1. Number of Competitors in Division A

- a) For *500, 1000 and 1500m, Ladies and Men*:
 - If 28 or less Skaters have been entered, all compete in Division A
 - If more than 28 Skaters have been entered, Division A shall consist of 20 Competitors
- b) For *3000m Ladies and 5000m Men*:
 - If less 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*:
- If 24 or less Skaters have been entered, all Skaters will compete in Division A (No Semifinals will be held in such case).
 - If more than 24 Skaters have been entered, races will be organized with Semifinals and a Final. In this case Semifinals cannot be canceled even if the total number of Skaters after the draw will be 24 or less in total.
 - Each of the two Semifinals shall then be set up with at least 12 Competitors and with the same number of Skaters, unless there is an odd number of Skaters entered.
 - The entered Skaters are placed in the Semifinals according to their seeding (see Section 5.5), according to the following procedure:
 - Top seeded Skater: Semifinal 1
 - 2nd and 3rd seeded Skater: Semifinal 2
 - 4th and 5th seeded Skater: Semifinal 1, etc.
 - Not more than 1 Skater from the same ISU Member may compete in the same Semifinal. Therefore, the procedure described above for the distribution of Skaters in the two Semifinals may have to be adjusted accordingly. The Final shall consist of the 8 best ranked Skaters from each Semifinal. In the case of a withdrawal of a Skater qualified for the Final, this Skater will be replaced in the Final by the next ranked Skater from the Semifinal concerned.

Summary table regarding number of Competitors for Division A:

Number of entries	Number of Competitors in Division A or in Final of the MS				
	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.
Team events	all	all	all	all	6
Mass start	all	all	16	16	16

4.1.2. Selection of Skaters for Division A (for Mass start see 4.1.1 d) above)

- a) In the *first Competition* the composition of Division A is determined by the final 2016/17 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 2016/17 World Cup ranking determines the number of quota places for the ISU Member in Division A (subject to the entry quotas listed in paragraph 3.3, and to the upper limit of 2 Skaters from the same ISU 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, the following entered Skaters shall compete in Division A:
- 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.
- d) 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 2017/18. A "Wild card" for Division A may be granted only if the Skater was placed among the 10 best in the final World Cup 2016/17 ranking or among the 10 best in the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2017 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 distance concerned. A "Wild Card" cannot be used in the first ISU World Cup Competition of the season.

4.1.3. Scheduling of Division A races

- a) For each day of an ISU 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 and racing rules for Team events

4.2.1. Team Pursuit races

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

4.2.2. Team Sprint races

Team Sprint races will be organized based on 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, and the race format is with two teams skating at the same time.

4.2.3. General rules for the Team events

- a) The Competitors must wear National Team racing uniforms of the ISU Member concerned, as confirmed by the ISU;
- b) Only Skaters entered as a participant or a substitute for an individual event at the ISU World Cup Competition concerned may compete in a Team event;
- c) 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;
- d) 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.
- e) For the first ISU World Cup Competition of the season the teams shall be seeded according to the final 2016/17 World Cup Team event ranking; for the following Competitions the teams shall be seeded according to the current World Cup Team event ranking.
- f) 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 by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

4.3. Competition format for Mass start events

Mass start races will be organized based on ISU Technical Rule 253, paragraph 4.b) and ISU Communication No. 2038, with additional specifications as listed below or in any updates of ISU Communication No. 2038 or other 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) and with current standard for tests (like EN 1078, ICS 13.340.20, etc.)
 - 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 front and 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. 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. Demonstration events

With the consent of the ISU World Cup Coordinator and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, the organizer of an ISU 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) 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 given deadline, and where information on race schedules etc. for the following day will be distributed to the Team leaders by other means.
- b) Before the first day of an ISU 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 ISU World Cup Competition of the season, however, a draw meeting will be held following the Team leaders' meeting before each day of competition.
- c) 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 ISU World Cup Competition for individual events (except Mass start)

- a) 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.
- b) Respecting the entry quotas defined in paragraph 3.3 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 2016/17, and similarly for Groups 2 through 9.
- c) 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.
- d) For all of the short distances (500, 1000 and 1500m) Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed into Groups 1 through 5; for the long distances (3000/5000m) 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 ISU 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 2017/18. 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: starting orders and composition of semifinals

5.5.1. The first ISU World Cup Competition of the season

- If the event is skated with one race (all Skaters in the Final) only, the seeding of the entered Skaters (according to the same criteria as for the individual distances) will determine the starting order (lineup).
- If the event is skated with Semifinals, the same seeding will be used to determine the composition of the Semifinals according to the procedure described in 4.1.1 d) above. The lineup in the Semifinals will then be determined by the seeding of the Skaters in the race. In the Final, the lineup will be determined by giving the winner of Semifinal 1 starting order no. 1, the winner of Semifinal 2 starting order no. 2, the second ranked Skaters in Semifinal 1 starting order no. 3, etc.

5.5.2. After the first ISU World Cup Competition

- If the event is skated with one race (all Skaters in the Final) only, the current World Cup ranking of the entered Skaters will determine the starting order (lineup of Skaters). Skaters without World Cup points will be ranked according to their best achieved qualifying time for the 1500 m.
- If the event is skated with Semifinals and a Final, the current World Cup ranking (with extended ranking as defined above) of the entered Skaters will be used for the composition of Semifinals according to the procedure described in 4.1.1 d). This ranking will also be used for the lineup in each Semifinal and in the Final.

5.6. Team events

The composition and sequence of races will be determined according to paragraph 4.2.3 above.

6. Points and ranking system for World Cup rankings

6.1. Points scoring tables

6.1.1. Grand World Cup points

A special ranking is established to determine an overall World Cup winner (“Grand World Cup winner 2017/18”), both for Ladies and for Men. For each competition in individual distances 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.

6.1.2. 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 WC № 5 to determine quota places for the ISU World Allround and World Sprint Championships, points table A1 will be used. Table A1 will always be used for the Mass start.

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			
16	12	10	12			
17	10		10			
18	8		8			
19	6		6			
20	5		5			
21	4					
22	3					
23	2					
24	1					

If the Mass start event is skated with Semifinals and a Final, the Skaters not qualified for the Final will be awarded World Cup points as follows:

- a) Semifinal ranks 9: 10 points
- b) Semifinal ranks 10: 6 points
- c) Semifinal ranks 11: 4 points
- d) Semifinal ranks 12: 2 points

A Skater qualifying for the Final but withdrawing from the Final or Disqualified, will be awarded 10 World Cup points.

6.2. 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. ISU 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:

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

7.2. World Cup ranking 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:

- a) The Skater/Team with the higher number of World Cup victories;
- b) The Skater/Team with the higher score of points in one single competition (race);
- c) 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 individual 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 the Team events. For the final World Cup ranking, prize money is awarded to the top 10 Skaters in each of the individual distance categories (including 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 Erfurt, GER, for the Allround combination in sprint distances (500 & 1000 meters) and the Allround combination in middle/long distances (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. 1976 or later updates). Payment of prize money for each individual competition is handled by the organizing ISU Member.

During the World Cup final there will be a special award ceremony for the top 3 places in each event based on the final ISU World Cup ranking for the season, where a special trophy will be presented by the ISU to the winner.

9. Cancellation of Competitions

If an organizing ISU Member considers it impossible to hold the ISU 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 Representative and 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 ISU 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:

- 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.
- Referees, Assistant Referees and Starters are appointed by the ISU President, 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 2017/18, as given in the annual ISU Communication. At least *two* of the ISU appointed Officials should belong to an ISU Member other than the hosting ISU Member.

- c) The organizer must provide the Referees with adequate secretariat assistance, i.e. a "Sport Expert" as described in Rule 210, paragraph 1 k). Computer support for the preparation and conduct of the drawings will be offered by the ISU.
- d) Automatic timekeeping procedure as described in Rule 251, with installation of a photofinish system (two cameras for one finish), 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.
- e) 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 & 2100 or later updates).
- f) The organizer is responsible that appropriate accommodation is available for Competitors 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).
- g) The organizer is responsible for covering expenses for 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.
- h) 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.
- i) 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.
- j) 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.
- k) It is expected that organizers of every Competition will present medals for the winner, 2nd and 3rd placed Skaters in each event of Division A.
- l) The organizing ISU Member is responsible for the payment of prize money for the Competition according to procedures outlined in paragraph 8 above.
- m) The organizer is responsible that results are forwarded to international press and news service agencies (see also paragraph 11 below).
- n) The organizer must pay a financial remuneration to the appointed Referees, Assistant Referees and Starters in accordance with ISU Communication No. 2096.

11. Distribution of results

The official protocol, in appropriate digital format, must be sent without delay to:

- ISU Secretariat prahin@isu.ch

12. World Cup Speed Skating Coordination

Any questions concerning the rules and conditions given in this Communication or concerning the organization of ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2017/18 should be addressed to:

- International Skating Union, Fabrice Prahin prahin@isu.ch

Tubbergen,
August 9, 2017
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President
Fredi Schmid, Director General