

Communication No. 2320

Decisions of the Council

The ISU Council met on April 28, 2020 via an online meeting to replace the cancelled meeting that was scheduled for the ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Montreal, Canada. The following were among the decisions taken by the Council during the meeting.

1. New Provisional ISU Member

The ISU Council granted provisional ISU Membership for the Speed Skating Branch to the Skating Federation of Vietnam. The Skating Federation of Vietnam is already a Provisional ISU Member for Figure Skating.

The contact details and relevant information related to the Skating Federation of Vietnam can be found on the ISU website under the "ISU Member" section.

2. Planning Season 2020/21

The Council confirmed that the health and safety of the participants of international ice skating events remains the number one priority. Mindful of the concern for health and safety related to COVID-19 but also the need to give Skaters the best possible opportunities to compete internationally, the ISU will give its utmost support to ISU Members in order to stage all international competitions that can safely be held during the season 2020/21.

The Council decided on the following time frame/deadline for cancellations

ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events:

Latest by June 15, 2020 for the first event (CAN August 26-29, 2020) which means latest 10 weeks before the event. This ten-week deadline will also apply for subsequent ISU Junior Grand Prix events.

ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events:

Latest by August 1, 2020 for first event (Skate America, October 23-25, 2020) which means 12 weeks before the event. This twelve-week deadline will also apply for subsequent ISU Grand Prix events.

A Working Group has been created consisting of:

- Mr. Alexander Lakernik, ISU Vice President Figure Skating
- Mr. David Raith, Executive Director US Figure Skating acting as liaison to the six ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating ISU Members
- Mr. Wieland Lüders, ISU Figure Skating Event Coordinator
- Ms. Patricia Mayor, ISU Sport Manager Figure Skating
- Ms. Christine Cardis, ISU Anti-Doping Manager acting as liaison to the ISU Medical Commission.

The objective of the Working Group is to work out and monitor, in consultation with the concerned organizing ISU Members and the Athletes Commission, the following:

- a. Safety/health protection measures to be implemented at all events;
- b. Evaluate any cancellations which could become necessary due to the sanitary situation in the host city and around the World, travel/meeting restrictions, perceived threat/fear to travel and the necessary ice time for Skaters around the World to prepare for the event;
- c. Evaluate postponements and/or replacements of cancelled events;
- d. Evaluate and decide upon possibly holding certain events without spectators;
- e. Evaluate solutions related to consequences of multiple cancellations of events of a series (ISU Junior Grand Prix, ISU (senior) Grand Prix, Challenger Series) and working out options/solutions in order to maintain and/or adapt the respective ranking and allow the holding of the final event;
- f. Evaluate the financial consequences of cancellations, postponements and replacements and working out (creative) solutions in order to ensure that all events that can possibly be held are ensured of the necessary ISU support regardless on whether the ranking of the series can be maintained or not.
- g. Submit proposals on the above issues to the ISU Council for a final ISU Council decision.

For the Speed Skating Branch where the season starts later, a similar approach will be taken with a Working Group, led by the ISU Vice President Speed Skating, being created to consider all of the relevant issues. Further information will be provided shortly.

3. ISU Skating Awards Season 2019/20

The ISU Skating Awards Figure Skating for the season 2019/20 were unfortunately cancelled alongside the 2020 ISU World Figure Skating Championships in Montreal. The Council therefore decided that instead, a digital/virtual Awards show will be held in order to honour the nominated Skaters and Award winners. Further details will be provided in due course.

The Council furthermore agreed to pursue this initiative with a season 2020/21 edition. The Council will evaluate different options and will take a decision as soon as possible.

4. World Cup Speed Skating season 2020/21

The Council approved the World Cup Speed Skating calendar 2020/21 as follows:

November 13-15, 2020	Tomaszów Mazowiecki, POL
November 20-22, 2020	Stavanger, NOR
December 4-6, 2020	Salt Lake City, USA
December 11-13, 2020	Calgary, CAN
February 17-18, 2021	Changchun, CHN
March 6-7, 2021 (Final)	Heerenveen, NED

5. Junior World Cup Speed Skating season 2020/21

The Council approved the Junior World Cup Speed Skating calendar 2020/21 as follows:

November 28-29, 2020	Minsk, BLR
January 16-17, 2021	Collalbo, ITA
February 13-14, 2021	Hachinohe City, JPN

6. World Cup Speed Skating season 2021/22

The Council approved the World Cup Speed Skating calendar 2021/22 as follows:

November 12-14, 2021	OWG Qualifying Event	Tomaszów Mazowiecki, POL
November 19-21, 2021	OWG Qualifying Event	Stavanger, NOR
December 3-5, 2021	OWG Qualifying Event	Salt Lake City, USA
December 10-12, 2021	OWG Qualifying Event	Calgary, CAN
March 11-13, 2022 (Final)		Venue TBC, Netherlands

Tubbergen,
April 30, 2020
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General