

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1867

55th ISU Ordinary Congress, Dublin, June 2014 Urgent Matters

According to Section VII. Procedural Provisions to the Constitution Part A. Congress - Organization, Article 29, paragraph 5, if a proposal for the Constitution, its Procedural Provisions or for the General Regulations and Special Regulations is submitted later than December 1, it can be discussed and voted upon at Congress, provided the proposal has reached the ISU Secretariat in English for distribution to all Members, not later than three weeks before the Congress and shall be certified as urgent business by a four-fifths majority of Members present and voting.

The following urgent matters have been submitted:

SPECIAL REGULATIONS SPEED SKATING

Urgent Proposal No. 1

SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 209 (Entries for Olympic Winter Games), paragraph 1 b)

Amend as follows:

- b) The maximum number of participating Competitors per ISU Member/NOC per event/distance may not exceed:
- three (3) in each of the individual events/distances 500, 1000, 1500 meters (Ladies and Men), 3000 meters (Ladies) and 5000 meters (Men).
 - two (2) in each of the individual events/distances 5000 meters (Ladies), 10000 meters (Men) and (subject to IOC approval to include this event in the Olympic Winter Games program) Mass Start (Ladies and Men).
 - four (4) in each of the Team Pursuit events. The maximum of one team per ISU Member/NOC may be entered in each event (Ladies and Men).

Reason: A maximum national event quota of 3 athletes is common in many Olympic sports (including the other ISU Sports disciplines), in particular when the overall number of competitors is restricted to similar levels as in speed skating. This amendment will allow participation of more countries in each and every event. Moreover, the 4th ranked skater from a country has often be qualified in some other event, meaning that the event quota reduction will not significantly reduce the opportunities for skaters in "strong" countries to qualify for the Olympic Winter Games. With the overall number of competitors in the 5000m Ladies and 10000 m Men being only about the half compared to the other distances, it will be consistent to reduce the maximum event quota per country for these distances to two.

If the proposal will be accepted, as a drafting matter Rule 209, paragraph 2) will have to be amended in the parts where reference is made to the maximum event quota numbers per country.

Urgent Proposal No. 2

SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 209 (Entries for Olympic Winter Games), paragraphs 1 c) and 2 b) iii)

Amend as follows:

1 c) The maximum number of Competitors per event/distance (event/distance quota) will be:

- 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Ladies: 36
- 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Men: 40
- 3000 meters for Ladies and 5000 meters for Men: 28
- 5000 meters for Ladies and 10000 meters for Men: 12
- Team Pursuit events: 8 teams, each team consisting of maximum 4 Skaters.

2 b)

iii) For each event/distance the highest ranked SOQC positions will consist of a certain number of Skaters/teams (for each ISU Member/NOC, counting only Skaters inside the maximum ISU Member/NOC quota for the event/distance concerned) from the SOQC points ranking as follows for each event/distance:

- for 500, 1000 and 1500 meters (Ladies and Men) 20 Skaters;
- for 3000 meters Ladies, 5000 meters Men 16 Skaters;
- for 5000 meters Ladies and 10000 meters Men 8 Skaters;
- for Team Pursuit Ladies and Men 6 Teams.

Reason: At the last two Olympic Winter Games the 10000 m quota of 16 skaters has not been filled up, mainly because qualified athletes have given priority to competing in other events. For the Ladies 5000 m the event quota has been filled up, but with several cases of lesser qualified substitutes being entered. By reducing the overall number of competitors by four, and at the same time limiting the event quota per country to 2 competitors, the events will get a wider international representation. The reduction will also bring the duration of the events better in line with the other speed skating events at the OWG. An adjustment in the qualification procedure, paragraph 2b) –iii), is proposed to maintain a balance between World Cup rankings and time rankings in the determination of the SOQC.

If the proposal will be accepted, as a drafting matter Rule 209, paragraph 2) will have to be amended in the parts where reference is made to the total event quotas for these events.

Urgent Proposal No. 3

SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 209 (Entries for Olympic Winter Games), paragraphs 1 c) and 2 b) iii)

Amend as follows (subject to IOC approval to include Mass Start as a new event):

1 c) The maximum number of Competitors per event/distance (event/distance quota) will be:

- 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Ladies: 32
- 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Men: 36
- 3000 meters for Ladies and 5000 meters for Men: 24
- 5000 meters for Ladies and 10000 meters for Men: 12
- Mass Start for Ladies and Men: 24
- Team Pursuit events: 8 teams, each team consisting of maximum 4 Skaters.

2 b)

iii) For each event/distance the highest ranked SOQC positions will consist of a certain number of Skaters/teams (for each ISU Member/NOC, counting only Skaters inside the maximum ISU Member/NOC quota for the event/distance concerned) from the SOQC points ranking as follows for each event/distance:

- for 500, 1000 and 1500 meters (Ladies and Men) 20 Skaters;
- for 3000 meters Ladies, 5000 meters Men 16 Skaters;
- for 5000 meters Ladies and 10000 meters Men 8 Skaters;
- For Mass Start Ladies and Men 24 Skaters;
- for Team Pursuit Ladies and Men 6 Teams.

Reason: If the Mass Start will be accepted as a new Olympic Event, it is necessary to allow a reasonably high number of competitors, and this number is proposed at 24. With a maximum national quota of 2 skaters, this will allow participation from at least 12 different countries. Several of these athletes will probably not be qualified or entered for other events. Since it cannot be expected that the overall IOC quota (currently 180 athletes) will be increased when adding a new event, it will be necessary to make some reduction in the number of competitors for the other events.

For the qualification procedure, experiences indicate that the World Cup ranking should be given some more weight in the SOQC. This will prevent that (through the time ranking) the results from the qualifying competitions at the fastest track(s) will get too much importance. For the Mass start qualification will be by World Cup ranking only.

If the proposal will be accepted, as a drafting matter Rule 209, paragraph 2) will have to be amended in the parts where reference is made to the total event quotas for the individual events.

Urgent Proposal No. 4

SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 209 (Entries for Olympic Winter Games), paragraph 2 c) ii)

Amend as follows:

- ii) An ISU Member/NOC that has achieved no quota place for an event/distance according to the respective SOQC, will be allocated one quota place, to the disfavour of the last qualification place based on the SOQC, in the following cases:
 - ~~— For 500, 1000, 1500 meters (Ladies & Men), 3000 meters Ladies, 5000 meters Men:~~
 - ~~— If a Skater from the ISU Member/NOC was placed among the top 16 in the final World Cup ranking (for 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men, the World Cup Ranking for the long distances apply) or among the top 16 in the World Single Distances Championships for the distance concerned, in the season prior to the Olympic Winter Games;~~
 - ~~— For 5000 meters Ladies, 10 000 meters Men (distance quotas of only 16):~~
 - ~~— If a Skater from the ISU Member/NOC was placed among the top 8 in the final World Cup ranking (for the long distances) or among the top 8 in the World Single Distances Championships for the distance concerned, in the season prior to the Olympic Winter Games;~~
 - For Team Pursuit (quota of 8 teams, 1 team per ISU Member/NOC):
The Host ISU Member/NOC of the Olympic Winter Games has the right to enter a team for each of the Team Pursuit events.

Reason: The exceptional clause making it possible to qualify quota places based on preceding season's results, do not appear necessary or well enough justified.

Urgent Proposal No. 5

SPEED SKATING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 241 (Drawing at Olympic Winter Games), Rule 241, paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

1. The draw for the starting order at the Olympic Winter Games shall take place for each single distance (see Rule 239). ~~with the exception of the second 500 meters for Ladies and Men. For the second 500 meters race, the Competitors will be paired according to the time ranking from the first race, in such a way that the participants change starting lanes in the second race. If some Competitors with the same starting lane get the same finishing time in the first race, the Competitor with the better SOQC ranking will be considered as better ranked. The starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order: The Competitor with the best time of those who started in the first inner lane shall skate in the last pair against the Competitor with the best time of those who started in the first outer lane.~~

Reason: Drafting matter, if the proposal to determine the 500m in one race only, will be accepted.

TECHNICAL RULES SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING

Urgent Proposal No. 6

ISU COUNCIL

Rule 297

Amend as follows:

Individual racing rules

1. a) Races are run counter-clockwise, that is to say the inner side of the track is on the left hand side of the Skater;
b) Overtaking is allowed at all times, but until the Skaters are besides each other the responsibility for any obstruction or collision shall be upon the Skater overtaking, provided the Skater being overtaken does not act improperly;
c) When a Skater has been lapped once the Skater may continue his race, preferably on the outside of the track, provided this does not interfere with nor impedes other competitors;
d) If a Skater is lapped twice, that Skater shall leave the race unless there are one or more other Skaters very close to his current race position. Skaters who have left the race on basis of this rule shall be recorded as not finished. If the Referee, at his discretion, feels that the Skater was prevented from finishing due to reasons beyond the Skaters control, then the Referee may declare the Skater having reached the finish but no time shall be recorded;
e) A competitor or Team has completed the distance when the Skater has reached the finish line with the leading tip of the skate blade.

Infringements

2. a) The general racing rule is that the Competitors by their way of skating shall contribute to the honest sporting and safe progress of the race in order to determine the result of the race on its merits;
b) Breaches of the racing rules are considered as follows:
 - OFF-TRACK: Shortening the distance to be skated with one or both skates on the left side of the curve, marked by track marking blocks;

- IMPEDING: Impeding, blocking, charging, or pushing another Competitor with any part of the body. Interfere with another Skater by crossing his/her course thereby causing contact;
- ASSISTANCE: Each Skater shall compete as an individual. Any assistance from other Skaters will be cause for sanctions of all Skaters involved. This will not apply to the push the Skater receives from their Team-mate in a Relay race.
- KICKING OUT: Kicking out of any skate during any part of a race thereby causing danger including at the finish line or throwing the body across the finish line is forbidden.

Relay racing rules

3. a) Teams consist of maximum of the following number of Competitors:

- World Championships 5
- World Junior Championships 4
- European Championships 5
- World Cup Competitions see World Cup Communication
- All other Competitions 5

For each race any four (4) of the named Skaters must take part in the race.

- b) All members of a Team shall be equally dressed. Teams which do not comply with this shall be excluded from participation;
- c) A Competitor will be in the race and be responsible for the Team until that Skater is relayed by a Team member. Relaying will be by touch, that is to say a Competitor will not be in the race until that Skater has been touched by, or has touched the Competitor he is relieving;
- d) A Competitor may be relayed at any time except during the last two (2) laps. These laps must be skated by one Skater. A warning shot will be fired to indicate the start of the last three (3) laps; e) In the case of a fall during the last two (2) laps, the Skater may be relayed.

Relay infringements

- 4. a) The individual racing rules, paragraphs 1 and 2, shall apply to Relay races, that is to say for all members of the Team, both participating and relayed Team members;
- b) Breaches of the relay racing rules are considered as follows:
 - RELAYING NON TOUCH: The relay has taken place without a touch or that the touch has not been obvious, clearly shown, and seen by the Referee or Assistant Referees;
 - RELAYING DURING THE LAST TWO (2) LAPS: The last relay has not been clearly started before the commencement of the final two laps.

Sanctions for infringements of the Racing Rules or the ISU Code of Ethics

5. a) The term “disqualification” as used in Rule 123 paragraph 4 c. shall be understood to describe the various sanctions mentioned in this Rule including without limitation the following type of sanctions:

- i) PENALTY: In the case of an infringement of the Racing Rules a penalty will be given by the Referee. The Skater/Relay Team will be disqualified in the relevant race in which the infringement occurred, and will be excluded from participating in the next round of the distance concerned. The Skater/Relay Team will forfeit the points/result accrued in that race alone. Points/results accrued prior to that race will not be affected.
- ii) YELLOW CARD: If an infringement of the Racing Rules is deemed by the Referee to be an unsafe, harmful or hazardous offense, a yellow card will be shown to the infringing Skater. The Skater/Relay Team will be disqualified in the relevant race in which the infringement occurred and excluded from participating in the next round of the distance concerned. The Skater/Relay Team will forfeit prior points/results accrued in all races over the distance concerned.

Any Skater who is shown the Yellow Card twice in the same Competition will be sanctioned by a Red Card, will be excluded from the Competition immediately and will not be ranked in the final classification.

iii) RED CARD:

- 1) If an infringement of the Racing Rules is deemed to be intentionally dangerous or grossly negligent or a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics happens in the period between the appearance of a Skater at the Heat Box In and leaving the Heat Box Out after a race, the Referee will show the Skater a Red Card. The Skater will be disqualified from the Competition, including the Relay race, and will not be ranked in the final classification. If a member of a Relay team receives a Red Card during the Relay race, the Relay team is disqualified and will not be ranked in the final classification. The respective Skater is excluded from the Competition and will not be ranked in the final classification. The Skater/Relay team will forfeit prior points/results accrued in all races of the Competition.
- 2) In the case a Skater is shown two Yellow Cards in the same Competition, the Skater will be shown a Red Card.
- 3) A Red Card may also be shown to the Skater for any action and behavior, either on or off ice not in compliance with Rule 125 during the event period, i.e. the beginning and the end of an event as established by the ruling body of the event, which is considered by the Referee as

- i) non-compliance with instructions of an official in charge.
- ii) a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics.

The Skater who is shown a red card will be excluded immediately from the competition and will not be ranked in the final classification. In the case a Skater is shown a red card in a Relay race, his Relay Team will be excluded immediately from the Relay competition and will not be ranked in the final Relay classification. Individual sanctions for the Skater(s) concerned will also apply.

Any Official or other participant in an ISU activity witnessing a violation of the Code of Ethics during the event period needs to verbally report to the Referee. The Referee shall file a written report with the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee concerning any Skater who is shown a Red Card. The Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee has the duty to forward this information to the Sports Director who will eventually forward the information to the Council. Besides, the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee must create a database of all the Yellow and Red Cards collected during a skating season. Irrespective of the Red Card decision of the Referee, any Skater falls under the disciplinary authority of the Disciplinary Commission at any given moment and is subject to a sanction imposed by the DC.

If a Skater has accumulated two (2) Red Cards within 12 months, that Skater shall be automatically suspended from all ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games, and International Competitions for at least two (2) months or three (3) applicable competitions whichever is the longer period.

b) The Referee's decision that: (i) there was an infringement of the Racing Rules or ISU Code of Ethics or (ii) decisions approving the announcement of the results showing that there was no infringement are final and no protests against such decisions are allowed (See Rule 123, paragraph 4 c). ~~If the Referee decides that an infringement of the Racing Rules has occurred, a sanction will be given as provided in these Rules.~~

c) If in the opinion of the Referee and his Assistants, the Skaters are "not racing" they shall stop the race, declare "no contest" and may give a penalty to Competitor(s).

d) If, during a race, any irregularity that may affect the result does take place, the Referee may stop the race and order an immediate re-start of the race. If the distance has been completed the Referee may order a re-run of the race after respecting the rest time according to Rule 295, paragraph 2. If any of the Skaters/Relay Teams have been sanctioned under this Rule for conduct occurring before the race is stopped then such Skater(s), and the Skater's Relay Team (if the race is a Relay race), will not take part in the re-run.

e) Any Skater who causes the race to be stopped will not be allowed to take part in the re-start. This does not apply to the starting procedure. The results of Skater(s) excluded for this reason from a re-start will show 'no finish'.

f) Sanctions imposed by the Referee under this Rule must be announced and communicated at the end of each race before the announcement of the official results, to the Skater(s)/ Team Coach or Team Leader, Competitors Steward, and over the public address system for the benefit of the spectators, specifying where and how the Skater(s)/Relay Team concerned made an infringement and whether there is a consequent advancement. In the case of a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics either on or off the ice the sanction may be announced also at a later stage within the event period and the consequences as indicated above in paragraph 5 iii 1) will apply.

Sanctions for Coaches, Team Leaders and Support Staffs

6. Coaches, Team Leaders and Support Staffs are subject to the conditions of the General Regulations. Failure to observe these Rules and/or misconduct as per paragraph 3 i and ii above can result in the following sanctions:

Yellow Card: suspension from the Field of Play for the day.

Red Card: suspension from the Event/Competition with removal of the accreditation.

Further Sanctions

~~7. a) Upon receipt of the Report of the Referee under paragraph 5 a) iii), the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee will decide on any further disciplinary action before the end of the previously specified period. Any disciplinary action including a further suspension of the Skater will start at the end of the previously specified period.~~

~~b) The decision of the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee including a notice specifying the additional disciplinary action, if any, will be communicated to the Skaters Member Association, which if accepted, will terminate the matter.~~

~~c) If the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee's proposal is not accepted by the Member Association, the Short Track Speed Skating Technical Committee may refer the matter to the Council in accordance with Rule 125, paragraph 5, with a recommendation.~~

Reason: Following an event during the qualification period for the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games the Council became aware that the application of Rule 297 STSS raises serious problems due to its unclear wording. The Council discovered the dimension of unclarity of this rule after the deadline for inclusion of proposals to the Congress 2014 had expired. The issues that may arise under the present wording of Rule 297 are considered by the Council to be very serious. It could prove detrimental to postpone the necessary amendments to the Congress 2016. Therefore, the Council decided to propose to the Congress 2014 an exceptional late inclusion in the Congress agenda and for its vote

SPECIAL REGULATIONS SINGLE & PAIR SKATING/ICE DANCE

Urgent Proposal No. 7

KOREA

Rule 400 A, paragraph 5

Amend as follows:

5. To be entered into and participate in the Olympic Winter Games a Competitor/Couple must have reached in an ISU recognized International Competition (as per Article 38, paragraph 7 and Rule 107, paragraphs 1 to 9) during the ongoing or immediately preceding season the applicable minimum Total Technical Score (points) established for the ISU Championships (see Rule 378, paragraph 3). However, in case where the Pair skating couple of the Host Member went through the normal qualifying procedure and did not qualify under paragraphs 3 or 4 above, one Couple of the Host Member shall have the right to participate in Pair, as Couple number 20 as long as the couple of the Host Member achieved minimum Total Technical Score (points) for OWG.

Rule 400 B, paragraph 5

Amend as follows:

5. To be entered into and participate in the Olympic Winter Games a Competitor/Couple must have reached in an ISU recognized International Competition (as per Article 38, paragraph 7 and Rule 107, paragraphs 1 to 9) during the ongoing or immediately preceding season the applicable minimum Total Technical Score (points) established for the ISU Championships (see Rule 378, paragraph 3). However, in case where the Couple of the Host Member went through the normal qualifying procedure and did not qualify under paragraphs 3 or 4 above, one Couple of the Host Member shall have the right to participate in Ice Dance as Couple number 24 as long as the Couple of the Host Member achieved minimum Total Technical Score (points) for OWG.

Reasons: The participation of athletes in all skating disciplines from the host country is required in order to grab the attention of the local spectators leading to the success of the PyeongChang Olympics.

The Korean Skating Union has set its goal to participate in all categories for this very effect; however, the Pair and Ice Dance categories are currently on the more vulnerable side. Therefore, if the 'host country automatic participation' is granted for the Pair and Ice Dance categories, the growth of the two categories can be achieved through recruiting outstanding players, which will not only lead to the successful hosting of the PyeongChang Olympics, but also the expansion of winter sports (Figure Skating) in the Asian region.

Also, this is required for the internal balance between the ISU categories as the 'host country automatic participation' is currently granted for the Speed (Team Pursuit) and the Short Track categories, leaving out the Figure category.

Urgent Proposal No. 8

SINGLES AND PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 414, paragraph 2 (c), paragraph 4 (c), add at the end of the current paragraph

Seminar in Pair Skating counts also for Single Skating, Seminar in Single Skating does not count for Pair Skating.

Reason: To be consistent with the service requirements.

Urgent Proposal No. 9

SINGLES AND PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 415, paragraph 2 (c), paragraph 4 (c), add at the end of the current paragraph

Seminar in Pair Skating counts also for Single Skating, Seminar in Single Skating does not count for Pair Skating.

Reason: To be consistent with the service requirements.

Urgent Proposal No. 10

AUSTRIA, Figure

Rule 415, paragraph 1.a), 2.a), 3.a), 4.a)

Amend as follows

1. a) Age: have reached the age of twenty-four (24) but not the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
2. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
3. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.
4. a) Age: have not reached the age of seventy (70) in the calendar year of the nomination.

Reason: Harmonisation of retirement age to the age of 70 in the Technical Panel (TS/TC) – equal age status of the members of Technical Panel while performing the same job.

As TS and TC work on the same panel doing essentially the same job, a difference in age limits between the two positions is not justifiable and hence can be considered discrimination against the TSs.

Correction to Communication No 1863, Proposal No. 268 and No. 284

Due to an internal miscommunication with the print shop, the wording of Proposal No. 268 and No. 284 were not correctly printed in the Congress Agenda and are herewith replaced by the wording below:

268. SINGLE & PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 512, paragraph 2, General, Choreographic Sequences

Revise the text as follows:

A Choreographic Sequence consists of any kind of movements like steps, turns, spirals, arabesques, spread eagles, Ina Bauers, hydroblading, any jumps with maximum of 2 revolutions, spins, etc. Listed elements included in the Choreographic Sequence will not be called and will not occupy a box. The pattern is not restricted, but the sequence must be clearly visible.

The Technical Panel identifies the Choreographic Sequence which commences with the first skating movement and is concluded with the preparation to the next element (if the Choreographic Sequence is not the last element of the program). It can be performed before or after the Step Sequence.

This element has a fixed base value and will be evaluated by the judges in GOE only.

Reason: to allow greater creativity in the program.

284. SINGLE & PAIR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Rule 521, paragraph 4, Remarks, Choreographic Sequences

Revise the text as follows:

A Choreographic Sequence consists of any kind of movements like steps, turns (except twizzles), spirals, arabesques, spread eagles, Ina Bauers, hydroblading, any jumps with maximum of 2 revolutions, spins, small lifts etc. Listed elements included in the Choreographic Sequence will not be called and will not occupy a box. The pattern is not restricted, but the sequence must be clearly visible.

The Technical Panel identifies the Choreographic Sequence which commences with the first skating movement and is concluded with the preparation to the next element (if the Choreographic Sequence is not the last element of the program).

This element has a fixed base value and will be evaluated by the judges in GOE only.

Reason: to allow greater creativity in the program and to make bigger differences between Pair Skating and Ice Dancing.

Milan,
May 20, 2014
Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General