Minutes
24th Session of the IMSSC in Helsinki/Finland, 2006

The 24th Session of the IMSSC was held in Sokos Hotel Presidentti/Helsinki/Finland on March 2nd, 2006, from 10:00 to 14:40.

Participants: CAN Brett Arnason (Deputy)
              FIN Matti Kilpeläinen (IMSSC Member)
              GER Dr. Volker Serini (IMSSC Member)
              ITA Antonio Nitto (IMSSC Member)
              LAT Lasis Kauniste (IMSSC Member)
              NED Aris Dijksman (IMSSC Member)
              NED Bram de Vries (Assistant)
              NOR Sven-Åge Svensson (IMSSC Member)
              ROM Miklos Jenei (IMSSC Member)
              RUS Vladimir Tkachenko (IMSSC Member)
              SUI Markus Ulmer (IMSSC Member)

Distribution of the Minutes:
Participants of the Session
Other Members of the IMSSC
Honorary Members of the IMSSC
ISU President, 1st and 2nd Vice President
ISU Council, Members
ISU TC Speed Skating, Chairman and Members
ISU General Secretary
ISU Coordinator Adult Figure Skating Group

1 Approval of the Minutes of the 23rd Session of the IMSSC in Krefeld/Germany, 11 Jun 2005

The Minutes of the 23rd Session of the IMSSC in Krefeld/Germany were accepted unanimously.

2 Decision about the place for the Games 2009

It was decided that the Masters’ International Speed Skating Games 2009 will be in Bjørgen/Norway in the new Icehall. The decision was unanimously.

Bjørgen/Norway had submitted a complete application for hosting the Games in 2009 (on the Official Form of the IMSSC) and further papers about the region of Bjørgen. The Icehall is
convenient for the Competition. Bjugn is a small town near Trondheim at the Norwegian coast. It can be reached from Trondheim by bus or ship in about 2 hours.

From the interested places Moscow/RUS and Collalbo-Klobenstein/Italy there were no Official Applications for hosting the Games and no safe informations, if these places were ready to host the Games 2009.

As already discussed at the 22nd Session of the IMSSC in Baselga di Pinè/ITA last year and again at this Session, the IMSSC is interested in Masters’ International Games in the new Icehall of Moscow, now in 2010. Vladimir Tkachenko will go on trying to clarify the situation and to find an organizer who can organize these Games in the icehall of Moscow in 2010. This organizer would have to submit the necessary application for hosting the Games to the IMSSC on the Official IMSSC Form before 22 Feb 2007, the date of the 26th Session of the IMSSC in Calgary/CAN.

Places for the Games 2007 – 2009:
2007 Calgary/CAN Olympic Oval Icehall
2008 Erfurt/GER Gunda-Niemann-Stirnmemann Icehall
2009 Bjugn/NOR Fosen Icehall

3 Quota of Entries for the Games Calgary 2007

The Olympic Oval in Calgary/CAN accepts 300 participants (respectively 353 entries, by experience about 15 % loss of participants by illness, etc.). The quota of the different nations are CAN 91, GER 41, NED 70, NOR 60, USA 50, Others 41 according to the unanimous decision of the IMSSC. (Quota are insignificantly higher than discussed because of a calculation error, now corrected: Instead of 345 entries now 353 entries x 85 % = 300 participants).

4 Masters’ International Competitions besides the Games

4.1 Erfurt/GER
The 3rd Masters’ International Criterion in Erfurt/GER (Icehall) is planned for Nov 2006 for 100 participants.

4.2 Baselga di Pinè/ITA
Baselga di Pinè/ITA plans to organize again the Masters’ International Skating Revival, now as a four distance competition, eventually in December 2006.

4.3 Hamar/NOR
The 5th Masters’ International Single Distance Races Hamar/NOR (Icehall) are planned for January 2007.

4.4 Davos/SUI
The 8th Masters International Meeting Davos/SUI will be in the mid of January.

4.5 Inzell/GER
The 13th Masters International Sprint Classics Inzell/GER will be at the end of January 2007.
4.6 Milwaukee/USA
The American Masters try to have their 2007 Masters International Open Championships in Milwaukee/USA one weekend before the Games in the mid of February. That would enable the European skaters, who go to the Games in Calgary, to take part also in this interesting event.

4.7 Berlin/GER
The German Masters hope that the Masters’ International Master Cup in Berlin-Sportforum (Icehall) can again be held in March two weeks after the Games.

4.8 Heerenveen/NED
The 4th Masters’ International Long Distance Races will be held at the end of March at a weekday.

4.9 Masters International Competition in NED at the Weekend
It was discussed if there could not be in minimum one Masters’ International Competition with four distances at a weekend in the Netherlands, the country with the most Master Speed Skaters all over the word and with a lot of speed skating tracks. Aris Dijksman did not see any possibility (no free ice time, costs for the ice high).

4.10 Masters International Competitions in USA and CAN
It was proposed to try to get a yearly Masters’ International Competitions in the icehall of Salt Lake City/USA and the icehall of Calgary/CAN. This would be attractive not only for numerous Masters in USA and in Canada, but also for Masters from overseas, especially Europe. The proposal shall be discussed with the IMSSC Members of USA and CAN and the Management of these Icehalls.

5 Age Groups for Masters in CAN, NED, USA

In contrary to the age groups which are recommended by the International Masters’ Speed Skating Committee (IMSSC) other age groups definitions are used in NED, USA and CAN. The age groups recommended by the IMSSC are used at the Masters International Speed Skating Games, the unofficial World Championships of the Masters, and in the most countries where International Masters’ Competitions are organized. They are also used for the International Masters’ Record List. The competition age of the Masters is defined different in CAN, NED and USA.

IMSSC: Competition age of Masters is the age reached in the running competition season 1 Jul – 30 Jun.

CAN, NED, USA: Competition age of Masters is the age reached in the past competition season 1 Jul – 30 Jun.

It would be much easier for the Masters’ Speed Skating in the world, if NED, USA and CAN would accept the IMSSC definition for the competition age of Masters also for their countries. In the ISU Rules there is no definition for the competition age of Masters. In the most International Sport Organizations the IMSSC Regulation is used for Masters.

The IMSSC office shall write letters to the Speed Skating Associations of CAN, NED, USA and ask them to change their age definition for Masters (vote unanimously).
6 IMSSC Members and Statistician, Alterations

The IMSSC Membership of Tadeusz Matuszek/POL expired (no contacts since many years, address not known since he moved some years ago). Gaétan Rochette/CAN, Member and Statistician of the IMSSC retired from his tasks because of a changement of his interests. His membership ended. In cooperation with Gaétan Rochette a new candidate from Canada for the IMSSC shall be found till the 26th Session of the IMSSC in Calgary/CAN 22 Feb 2007. Sven-Åge Svensson/NOR was elected to the new IMSSC Statistician. Miklos Jenéi/ROM, former Romanian Champion and Member of the Romanian Speed Skating National Team, who founded the Romanian Masters’ Speed Skating Association, was taken up into the IMSSC as Member for Romania. (All votes unanimously).

The retirement of Gaétan Rochette was respected by the IMSSC. Dr. Volker Serini acknowledged the tremendous work which was done by Gaétan Rochette for the International Masters, his work for the organization of the wonderful two Masters’ International Games in Ste.-Foy/Québec in 1996 and 2001, his work as Statistician in editing the yearly IMSSC Record Lists and his work in holding the contacts to the Canadian Masters and the Canadian Speed Skating Association.

7 Decisions about Applications

7.1 Application 1 (GER):
Validity date of decisions on Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC

Decisions of the IMSSC on the Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC get validity from the following 1st July.

Reasons: It is not possible to change over to the alterations of the Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC already in the running season.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted unanimously.

7.2 Application 2 (GER):
Applications for Alterations of the Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC by written word

The application of alterations of the the IMSSC Constitution and Regulations has to be made only by written word until 6 weeks before the winter session of the IMSSC by letter, fax or email to the Mailing Address of the IMSSC (arrival date). Alterations of the IMSSC Constitution and Regulations can only be made by decisions of the IMSSC at the winter session.

Reasons: Because of the importance of such decisions it is necessary that the IMSSC Members have enough time to be prepared for the discussion and decision.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted unanimously.
7.3 Application 3 (GER):
Deputy for an IMSSC Member at Sessions of the IMSSC, Information by the Member

If a Member of the IMSSC cannot take part at an IMSSC Session, the Member can send a
deputy, who has the right to vote for the IMSSC Member, but only if the IMSSC Office is
informed by the IMSSC Member by written word in a letter, a fax or an email until one week
before the session (arrival at the Mailing Address of the IMSSC).

**Reason:** It only makes sense that Master skaters with good knowledge of the work of the
IMSSC take part in decisions at IMSSC Sessions.

**Decision of the IMSSC:** Application accepted unanimously.

7.4 Application 4 (GER):
IMSSC Records at Masters’ Competitions, Ladies 10000 m

Also for Masters’ Ladies 10000 m IMSSC Records have to be listed.

**Reason:** Many Masters’ Ladies already take part in Marathon Speed Skating races and are
able to go the 10000 m. The possibility for Masters’ Ladies skating 10000 m is given at the
SDR Hamar/NOR and at the LDR Heerenveen.

**Decision of the IMSSC:** Application accepted unanimously.

7.5 Application 5 (GER):
Use of Emblems and Graphics of the IMSSC and the International Masters’ Speed
Skating News “ICEOVAL” on National Masters’ Websites

It is not allowed to use the names “International Masters Speed Skating Committee”,
“IMSSC”,

“International Masters Speed Skating News”, “ICEOVAL” and the Emblems and Graphics of
the IMSSC and the ICEOVAL at outstanding places at National Masters’ Websites. Especially at the first page of a National Masters’ Webpage it has to be clear that it is not the
Webpage of the International Masters’ Speed Skating Committee or the International Masters’
Speed Skating News but a National Masters’ Webpage.

**Reason:** The first page of the Dutch Masters Webpage [www.imssc.nl](http://www.imssc.nl) gives the false
impression to be the Website of the International Masters Speed Skating News and uses the
2005 updated flags emblem of the International Masters Speed Skating News “ICEOVAL”
2005.

**Decision of the IMSSC:** Application accepted (affirmative votes 7, negative votes 2,
abstentions 0)
7.6 Application 6 (GER):
Entries for the Masters’ Games on National Masters’ Webpages

Countries which enter to the Masters’ Games on the national level (as last year NED and SUI) have not to accept entries before the announcement of the Games has been issued in the International Masters’ Speed Skating News “ICEOVAL” and in the IMSSC or IMSSG Webpage. If they accept entries electronically over their National Website they have to mark the electronically entry form that it is only valid for National participants.

Reasons: There are strong irritations in the registration of Games participants which causes more work for the organizer of the Games, if there seem to be different places for the international Games registration.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted unanimously.

7.7 Application 7 (GER):
Seeding at Masters’ Single Distance Races

At Masters’ Single Distance Races seeding of skaters in their five year age groups is allowed according to their best times of the season, their best times of the last season or their estimated times. Generally the five year age groups are seeded separately. If the number of competitors is very small in one or several of the 5 year age groups, neighboured 5 year age groups may be joined together for seeding and speed skating. However final classification must be done separately in 5 year age groups independant of the number of Participants in a 5 year age group.

Reason: If the skaters are drawn at single distance races, the differences between the members of pairs may be very different at all chosen distances.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted unanimously.

7.8.1 Application 8 (GER):
IMSSC Rule 3.3. Applications

IMSSC Rule 3.3, first sentence: Delete: ….“and which are approved by the IMSSC”.

IMSSC Rule 3.3. second sentence:

Instead of “… one set of the necessary documents to the IMSSC Statistician, Gaétan Rochette, 370-7, Boul. René Levesque Ouest, Quebec (Qc), G1S IR9, Canada, and one further set of the necessary documents to the Mailing Address of the IMSSC (IMSSC, Dr. Volker Serini, Sebastian-Kneipp-Weg 2, 47802 Krefeld, GERMANY).”

add “…two sets of the necessary documents to the IMSSC Mailing Address. If the documents are not written in English, the text in these documents additionally has to be translated into English by the applicant.”
**Reasons:** An additional approval by the IMSSC is not necessary if the IMSSC Rules and the ISU Rules are fulfilled. The Rules should be free of addresses which can change. It is necessary to have all papers in English because not all languages can be understood in the IMSSC Office and by the Referent for Statistics.

**Discussion in the IMSSC:**
The new IMSSC Statistician (see paragraph 6 above) wanted to get his set of documents directly from the applicant. According to his wishes **application 8 was altered by GER** (see below).

### 7.8.2 Application 8 altered (GER):
**IMSSC Rule 3.3. Applications**

IMSSC Rule 3.3, first sentence: **Delete: **“...and which are approved by the IMSSC”.

IMSSC Rule 3.3. second sentence:

**Instead of** “... one set of the necessary documents to the IMSSC Statistician Gaétan Rochette, 370-7, Boul. René-Levesque-Ouest, Québec (Qc), G1S 1R9, CANADA, and one further set of the necessary documents to the Mailing Address of the IMSSC (IMSSC, Dr. Volker Serini, Sebastian-Kneipp-Weg 2, D-47802 Krefeld, GERMANY).”

**add** “... one set of the necessary documents to the IMSSC Statistician (Sven-Åge Svensson, Simensbraatveien 23 B, N-1182 Oslo, NORWAY) and one further set of the necessary documents to the Mailing Address of the IMSSC (IMSSC, Dr. Volker Serini, Sebastian-Kneipp-Weg 2, D-47802 Krefeld, GERMANY). If the documents are not written in English, the text in these documents additionally has to be translated into English by the applicant.”

**Reasons:** An additional approval by the IMSSC is not necessary if the IMSSC Rules and the ISU Rules are fulfilled. The name and address of the IMSSC Statistician has to be altered to the name and address of the new IMSSC Statistician. It is necessary to have all papers in English because not all languages can be understood in the IMSSC Office and by the Referent for Statistics.

**Decision of the IMSSC:**  **Application accepted unanimously.**

### 7.8.3 May be discussed together with Application 8:
**Concerning point 7 Applications on the Agenda, I also have the following question (NOR):**
The first sentence of § 3.3 Applications reads: IMSSC Records (International Masters’ Records) are recognized only for times and points reached in International Masters’ Competitions which fulfil the requirements of the IMSSC Rules and ISU Rules and for National Masters Championships which fulfil also the requirements of the IMSSC Rules and ISU Rules and which are approved by the IMSSC. What is meant by “...and which are approved by the IMSSC“? This point needs discussion and clarification.

**The discussion was not necessary because of the above decision to delete the text ...”and which are approved by the IMSSC”**.
7.9 Application 9 (GER):
Restriction of Master Skaters at 5000 m at 4 distance races
(not to be done at 3000 m).
The restriction of skaters of a 5 year age group at 5000 m at 4 distance races has not to be
stronger than shown in the tables below. A restriction of the 3000 m as fourth distance is not
allowed.

a) Number of skaters Number of quartets
1 – 4 all skaters
5 – 12 1 Q (= 4 skaters)
13 – 20 2 Q (= 8 skaters) more than 50 % of all skaters
21 – 28 3 Q (= 12 Skaters)
29 – 36 4 Q (= 16 skaters)
e etc.

Or b) Number of skaters Number of quartets
1 – 4 all skaters
5 – 8 1 Q (= 4 skaters)
9 – 16 2 Q (= 8 skaters) more than 60 % of all skaters
17 – 24 3 Q (=12 skaters)
25 – 32 4 Q (=16 skaters)
e etc.

Reasons: The number of Master skaters in different 5 year age groups often is extremely
different. Therefore a restriction of all 5 year age groups to the same number of skaters as in
ISU Rule 228 for International Competitions (12 skaters in minimum) makes no sense. The
restricted number of skaters should always be dividable by the number 4 because in the most
Masters’ Competitions quartet start is necessary because of time limitation. If also the 3000
m would be restricted in the number of participants, the important longterm training for the
Masters would be neglected at the training.

Decision of the IMSSC: see Application 10 (NOR)

7.10 Application 10 (NOR):
-concerning § 2.6 Restrictions of Participants in the Longest Distance

Existing text is replaced by the following:

2.6 Restrictions of Participants in the Last Distance
If the time schedule requires limitation of participants in the last distance, a minimum number
of skaters must be allowed to skate according to the following rule:
In the last distance 4 skaters of every class are always allowed to skate. If there are more than
4 skaters in the group, the rest of the skaters are divided by 2, and all full pairs are allowed to
skate in addition to the basic 4. This will give the following number of skaters:
Number of skaters  Skaters on last distance
1 – 3           1 – 3
4 – 7           4
8 – 11          6
12 – 15         8
16 – 19         10
20 – 23         12
24 – 27         14
28 –            16

Reason: A more specific definition is needed instead of the existing.

Decision of the IMSSC (applications 9a, 9b and 10 were decided together):
Application 10 accepted.
(application 9a got 1 affirmative vote, application 9b got 2 affirmative votes and
application 10 got 6 affirmative votes, no negative votes or abstentions)

7.11 Application 11 (NOR):
– concerning § 2.7 Recommendation for Overtaking

Existing text:
The competitor is recommended to overtake another competitor in the speed skating
competition only at the outside if both are in the same track. That minimizes the danger of
accidents. There is no ISU Rule that a skater who will be overtaken in a track has to go
outside of the track. Overtaking takes place very often in races with quartet start.

New text:
Overtaking takes place very often in races with quartet start. The competitor is recommended
to overtake another competitor in the speed skating competition only on the outside if both are
in the same track. That minimizes the danger of accidents. There is no ISU Rule that a skater
who will be overtaken in a track has to go to the outside of the track.

Reason: Grammatical correction.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted unanimously.

7.12 Application 12 (NOR):
- concerning § 3.3 Applications

Modification to last sentence of first paragraph.

Existing text:
One set of the necessary documents comprises the following documents: Official
Announcement (if not issued in the IMSS-News), Official Competition Program (timetable),
Official Protocol of the Competition, List of Competitors with their addresses and birthdates
(in minimum with their birthdates).
Proposed text:
One set of the necessary documents comprises the following documents: Official Announcement (if not issued in the IMSS-News), Official Competition Program (timetable), Official Protocol of the Competition, and birthdates of the competitors who have lowered IMSSC Records.

Reason: The ISU does not require the names and birthdates of all competitors to recognize a World Record. According to the next paragraph of § 3.3, names and addresses of all competitors are not needed if a competitor himself makes the application.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted (affirmative votes 8, negative votes 1, abstentions 0)

7.13 Application 13 (NOR):
– concerning § 3.4 Provisions, point 3.4.1, last sentence.

Existing text:
If other speed skaters start in a speed skating event besides one or several age groups of Master speed skaters from 30 years, the Master age groups from 30 years must be started separately and their results must be reported separately from the results of the other speed skaters in the protocol.

Proposed text:
If other speed skaters start in a speed skating event besides one or several age groups of Master Speed Skaters from 30 years, each Master Speed Skater must be clearly marked with Age Group in the starting lists, results and standings during the competition and in the final results.

Reason: The ISU has no regulations that prevents Juniors of any age to skate together with Ladies or Men correspondingly, and there is no rule preventing the Junior from making a Junior World Record under such circumstances. The rule preventing this was removed in 1981 or 1983. To be coherent with the ISU Rules a Master should also be allowed to skate together with Non Masters and also make an IMSSC Record.

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted (affirmative votes 8, negative votes 1, abstentions 0)

7.14 Application 14 (NOR):
–concerning Point 8 on the Agenda:

Proposal to change the point 8 on the Agenda to the following text:

Reason:
According to § 3.5.1 of the Constitutions and Regulations the IMSSC decides about the recognition of new IMSSC Records. I will therefore ask that the protocols from the above listed competitions in Hamar and Heerenveen are brought to the session. I will also ask that the protocols from the following events are brought to the session for comparison:
1st Masters’ International Speed Skating Erfurt Kriterion 2005
3rd Masters’ International Speed Skating Single Distance Races 2005 (Oslo)
6th Masters’ International Speed Skating Davos Meeting 2005
11th Masters’ International German Speed Skating Sprint 2005 (Inzell)
15th Masters’ International Speed Skating Games 2005 (Baselga)
10th Masters’ International Speed Skating Master Cup 2005 (Berlin)

Decision of the IMSSC: Application accepted (affirmative votes 8, negative votes 1, abstentions 0)

8 Not Accepted Competitions for the Recognition of IMSSC Records and Reasons

This point was already discussed in conjunction with point 7.14.

9 Answer of the ISU to the Proposals of the IMSSG

The Proposals of the IMSSG to the ISU Council for the incorporation of the most important Masters’ Rules into the ISU Rules were not discussed in detail by the ISU Council at the Meeting in Oct 2006 because there is planned an extensive reorganization of the ISU, which will be decided at the ISU Congress in summer. A meeting in Inzell/GER has been planned by Dr. Volker Serini and Mr. Gerhard Zimmermann, 1st ISU Vicepresident, after the ISU Congress in summer, to discuss the further line of action.

10 Financial Situation

The last cash audit for the IMSSC account "Dr. Volker Serini, Redaktion IMSS-News" covers the time till 3 Nov 2001. The settlement of the IMSSC account "Dr. Volker Serini, Redaktion IMSS-News" was done for the rest time 2001 (4 Nov 2001 – 31.12.2001), for 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005. The Tables of Income and Expenditures for these years were presented by Dr. Volker Serini and discussed at the Session. These tables and the necessary records for the cash audit were sent to the cash auditor of the IMSSC, Mr. Roland Hagemann/Frankfurt am Main/GER, at the 8 Feb 2006. The cash audit is not yet completed and will be presented at the 26th IMSSC Session in Calgary/CAN 22 Feb 2007.

The settlement of the IMSSC account shows an account balance of EUR 4164,09 at the 31.12.05 and Liabilities of EUR 3970,50. The difference of 4164,09 – 3970,50 = EUR 193,59 shows a small surplus for 2005.

The estimated Income and Expenditures for 2006 and for 2007 in an additional table show that there is probably a surplus of about EUR 1400 per year, which can be used for costs of the IMSSC Summer Session (costs of the session, travel costs for IMSSC Members, etc., see point 11.1).
11 Miscellaneous

11.1 Travel costs born by the IMSSC for the Summer Session

Travel costs (flight and hotel costs) for the Summer Session will be born for the Norwegian IMSSC Member/IMSSC Statistician. If necessary, there will also be born by the IMSSC a contribution for the travel costs of a deputy of the Olympic Oval Management, who takes part in the Summer Session. Decision unanimously.

11.2 Contributions of the IMSSC Member ITA (see Invitation for the Session)

11.2.1 International Masters’ Competition in Baselga di Pinè/ITA in 2006/07

The competition was welcomed. The Italian Member of the IMSSC, Mr. Antonio Nitto, shall decide about the date in cooperation with the Ice Rink Pinè srl, Mr. Sergio Revolti, the local skating club C.P. Pinè and the IMSSC Office.

11.2.2 Classification “IMSSC Criterion”

In order to increase and develop the participation to all IMSSC events along the season, a classification “IMSSC Criterion” shall be developed, which takes into account the number of Official Masters’ Competitions in which the Masters have taken part and the Official Results of the Masters. The classification shall be developed by the Italian Masters.

11.2.3 Lap Counters at International Masters’ Competitions

At International Masters’ Competitions with quartet start in minimum two experienced and well trained lap scorers are mandatory and the counter signs shall be available in four colours (white, red, yellow and blue).

11.2.4 Votes

The votes for the decisions 11.2.1, 11.2.2 and 11.2.3 were unanimously.

With best regards

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS’ SPEED SKATING COMMITTEE (IMSSC)

V. Serini

(Dr. Volker Serini)

IMSSC Members:
Hubert Kreutz (AUT), Willy Caboor (BEL), Petr Novák (CZE), Matti Kilpeläinen (FIN), Dr. Volker Serini (GER), Antonio Nitto (ITA), Jae-Seok Choi (KOR), Lasma Kauniste (LAT), Aris J. Dijksman (NED), Sven-Åge Svensson (NOR), Miklos Jenei (ROM), Vladimir Tkachenko (RUS), Markus Ulmer (SUI), Donald Drielsma (SWE), Mary O’Donnell (USA)

IMSSC Honorary Members:
Roland Hagemann (GER), Dominik Wehling (GER), Drs. Harry G. Falke (NED), Peter Reimann (SUI)