by e-mail                                            Vittuone, 15th April 2013

to:     all IMSSC Members

copy for information to: Ottavio Cinquanta ISU President
David M. Dore ISU 1st Vice-President
Jan Dijkema ISU 2nd Vice-President
ISU Council Members
ISU TC Speed Skating Chairman and Members
Fredi Schmid ISU ISU Director General
Peter Krick ISU Chair Sports Directorate
Hugo Herrnhof ISU Sp.Sk. Sports Director
Krisztina Regőczy ISU Fig.Sk. Sports Director
Rhea Schwartz, Coordinator ISU Adult Figure Sk. Gr.

Subject: proposals for 36th IMSSC Session in Amsterdam/NED on May 25th 2013

New proposals arrived within the deadline of April 12th 2013 (listed in arrival order):

1. Japan 5 proposals arrival on March 31st 2013 page 2
2. Spain 4 proposals arrival on April 9th 2013 page 3
3. Italy 4 proposals arrival on April 9th 2013 page 3
4. Netherlands 7 proposals arrival on April 10th 2013 page 5
5. Russia 5 proposals arrival on April 11th 2013 page 5
6. Switzerland 2 proposals arrival on April 11th 2013 page 6
7. Canada 1 proposal arrival on April 12th 2013 page 6
8. Norway 12 proposals arrival on April 12th 2013 page 6
9. Kazakhstan 1 proposal arrival on April 12th 2013 page 10
10. Germany 10 proposals arrival on April 12th 2013 page 10
11. Australia 1 proposal arrival on April 12th 2013 page 12
12. USA 2 proposals arrival on April 12th 2013 page 13

With best regards,

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS’ SPEED SKATING COMMITTEE (IMSSC)

Paolo Gemme

Members of the IMSSC:
Frank Anderson (AUS), Hubert Kreutz (AUT), Willy Caboor (BEL), Brett Arnason (CAN), Petr Novák (CZE), Marcello Bresin (ESP), Indrek Aarma, Ph.D. (EST), Matti Kipiläinen (FIN), Dr. Volker Seinni (GER), Antonio Nitto (ITA), Kenji Takai (JAP), Azamat Ismailov (KAZ), Jae-Seok Choi (KOR), Lasma Kauniste (LAT), Tjeerd Smies (NED), Sven-Åge Svensson (NOR), Miklos Jenei (ROM), Boris Repnin (RUS), Hans-Peter Ambass (SUI) Jan Landelius (SWE), Andrew Love (USA)

Honorary Members of the IMSSC:
Roland Hagemann (GER), Dominik Wehling (GER), Drs. Harry G. Falke(NED), Aris J. Dijskman (NED), Peter Reimann (SUI)
1. Proposals JAPAN

**Proposal 1 - Rule 2: Masters Definition.** This is to clarify whether he/she is qualified to skate for Masters. He/she is over 30 year old and has(had) been national member but not 2012-13 season. Therefore, he/she did participate in Masters, renewing all WRs. Congratulation!!! Then he/she got good shape and named as national member in 2014. Is he/she acceptable as Masters?

**Proposal 2 - Rule 3: Competitions.**

**Original**

*Distances may be run according to 8 optional programs in a similar way to what is specified in ISU Rule 201.*

Each Age Group is considered a separate championship, which means that it is not needed to run all Age Groups in a category (e.g. men 30-60) according to the same program. The organizer needs acceptance of the IMSSC for the selected programs.

**Proposal**

*The Masters International Allround Games shall be organized over two or three days, at the option of the organizer in consultation with IMSSC. The distances may be run according to one of the following programs at the option of the organizer in consultation with IMSSC.* Each Age Group is considered a separate championship, which means that it is not needed to run all Age Groups in a category (e.g. men 30-60) according to the same program. The organizer needs acceptance of the IMSSC for the selected programs.

See attached for renewing AR competition schedule.

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<tr>
<th>Pattern A (Two Day Competitions)</th>
<th>Men 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 65+</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Age Groups</strong></td>
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<td>1. 500m</td>
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<td>2. 3000m</td>
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<td><strong>Second Day</strong></td>
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<th>Men 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 65+</th>
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<td><strong>Third Day</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pattern D (Three Day Competitions)</th>
<th>Men 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 30-60</th>
<th>Ladies 65+</th>
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<td><strong>Third Day</strong></td>
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Proposal 3 - Entry.

Original
Countries which enter to the Masters’ Allround Games or Sprint Games on the national level 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.

Correction (Proposal)
…will not be accepted their entries…


Proposal 5 - Rule 3.5: age mix in day 2 in Sprint Games. in Sprint Games, no age group must be applicable in day 2. The starting list on day 2 of Sprint Games are depending on the result of day 1. Therefore, we will see a battle of age 40 vs age 55 in 500m, for example.

2. Proposals SPAIN

Proposal 1 - Assignment of the WMG. WMG to be assigned to the “best bidder”: instead of a suffrage based on personal preferences by just a bunch of IMSSC members, we propose that World Master Games (sprint and all-round) must be assigned to the city/venue that offers to accommodate the highest number of competitors. In order to somehow limit such number, an implementation of the long denied Dutch proposal regarding personal best times would be appropriate.

Proposal 2 - IMSSC winter session. In 2010 the annual IMSSC session was voted to be organized in summer, because most members wanted to avoid losing training time prior to racing at the WMG… It appears that just a fraction of the current membership is still actively competing, so we propose to revert to an annual session organized during any World Games or major Master competition. Such session could be consistently shortened by previously discussing proposals via internet/web forum/e-mail, then just voting at the session itself. Members could travel in advance to the location, and the session itself could be organized at least 3 days ahead of the racing. That way travel expenses might be reduced, and possibly a higher number of members would be able to attend.

Proposal 3 - Short-Tarck sub-committee. A short-track sub-committee should be created, the discipline embraced by IMSSC.

Proposal 4 - Anti-doping program. The doping issue has been neglected so far, in spite of funds collection for years: it’s a long-overdue issue. Spain proposes to create a new internal commission to oversee the matter, to create and implement an anti-doping program by the next World Games and no later.

3. Proposals ITALY

Proposal 1 - Minimum number of skaters at the Master Games. Recent editions of the Master Games showed an increase interest in those competitions. Also the rule that allows the exchange of a skater is avoiding the loss of registered skaters maintaining as much as possible the maximum number of the skaters. Nevertheless a minimum number of skaters should be requested by IMSSC to an Organizer of Master Games: a minimum of 300 or better 350 skaters should be requested. In order to accommodate all those skaters during the competition days, the following actions should be put into operation:

- Quartet starts should be foreseen for all distances;
- Start time for each competition day should be planned early in the morning and finish time late in the evening;
- Double Juries should be foreseen in order to deal with all those skaters.

Beside the minimum number of skaters, it should also be foreseen the following rule: the skater could be exchanged till 24 hours before the drawing or till the first team leader meeting.
Reasons:

- Increasing of interest for the Master Games all over the world;
- Participation should be encouraged and not restricted;
- Minimizing the exclusion of good skaters due to current registration method for those countries without a selection method (first come first serve).

Proposal 2 - (from IMSSC Secretary): Substitution of a IMSSC Member that resigns. If an IMSSC Member resigns in between two IMSSC summer sessions, the country that he/she represents is not able to submit any proposal to the next summer session. An interim IMSSC Member for that country could be named by the resigned IMSSC Member or, in case of death, by the National speedskating Master association or National Federation.

Reasons: the country without an IMSSC valid Member:

- is not able to submit proposal(s) to the IMSSC summer session;
- is not directly informed about info, invitation or other from IMSSC.

Text to be inserted in Article 2:

An IMSSC member that resigns between two IMSSC summer session may appoint an interim IMSSC Member for that country; in case of death of the IMSSC Member in charge, the appointment may be done by the National speed skating Master association or National Federation. The interim IMSSC Member is officially appointed or voted at the next IMSSC yearly Session.

Proposal 3 - (from IMSSC Secretary): evaluation of the removal of ICEOVAL references. Throughout all the text of the IMSSC Constitution and Regulation (Art.4, Art.5, Introduction Part II, Rule 3.2, Rule 4.4.2, Rule 4.5) there are references to ICEOVAL that currently is not anymore maintained nor published in hard copy. It should be evaluated to maintain or cancel all those references.

Proposal 4 - (from IMSSC Secretary): modification to the Rule 4.3 (Applications for an IMSSC Records). In the following the modifications of the original text are underlined&bold (addition) or strikethrough (cancellation).

4.3 Applications

IMSSC Records (International Masters’ Records) are recognized only for times and points reached in International Masters’ Competitions approved by the IMSSC at the preceding Session in May or June, which fulfill the requirements of the IMSSC Rules and ISU Rules, and for National Masters Championships, which fulfill also the requirements of the IMSSC Rules and ISU Rules. Applications for IMSSC Records must be made by the IMSSC Member of the Country, where the Competition has taken place, or by the Organizer of this Competition by sending one set of the necessary documents via e-mail to the IMSSC Statistician (svensven@online.no SvenÅge Svensson, Simensbraatveien 23 B, N-1182 Oslo, NORWAY) and one further set of the necessary document to the Mailing Address of the IMSSC Secretary (info@imssc.org IMSSC, Paolo Gemme, Via di Vittorio, 18, 20010 Vittuone, ITALY). If the documents are not written in English, the text in these documents additionally has to be translated into English by the applicant.

Applications of IMSSC Records are possible for competitions in the competition year (July 1st – June 30th of the next year). Latest application preferred date for IMSSC Records of every competition is 6 weeks after the competition date (arrival of the application at the IMSSC).

Reasons:

- avoiding unnecessary costs for sending document via normal mail;
- speed up the sending of the document;
- avoiding a non recognition of a record if the application arrived after 6 weeks from the competition.
4. Proposals THE NETHERLANDS

Proposal 1 - New Chapter 3.1.4. The IMSSC representative of the country which is organizing the Masters International Allround or Sprint Games, is responsible for the correct organization and execution of the games according to the rules as defined by the IMSSC and/or the ISU. The representative of the country must participate in a formal role in the organizing committee of the Masters International Allround or Sprint Games. The representative of the country may appoint a substitute but the representative will still have the final responsibility for the correct application of the rules as defined by the IMSSC and/or by the ISU

Proposal 2 - Addition to chapter 3.7 before the first sentence. The Chairman of the organizing committee will only decide at the end of the Team leaders meeting, that is held before the start of an Allround Competition, if the time schedule requires limitation of participants of the last distance. The limitation has to be done according the ISU rules: a skater has to be in the list of the limited number after three distances AND on the list of the limited number on the second largest distance. If the skater is only on one list, the lowest number on the second largest distance will be qualified for the last distance

Proposal 3 - Proposal to the change the names of the Masters International Allround Games and the Masters International Sprint Games throughout the document “Constitutions and Regulations 2012/2013. The name of the Masters International Allround Games will be changed into: Masters’ World Allround Games. The name of the Masters International Sprint Games will be changed into: Masters’ World Sprint Games.

Proposal 4 - Appointment of Volker Serini to IMSSC Honorary Member. The proposal is the appointment of Volker Serini of Germany to honorary Member of IMSSC.

Proposal 5 - Appointment of Bram de Vries to IMSSC Honorary Member. The proposal is the appointment of Bram de Vries of the Netherlands to honorary Member of the IMSSC. Note: Bram de Vries is no longer the formal representative of the Netherlands, although he is still active as treasurer of the IMSSC

Proposal 6 - New chapter 3.3.1 Substitutes. If a participant cancels the entry will it be possible to replace him/her by a substitute of the same Nation and if there is no substitute of the same Nation by another substitute. This can take place at the latest on the Team-leaders meeting. If the substitute is not of the same Nation as the participant who cancelled the entry then the oldest available female substitute will be invited followed by the oldest available male substitute etc. etc.

Proposal 7 - Referring to the ‘Requirements and Advices to Organizers’. 15. Diploma, Medal, cup, Protocol, Souvenir. Every competitor should receive a diploma containing the competitor’s name, age group, rank and points. Additionally he should receive a cup (first three ranks) or a medal, one protocol with the results for all age groups and a souvenir. The lap times will be published on the internet. After each race the results will be published as soon as possible on a information sign.

5. Proposals RUSSIA

Proposal 1 - New IMSSC Member for Belorussia. Konstantin Lukashevich is proposed as IMSSC Member for Belorussia.

Reason: as in recent years skaters from Belorussia actively participate in International Master’s competition, it would be logical for them to have a representative in IMSSC. Konstantin is leader of Belarussian Masters and organizer of annual Master’s International competition “Igor Zhelezovsky Prize”.

Proposal 2 - ISU-IMSSC contacts. To publish results of negotiation between the ISU and IMSSC on IMSSC web-site.

Reason: To clarify the process for all Masters.

Proposal 3 - Quota for the Games. The country which has a quota, paid in advance entry fees (in the period of time proposed by the organizer) and is determined with the list 10 days before the start of the Games (including possibility to substitute skaters from list just before the registration).
**Reason:** The current situation, when the quota is to be determined for 3 months before the start, not very convenient. There can be problems with health, finances, etc., and it is impossible in this case to carry out the replacement.

**Proposal 4 - Games requirements.** It is necessary to add Games requirements and to develop strict rules for the organization of the Games, including clearly defined responsibilities of the organizers to inform participants and team members:

- timely (not later than 30 minutes before the start) publishing protocols in designated areas;
- unified form of protocols;
- priority English language before the local (the language of the Games), both in writing and orally;
- IMSSC logotype on medals and awards, applied by casting or stamping (not a sticker).

**Proposal 5 - Single Distance Games.** In addition to the existing All-Round and Sprint Games annually to hold Single Distance Games. To facilitate the task, it’s possible to give the status of the Games already existing traditional races, annually held in Heerenveen, Stavanger, Milwaukee and Kolomna, with an annual rotation. Use the ranking of athletes (for admission to the competition), in accordance with their results for the current and previous season.

6. **Proposals SWITZERLAND**

**Proposal 1 - Competition in Davos.** On the agenda for the season 2013/2014 there might be a higher number of participants, when we plan it at the very beginning of January (3.1./4.1./5.1.2014), end of Christmas holiday! There were already first contacts with the organization (Christine Bauiedl) in Davos and we got green light! We only have to announce the competition very early this year with a deadline in November, to know the exact number of participants for the organization.

**Proposal 2 - Competition in Davos.** For all Norwegian skaters, who plan to celebrate the world record of Oscar Mathisen in Davos 100 years ago there might also be a solution, but we do not know the date of the Swiss championships. On this matter we have to inform later.

7. **Proposal CANADA**

**Proposal 1 - No quota for W65+ and M70+.** For world games all woman over 65 and all men over 70 will be automatically accepted no matter what country they are from.

8. **Proposals NORWAY**

**Proposal 1 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of the introduction.**

**Existing text:**
Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions have been organized since 1991 in several countries (CAN, FIN, GER, ITA, NED, NOR, SUI, USA) generally by speed skating clubs and since 1994 promoted by the International Masters’ Speed Skating Committee (IMSSC). The outstanding annual events are the Masters’ International Sprint Games and the Masters’ International Allround Games, the unofficial Masters’ World Sprint Championships and the unofficial Masters’ World Allround Championships. Determination of the host countries is through planning and voting of the IMSSC Members.

**Proposal:**
Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions have been organized since 1991 in several countries (CAN, FIN, GER, ITA, NED, NOR, SUI, USA) generally by speed skating clubs and since 1994 promoted by the International Masters’ Speed Skating Committee (IMSSC). The outstanding annual events are the Masters’ International Sprint Games (the unofficial Masters’ World Sprint Championships) and the Masters’ International Allround Games (the unofficial Masters’ World Allround Championships). Determination of the host countries is through planning and voting of the IMSSC Members.

**Reason:**
For clarification reasons. Could previously be misinterpreted as four events.
Proposal 2 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of the introduction

Existing text, last block:
Generally the Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions are held under the Rules of the International Skating Union (ISU). Since there are no special rules for Masters in the ISU Rules and the existing rules are not always applicable, here shall be issued additional rules for Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions. These rules have been implemented for more than ten years of Masters International Competitions. The establishment of uniform rules throughout the global Masters’ community has become a pressing obligation. Current practice has been evolving in competitions promoted by the IMSSC.

Proposal:
Generally the Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions are held under the Rules of the International Skating Union (ISU). Since there are no special rules for Masters in the ISU Rules and the existing rules are not always applicable, here shall be issued additional rules for Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions. The establishment of uniform rules throughout the global Masters’ community has become a pressing obligation. The initial rules were implemented from the beginning in 1991. Since then they have been continually developed and practiced in all Masters’ International Competitions promoted by the IMSSC. These rules have therefore been a time-honoured custom.

Reason:
“…for more than ten years…” is not relevant forever. The new formulation will not need update as to the number of years.

Proposal 3 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 1: Relations to ISU Rules.

Existing text, beginning of third block:
The mentioned ISU Rules in this document refer to the 2010 Edition of the ISU Constitution and General Rules and also the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules….

Proposal:
The mentioned ISU Rules in this document refer to the 2012 Edition of the ISU Constitution and General Rules and also the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules….

Reason:
Update of reference.

Proposal 4 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 3.1.1: Masters’ International Allround Games.

Existing text, first block:
The Masters’ International Allround Games shall be held every year with rotating country and location. They may be organized by a club or a National Speed Skating Association.

Proposal:
The Masters’ International Allround Games shall be held every year with rotating country and location. They may be organized by a club, cooperating clubs or a National Speed Skating Association.

Reason:
Conformity with other Masters’ International Competitions.

Proposal 5 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 3.1.2: Masters’ International Sprint Games.

Existing text, first block:
The Masters’ International Sprint Games shall be held every year with rotating country and location. They may be organized by a club or a National Speed Skating Association.

Proposal:
The Masters’ International Sprint Games shall be held every year with rotating country and location. They may be organized by a club, cooperating clubs or a National Speed Skating Association.

Reason:
Conformity with other Masters’ International Competitions.
Proposal 6 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – New Rule 3.1.4: Duties of the local IMSSC Representative.

**Proposed text:**
The IMSSC Representative of the country where Masters’ International Allround Games, Masters’ International Sprint Games and other Masters’ International Competitions are held, is responsible for providing the organizer with updated versions of “Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC” and “Requirements and Advices to Organizers” for each competition. Further the IMSSC Representative must follow the preparations of the event to ensure that the organizer understands the mutuality of ISU and IMSSC Rules and practices them in the right way before and during the competition.

**Reason:**
Organizers and referees of speed skating competitions are certified with respect to ISU Rules. We can not assume that they have the complete view of where IMSSC Rules complement ISU Rules and where they substitute ISU Rules. The purpose of this new rule is to reduce the possibility of organizational flaws. Concerning the mentioned document “Requirements and Advices to Organizers”, see proposals 11 and 12.

Proposal 7 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 4.2: Single Distances and Allround Competitions.

**Existing text:**
IMSSC Records will be registered by the IMSSC for the following single distances (times) and three and four distance competitions (points).

- Single distances: 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, 3000 m, 5000 m, 10000 m (Ladies)
- Single distances: 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, 3000 m, 5000 m, 10000 m (Men)
- Three and four distances competitions (total of points):
  - Ladies Allround Small 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m
  - Ladies Allround 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m
  - Men Allround Big 500 m, 5000 m, 1500 m, 10000 m
  - Men Allround Small 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m
  - Men Allround 500 m, 3000 m, 1500 m, 5000 m
  - Men Sprint 500 m, 1000 m, 500 m, 1000 m

**Proposed text:**
IMSSC Records will be registered by the IMSSC for the following single distances (times) and three and four distance competitions (points).

- Single distances: 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, 3000 m, 5000 m, 10000 m (Ladies and Men)
- Three and four distance competitions (total of points):
  - Sprint 500 m, 1000 m, 500 m, 1000 m (Ladies and Men)
  - Allround Mini 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m (Ladies only)
  - Allround Small 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m (Ladies and Men)
  - Allround 500 m, 3000 m, 1500 m, 5000 m (Ladies and Men)
  - Allround Big 500 m, 5000 m, 1500 m, 10000 m (Ladies and Men)

**Reason:**
To avoid recurrent text, to standardize combination denominations, and to allow all possible combinations also for women.

Proposal 8 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 4.4.5.

**Existing text:**
The conditions of ISU Rules 228 (track), 248 (watches), 250 (manual time keeping), 251 (automatic time keeping) and 252 (split times and times for individual laps) must be observed. Automatic timekeeping must have been used (see ISU Rule 221 § 4 b) – but not necessarily with a photo finishing system.

**Proposed text:**
The conditions of ISU Rules 226/227 (track), 248 (watches), 250 (manual time keeping), 251 (automatic time keeping) and 252 (split times and times for individual laps) must be observed. Automatic timekeeping must have been used (see ISU Rule 221 § 2 e) – but not necessarily with a photo finishing system.

**Reason:**
References adjusted to the 2012 Edition of the ISU Constitution and General Rules.
Proposal 9 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 4.4.7.

Existing text, reference at the end of the block:
… and changed starting lanes (see ISU Rule 242) on the second day (see ISU Rule 221 § 4 d).

Proposed text:
… and changed starting lanes on the second day (see ISU Rule 242).

Reason:
False reference deleted at the end.

Proposal 10 - Constitution and Regulations of the IMSSC – Modification of Rule 4.4.8.

Existing text, reference at the end of the block:
… considered as a separate competition (see ISU Rule 221 § 5).

Proposed text:
… considered as a separate competition (see ISU Rule 221 § 2 h).

Reason:
Corrected reference.

Proposal 11 - Masters’ Sprint Games and Masters’ Allround Games, Requirements and Advices to Organizers – Change of the document name.

Existing name:
Masters’ Sprint Games and Masters’ Allround Games, Requirements and Advices to Organizers

Proposed name:
Requirements and Advices to Organizers alternatively Requirements and Advices to Organizers of International Masters’ Competitions

Reason:
The requirements and advices in this document are valid and useful not only for organizers of Masters’ Games but of all Masters’ Competitions. In addition to the proposed name change, some phrases referring to “Games” and “Nations Quotas” should be generalized.

Proposal 12 - Masters’ Sprint Games and Masters’ Allround Games, Requirements and Advices to Organizers – New paragraph: Communication between organizer and participants change.

Proposed text:
Besides the normal Team Leader Meeting before the drawing, we recommend a Team Leader Meeting before the competition start every morning. This will serve the purpose of exchanging information and solving possible problems that have arisen.

If offered, please accept an appointed IMSSC Coordinator during the competitions. The IMSSC Coordinator will be a skilled person with knowledge of ISU and IMSSC Rules as well as Master Speedskating matters. The coordinator will act as “sparring partner” for the organizer and a formal link between the organizer and the participants and their team leaders, passing information and giving advice.

The idea of the Morning Team Leader Meeting and the IMSSC Coordinator is to facilitate the accomplishment of the competition to the benefit of all.

Reason:
Organizers and referees of speed skating competitions are certified with respect to ISU Rules. We can not assume that they have the complete view of where IMSSC Rules complement ISU Rules and where they substitute ISU Rules. The purpose of this new requirement/advice is to reduce the possibility of organizational flaws and to enforce the communication between organizers and participants.
9. Proposals KAZAKHSTAN

Proposal 1 - Revision of Article 3.3.

Proposed text:

3.3 Restriction of Participants

3.3.1 Pursuant to the principles set out by Article 1 of this Constitution, the organizer must seek to maximise participation of the skaters, including efforts to coordinate timely replacement of the skaters who cancel their participation.

3.3.2 If the number of participants in a competition must be restricted, certain decisions will be made to handle selection process. Entries received earlier shall have priority of the participation. If quotas are needed for Nations as determined by the IMSSC or the hosting country in extraordinary situations, each nation is to follow in principle to these practices, if not regulated in another manner by the respective National IMSSC Member, for example by limit times, best times, etc. and perhaps partially by wild cards (for example for participants disabled or for long standing participants).

3.3.3 National team leaders and/or IMSSC representatives shall have the right to replace up to 2 skaters from their country, who are unable to participate due to sickness or other last-minute circumstances up to the moment of Confirmation of Participation pursuant to Article 3.4 of this Constitution.

10. Proposals GERMANY

Proposal 1 - Exchange of the IMSSC Member Germany. An exchange of the IMSSC Member Dr. Volker Serini against Reinhold Marsollek is proposed.

Reason:
Dr. Volker Serini, IMSSC Member GER, will resign at the 36th IMSSC Session after 20 years of his Membership (IMSSC Foundation Member in 1994).

Proposal 2 - Vote for an IMSSC Member for Ukraine. Oleksandr Symonenko is proposed as IMSSC Member for Ukraine.

Reason:
Already a lot of years Oleksandr Symonenko is organizing the participation of skater teams of the UKRAINE in Masters’ International Speed Skating Competitions. At the 3rd Masters’ SPRINT GAMES 2011 in Berlin as well as at the 16th Masters’ SPRINT CLASSICS 2013 in Inzell took part teams of 10 skaters for example. Oleksandr Symonenko is speaking English.

Proposal 3 - Voting out of the IMSSC Members for Estonia and Romania. It is proposed to vote out the IMSSC Members of ESTONIA, Indrek Aarna, Ph.D., and of ROMANIA, Miklos Jenei.

Reason:
They should be voted out because they did not take part at IMSSC Sessions in the last 4 years in minimum and did not show activities in promoting Masters’ Speed Skating in their countries for this time. But we should say thanks for their active time in the IMSSC by the IMSSC Office.

Proposal 4 - Simplification for Voting Out and Changing IMSSC Members.

The following text should be deleted:

1. Constitution, Article 2, Sentence 1:
   “for a term of 4 successive years”

2. Constitution, Article 2, § 2, sentence 2 – 4:
   “If a Member misses 2 years ……….nations require before voting.”

Reason:
In the most Nations there are not much persons who can do the task as IMSSC Member for their Country. They should be competitive Master skaters themselves, they should have experience in Masters’ Speed Skating, they have to speak English, they have to be able to do voluntary work which is taking time. It is not easy to find such persons, especially in the small speed skating nations. We should be happy if we have IMSSC Members who are ready to do this task longer as 4 years, as we had in the 20 past years.
Additionally it would be complicated to organize the change every 4 years, also if we had enough candidates. For example we would have to exchange nearly all IMSSC Members 4 years after the introduction of this rule in 2011, that means in 2015.

A lot of experience would be lost. The continuity would suffer.

Members who do not want to do their task more than 4 years can resign at any time.

Not active IMSSC Members can be voted out with ¾ majority every year at the IMSSC Session.

**Proposal 5 - Alterations in “Delegation of Tasks by the IMSSC”**

1. Constitution, Article 5.11: Delete 5.11 and substitute by:

   **5.11 Information of the ISU Council, ISU TC Sp Sk and ISU Office by the IMSSC (IMSSC Session Minutes, ICEOVAL, etc.):** IMSSC President, IMSSC Secretary.

   **Reason:**
   The ISU Council has canceled all contacts to the IMSSC.

2. Constitution, Article 5.14: insert “Klaus Reuter “ instead of “Dr. Volker Serini”.

3. Constitution, Article 5.17: insert “Hans-Peter Ambass/SUI” instead of “Dr. Volker Serini/GER”.


   **Reason for 2.-5.:**
   Dr. Volker Serini has resigned as IMSSC Member GER.

**Proposal 6 - Simplification of the Entry Procedure at Sprint Games and Allround Games.**

**Regulations, 3.2 Entry, insert as § 3:**

“Entries for the Masters’ International Allround Games and the Masters’ International Sprint Games have to be made until the deadline 03 December (National selection by National IMSSC Member or National Association) or 10 December (Entry at the Competition Organizer) of the speed skating season on the electronic entry forms on the IMSSC website [www.imssc.org](http://www.imssc.org). 25 % more entries than wanted participants will be accepted (for example 250 entries for wanted 200 participants). This is because of the loss of about 20 % of the entries by illness of skaters or by other reasons until the competition days, which we know by experience. A substitution of skaters after the deadline is not possible.”

**Reason:**

Last season there could be exchanged entered skaters by other skaters until the Masters’ International Allround Games for the first time, as decided at the last IMSSC Session. That should have the effect, that the wanted 200 skaters should be reached nearly exactly. For this reason the accepted number of entries was 200.

But the organizer of the Allround Games got a lot of difficulties:

1. It was much work to inform the successors of the skaters falling out.
2. A lot of skaters falling out informed the organizer only 2 – 3 weeks before the competition, besides others 4 from 8 entered skaters from KAZ.
3. For a lot of the successors 2 – 3 weeks before the competition was too late, for example for successors from CAN, SWE. New successors had to be found. Some hindered successors were very angry about the late information.
4. According to his information the organizer thought to get nearly 200 participants. But to the organizers disappointment only 182 competitors were at the start. The organizer had no cancellation information for 16 of 18 missing competitors.

Because of the above-mentioned difficulties we ask you to accept the proposed regulation, which we did use more than 10 years with success. It has the great advantage to be very simple. Already in December of the running season the entered skaters know if they can take part in the Allround or Sprint Games or if not.
**Proposal 7 - Quota Allround Games and Sprint Games for Germany in 2014.** We propose the following quota for Germany:

- Allround Games: 28 (referred to 250 entries, 200 + 25 %);
- Sprint Games: 20 (referred to 250 entries, 200 + 25 %).

**Reason:**
Wanted quota according to the experiences of the last years.

**Proposal 8 - Quota Allround Games and Sprint Games also for BLR, CAN, JAP, KAZ, USA (besides FIN, GER, ITA, NED, NOR, RUS).** We propose to introduce quota for Allround and Sprint Games also for BLR, CAN, JAP, KAZ, USA (besides the quota for FIN, GER, ITA, NED, NOR, RUS).

**Reason:**
For the Allround Games in Inzell 2013 we had under Other Nations 12 early Entries from KAZ, so that many of the later entries of CAN and SWE and other Nations came on the waiting list. Only 2 -3 weeks before the Allround Games 8 of the 12 KAZ entries were deleted, but it was too late for many skaters on the waiting list still to take part in the Games. We had an astonishing high number of CAN entries, but the most of them came too late and had to go on the waiting list.

**Proposal 9 - Start at Mass Start Races at Allround Games.** Regulations, 3.7 Participants in the Last Distance, § 3, alter after sentence 2:

The skaters start at the 1000 m finish line in rows according to their points after three distances. The skater with the highest number of points starts in the first row at the inner side and the skater with the lowest number of points after 3 distances starts in the last row at the outside. Overtaking is allowed only at the outside of the skater who shall be overtaken. The race lasts about 8 laps (Men) respectively 6 laps (Ladies). Finish line is the 500 m finish line.

**Reason:**
The flying start, which was practiced at the Allround Games 2013 in Inzell, did not work well. At the second start shot after the preliminary lap the skaters were not narrow enough together for a right flying start. The skater fields were already very long because the start skaters skated too fast. Therefore it seems to be better to start without a preliminary lap in rows.

**Proposal 10 - Age Groups at Mass Start Races at Allround Games.** Regulations, 3.7 Participants in the Last Distance, § 3, sentence 2, alteration:

“There are 2 or 3 age groups: 30 – 60 or 30 – 45 and 50 – 60 and additionally 65+”.

**Reason:**
The number of skaters in Men 30 – 60 is already too large for a nice race. So a division in Men 30 – 45 and Men 50 – 60 should be preferred.

11. **Proposal AUSTRALIA**

**Proposal 1 - IMSSC investigation about the formation of a ST Committee to oversee the development of the ST component of Masters.** I have pushed very hard for the ST component and I believe that there are some very important discussions to be had to ensure we make the ST area grow. With almost 100 skaters taking part in the 1st Masters International Games in Cicero NY/USA on April 5th…7th 2013, this is a great time to show the ISU that us Masters are a growing group that demand recognition. As I am the Australian delegate to the ISU being the Australian National President, I would like to be ready for Congress next year and to be able to discuss the efforts of the Masters with those from the ISU in that particular forum.
12. Proposals UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Proposal 1 - Qualifying for Masters Sprint & Allaround Games.

Issue:
There has always been a tension in the registration process for the Masters Sprint & Allaround games. This tension is from making sure the best Masters skaters in the world have a chance to compete vs. each other, and at the same time celebrating participation across ALL age groups, no matter the skill.

Both principles are important to the growth of Masters Speedskating. It has always been a great challenge to find a balance to this with limited slots during a completion.

Some countries have enough reserved slots to run their own selections & have a qualifying formula. A selection process ensures that a countries best skaters are always able to attend & it gives an IMSSC member great flexibility as they don’t need to submit their lists of skaters until mid-way into a season.

It is completely unfair to excellent skaters who must rely on “first come first serve” basis. In Inzell the “other nations” category pre-registered out in a few days, and many excellent skaters had to stay home.

The IMSSC has always allowed a countries member input over who attends the games.

This proposed solution is for a nations IMSSC member to submit to a games organizer a list of skaters who have come within 108% -110% of the recognized IMSSC record in a distance they will race at the respective games during the previous season. So for the 2014 games, qualifying time could be skated in the 2012-2013 season.

These times are easily viewable at Speedskatingresults.com. This will be in practice a “pre-qualification” route for a excellent skaters in the “other nations” category, or a way for an IMSSC member to decide to pre-qualify a portion of their quota objectively, and let the others be “first come first serve”.

This will be optional, not required for a national IMSSC member to do this. It must be submitted within a short window of time, agreed upon with the race organizer (maybe only a short 2-3 week window).

This rule will give the best balance between recognizing excellence, and keeping a portion of the entries “first come-first served”, as in practice, this number of athletes qualifying this route who chose to attend the games will not be overwhelming.

Suggested Language:

3.3 Restriction of Participants

If a nation does not have a qualification criteria an IMSSC member may submit to the games organizer a list of all their athletes who have skated a time within 108% of the current IMSSC record in a distance for the previous season to the games.

These athletes will take registration precedence over the “first-come-first-served” model.

These times are verifiable on many international databases. If a nation has a formal quota, the names submitted may not exceed the quota.

The games organizer may specify the window of time they will accept these early qualifications. It is recommended that this time shall only be 2-3 weeks after registrations open.

*Appendix timetable will be forthcoming. It will be built on the probably 2012 record list approved by Sven-Aage.
Proposal 2 - Registration process for Masters International Events. This proposal requests the creation of a sub-committee to evaluate a long-term solution for the IMSSC registration process. Safepayevents.com is one option that was very useful for the Sprint Games in SLC and the 1st Short Track Games. There must be others that can be evaluated.

The level in attrition for the participants at the Masters Allaround Games in Inzell, and the level of attrition for the Masters Sprints in Salt Lake city (a small handful) stems back to the registration systems being used & the requirements for payment during registration.

The requirement that an athlete pay when they register eliminates frivolous registrations, allows organizers to have funding on hand to pay for items before the event, it automatically refunds withdrawals if they withdraw within 60 days of registration, and if someone pays & then simply does not show up, it is extra income for an event.

There were tremendous advantages to the Safepayevents.com system we used in Salt Lake & it is extremely flexible (and run by a speedskater, who understands our sport). It also allows immediate updating of entry lists, entry confirmations, and exporting of complete excel files to the organizing committee or any other authorized party.

We have 2 customers, our skaters and the 400m ovals we work closely with to produce quality events. The more we make race registration an easy process that benefits both athletes & organizing committees, the better outcomes will occur.