

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1889

ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2014/15

1. General Conditions

- 1.1 The ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2014/15 will be organized as a series of International Competitions subject to regulations given in this ISU Communication. The World Cup series is an ISU Event. Relevant parts of the ISU General Regulations apply, in particular Rules 105, 106 and 136.
- 1.2 International TV rights and advertising rights for the ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2014/15 belong to the ISU. Organizers of Competitions are obliged to respect commercial and TV contracts entered into by the ISU. Before concluding any commercial agreements the organizers should consult the ISU Director General in order to prevent conflicts with ISU contracts.
- 1.3 An ISU Memorandum, specifying contractual obligations and guidelines for the organization of ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions, will be made available to the organizing ISU Members and the Organizing Committees.
- 1.4 For each of the World Cup Competitions the ISU Council assigns an ISU Representative and an ISU Event Coordinator and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee assigns a Technical Representative, who shall observe that the competitions are conducted in accordance with the regulations in this Communication, ISU Statutes and ISU Memorandum.

2. Basic competition rules

- 2.1 The World Cup Speed Skating is organized as a series of Competitions in the following *distance categories*, with the indicated number of Competitions/races scheduled for the season 2014/15:
 - 500 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 12 races
 - 1000 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - 1500 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - Long distances (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - For Ladies the long distances are 3000m and 5000m; for Men 5000m and 10000m.
 - Mass start races (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - Mass start races are over 16 laps; both for Ladies and for Men.
 - Team Pursuit (national teams, Ladies and Men): 3 Competitions / 3 races
 - For Ladies the Team Pursuit races are over 6 laps; for Men over 8 laps.Skaters will accumulate points determining a final World Cup ranking for each distance category and for an overall World Cup season ranking (“Grand World Cup”).
- 2.2 The World Cup ranking for each distance category is determined by the accumulated World Cup points for each Skater or (for Team Pursuit) national team over the season.
- 2.3 The Grand World Cup ranking is determined by the accumulated “Grand World Cup points” for each Skater over the season.
- 2.4 Individual events (except for Mass start races) are organized in a format where Skaters compete in two divisions, A and B. The Skaters with the currently best World Cup ranking in the category compete in Division A. Each competition day has a core session consisting of the races for Division A for all the events skated on that day.
- 2.5 The Competitions are open to all ISU Speed Skating Members. Entry quotas are based on the Special Olympic Qualification Classification lists determining quota places for the Olympic Winter Games 2014 (as defined in ISU Rule 209, paragraph 2, and as announced by ISU after the last qualifying competition 9 December 2013) and on the final World Cup rankings 2013/14.
- 2.6 With the consent of the ISU, demonstration events may be organized on the occasion of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions. Demonstration events should be conducted after the conclusion of the ordinary World Cup races. Team Sprint races are planned as demonstration events at the World Cups in Obihiro and Seoul.
- 2.7 Prize money, as determined by the ISU, is awarded as follows (for details see paragraph 8):
 - For each Competition: to the 3 best Competitors in individual event and to the 3 best Team Pursuit teams;
 - Based on the final World Cup ranking: to the 10 best ranked Skaters in each distance category, to the 5 best ranked Skaters in the Mass start event and to the 5 best ranked teams in the Team Pursuit event.
- 2.8 A special prize will be awarded to the best Skater (one winner for Ladies, one winner for Men: “Grand World Cup winner”), based on a grand total of points earned from World Cup races throughout the 2014/15 season.

3. ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2014/15

3.1 Competition calendar

Dates	Place	Country	Distances / events
November 14 – 16, 2014	Obihiro	JPN	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP, TS* Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP, TS*
November 21 – 23, 2014	Seoul	KOR	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TS* Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 10000m, Ms, TS*
December 5 – 7, 2014	Berlin	GER	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP
December 12 – 14, 2014	Heerenveen	NED	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms, TP Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms, TP
January 31 – February 1, 2015	Hamar	NOR	Ladies: 1500m, 3000m, Ms Men: 1500m, 5000m, Ms
February 7 – 8, 2015	Heerenveen	NED	Ladies: 2x500m, 2x1000m Men: 2x500m, 2x1000m
March 21 – 22, 2015	Erfurt	GER	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Ms Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Ms

TP – Team Pursuit races, Ms – Mass start races, TS* – Demonstration event: Team Sprint races

3.2 Distribution of distances / events

If not otherwise decided, distances (Division A) will be skated according to the following programs regarding the order of distances (L – Ladies' races, M – Men's races):

№	Place	Date	Program
WC №1	Obihiro, JPN	14 November 2014, Friday 15 November 2014, Saturday 16 November 2014, Sunday	5000 M, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 3000 L 1000 L, 1000 M, TP-M, TP-L; *TS-M, *TS-L 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M
WC №2	Seoul, KOR	21 November 2014, Friday 22 November 2014, Saturday 23 November 2014, Sunday	5000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1500 M 10000 M, 500 L-2, 1000 M, 1500 L 1000 L, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M; *TS-M, *TS-L
WC №3	Berlin, GER	5 December 2014, Friday 6 December 2014, Saturday 7 December 2014, Sunday	3000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-M 1000 L, 1000 M, 5000 M, TP-L 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M
WC №4	Heerenveen, NED	12 December 2014, Friday 13 December 2014, Saturday 14 December 2014, Sunday	3000 L, 500 L-1, 500 M-1, TP-M 1000 L, 5000 M, TP-L, 1000 M 1500 L, 1500 M, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, Ms-L, Ms-M
WC №5	Hamar, NOR	31 January 2015, Saturday 1 February 2015, Sunday	1500 L, 5000 M 3000 L, 1500 M, Ms-L, Ms-M
WC №6	Heerenveen, NED	7 February 2015, Saturday 8 February 2015, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1000 L-1, 1000 M-1 500 L-2, 500 M-2, 1000 L-2, 1000 M-2
WC №7 <i>Final</i>	Erfurt, GER	21 March 2015, Saturday 22 March 2015, Sunday	500 L-1, 500 M-1, 1500 L, 1000 M, 5000 M 3000 L, 500 L-2, 500 M-2, 1000L, 1500 M, Ms-L, Ms-M

3.3 World Cup competitions as qualifying events for ISU World Championships 2015

- World Cups №1, №2, №3 and №4 are qualifying events for the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2015. ISU Members qualify for quota places for the Championships based on the results of their Skaters in these World Cup Competitions.
- World Cup №5 is a qualifying event for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2015. ISU Members qualify for quota places for the Championships based on the combined results (1500 and 3000 meters for Ladies, 1500 and 5000 meters for Men) of their Skaters in this World Cup Competition.
- World Cup №6 is a qualifying event for the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2015. ISU Members qualify for quota places for the Championships based on the combined results (one 500 and one 1000 meter) of their Skaters in this World Cup Competition.
- Results from World Cups №1-6 define the seeding of Skaters for the World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2015.

3.4 Entry rules

3.4.1 Entry quotas

- a) For each *individual distance category*, except Mass start, the entry quotas of ISU Members are determined as follows:
- Any ISU Member may enter 1 Competitor;
 - An ISU Member that had at least one Skater placed in the Special Olympic Qualification Classification list (SOQC) determining quota places for the Olympic Winter Games 2014, *including* the reserve list of quota places, may enter 2 Competitors;
 - An ISU Member that had 2 Skaters placed in the Special Olympic Qualification Classification list (SOQC) *excluding* the reserve list of quota places, may enter 3 Competitors;
 - An ISU Member that had at least 3 Skaters placed in the Special Olympic Qualification Classification list (SOQC), *excluding* the reserve list of quota places, may enter 4 Competitors;
 - An ISU Member with at least 4 Skaters placed among the 32 best in the ISU World Cup ranking 2013/14 may enter 5 Competitors.
- b) For the Mass start event an ISU Member may enter a maximum of 2 Competitors. If it will be necessary to restrict entries to stay inside the limit of 28 Competitors in the event, ISU Members without Skaters placed among the 32 best in the ISU World Cup ranking 2013/14 may enter only 1 Competitor. If necessary entry quotas for the Mass start event will be further restricted as stated in paragraph 4.1.1.
- c) For the *Team Pursuit event* an ISU Member may enter only one team per gender (Ladies and Men).

Based on these criteria the following distance entry quotas apply for ISU Members that took part in World Cup Competitions 2013/14 (other ISU Speed Skating Members may enter maximum 1 Competitor for each distance):

Ladies	500	1000	1500	3000 & 5000	Mass start	Men	500	1000	1500	5000 & 10000	Mass start
AUS	1	1	1	1	1	AUS	2	2	1	1	1
AUT	2	2	2	2	1	AUT	1	2	2	1	2
BEL	1	1	2	2	2	BEL	1	2	2	2	2
BLR	2	1	1	1	1	BLR	1	1	1	1	1
CAN	4	4	4	3	2	CAN	5	4	4	2	1
CHN	4	5	3	2	1	CHN	3	2	2	2	1
CZE	2	2	3	2	1	CZE	1	1	1	1	1
DEN	1	1	1	1	1	DEN	1	1	1	1	1
EST	1	1	1	1	2	EST	1	1	1	1	1
FIN	2	1	1	1	1	FIN	3	3	1	1	1
FRA	1	1	1	1	1	FRA	2	2	3	3	1
GER	5	4	4	4	2	GER	4	3	3	5	2
HUN	2	1	1	1	1	HUN	1	1	2	1	1
ITA	2	2	2	2	2	ITA	3	2	3	2	2
JPN	5	5	5	5	2	JPN	5	3	2	2	2
KAZ	2	2	2	2	1	KAZ	2	4	4	2	1
KOR	4	3	4	4	1	KOR	4	4	3	3	1
LAT	1	1	1	1	1	LAT	2	2	2	2	1
NED	5	5	5	5	2	NED	5	5	5	5	2
NOR	1	2	3	3	2	NOR	3	4	4	4	2
NZL	1	1	1	1	1	NZL	1	1	2	2	1
POL	1	4	4	5	2	POL	3	3	4	3	2
ROU	1	1	1	2	1	ROU	1	1	1	1	1
RUS	4	5	5	4	1	RUS	5	4	5	5	2
SUI	2	2	2	1	1	SUI	1	1	1	1	2
SWE	1	2	1	1	1	SWE	1	2	2	2	1
TPE	1	1	1	1	1	TPE	2	2	1	1	1
USA	5	4	4	3	2	USA	4	5	5	5	2

- For World Cup №5 and World Cup №6 entry quotas will be extended, because of the status of these Competitions as qualifying events for the ISU World Allround Speed Skating Championships 2015 and the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships 2015, respectively. Each ISU Member will get *one more quota place* than its highest quota for either of the two distances included in the qualifying competitions (For World Cup №5: 1500 and 3000 meters for Ladies, 1500 and 5000 meters for Men; for World Cup №6: 500 and 1000 meters). However, the maximum entry quota of 5 Competitors per distance will apply. The applicable entry quotas for World Cup №5 and for World Cup №6 will be listed in the announcement for these World Cup Competitions.
- The organizing Member of a World Cup Competition will be granted maximum entry quotas for all events.
- The participation in the final Competition (World Cup final) will be restricted according to paragraph 4.1.5.

3.4.2 Qualifying times

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

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

However, for results achieved outside the ice rinks in Calgary (Olympic Oval) and Salt Lake City (Utah Olympic Oval) the following qualifying time limits apply:

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

- For a result to be a valid qualifying time, it must have been achieved in ISU Events, International Competitions or National Championships in the period between *July 1, 2013* and the entry deadline for the World Cup Competition concerned.
- For World Cup №5 a Skater having achieved the qualifying time for one of the distances counting in the qualification of quota places for the World Allround Speed Skating Championships (1500m and 3000m for Ladies, 1500m and 5000m for Men), may also be entered for the other distance.
- For World Cup №6 a Skater having achieved the qualifying time for one of the distances counting in the qualification of quota places for the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships (500m and 1000m) may also be entered for the other distance.
- For the Team Pursuit events and for the Mass start events any one of the listed qualifying times will apply. However, for the Team Pursuit event and/or for the Mass start event an ISU Member may enter maximum one Skater (per gender) who has not achieved any of the above qualifying times. The qualifying time limit for such a skater will be for *Ladies: 2.10,00 in the 1500 m*; for *Men: 1.57,50 in the 1500 m*.
- An ISU Member that has no Skater with a valid qualifying time available to be entered for a World Cup Competition, may request to take part with one Skater in one individual distance. Such a request must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat at least 3 days before the deadline for entries for the competition, with information on the achievements of the Skater concerned. The decision to accept or reject the entry of the Skater will be taken at the discretion of the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, considering that the qualifying time limits listed above indicate the performance level expected for participation.

3.4.3 Entries of Competitors

ISU Members must submit their entries using the *ISU Online entry system*. The entries must indicate the distance(s) to be skated by each entered Competitor, including maximum one substitute per distance, and entries for team events. An entered Competitor may be replaced by an entered substitute *not later than at the team leaders' meeting preceding the draw* for the distance. No substitutions will be accepted at the draw meeting. Replacement of a Competitor by an entered substitute *after the draw* may exceptionally be accepted, but only if the Referee has been duly informed at least two hours before the start of the first race (division A or division B) of the distance.

4. Competition formats

4.1 Individual distances skated in separate divisions

For each individual distance the entered Skaters compete in two separate divisions with the currently best ranked Skaters competing in Division A; the remaining Skaters in Division B. However, all Skaters compete together in Division A in the following cases:

- i) When the number of entered Skaters does not exceed a certain limit, as indicated in paragraph 4.1.1.
- ii) For all events in the last World Cup Competition of the season, see paragraph 4.1.5.

4.1.1 Number of Competitors in Division A

- a) For 500m, 1000m and 1500m, Ladies and Men:
- If not more than 28 Skaters have been entered, all compete in Division A
 - If more than 28 Skaters have been entered, Division A shall consist of 20 Competitors, with possible exception for the second race of 500m, see item e) below.
- b) For 3000m Ladies and 5000m Men:
- If not more than 20 Skaters have been entered, all compete in Division A.
 - If the number of entered Skaters is between 21 and 24, Division A shall consist of 12 Competitors.
 - If more than 24 Skaters have been entered, Division A shall consist of 16 Competitors.
- c) For 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men:
- The number of Competitors in Division A shall be (maximum) 12.
- d) For Mass start, Ladies and Men:
- All Skaters compete in Division A, which will be limited to maximum 28 Competitors.
 - If more than 28 Skaters have been entered, quota places for Division A will be restricted as follows:
 - For each ISU Member that entered Competitors for the event, one Competitor will be admitted.
 - One more Competitor may be admitted for ISU Members according to the position of their second best Skater in the current World Cup Mass start ranking, until the limit of 28 Competitors have been reached. A corresponding reserve list will be established in case of withdrawals. For World Cup №1 the ISU World Cup Mass start ranking 2013/14 will apply for this procedure.
- e) For the *second race of 500m* in the same World Cup Competition the number of Competitors in Division A will be determined according to subparagraph 4.1.2 d) below.

Summary table regarding number of Competitors for Division A:

Number of entries	Number of Competitors in Division A				
	WC № 1-6				WC Final
	Up to 20	Up to 24	25-28	>28	
500 1000 1500	all	all	all	20	20
3000L / 5000M	all	12	16	16	16
5000L / 10000M	12	12	12	12	n.a.
Ms-L / Ms-M	all	all	all	28	20

4.1.2 Selection of Skaters for Division A

- a) In the *first Competition* the composition of Division A is determined by the final 2013/14 World Cup ranking for the distance category concerned and by the seeding of the entered Competitors, as submitted by the respective team leaders before the opening draw (see paragraph 5.1). The 2013/14 World Cup ranking determines the number quota places for the ISU Member in Division A (subject to the entry quotas listed in paragraph 3.4.1), while the seeding submitted by the team leader determines which Competitor will fill the respective quota places.
- b) In *all other Competitions* (also for the first competition over 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men) the selection for Division A shall be based on the current World Cup ranks of the entered Skaters. However, in any case the following of the entered Skaters shall compete in Division A:
- Competitors placed among the 6 best, ties included, in Division A in the preceding Competition.
 - Competitors promoted from Division B in the preceding Competition. Promotion is granted for Competitors who finished among the 3 best (ties included) in Division B, with the following exceptions:
 - When Division A will consist of only 12 Competitors (5000m Ladies and 10000m Men), only the winner of Division B from the preceding competition will be granted promotion to Division A.
 - From the first World Cup Competition promotion from Division B is granted for the 5 best Competitors in the short distances (up to 1500 m).
 - From Competitions with two races over 500m, the promotion of Competitors (5 after the first World Cup competition, otherwise 3) for the next Competition will be based on a ranking where the winners of Division B races are ranked first, followed by Skaters ranked according to their total of World Cup points from the Division B races in the Competition concerned. In case of a tie in total points, the Competitor with the higher score of World Cup points from one race is considered as better ranked.
- c) Competitors with a "Wild card":
A Skater may use a "Wild card" for Division A only the first time the Skater competes in the distance (category) concerned in the World Cup 2014/15. A "Wild card" for Division A may be granted only if the Skater was placed among the 10 best in the final World Cup 2013/14 ranking or among the 10 best in the 2014 Olympic Winter Games for the distance category concerned.

The request for a “Wild card” should be made when the Skater is entered for the Competition, and must be confirmed at the team leaders’ meeting before the draw for the distance concerned. A “Wild Card” can neither be used in the first World Cup Competition of the season nor in the World Cup final.

- d) In World Cup Competitions with two races over 500m, the winner will be promoted from Division B to Division A for the second race. Skaters (if any) who were not entered for the first race, but who would then have been selected for Division A due to their current World Cup ranks or a "Wild card", may be entered for Division A in the second race. All other entered Competitors for the second race will start in Division B.

4.1.3 Scheduling of Division A races

- a) For each day of a World Cup Competition the races of Division A for all events shall be scheduled as one block of races. The starting time for the block of Division A races shall be stated in the announcement.
- b) Quartet starts shall not be used in Division A.

4.1.4 Scheduling of Division B races

- a) The races of Division B should be skated on the same day as the races of Division A for the event concerned, before or after the Division A block. The time schedule for the races of Division B shall be announced at the team leaders’ meeting.
- b) Quartet starts should be used for the long distances.

4.1.5 Entry and selection of Skaters for the last World Cup Competition (“World Cup final”)

- a) The entry quotas given in paragraph 3.4.1 apply as maximum entry quotas.
- b) For each event only the following Skaters may be entered:
- for 500m, 1000m and 1500m: Skaters placed among the 24 best in the current World Cup ranking for the distance concerned;
 - for 3000m/5000m: Skaters placed among the 20 best in the current World Cup long distances ranking;
 - for the Mass start event: Skaters placed among the 24 best in the current World Cup ranking, and Skaters placed among the 8 best in the Grand World Cup ranking before the World Cup final;
 - for each of the individual events the winner(s) of the Division B race(s) in the preceding Competition.
- c) “Wild Card” entries are not possible.
- d) If the actual number of entries will exceed 16 for the long distances (3000m /5000m) or 20 for any of the other individual events, the entered Skaters with the lowest World Cup ranking will not be admitted. However, winners of the last B division race will in any case be admitted among the 16, respectively 20, Competitors.

4.2 Competition format and racing rules for the Team Pursuit events

4.2.1 Team Pursuit races will be skated in accordance with Rule 261, paragraph 1, with national teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 6 laps for Ladies and 8 laps for Men.

- The Competitors must wear National Team racing uniforms of the Member concerned, as confirmed by the ISU;
- Only Skaters entered as a participant or a substitute for an individual distance at the World Cup Competition concerned may compete in the Team Pursuit event;
- The deadline for entry of names of the Skaters that may compete in the team (possibly more than 3 names) will be announced by the Referee during the team leaders’ meeting the day before the Team Pursuit event;
- The final composition of the team shall be declared by the team leader and submitted to Competition management not later than 30 minutes before the start of the Team Pursuit event concerned.
- For the first Team Pursuit World Cup Competition of the season the teams shall be ranked according to the final 2013/14 World Cup Team Pursuit ranking;
- For the subsequent Competitions teams shall be ranked according to the current World Cup Team Pursuit ranking.

4.2.2 Further details on the organization of the Team Pursuit races may be given in a separate document issued ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee. The sequence of races of the Team Pursuit competitions is determined by a ranking of the teams, with the two best ranked teams competing in the last race.

4.3 Competition format for the Mass start events

Mass start races will be organized based on ISU Technical Rule 253, paragraph 4.b), with additional specifications as listed below or in any updated documents issued by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

4.3.1 Basic competition format

- Distances are 16 laps for Ladies and 16 laps for Men. The warm-up lane is considered as part of the racing track.

- Start in the middle of the finishing straight (at the 1000m finishing line), finish at the end of the finishing straight. The Competitors line up at the start according to their World Cup ranking, in rows of 6 Skaters with the highest ranked Competitors in the first row. Unranked Competitors line up according to their starting number for the World Cup Competition concerned. For World Cup № 1 the line-up will be based on the seeding of the team leaders and the World Cup Mass start ranking 2013/14, cf. paragraph 5.1.
- For safety purposes Competitors must wear shin guards and cut resistant gloves or mitts. Further safety gear is recommended, like cut resistant neck protection and underwear. See also Rule 223, paragraph 1 a). The back part of the blades must be rounded off, with an indicative radius of 1 cm. Other specially announced safety measures may apply.
- During the race there will be three intermediate sprints, which will be concluded at the finishing line after 4, 8 and 12 laps. A bell signal will be given one lap before the sprint; that means when the lap counter shows 13, 9 and 5 laps left, respectively. Another bell signal will be given when the lap counter shows 1 lap left, signaling the final sprint.
- The race points awarded for the sprints are as follows:
 - Intermediate sprints: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 5 – 3 – 1 points
 - Final sprint: first three (3) Skaters will gain: 60 – 40 – 20 points
- The result (final ranking) of the race will be determined by the accumulated race points gained in the intermediate sprints and at the final sprint. The Competitors who are the first three to cross the finishing line at the final sprint will then also end up as the top three ranked Competitors.
 - i) For Competitors that do not finish the race in a regular manner, points awarded from the intermediate sprint will not be considered for their final ranking.
 - ii) Competitors without race points will be ranked according to their order of finish at the final sprint.
 - iii) Competitors not finishing the race should be ranked by their number of completed laps before abandoning the race.

4.3.2 World Cup points

World Cup points and Grand World Cup points are awarded based on the final race results, according to the points scoring tables listed in paragraph 6.

4.4 Demonstration events

With the consent of the ISU World Cup Coordinator and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, the organizer of a World Cup Competition may include demonstration events.

4.4.1 Team Sprint demonstration event.

Team Sprint races over 3 laps, with national teams of 3 Skaters in each team, are planned as demonstration events as listed in the Competition calendar, paragraph 3. The event will be organized according to ISU Technical Rule 261, paragraph 3, and Rule 265, paragraph 8. Further details and adjustments may be issued by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

5. Drawing - Composition of pairs and starting order, issuing of start lists

A team leaders' meeting shall take place before each day of the Competition, with the purpose to confirm the final entries and to present race schedules and other logistic information.

Before the first day of a World Cup Competition there will be an opening draw meeting to announce the composition and starting order of pairs for the first competition day. On subsequent days the start lists for the following day will be determined by the Referee based on the entries confirmed at the team leaders' meeting and the rules given below. At the first World Cup Competition of the season, however, a draw meeting will be held following the team leaders' meeting before each day of competition.

Each participating ISU Member is obliged to attend the team leaders' meeting, but participation is restricted to one person (the officially entered team leader or another person authorized by the team leader).

5.1 Drawing at the first World Cup Competition for individual distances

5.1.1 The entered Competitors shall be placed in 10 (ten) groups. Group 1-9 will have 4 Competitors each. Remaining Competitors shall be placed in Group 10.

5.1.2 Respecting the entry quotas defined in paragraph 3.4 above, the number of Competitors for an ISU Member in Group 1 corresponds to the number of Skaters from this ISU Member among the 4 best in the final World Cup ranking 2013/14, and similarly for Groups 2 through 9.

5.1.3 *Before noon (12:00)* on the day of the Opening draw meeting for the Competition the team leaders must submit to the Referee a seeding of their entered Competitors, by order of quality, *for all distances* to be skated in the Competition. The Referee then places the Competitors in the respective groups, considering that Group 1 shall include the Skaters of highest quality.

- 5.1.4** For the short distances (500m, 1000m and 1500m) Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed into Groups 1 through 5; for the long distances (3000m/5000m) Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed into Groups 1 through 4. Division B shall consist of the remaining Competitors. Adjustments will be made in case of exceptional number of Competitors in Division A as per paragraph 4.1. For the second race over 500m, see subparagraph 5.2.3 below.
- 5.1.5** Pairs are drawn within each group. The pairs of Group 10 shall be drawn first, then the pairs of Group 9, etc. The two last drawn Competitors from Group 1 will form the last pair of Division A. In the case of an odd number of Competitors, the first pair will consist of a single Skater.
- 5.1.6** In case of withdrawals after the draw meeting, a withdrawn Competitor shall be replaced in the pair by the next ranked of the entered Skater or substitute (according to the seeding submitted by the team leader) from the ISU Member concerned, etc. If no substitute is available, and the consequence is that less than 4 Competitors remain in a group the Competitor with the highest rank from the next group will be moved to complete the pair, etc. Further rearrangements may be done according to Rule 245.

5.2 Pairing and drawing after the first World Cup Competition for each distance

- 5.2.1** Competitors, both in Division A and in Division B, shall be paired according to their individual World Cup rank. An *extended World Cup ranking* is established by ranking Competitors with no World Cup points according to their best achieved time in World Cup races during the season 2014/15. Competitors with no results from World Cup races held during the season shall be *ranked thereafter*, based on their best achieved qualifying time. The starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors – so that the Competitors with the highest ranks will start in the last pair, and so on. The better ranked Competitor in a pair shall start in the inner lane. Exceptions apply for the second 500m race, see 5.2.3 below.
- 5.2.2** The above procedure applies also for the first (and only) competition in 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men, with the drawing based on the current *extended World Cup ranking* in the long distances.
- 5.2.3** For the second 500m race in a World Cup Competition, the composition of pairs in each Division shall be based on the time ranking from the first race, so that the Competitors with the best time from the first race will start in the last pair. Competitors, who did not participate or did not get a result in the first race, shall start first, with their internal rank determined according to subparagraph 5.2.1 above.
- In case of ties in the time rankings used for the composition of pairs in the second race, the Competitor with the better current World Cup rank shall be considered better ranked;
 - The composition of pairs must take into account that the Competitors shall change their starting lanes from the first race. Skaters not competing in the first race may be assigned starting lanes in order to avoid odd pairs;
 - If the start list (after rearrangements following withdrawals after the draw, see subparagraph 5.2.4 below), would include several single pairs, such pairs shall be merged by moving the Competitor from the preceding pair to the last of the single pairs. The moved Competitor shall start in the outer lane of the merged pair. The procedure is to be repeated until maximum one single pair remains.
- 5.2.4** In case of withdrawals after the draw, pairs shall be rearranged according to Rule 245. Substitutes shall be placed in the Division and the pair corresponding to their individual World Cup rank, with rearrangements made accordingly. However, for withdrawals announced later than two hours before the start of the distance and Division concerned, adjustment of pairs may be made according to Rule 245, paragraph 3.

5.3 Composition of quartets

In the case of quartet starts the four Competitors with the best World Cup ranking shall form the last quartet, and only the first quartet may be incomplete.

6. Points and ranking system for World Cup rankings

6.1 Points scoring tables

6.1.1 Grand World Cup points

A special ranking is established to determine an overall World Cup winner (“Grand World Cup winner 2014/15”), both for Ladies and for Men. For each competition in individual distances the top 5 ranked Competitors will gain “Grand World Cup points”, as follows:

Rank	Competitions before the World Cup final	World Cup final
1	100 (50)	150 (75)
2	80 (40)	120 (60)
3	70 (35)	106 (52)
4	60 (30)	90 (45)
5	50 (25)	76 (38)

The points in brackets are awarded for each 500m race in Competitions where that distance will be skated twice.

6.1.2 World Cup points

Based on the results of Division A and Division B, World Cup points are awarded according to the points tables below. Tables A1, A2 or A3 are used for Division A, and tables B1 and B2 for Division B. If table B1 has been used for the first 500 m race of Division B, this points table will be used also for the second race.

Rank	A1 For >16 entries	A2 For 12-16 entries	A3 World Cup Final (all events)	Rank	B1 In combination with A1	B2 In combination with A2
1	100	100	150	1	25	32
2	80	80	120	2	19	27
3	70	70	106	3	15	23
4	60	60	90	4	11	19
5	50	50	76	5	8	15
6	45	45	45	6	6	11
7	40	40	40	7	4	9
8	36	35	36	8	2	7
9	32	30	32	9	1	6
10	28	25	28	10	-	5
11	24	21	24	11		4
12	21	18	21	12		3
13	18	16	18	13		2
14	16	14	16	14		1
15	14	12	14	15		
16	12	10	12	16		
17	10		10	17		
18	8		8	18		
19	6		6	19		
20	5		5	20		
21	4			21		
22	3			22		
23	2			23		
24	1			24		

6.2 Points for tied ranks

If two or more Skaters (or teams) have obtained the same rank in the classification, each Skater (or team) will receive the full points score for this tied rank.

7. World Cup Speed Skating ranking rules

7.1 Grand World Cup ranking rules (to determine the overall World Cup winner)

For the Grand World Cup ranking a tie between Skaters with the same number of “Grand World Cup points” (as defined above) will be resolved according to the following criteria (in order of priority) for determining the better ranked Skater:

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

7.2 World Cup rankings for each distance category

The World Cup ranking for each distance category is determined by the number of points the Skaters (or national pursuit teams) accumulate during the season. In the final World Cup ranking, as well as in the intermediate ranking during the season, a tie between Skaters/teams with the same total of World Cup points will be resolved according to the following criteria (in order of priority) for determining the better ranked Skater/team:

- i) The Skater/team with the higher number of World Cup victories;
- ii) The Skater/team with the higher score of points in one single competition (race);
- iii) The Skater/team with the higher score of points in the latest competition (race) held.

If neither of these criteria resolves the tie, the Skaters (teams) shall have the same World Cup rank.

8. Prizes

For each distance (category) prize money will be awarded for each individual competition and for the final classification at the end of the season. For each competition prize money is awarded to the top 3 Skaters of Division A and the top 3 pursuit teams. For the final World Cup ranking prize money is awarded to the top 10 Skaters in each of the individual distance categories, to the top 5 Skaters in the Mass start event, and to the top 5 ranked teams in the Team Pursuit events.

<i>Prize money for Grand World Cup winners</i> (amount for each gender)				US \$ 20.000		
<i>Prize money for final ranking</i>				<i>Prize money for each competition</i>		
Place	Amount (for each distance category)	Place	Amount for Team Pursuit and Mass start**	Place	Full amount for a distance	Half* amount for a distance skated twice
1.	US \$ 15.000,-	1.	US \$ 5.000,-	1.	US \$ 1.500,-	US \$ 750,-
2.	US \$ 10.000,-	2.	US \$ 3.000,-	2.	US \$ 1.000,-	US \$ 500,-
3.	US \$ 7.000,-	3.	US \$ 2.500,-	3.	US \$ 800,-	US \$ 400,-
4.	US \$ 5.000,-	4.	US \$ 2.000,-	<i>Team Pursuit prize money</i>		
5.	US \$ 4.000,-	5.	US \$ 1.500,-	1 st team	US \$ 2.100,-	
6.	US \$ 3.500,-			2 nd team	US \$ 1.500,-	
7.	US \$ 3.000,-			3 rd team	US \$ 1.200,-	
8.	US \$ 2.500,-			<i>Mass start prize money**</i>		
9.	US \$ 2.000,-			1.	US \$ 750,-	
10.	US \$ 1.500,-			2.	US \$ 500,-	
				3.	US \$ 400,-	

*) These amounts apply for each race over 500m in Competitions when these distances are skated twice.

***) The Prize Money for Mass start may be revised by the ISU Council.

In case of ties, the prize money will be the average amounts for the applicable ranking positions.

The prize money for the final rankings is transferred from the ISU to the respective ISU Members on the same conditions that apply for ISU Championships (see ISU Communication No. 1509 or later updates). Payment of prize money for each individual competition is handled by the organizing ISU Member.

9. Cancellation of Competitions

If an organizing ISU Member considers it impossible to hold the World Cup Competition it has been allotted according to the schedule given in paragraph 3, it must urgently give the reasons in writing to the ISU Secretariat to permit the ISU to authorize the cancellation. If circumstances during a Competition would make it impossible to complete some scheduled races, the Referee in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee representative is authorized to cancel distances or races. The ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee decides if cancelled distances or races shall be rescheduled for another date and/or another venue.

10. Requirements for the organization of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions

A Memorandum issued by the ISU gives detailed requirements and guidelines for the organization of an ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competition. A summary is given below:

- 10.1** The organizer is responsible for publishing the announcement for the Competition, in accordance with Rule 110 and guidelines given in the Memorandum. The draft announcement shall be submitted to the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee for approval. The announcement should be sent by email to ISU Speed Skating Members not later than 60 days before the Competition, and it should be made available on a suitable website with other relevant information.
- 10.2** Referees, Assistant Referees and Starters are appointed by the ISU President, based on nominations made by the organizing ISU Member, in consultation with the ISU Vice President, ISU Sports Director and Speed Skating Technical Committee. The Referee and at least one Starter (both for the Ladies' and the Men's competitions) must be ISU Officials for the season 2014/15, as given in ISU Communication No. 1879. At least *two* of the ISU appointed Officials should belong to an ISU Member other than the hosting ISU Member.
- 10.3** The organizer must provide the Referees with adequate secretariat assistance, i.e. a "Sport Technical Expert" as described in Rule 210, paragraph 1 k). Computer support for the preparation and conduct of the drawings will be offered by ISU.

- 10.4** Timekeeping by automatic timekeeping procedure, with installation of a photofinish system, and of a transponder-based system for Team Pursuit and Mass start events, is mandatory. An automatic timekeeping system based on optical cells or transponders must be connected to a scoreboard displaying live the split times and the unofficial final times and results.
- 10.5** Anti-doping tests must be carried out according to the ISU Anti-Doping Code, as given in the applicable ISU Communications (ISU Communication Nos. 1765, 1800 1871 & 1872 or later updates).
- 10.6** The organizer is responsible that appropriate accommodation is available for participants and team leaders, officials, sponsors and media. For the participating teams the organizer is obliged to announce a set of guaranteed (maximum) board and lodging rates at available hotels (“official hotels”), as follows:
- Hotel room rates for single and double room (without meals or only including breakfast);
 - Rates for full board and lodging (three meals per day).
- 10.7** The organizer is responsible for covering expenses for travel, board and lodging for the ISU appointed Officials, and for the board and lodging for the ISU Representative and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative.
- 10.8** The organizer must provide a transportation service from the official hotels for the teams during the period of the competitions and the announced training sessions. Convenient means of transportation between the competition site and the nearest international airport must be available.
- 10.9** The organizer is not obliged to provide services (hotel reservations, accredited entrance to the ice rink, transportation etc.) for an excessive number of team officials or other accompanying persons from participating ISU Members. Names and functions of all team officials must be submitted to the organizer before the deadline given in the announcement for the Competition. Guidelines for accreditation etc. are given in the Memorandum.
- 10.10** The organizer must provide ice-training possibilities for at least 3 hours per day during the last four days prior to the Competition. Adequate safety protection must be in place at the rink during the official training and the competition periods, as per guidelines given in the Memorandum and the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules.
- 10.11** The organizer is responsible for the payment of prize money for the Competition according to procedures and financial terms agreed with the ISU.
- 10.12** The organizer is responsible that results are forwarded to international press and news service agencies (see also paragraph 12 below).

11. Distribution of results

The organizer of a Competition must *immediately* send complete results for the races *by electronic mail* to:

- ISU Secretariat, prahin@isu.ch
- ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Chair, te@rcn.no
- ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative at the Competition

The organizers should ensure that results are posted continuously during the Competition at an announced Internet web site. The official protocol, in appropriate digital format, must be sent without delay to the ISU Secretariat.

12. World Cup Speed Skating Coordination

The ISU Council has appointed Vice President Mr. Jan Dijkema as ISU World Cup Speed Skating Coordinator. Any questions concerning the rules and conditions given in this Communication or concerning the organization of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2014/15 should be addressed to:

ISU Secretariat	Tel.	+ 41 21 612 6666
Chemin de Primerose 2	Fax:	+ 41 21 612 6677
CH – 1007 Lausanne, Switzerland	E-mail:	prahin@isu.ch

Milano
August 4, 2014
Lausanne

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

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