

Communication No. 2362

Decisions of the Council

The ISU Council met on December 10, 2020 via an online meeting. The following were among the decisions taken by the Council during the meeting.

1. ISU Event Calendar Season 2020/21

Subject to further pandemic related developments permitting, the ISU Council confirmed the following decisions:

a) New ISU Event cancellations

Considering the worsening worldwide Covid-19 pandemic situation and the consequent increasing risks for organizers and participants, the difficult and volatile travel conditions and entry and/or quarantine restrictions as well as the high burden in terms of manpower and finance to organize international indoor sports events under the current pandemic conditions, the following ISU Events 2021 cannot be organized as planned and are therefore cancelled:

The ISU European Figure Skating Championships 2021, initially scheduled to be held in Zagreb (CRO) on January 25-31, 2021, are **cancelled**.

The ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships 2021, initially scheduled to be held in Lyon (FRA) on March 12-13, 2021, are **cancelled**.

The ISU Grand Prix Final 2021 which had already been postponed from its originally scheduled date of December 10-13, 2020 in Beijing (CHN), has now been definitely **cancelled**.

b) ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021 – ISU World Team Trophy 2021

The ISU World Figure Skating Championships remain scheduled to be held in Stockholm, Sweden on March 22-28, 2021. The ISU, in cooperation with the organizers and local authorities will do its utmost to maintain this Championships under safe conditions.

In the unfortunate event that the sanitary situation worsens further and that these World Championships could not be held as planned, the ISU Council would assess and re-evaluate the remainder of the 2020/21 Figure Skating season and decide whether, in addition to the ISU World Team Trophy, scheduled for Osaka, Japan on April 15-18, 2021, other ISU Figure Skating Events could be organized, if the pandemic situation allows.

c) Ratification of previously announced ISU Event allotment changes and cancellations

The ISU Council ratified the decisions announced in the ISU press releases of November 24 and 27, 2020, namely:

The ISU European Speed Skating Championships, January 16-17, 2021 will be held in Heerenveen, (NED) followed by two ISU World Cup Speed Skating events on January 22-24, 2021 and January 29-31, 2021 (Hub/Bubble Concept).

The ISU World Speed Skating Championships 2021 will be held in Heerenveen (NED) on February 11-14, 2021 (extension of above-mentioned Hub/Bubble concept).

The ISU Speed Skating World Cup events scheduled in Changchung (CHN) on February 17-18, 2021, and in Heerenveen (NED) on March 6-7-2021, are **cancelled**.

The ISU Junior World Cup Speed Skating Final initially scheduled to be held in Hachinohe (JPN) on February 13-14, 2021, is **cancelled**.

The ISU World Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2021 will be held in **Dordrecht** (NED) on **March 5-7, 2021** (previously scheduled to be held in Rotterdam on March 12-14, 2020).

The ISU World Cup Short Track events initially scheduled to be held in Beijing (CHN) on December 18-20, 2020, in Bietigheim-Bissingen (GER) on February 19-21, 2021 and in Dresden (GER) on February 26-28, 2021 are **cancelled**.

The ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, initially scheduled to be held in Harbin (CHN) on March 1-7, 2021, are **cancelled**.

d) ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2021

Subject to further pandemic developments permitting, the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2021, remain scheduled to be held in Zagreb (CRO) on April 9-10, 2021. However, in addition to closely monitoring the pandemic developments in Croatia and around the world, the ISU has been alerted to the fact that some Synchronized Skating Teams are unable to practice and that their attendance of the World Championships would not be possible. The ISU will conduct a survey among the ISU Members that have qualified Teams in order to obtain an overview of the potential participation. Depending on the pandemic developments and the survey result, the ISU Council will take a decision in due course on whether this Championships can be maintained.

2. 2021 Qualifying Competition Figure Skating for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games - Nebelhorn Trophy, Oberstdorf (GER) September 22-25, 2021

The Council decided that, in accordance with ISU Regulations, Rule 400, paragraph 4, the Nebelhorn Trophy 2021, to be held on September 22-25, 2021 in Oberstdorf, Germany, will serve as the Figure Skating Qualifying Competition for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

3. Change to Free Skating Draws at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021

Exceptionally, the ISU Council decided to amend Rule 513 for the Free Skating Draws. For the Free Skating/Free Dance the starting order will be the reverse order of the result after the previous segment. This amendment will avoid a mass-gathering of the teams and allow for a better and safer flow of the athletes/delegations to transportation, the hotel restaurant etc. and will avoid all Skaters and Team Leaders leaving the rink at the same time after the competition.

4. Procedure to obtain the Minimum Total Elements Scores for the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021

Considering the limited number of International Figure Skating Competitions during the ongoing season 2020/21 and consequently limited opportunities to achieve the Minimum Total Element Scores, the ISU Council exceptionally agreed to adjust the procedure for obtaining the Minimum Total Elements Scores for the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021 by making it more flexible. An ISU Communication including the relevant details will be published in due course.

5. Attendance at the ISU Figure Skating Championships 2021

In order to follow the “*Guidelines for ISU Events during the Covid-19 Pandemic*”, which states “*The number of accreditations by Team, for the Organizing Committee, including volunteers, of Officials and the representatives of the ISU are to be held at a minimum*”, the ISU Council decided to limit the numbers of event attendees as indicated below:

- Coaches per Pair Team / Ice Dance Couple: 1 (previously: 2 Coaches per Pair team/Couple)
- Team Official per ISU Member: 1 incl. ISU Member President (previously: 2 Team Officials incl. ISU Member President)
- Observers: 0
- Accompanying person to Judge: 0
- Guests (ISU Guests, OC Guests): 0
- Chaperones 0

6. Meetings, Seminars, Examinations of ISU bodies

The Council agreed to maintain its policy published in ISU Communication No. 2335, Decisions of the Council of July 6, 2020, and ISU Communication No. 2345, Decisions of the Council of August 28, 2020, namely that all meetings, seminars, examinations or similar of ISU internal bodies shall continue to be held on-line or postponed until at least April 30, 2021.

In addition, the attendance of ISU Office Holders at the remaining ISU Events of the season 2020/21 shall be limited to ISU Office Holders having an official function at an ISU Event or living in the country where an ISU Event is held.

7. ISU Council meetings

The next online Council meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2021.

Tubbergen,
December 15, 2020
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General