



Minutes

45th IMSSC Session – Meeting 11th June 2022
(Zandam, the Netherlands combined with VC/virtual)

Participants

AUS	Simon Wallace	(SW)	IMSSC Member Deputy	
AUT	Hubert Kreutz	(HK)	IMSSC Member	(V)
CAN	Benoit Lamarche	(BM)	IMSSC Invited guest	
CHINA	Yan Ling Song	(YS)	IMSSC Invited guest	
ESP	Marcello Bresin	(MB)	IMSSC Member & Statistician	
FIN	Pekka Aho	(PA)	IMSSC Member	(V)
GBR	Peter Carr	(PC)	IMSSC Member	
GBR	Keith Wright	(KW)	IMSSC Secretary	
GER	Reinhold Marsollek	(RM)	IMSSC Member	
ITA	Nicola Condini	(NC)	IMSSC Member	(V)
JAP	Kenji Takai	(KT)	IMSSC Member & IMSSC Vice President	(V)
KAZ	Leila Utegulova	(LU)	IMSSC Member	(V)
NED	Leen van den Hueval	(LH)	IMSSC Technical Delegate	
NED	Azamat Ismailov	(AI)	IMSSC IMSSC Treasurer	
NED	Tjeerd Smies	(TS)	IMSSC Member & IMSSC President	
NED	Bram de Vries	(BV)	IMSSC Honorary Member	
NED	Joke Witterberg	(JW)	IMSSC Member Deputy	
NED	Azamat Ismailov	(AI)	IMSSC IMSSC Treasurer	
NOR	Ragnvald Naess	(RN)	IMSSC Member	(V)
NOR	Sven-Age Svensson	(SA)	IMSSC Honorary Member	
SUI	Hans-Peter Ambass	(HPA)	IMSSC Member	
SWE	Nils Larson	(NL)	IMSSC Member	(V)
USA	Marty Haire	(MH)	IMSSC Member Deputy	

Distribution of Minutes – To all participants and IMSSC Members

Agenda topics

- Opening of the meeting and welcome to our guests
 - Inventory of attendees / representative and/or assistants
 - Guest: Yan Ling Song, China
 - Guest: Benoit Lamarche, Canada
- Approval of the Minutes of the online 44th IMSSC Session 17th June 2021
- Approval of the IMSSC Records list 2021
- Evaluation of Long Track events 2021-2022
 - See report of 7 April 2022 for the ISU made by Tjeerd Smies
- International Masters Sprint Games 2023 and nations quota (if required)
 - Short presentation by Member of Kazakhstan, Leila Utegulova
- International Masters Allround Games 2023 and nations quota (if required)
 - Presentation by Benoit Lamarche
- Presentation by Yan Ling Song about masters speed skating in China, current status and future development
- Candidateship of Olivier Chailoux to become the IMSSC representative / Member for France
- Applications for Allround Games 2025 and Sprint Games 2025

- a. Application by Milwaukee, see document
- b. Request by the Board to Member of Norway on 29 May 2022 to be candidate for MAG2025 or MAG2025 and current status by Ragnvald Naess
- 10. MIST Games Report and Applications
 - a. Explanation of decision making process to organize MIST Games 2023 in Amsterdam
 - b. Streamlining of application process of MIST games in line with the process of MAG and MSG
- 11. Financial Report 2021
Financial Preview 2022
Budget 2023
- 12. Proposals for changing IMSSC Constitution & Regulations
 - a. Proposal of Finland to have fixed quota for MSG and MAG (14), see document by Pekko Aho
 - b. Proposals (1 to 8 and 10) to improve IMSSC C&R, see document by Tjeerd Smies
- 13. Proposals for changing Requirements and Advices to Organisers of International Masters Competitions
 - a. Proposal-9 by Tjeerd Smies
- 14. Other proposals or topics
 - a. Preliminary planning of IMSSC competitions 2022-2023
 - i. MAG2023, Quebec, Canada (Mary Haire)
 - ii. MSG2023, Medeo, Kazakhstan (Leila Utegulova)
 - iii. Competitions in the Netherlands (Leen van den Heuvel)
 - iv. Competitions in Norway (Ragnvald Naess)
 - v. Competitions in Germany (Rene van Bernum/ Reinhold Marsollek)
 - vi. Competitions in Italy (Nicola Condini)
 - vii. Competitions in other countries
 - b. Update of speedskating developments in Japan, see document of Kenji Takai
 - c. Participation of masters from countries that are not member of the IMSSC:
Masters from all over the world are allowed to participate in all IMSSC competitions and games under the condition that her/his country is Member of the ISU, also in the case that her/his country is not Member of the IMSSC
- 15. Miscellaneous
 - a. World Winter Master Games 2024:
WWMG2024 will be organized in region Lombardia Italy, 12 - 21 January 2024
Long track speed skating on natural ice on Lake Palu (height 1.908 m)
Short track speed skating in Bormio, ST center of Italy

1. Session Opening

The meeting was called to order at 09.08 CET and TS welcomed all the attendees for attending in person and via zoom to. TS made special thanks to Yan Ling Song, the first Chinese representative to attend the IMSSC and Benoit Lamarche for also attending the session. It was accepted that Marty Hair would be standing as the deputy member for the USA and that Benoit Lamarche would stand as deputy member for Canada.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 44th Session

A review was made of the minutes of the 44th session and the minutes were approved as a true representation.

3. Approval of the IMSSC Records

MB commented that it was difficult to get the results from competition organisers at that the deadline must be adhered to so that the records could be produced on time. A date of May 1st was discussed as a deadline for returns and this to be discussed at the next meeting. KW commented that the flag of Great Britain needed adding to the certificate. KW also asked to clarify if a skater broke a record, then in the next race it was again broken, would both get certificates. It was agreed this was correct.

4. Evaluation of Long Track

TS presented a report of the 2021/2022 long track season that had been sent to the ISU to substantiate the funding of the IMSSC competitions and that despite a strange period the events were a success.

5. International Masters Sprint Games 2023 and nations quota (if required)

Leila Utegulova gave a presentation on the Masters Sprint Games to be held in Medio, Kazakhstan and that date of 25th & 26th of February 2023 was still not finalised as not agreed with the stadium management. An alternative date of 26th & 27th Dec 2022 was rejected. A meeting is to be held with the stadium management week commencing 14th June 2022 to finalise the details and to confirm a date. TS discussed the option of a plan B to move the games to Innsbruck and that this was possible if Medio could not stage the MSG2023. It was hoped that the games will still go ahead in Medio. LU mentioned that there will be no quota as possible low on number of participants. A discussion was then held on the safety and security for travel. Both Ai and LU stated that the recent political troubles in Kazakhstan were not a real issue and that travel is safe. LU to report back to the board as soon as possible with a final conclusion so that a plan B could be put into place to move MSG2023 to another venue.

6. International Master All Round Games 2023 and nations quota (if required)

Benoit Lamarche gave a Powerpoint presentation and video of the facilities in Quebec showing that the new facilities were open and ready to welcome 250 skaters to compete in the Masters AllroundGames. Two dates were presented 27/28 & 29th Jan 2023 and 17/18/19 Feb 2023. MH discussed a preferred date of February due to other events in Quebec. KT proposed that the date be moved to March but this was rejected. LH commented that the proposed date in January 2023 clashed with the Sprint Classic in Inzell. RM stated that it is possible to change the date of the Sprint Classic by 1 week so the date of 27/28 & 29th January was agreed. TS commented that the previous participants in 2021 were 222 entries so no quota is required. BL stated that people should start to book hotels immediately so the games needed to be promoted. It was then agreed the following dates

Jan 21st & 22nd 2023 – Sprint Classic Inzell

Jan 27th, 28th & 29th 2023 – Masters Allround Games 2023

Feb 25th & 26th 2023 – Masters Sprint Games 2023 (To be confirmed)

7. Presentation by Yan Ling Song

YS provided a power point presentation on the current situation on master long track in China stating that the masters mainly focus on marathon skating with separate distances for men and ladies ranging from 3k to 20k distances in defined age groups. YS commented that it would be great if Chinese skaters could skate internationally and would find the contacts for IMSSC to inform of the worldwide master competitions. Step 1 must be participations of Chinese masters in IMSSC competitions and step 2 organizing an IMSSC competition in China.

AZ asked if why Chinese and Korean did not skate in IMSSC events and YS stated that she would assist in finding a representative for both China and Korea to work with the IMSSC to become members.

8. Candidateship of Olivier Chailoux to become the IMSSC representative / Member for France

TS discussed the application for Olivier to become a member for France and his credentials. This was accepted by the members

9. Application for Allround Games 2025 and Sprint Games 2025

TS commented that only 1 application had been received for the season 2025 and presented the application from Milwaukee. TS has sent a request to RN to see if possible to stage either of the games in Norway for that season. RN stated that discussions had been held with the Norwegian Federation and that it maybe possible to stage 1 event and would report back to the board. MH stated that there was a possibility to stage both the MAG & MSG on consecutive weekends in Milwaukee in that season and also no set dates had been offered yet. TS commented that it was against the principle of the IMSSC as we are a world wide sport and asked RN to continue discussions with Norway. AI commented that it was an interesting concept and maybe discuss further. Deadline for new bids MSG2025 and/or MSG2025 will be September First 2022. Also AI discussed the possibility of 2 year planning instead of 3 years and this to be discussed at the next session. NC was asked for the possibility of more competitions in Italy in new facilities commenting this could be possible and would be investigated.

10. MIST Games Report and Applications

KW opened commenting that he would give a presentation on the overall position within master's short track in 3 sections. KW commented that the failing in short track is that there was no compliance with IMSSC constitution rules and regulations and compliance. Also there were no visible signs of development in short track and that the presentation would give a clear indication how this would be rectified. KW then made his presentation which gave a clear direction on the future development and how compliance with IMSSC

constitution would be in place by 2023. TS questioned on the current decision making for MIST Games and it was made clear the short track was different to long track in that there is no forward planning and that individuals had to be asked to stage MIST games as short track did not have organisation like in long track. It became clear that the decision making about MIST was until now done by KW and Frank Anderson. An assurance was given by KW that this would be in place for the next session. The presentation covered many areas and created much discussion and was widely accepted that there was now a clearer direction and clarity in short track within the IMSSC. The key areas were to include more IMSSC recognised competitions and these to be agreed by the Board and that additional funding could be applied for to ensure these events could be included and the proposal for the MIST Games in Amsterdam 2023. TS requested the IMSSC logo be included in any marketing/ promotion of the games. The full financial budget for MIST 2023 was presented at the close of the meeting for discussion by the board.

Members asked for a copy of the presentation and it was agreed that this be forwarded to members. PC suggested that the IMSSC website should show 2 defined calendar of events to define long track and short track, this was discussed and agreed it was possible to action.

11. Financial Report 2021

AZ provided a Powerpoint presentation providing balance sheets for 2020, 2021 and the current situation as of 11th June 2022. AZ commented on the strange situation and that we were still in a strong financial situation despite no funding from the ISU for 2021 and that there had been very few outgoings during the last 3 financial years. Moving forward the IMSSC still requires funding from ISU to organize the games long track and short track. TS agreed and was confident that the ISU would continue funding and was also confident in applying for funding for short track. MH questioned the timescale for funding for Quebec Games. TS will contact the ISU about € 10 K funding for general expenses 2022.

12 Proposals for changing IMSSC Constitution & Regulations

a) Proposal by Finland to increase the quota of skaters

Pekka Aho provided an explanation of the proposal from Finland to increase the quota of skaters explaining that quota was in place for last 10 years and the number of Finnish masters was increasing and the quota should be increased from 10 to 14. TS mentioned that quota are depending on the maximum number of participants which varies and produced statistics stating that there had never been more than 10 Finish skaters at IMSSC events so the proposal was rejected by members.

b) Proposals (1 to 8) to improve IMSSC C&R

TS provided a document for small amendments to the wording from IMSSC Constitution & Regulations version 2021-2022 (C&R 2021-2022). All of the proposals were accepted by the members with comments from members to additional changes.

MH – Point 3, separate the wording to short track

13 Proposals for Changing Requirements and Advices to Organisers of International Masters Competitions

TS provided a document for small amendments to the wording from the IMSSC Advices to Organisers of Masters Competitions. All of the proposals were accepted and small additions from other members

SA -

MH - Chapter 5, correct the spelling "translate"

KW - Chapter 20, correct the spelling to Prize Giving

14 Other Proposals or Topics

a) Planning of IMSSC Competitions

- (i) Discussed previously
- (ii) Discussed previously but LU commented on the funding required
- (iii) LH commented on the organisation on the Dutch Masters Cup in Leeuwarden, Heerenveen and Enschede but await the outcome of the organisation of MSG2023 to confirm dates. The Thialf Record Races will also be organized in March 2023
- (iv) RN discussed the ongoing efforts to organise in Norway
- (v) Preliminary planned competitions are Erfurt (4 & 5 December 2022), Sprint Classic Inzell (21 & 22 January 2023), Masters Cup Berlin (February 2023)
- (vi) Masters Revival, 10 & 11 December 2022
- (vii) NL mentioned that he is working on organizing competitions in Sweden on a to be build new ice rink.

b) Update of Speed Skating in Japan

There were no questions about the update of speed skating in Japan made by KT. The IMSSC still hopes that in the near future MAG or MSG can be organized in Japan and or China.

15 Miscellaneous

TS commented on the organisation of the WWMG2024 in Italy. TS has made a proposal for the organizers to support them, as the IMSSC did for WWMG2020. Due to the location of speed skating on Lake Palu, it is unclear how the organizers will have ice circumstances equal for all skaters.

AI commented that the future IMSSC Sessions be moved from Amsterdam due to the rising costs in Amsterdam and the possibility of moving to other countries. This was agreed by all. The idea was discussed to organize the Session earlier than in the beginning of June.

TS thanked everyone for there attendance and participation in the session

Session Closed at 15:32

Members of the IMSSC:

Frank Anderson (AUS), Hubert Kreutz (AUT), Willy Caboor (BEL), Konstantin Lukashevich (BLR), Brett Arnason (CAN), Petr Novák (CZE), Marcello Bresin (ESP) Pekko Aho (FIN), Peter Carr (GBR), Reinhold Marsollek (GER), Nicola Conдини (ITA), Kenji Takai (JAP), Leila Utegulova (KAZ), Jae-Seok Choi (KOR), Lasma Kauniste (LAT), Nanjid Oyuntsetseg (MON), Tjeerd Smies (NED), Ragnvald Næss (NOR), Boris Reprnin (RUS), Hans-Peter Ambass (SUI), Nils Larsson (SWE), Oleksandr Symonenko (UKR), Andrew Love (USA), Keith Wright (GBR)

Honorary Members of the IMSSC:

Roland Hagemann (GER), Dominik Wehling (GER), Antonio Nitto (ITA), Drs. Harry G. Falke (NED), Bram de Vries (NED), Aris J. Dijkman (NED), Sven-Åge Svensson (NOR), Peter Reimann (SUI)

Honorary President of the IMSSC:

Dr. Volker Serini (GER)