



International Masters' Speed Skating Committee

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Minutes (version 2.0) 42nd IMSSC Session in IJmuiden, The Netherlands

Saturday, June 1, 2019 10:00 – 17:15
Apollo Hotel at IJmuiden
Kennemerboulevard 250, 1976 EG, IJmuiden, the Netherlands

Participants:

BLR	Anatoli Saprankou	(AS)	Deputy for Konstantin Lukashevich/BLR
BLR	Ksenia Kriusheva	(KK)	Assistant for Konstantin Lukashevich/BLR
CAN	Brett F. Arnason	(BA)	IMSSC Member and IMSSC VP
CAN	Sue Steckle	(SS)	IMSSC Secretary
ESP	Marcello Bresin	(MB)	IMSSC Member and IMSSC Webmaster & Statistician
FIN	Pertti Kiiskinen	(PK)	IMSSC Member
GBR	Peter Carr	(PC)	IMSSC Member
GBR	Keith Wright	(KWW)	Short Track Expert
GER	Reinhold Marsollek	(RM)	IMSSC Member
ITA	Nicola Condini	(NC)	IMSSC Member
ITA	Ms. Adelheid Ramoser	(AR)	Assistant for Nicola Condini/ITA
JAP	Kenji Takai	(KT)	IMSSC Member and IMSSC VP
KAZ	Leila Utegulova	(LU)	IMSSC Member
NED	Tjeerd Smies	(TS)	IMSSC Member and IMSSC President
NED	Bram de Vries	(BdV)	IMSSC Honorary Member
NED	Azamat Ismailov	(AI)	IMSSC Treasurer
NOR	Sven-Åge Svensson	(SÅS)	IMSSC Honorary Member
NOR	Ragnvald Naess	(RN)	IMSSC Member
RUS	Boris Repnin	(BR)	IMSSC Member
SUI	Hans-Peter Ambass	(HPA)	IMSSC Member
SWE	Nils Larsson	(NL)	IMSSC Member
USA	Marty Haire	(MH)	Deputy for Andrew Love/USA
	Roland Maillard	(RM)	ISU Member
	Jens Holm	(JH)	IMGA

Distribution of the minutes:

All participants

Other IMSSC Members (AUS, AUT, BEL, CZE, KOR, LAT, UKR)

Agenda:

1. Approval of the Minutes 41st IMSSC Session in Amsterdam/NED 2018
2. Election of new Secretary of the IMSSC
3. Alterations of Members in the IMSSC
4. Approval of the IMSSC Records List 2019
5. Formal founding of the Association "IMSSC" in the Netherlands
6. Evaluation of MSG2019, MAG2019 and MIST2019
7. Applications for Allround Games 2022 and Sprint Games 2022
8. Appointment of a Technical Delegate to support the organisers / organising team of the important IMSSC competitions
9. Introduction / implementation of a formal nomination and selection process in other countries than NOR, FIN, NED
10. 2020 Allround Games in Collalbo, Nations Quota
11. 2020 Sprint Games in Calgary, Nations Quota
12. Other International Masters Competitions in 2019/2020
13. ISU-IMSSC relationship and cooperation
14. Financial Report 2018, Financial Preview 2019
15. New Proposals for changing IMSSC Constitution & Regulations
16. Proposals for extension of the IMSSC Constitutions & Regulation regarding international masters' short track competitions
17. Other Proposals
18. Miscellaneous

Session Opening

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 CET. TS welcomed 23 participants from 15 voting nations to the 42nd IMSSC Session in IJmuiden. Prior to the meeting, regrets were received from Frank Anderson/AUS, Hubert Kreutz/AUT, and Dr. Volker Serini - Honorary IMSSC President. Special guests were welcomed: Ms. Adelheid Ramoser, Mr. Jens Holm, Mr. Sven-Åge Svensson, Mr. Roland Maillard, Mr. Anatoly Saprankou, Ms. Ksenia Kriusheva, Mr. Bram de Vries, Ms. Sue Steckle. As nominated Deputies, AS and MH voted for BLR and USA, respectively.

1. Approval of the Minutes 41st IMSSC Session in Amsterdam/NED 2018
The minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved.

2. Election of new Secretary of the IMSSC
TS introduced SS and she was elected as the new secretary of the IMSSC. Paolo Gemme was thanked for his years of service to the IMSSC.

3. Alterations of Members in the IMSSC
The member from Belarus will be asked to decide if he will remain active.

Mariusz Lichosik was invited to become a member representing Poland, however did not respond. TS will attempt to contact him again.

AZ commented that China and Korea were not represented.

No changes to membership were made.

4. Approval of the IMSSC Records List 2019

TS noted that there was a mistake in the constitution of the IMSSC, that times skated at national events could not be recognized as IMSSC records. MB asked for clarification if this rule was requested to be removed by the Dutch; TS confirmed that it was not. SÅS expressed surprise that this removal was an accident as it was discussed extensively. BdV commented that National events are sanctioned and recognized, so it is unusual that the new record would not be valid. BA moved to recognize the new record skated at the Dutch Masters Cup national event – all in favour.

AI acknowledged and recognized the analysis and presentation of records done by MB.

RN asked about mixed gender pairs, which follows the ISU rules, as it is awkward for event schedules to have unpaired skaters for longer distances due to this rule. RM commented that mixed relay teams are beginning in short track, and this may be the case in the future for speed skating as well, however he cautioned about making an exception prematurely as this would provide an advantage to the female skater.

National championships were discussed, as they are sanctioned by IMSSC provided the host country is an IMSSC member, but must comply with ISU and IMSSC regulations in order for records to be recognized.

5. Formal founding of the Association "IMSSC" in the Netherlands

AI was elected as treasurer last year to succeed BdV. Dutch banks are strict in terms of who may open bank accounts, so the IMSSC had to be established as a formal association in the Netherlands in order to legally open a bank account. This was done in Oct.2018. With respect to the bank account, a small board was documented as TS (president), AI (treasurer), BdV (secretary). This is to inform the IMSSC that this action was taken.

6. Evaluation of MSG2019, MAG2019 and MIST2019

MSG2019: TS reported that a newsletter was published in March with an evaluation, photos and results. There were 219 participants in the games. Some last-minute replacements were included due to late cancellations. 14 countries represented by 57 women and 162 men participated. TS feels the games were successful and hopes that all enjoyed them, as well as the banquet with band and reception. 5 IMSSC records were broken during these games in spite of the rink being at sea level, as the ice quality was good. TS thanked all who organized and participated.

MAG2019: RN reported that the games were in Bjugn/NOR, with 130 participants, about 20 less than the 2009 games held there. No new IMSSC records were set however 13 national records and many personal and season bests. RN's opinion is that the 2009 games were better than these ones. Certificates were not provided. Many school children attended the first day.

MIST2019: KW reported; Frank Anderson was unable to attend this meeting. The goal in Melbourne was to grow the ST competition for masters, there were 60 skaters only but a more competitive group than the previous games. The previous 4 games had been in North America or Europe so hosting in Melbourne was important for visibility to a new range of skaters. Held in the O'Brien Arena, Docklands, Melbourne on April 11-12, 2019. Many school children attended on the first day of the competition, and it started at 7am both days. 12 countries were represented. 18 countries have now participated in MIST games. 75% male, 25% female participants, majority

from Australia, next highest was Canada. A welcome reception was held the night before the competition. All ladies skated in a single group, men 30-49, 50-59 and 60+ were the groups. All competitors skated the same number of races. The banquet was held outside the rink at a separate location. Following a robbery of his home, Jim Lynch was presented with a replica medal thanks to the help of the ISU. Facebook statistics were presented, indicating broad interest in the MIST games. The MIST games will be held every two years, rotating through North America, Europe and Australasia, under the governance and promotion of the IMSSC. TS commented that there is more interest in skating within Europe than in Australasia; KW countered that the interest is building and that side of the world shouldn't be neglected. PC asked how sustainable the lower level of attendance in Melbourne is, and this is unknown. The next MIST games are in Calgary (Winsport Arena) April 10-11, 2021. How the locations are decided was discussed; when a single application is proposed there is no decision to be made, however if there are competing interests in hosting it could be discussed by IMSSC. To date, the IMSSC has not had input into the location. TS remarked that the IMSSC supports the MIST games financially and should have a bigger say in where the events are held. The possibility to host should be advertised so that competing bids can be entertained. A different form specific to short track will be created, and communicated to those who are interested in hosting the European MIST games in 2023. MH suggested that a subgroup for Short Track would be appropriate, as the IMSSC members are all LT speed skaters. KW concluded that we must give people the opportunity to participate and to grow the sport.

7. Applications for Allround Games 2022 and Sprint Games 2022

Bids for Allround Games:

- Ice Rink Pine - Baselga Di Pine, Trento, Italy - 230 skaters
 - January 21-23, 2022
- Quebec City Ice Center (Centre de glaces de Québec): 350 skaters
 - Option #1 : February 25-27, 2022
 - Option #2 : March 11-13, 2022 (depending on another major event bid under way)
- Medeu Ice Rink, Almaty, Kazakhstan
 - February / March 2022

There was some general discussion around the conditions in Almaty, NC discussed the Baselga rink and showed a brief video, LU also presented a video of the facilities at Medeu, MH discussed the facility in Quebec City, which is currently under construction, creating a new indoor facility.

TS requested a vote for MAG:

- Quebec City = 5 votes in favour
- Baselga Di Pine = 4 votes in favour
- **Medeu = 6 votes in favour**

The games were awarded to Medeu.

There will be a 50th anniversary celebration in Medeu, and the schedule has yet to be finalized. It is expected that the games will be in February or possibly March. Visas are no longer required for EU member visitors for visits under 30 days.

Bids for Sprint Games:

- Ice Rink Pine - Baselga Di Pine, Trento, Italy - 230 skaters
 - January 15-16, 2022

- Quebec City Ice Center (Centre de glaces de Québec): 350 skaters
 - Option #1 : February 25-27, 2022
 - Option #2 : March 11-13, 2022 (depending on another major event bid under way)
- Sport complex "Krylatskoye", Moscow, Russia - 250 skaters
 - March 2022
- Medeu Ice Rink, Almaty, Kazakhstan
 - February / March 2022

BR discussed the bid for Moscow. Medeu was withdrawn having won the previous vote for MAG.

TS requested a vote for MSG:

- **Quebec City = 7 votes in favour**
- Baselga Di Pine = 5 votes in favour
- Moscow = 2 votes in favour

The games were awarded to Quebec City.

The QC date will be finalized by the leaders in QC following feedback on their other bids which are also in progress.

Following lunch, an option to switch the games was revisited.

12 members voted for the sprint games in Medeu, and Allround games in Quebec City.

Final outcome of the 2022 bids:

- Masters Sprint Games will be held at Medeu Ice Rink, Almaty, Kazakhstan, likely in February or March 2022.

Masters Allround Games:

- Quebec City Ice Center (Centre de glaces de Québec): 350 skaters
 - Option #1 : February 25-27, 2022
 - Option #2 : March 11-13, 2022 (depending on another major event bid under way)

Addition to the Agenda: Presentation by Jens Holm of the International Masters Games Association (IMGA).

The organization is a non-profit, self-funded organization based in Lausanne, Switzerland. The objectives are to promote the Olympic movement and promote sport for all, particularly to grow masters sports globally. Global events are held every 4 years, WWMG will be held in Innsbruck/AUT Jan. 10-19, 2020.

The presentation included information about the objectives of IMGA, who it is for, individual participation rather than national, anti-doping, how and why it works, data collection, best practices, collaboration with IOC. Previous winter games have been held in Slovenia and Quebec City. Future IMGA games will mostly follow the Olympic games to use their established venues. Nagano and Calgary are being considered as well for WWMG. Games can also be broadcast through the Olympic channels which will help to raise their profile.

Speed Skating in Innsbruck WWMG 2020 will be held at the Olympiaworld facility.

LT distances: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, 5000m and 10000m

ST events: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, and Relay.

Current registrations as of May 1, 2019: 121 LT, 21 ST (1300 altogether for all sports). A multisport registration option will be available. There will also be a waitlist once events are filled. Participants must be registered / licenced within their national speed skating organization. There are no time standards for LT or ST events. Additional details can be found on the WWMG website at <https://www.innsbruck2020.com>.

JH excused himself from the meeting following the lunch break.

8. Appointment of a Technical Delegate to support the organisers / organising team of the important IMSSC competitions

TS proposed a technical delegate should be designated who would be responsible for interpretation of ISU rules and to support the organizers of events. Costs for travel of the technical delegate to events would be covered by the IMSSC. This will be officially addressed under agenda item 15.

9. Introduction / implementation of a formal nomination and selection process in other countries than NOR, FIN, NED

It is preferable for the fastest/best skaters in each age category for each country to be the ones who are entered into the events. There was an issue with GER exceeding its quota for Masters Sprint Games in Leeuwarden. Countries with the potential to exceed their quotas are requested to implement a selection process such that the best skaters in each category will be the ones who participate in the masters games.

FIN had a bottleneck in their process which has been resolved by the masters committee selecting the participants and then being approved by PK.

NED has a process with a deadline of Dec. 1 each year. Skaters must achieve minimum times on 500m and 1500m, and must be in the top of their respective age category in order to qualify. Final selection is based on the rank of each master in her/his age category in the KNSB Vantage system.

10. 2020 Allround Games in Collalbo, Nations Quota

AR represents the organizing committee for Collalbo. The rink is reserved Friday through Sunday. 250 competitors are welcome to participate. This is sufficient that a quota is not required, and all agreed.

11. 2020 Sprint Games in Calgary, Nations Quota

The Calgary Olympic Oval bid proposed 200 skaters for the MSG. BA advised that the Calgary Oval, in collaboration with Speed Skating Canada, will not reject any Canadian skaters, and as such a quota should not be required.

BA advised that there will be a single day time trial the previous weekend, and a short track competition with a master's division the following weekend, both in Calgary. The Calgary Olympic Oval Schedule with competition bulletins can be found here:

<http://wcm.ucalgary.ca/oval/competitions>. Salt Lake City has a masters LT event, the US Long Track AmCup Final & Masters Championships March 6-8, 2020 (the weekend following MSG). Details about the USA schedule can be found here:

<https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Events>

12. Other International Masters Competitions in 2019/2020

- Mid-November: Dutch Masters Cup I
- December 7-8 – Erfurt/GER
- December 14-15 – Masters Revival, Baselga di Pinè/ITA

- December - Dutch Masters Cup II
- December 21-22 - Milwaukee/USA single distance (dates to be confirmed)
- January - Dutch Masters Cup III
- January 11-12, 2020 - Sprint Classic, Inzell/GER
- January 11-12 – Minsk/BLR- *will try to change these dates due to the conflict with Inzell*
- January 10-12 - WWMG Short Track, Innsbruck/AUT
- January 16-19 - WWMG Speed Skating, Innsbruck/AUT
- January 24-26 – Masters Allround Games (MAG), Collalbo/ITA
- February – Medeu open format, Almaty/KAZ
- February 22-23 – Berlin cup, Berlin/GER – four distances
- February – Dutch Masters Championships, Utrecht/NED
- February 29-March 1 – Masters Sprint Games (MSG), Calgary/CAN
- March – new format (combination of distances), Heerenveen/NED,
- April 3-5 – Kolomna/RUS

Agenda addition: Presentation regarding Belarus

A gift of chocolate was given to the members in attendance by the Belarus delegation, with thanks from all. A presentation including a video of Belarus highlights was given.

- Aug 24-25 - single distance competition
- Sept 7, 2019 International inline marathon in Minsk – a promotional video was shown
- Jan 11-12,2020 sprint competition at Minsk with ice time available the following week prior to WWMG – a facility overview video was shown
- Feb ISU Junior World Cup Final
- Feb. 14-23 Naroch open lake competition – a promotional video was shown

All-inclusive packages for the above were reviewed, excluding airfare.

13. ISU-IMSSC relationship and cooperation

TS acknowledged RM's attendance and they agreed that the ISU and IMSSC have a good ongoing relationship. RM's main task is to inform the ISU council about what IMSSC is doing, what issues are encountered. ISU partially funds the events and would appreciate being informed about IMSSC. RM will report to the council in two weeks time.

14. Financial Report 2018, Financial Preview 2019

AI thanked the ISU for the financial support. Asked the organizing committees to be more prompt with cost reports. They have been received for sprint games and MIST however Norway's for MAG is still outstanding. RN commented that he was not aware that a cost report was needed. This should be more clearly stated in the competition rules. BdV advised that this has been routine for past events. TS commented about finding an economic balance for the various events, based on number of competitors, including a defined budget and following the event with a report of actual costs. Both a budget and cost report should be defined in the "[IMSSC Master Games - requirements and advices to organizers](#)" document for organizers. BA commented that this became a requirement when ISU began to provide financial assistance. MH suggested that a budget template would be very useful for the organizing committees, as well as a template for the cost report. AI will prepare these templates within the coming month. FA has been provided such templates for MIST games and these will be used to prepare the ongoing templates for all events.

SAS mentioned that in 21 years of IMSSC participation he had not heard of such requirements; BdV confirmed it is a new requirement due to ISU financial support.

AI advised that copies of meeting expenses should be submitted to him for reimbursement.

15. New Proposals for changing IMSSC Constitution & Regulations

NED/Proposal 2: Part I Constitution, Article 2: Appointment, Status and General Tasks of IMSSC Members

Approved	Favour 15	Against 0	Abstentions 0	Total 15
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Proposal:

Delete sentence 6 “A new Member from a new Country cannot start voting until the next session following the appointment.”

Rationale:

The IMSSC invites countries to become Member the IMSSC. When a new Member is appointed in a session, every Member must have at that moment the same rights and obligations.

NED/Proposal 3: Part I Constitution, New Article 6: Technical Delegate

Approved	Favour 15	Against 0	Abstentions 0	Total 15
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Proposal to add a new Article (Article 6) to appoint a Technical Delegate that guides and support organisers / organizing teams that are responsible for organising the Masters Allround Games or Masters Sprint Games.

Proposed text:

Article 6: Technical Delegate

The Board of the IMSSC will present a candidate for the function of Technical Delegate in an IMSSC Session. The IMSSC appoints the Technical Delegate to support and guide the organisers / organizing teams of the Masters Allround Games (MAG) and Masters Sprint Games (MSG), to implement and to use in a correct way, before and during MAG and MSG, the rules that are defined in the IMSSC Constitution and Regulations in conjunction with the rules of the ISU. At least every 5 years a Technical Delegate will be selected and appointed.

The Technical Delegate will communicate in an active way with the IMSSC Member of the country where MAG or MSG will be held. The Technical Delegate has the duty to inform the referee(s) and the starter(s) of MAG or MSG, if the referee(s) or starter(s) is/are acting, in the opinion of the Technical Delegate not compliant with the IMSSC rules.

The cost of the Technical Delegate (travel and other expenses) are borne by the IMSSC and not part of the organizing cost of MAG or MSG.

Discussion: TS proposed to fill this role until a Technical Delegate can be found. The members are asked to consider who could fill this role. The Technical Delegate would travel to the games.

NED/Proposal 4: Part II Regulations, Rule 1: Relations to ISU Rules

Approved	Favour 15	Against 0	Abstentions 0	Total 15
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Proposal to change last paragraph into:

“The mentioned ISU Rules in this document refer to the ISU-2018 Constitution & General Regulations FINAL 240918 and also the ISU-2018 Special Regulations Technical Rules Speed Skating FINAL 120918. If any ISU Rule should be renumbered after the issue of this document, the reference herein should apply to the corresponding renumbered ISU Rule until next update of this document.”

Rationale: Reference to the most recent ISU documents.

JAP/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 2: Masters Definition

Withdrawn	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: Age M90 category and record must be newly established.

Reason: Ichi Marumo completed 500m and 1000m as the first 90 skater.

Discussion: This change has been withdrawn as it is already covered by the existing age categories.

NOR/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.1.1 Masters’ International Allround Games

Declined	Favour 1	Against 10	Abstentions 4	Total 15
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Proposed text: The Masters’ International All-round 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.

The distances for the Masters’ International All-round Games are:

Ladies 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m (age groups 30 and higher)

Men 500 m, 3000 m, 1500 m, 5000 m (age groups **30–65**)

Men 500 m, 1500 m, 1000 m, 3000 m (**age groups 70** and higher)

Reason: Skaters who do not want to compete in longer distances can participate in MASTERS’ SPRINT GAMES which have been organized since 2009 and which provide sprinters with an alternative championship on which to concentrate.

However, many male skaters in age groups 65 and higher do want to compete in longer distances and are dissatisfied with 3000m as their longest distance. Until 2007, 5000m was the longest distance for AG65. The rule was then changed and since 2008, the longest distance for AG65 has been 3000m.

An ALL-ROUND competition should involve at least one long distance. 500/1000 are sprint distances and 1500/3000 are middle distances.

Therefore (in fact) all men should have 5k as the long distance in the Master Games.

A rich discussion of pros and cons of this change for the 65-69 men’s age group ensued.

USA/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.1.1 Masters’ International Allround Games

Withdrawn	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposed text: Paragraph 3.1.1 add to the list “The distances for the MAGs are:”

“At the discretion of the Event Organizer, and in conjunction with the local IMSSC Member, Team Pursuit races may also be included. Additional information is provided in the “Requirements and Advices to Organizers of International Masters’ Competitions” document available at www.imssc.org.”

Paragraph 3.1.1, Programs A through D, add an “*” in each block after the final distance (8 places), and a note at the end of the paragraph “* Team Pursuit races (optional)”

Of note, ISU regulation 2195 regarding safety would be in effect for mass start events. In the past, these events have not been included for three reasons, primarily time available in the program, creating teams, and safety requirements. This was an attempt to generate the link between the changes being made at the ISU World Cup level of events with the IMSSC events.

Withdrawn by USA after discussion.

USA/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.1.2 Masters' International Sprint Games

Withdrawn	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposed text: Paragraph 3.1.2 add to the list “The distances for the MSGs are:”
 “At the discretion of the Event Organizer, and in conjunction with the local IMSSC Member, Team Sprint races may also be included. Additional information is provided in the “Requirements and Advices to Organizers of International Masters’ Competitions” document available at www.imssc.org.”

Withdrawn by USA after discussion.

NED/Proposal 5: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.1.6 Limit times for Masters' International Sprint Games and Masters' International Allround Games

Approved	Favour 13	Against 1	Abstentions 1	Total 15
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Proposal to add the following text before the last word in the last sentence:
 “. . . in a written consent to the organiser of the Masters Sprint Games or Masters Allround Games and the Board of the IMSSC”.

Rationale: The organiser of MSG or MAG have to be informed about participation of masters that don't fulfil the requirements as defined in Rule 3.1.6. The Board of the IMSSC has to maintain the “performance level” of participants in MSG and MAG. MSG and MAG are the world championships for masters. This means that in principle all participants must comply with the (maximum) times as defines in Rule 3.1.7.

Discussion: It is too late to decide this at the competition after the participant has travelled. It's possible that the national representative is not familiar with the skaters. Countries without quotas don't screen their own participants. The national member should be informed of such entries so appropriate follow up can be made. MB suggested that the IMSSC website could adjust the registration process on the website to highlight issues with time standards.

JAP/Proposal 5: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.1.7 Maximum time table

Approved	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: Currently there is no limit time for over M85 and over L65 for MSPG/MARG; these should be established. Currently limit time is shown in the chart, up to L85 and M85.

Reason: Welcoming older skaters.

Discussion: A maximum time standard should be established however this can be overruled per other rules already discussed. New time standards: Ladies 90+ 1:30 for 500m, 4:30 for 1500m; Men 90+ 1:22 for 500m, 4:06 for 1500m.

No vote, accepted as discussed.

NED/Proposal 6: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.2 Entry

Approved	Favour 10	Against 0	Abstentions 5	Total 15
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Proposal for new text:

In particular for the Masters Allround Games and Masters Sprint Games the following rules apply:

- At least two masters (preferable one woman and one man) of Nations that are grouped under the quota “Other Countries” are allowed to participate in the Masters Allround Games and Masters Sprint Games. This is only valid for Nations of which the IMSSC Member is present in the IMSSC Session that precedes the competition period.
In the IMSSC Session that precedes the competition period, the required quota for “Other Countries” will be determined before all other quota.
- The registrations of masters of Nations with or without a selection process will have a common deadline.
- The registrations of masters from Nations without a selection process will continue also when the applicable Nation quota is exceeded but on a waiting list; all masters exceeding the Nation quota will be registered on a waiting list; the registrations will continue until the registration deadline.
- At the registration deadline two situations can occur:
 1. Nation quota not fulfilled: In this case the available places will be distributed over the Nations with a waiting list in a weighted way related to the percentage of their original quota.
 2. Nation quota fulfilled or exceeded (waiting list): In this case and according to IMSSC Rule 3.2.1 Substitutes, if a master cancels her/his registration, she/he will be substituted by a master of the same country on the waiting list until the first team leader meeting.
- If entries are still available after the first team leaders meeting, these entries may be used by the organizing committee for masters of their country.

Rationale: It is the goal of the IMSSC is that (the best) masters of countries that are member of the IMSSC must have the opportunity to participate in the Masters Allround Games (MAG) and/or the Masters Sprint Games (MSG). Due to the rule “who registers first, will be first” there is a big chance that not every country is participating/represented in MAG and/or MSG. This was the case for MSG2019 Leeuwarden.

Discussion: Time limits would apply as always. Point three clarified as shown above.

NED/Proposal 7: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.5 Drawing and Ranking

Approved	Favour 1	Against 0	Abstentions 14	Total 15
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Proposal to delete the following sentence in the second-last part of the text:

“But the allotting of track on the third distance is decided by the ranking after two distances for each 5 year age group, and not by the ranking in the joined, neighbored groups”.

Rationale: This rule is not practical and can not be implemented in most drawing/seeding systems that are used in 400 m ice rink venues (for instance all venues in the Netherlands).

This proposal was withdrawn by NED during the discussion of the three proposals regarding Rule 3.5.

NOR/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.5 Drawing and Ranking

Approved	Favour 15	Against 0	Abstentions 0	Total 15
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Proposed text: For drawing of Masters’ International All-round Competitions, including Masters’ International All-round Games generally the age groups are drawn separately. If the number of competitors is very small in one or several of the five year age groups. neighbored 5 year age groups may be joined for drawing and speed skating. But the allotting of track on the third distance is

decided by the ranking after two distances for each 5 year age group. and not by the ranking in the joined, neighbored groups. The final distance drawing and classification must be done in her/his own age group independent of the number of participants in that age group. **However, skaters in groups with odd number of participants, who in this case would skate alone on the last distance, may be paired together on the last distance.**

Rationale: We will save time and it would be more interesting for the participants to have an opponent. For example in the MAG-2019 in Bjugn there was one woman skating alone in the AG 70 and another alone in AG 65 (in a quartet of three skaters)

JAP/Proposal 2: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.5 Drawing and Ranking

Declined	Favour 2	Against 8	Abstentions 5	Total 15
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Proposal: MARG format must be revised to “similar” to MSPG as below;

For drawing of Masters’ International Allround Competitions, including Masters’ International Allround Games generally the age groups are drawn separately. If the number of competitors is very small in one or several of the five year age groups, neighbored 5 year age groups may be joined for drawing and speedskating. But the allotting of track on the third distance is decided by the ranking after two distances for each 5 year age group, and not by the ranking in the joined, neighbored groups. The final distance drawing and classification must be done in her/his own age group independent of the number of participants in that age group.

a) No change that, after 3rd distance completed, top 4 skaters in the same age category will skate in the same quartet if there are 4 skaters in the same age group.

b) 5th and lower ranked skaters will be categorized in mixed age group with other age group and paired by time ranking.

c) If there are less than 4 skaters in the same age group, the following can be applied.

Only 1 skater in the same age. = Can be categorized to mixed age if there are any other skaters. Can be paired with a skater from another age group, considered by time ranking. At least this quartet group will take 2ndpair from other age group.

Only 2 skaters in the same age = Can be categorized to the same pair in the same age group. This quartet group will take 2nd pair from other age group.

Only 3 skaters in the same age = Can be categorized to the same age group. No change.

Rationale: More economical time in schedule. Usually we see some skaters in older group are skating solo. It is more exciting to watch.

Discussion on the three proposals surrounding Rule 3.5 Drawing and Ranking:

TS commented that the Japan proposal is not technically feasible in the meet software. The wording could be changed to include the possibility to pair the lowest ranked skaters of groups with odd numbers. This has been changed several times, pre-2016 rules are consistent with this NED proposal.

TS: NED withdraws proposal 7.

TS: Asked if Japan is willing to withdraw proposal 2, Kenji agreed. SAS then remarked that there is still an outstanding issue. TS then suggested to vote on the three proposals.

NOR vote 15 in favour (this is for the bold text only) However skaters in groups with odd number of participants, who in this case would skate alone on the last distance, **may** be paired together on the last distance.

NED/Proposal 8: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.7 Participants in the Last Distance

Approved	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: This article must be removed because it is conflicts with Rule 3.5.

Discussion: RN remarked that he was disqualified in one distance and was only allowed to skate the final distance out of competition. No vote, accepted by all during the discussion.

NED/Proposal 9: Part II Regulations, Rule 3.9 Recommendation for Overtaking

Approved	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: to delete this rule.

Rationale: The text of Rule 3.9 «Recommendations for overtaking» is fully contained in ISU Rule 257-2, see the document “ISU-2018 Special Regulations Technical Rules Speed Skating FINAL 120918.pdf”

Discussion: No vote, accepted by all.

Follow-up Discussion: ISU rule 257.2 was reviewed for the information of members present.

JAP/Proposal 1: Part II Regulations, Rule 4.1 Age groups

Approved	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: Age M90 category and record must be newly established.

Rationale: Ichi Marumo completed 500m and 1000m as the first 90 skater.

Discussion: Implicitly accepted by previous discussions.

NED/Proposal 10: Part II Regulations, Rule 4.3 Applications

Approved	Favour 13	Against 1	Abstentions 1	Total 15
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Proposal to correct this rule:

In the first sentence after the words “International Masters Competitions” add the words “and in National Masters Championships”

Proposal to extend this rule:

Add in the first sentence after “. . . by the IMSSC” the following text “and during World Winter Master Games organised by IMGA”.

Rationale: In a Dutch proposal for the Session 2018 a mistake was made and by incident the possibility to skate a record also in a National Masters Championship was deleted.

It must be possible to recognize master world speedskating records during the Olympic Winter Games for masters that are organised on a 4 year basis by the IMGA.

Discussion: BA proposed that records should be able to be established if skated by a Master Skater at a nationally sanctioned competition (following ISU rules), the record should be recognized.

RM referred to ISU rule 107.

IMSSC Records (International Masters’ Records) are recognized only for times and points reached in **International Masters’ Competitions** and in National Masters Championships approved **by the IMSSC** and during World Winter Master Games organised by IMGA.

Comment from RN about the technical delegate also advising the IMGA.

Proposals Not Linked to Existing IMSSC Constitution and Regulations

NED/Proposal 1:

Approved	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Version 1.3 of the C&R is made by the IMSSC Secretary after the session on June, Second 2018, based on the changes, made at the ISU Congress in June 2018 in the ISU-2018 Special Regulations

Technical Rules Speed Skating, published by the ISU on 12 September 2018.

Proposal: Accept C&R version 1.3 with the changes due to changes in the ISU-2018 Special Regulations Technical Rules Speed Skating.

Discussion: No vote, accepted.

JAP/Proposal 3: Helmet mandatory

Declined	Favour 1	Against 13	Abstentions 1	Total 15
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Proposal: Helmet mandatory. All skaters must wear helmet during practice session as well as competition.

Rationale: Athlete safety first

Discussion: TS: many skaters wear helmets by their own choice when training but do not wish to wear them during competitions. BA suggested to follow the ISU rules, such that if ISU changes the rules they will be followed.

JAP/Proposal 4: Ex-Olympian Participation in IMSSC Games

Withdrawn	Favour -	Against -	Abstentions -	Total -
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Proposal: Ex-Olympians are invited to participate in MSPG and MARG.

If he or she is going to participate in MSPG or MARG, they will be awarded to “special quota” over Nation Quota

Rationale: It will be good promotion of IMSSC (MSPG/MARG), welcoming “well known” skaters. Japan is planning to bring a couple of ex-Olympians to Calgary.

Discussion: Japan withdraws the proposal.

16. Proposals for extension of the IMSSC Constitutions & Regulation regarding international masters’ short track competitions

TS requested that KW discuss with the ST group to bring proposals to the next meeting as none were brought this year.

17. Other Proposals

NOR Proposal: False Starts

Apart from the proposals some Norwegian skaters want me to discuss the practising of IMSSC rule **3.1.8 False Start** The Competitors have to take a stable position before the Starter calls “Ready”, whereupon they are to take their starting position and wait in this position until the shot is fired. By this adjustment a false start for the competitor occurs when the skater:

- **stands on the starting line;**

and of **ISU rule 256.3. Crossing the lines of the designated competition lane**

If a Competitor skates outside the designated competition lane, thus completely crossing the line to the other lane or to the warm-up lane with the full skate, the Competitor may be disqualified, even without offending another Competitor. If there are confirmed observations of more than one such offence during the race, the Competitor will be disqualified, except for situations described in paragraph 4 below,

i.e. reasons for disqualification.

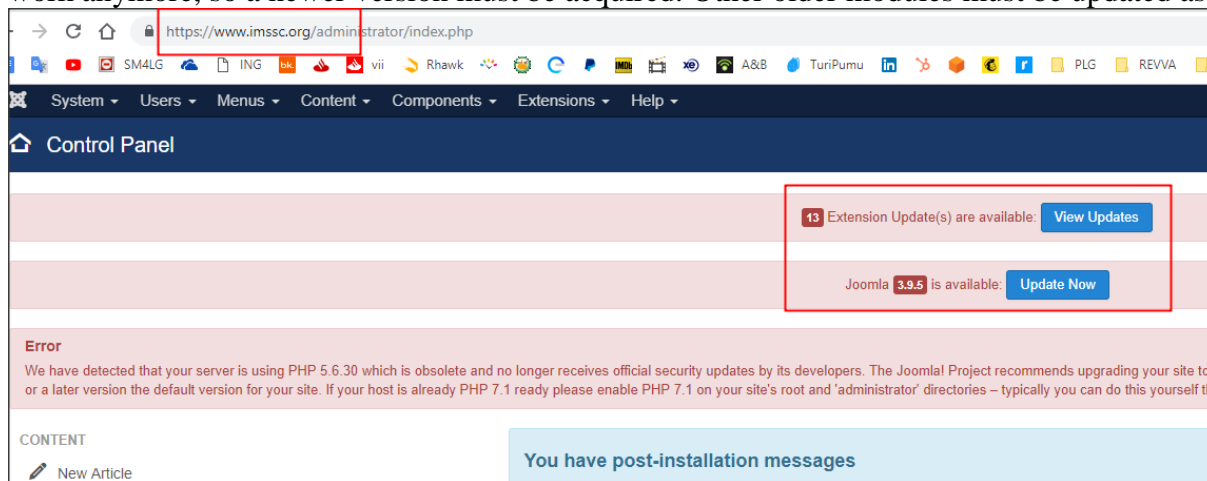
Discussion: TS related experience from Inzell that the referee has discretion to be lenient for first offences and enforce as they see fit. SAS observed a skater over the line into the wrong lane for a significant distance before returning to their designated lane, which should not be permitted. No actions needed.

ESP Proposal: Website + Domain update

The current website originated in 2012, following change of hosting provider and dismiss of original site made by Mr. Serini from a simple (but exceedingly expensive) Word file. A CMS system was chosen back then, for economic reasons, scalability, ease of use and security. In fact, the only major update so far happened in early 2015, when the event registration and management system was improved to meet IMSSC's needs

However, 4 years in technological terms is a lifetime. It's becoming harder to perform maintenance tasks, due to the obsolescence of the core system, as well as the increasingly higher security required, which demands better hosting specs and improved domain management. In particular, the following are urgent measures to be taken:

- Core system must be updated (see image below)
- Hosting must be enhanced to accommodate new specs
- HTTPS protocol: any website with an address http:// is considered "unsecure" by modern browsers. I already installed the corresponding certificate, so our site now points to https://imssc.org but such certificate is not free. It has a monthly/annual fee.
- GDPR: European regulation about data protection is to be enforced from this year.
- Domain was implemented with SPF for e-mail security, but still needs DAC measures
- Event registration and management: by updating the core system, the old module (extension) won't work anymore, so a newer version must be acquired. Other older modules must be updated as well.



To carry on such tasks, the calculated rate is about 500€. As a reference, please see here >> what's the reasonable charge (as of April 2019) for a job like this. Over twice as much! Moreover, the annual hosting cost (stable since 2012!) will have to increase roughly 10%. Please note that hosting includes, aside the new SSL certificate, also maintenance, back-ups, mail accounts, upgrades, etc.

IMSSC website is the main information source for all masters (as proven by usage statistics), not to mention the most prominent registration mean for our races. It cannot be neglected!

Discussion: quick discussion affirmed this it is necessary to update the website. TS asked if it would be possible to see past competitions in an archive. MB requested that change requests for the website be received promptly so that he can plan the updates, including changes to the registration system and processes. Proposals are requested to be delivered to MB by August 1, 2019 so that changes can be made prior to the next season.

USA Proposal: Non-ice Surface Events

Include in the IMSSC skating not on ice surfaces, such as inline races. PC pointed out that this is recognized by another organization. This point was acknowledged as unnecessary.

18. Miscellaneous

NOR:

NSF (Norwegian Skating Federation) determined that it should decide who can apply from within Norway for championships, including the IMSSC games. SAS commented that ISU defines IMSSC games as “international games” rather than “championships”. TS advised that each country may define their own rules and structures governing masters skaters and that internal clarification for Norway is recommended in order to support masters skating in Norway. Similar situations have been experienced in Japan and Germany.

NOR: registration process for the games via the IMSSC registration system were shut down on the deadline and then extended by TS by request to allow additional Norwegian skaters to register by special permission after the deadline. In the future the national member should be made aware of such special conditions.

Additional discussion by SAS about the situation in Norway and an example was made of Russia as well. IMSSC determines the MAG and MSG parameters, not the national organizations. TS suggested national IMSSC members must act in their own interests in order to propose and bid for games. MB proposed that the owner of the event that must authorize changes is the IMSSC member for the host country. IMSSC games are not ISU events, even though they are mentioned on the ISU site. TS asked KT (and all) to not refer to national masters events as “games” as this should be reserved for IMSSC events.

Date of next meeting: it was requested to avoid dates which are also the national holidays in Europe (late May/start of June). The ISU congress will be June 8-12, 2020 in Thailand with council meetings June 6-7 and June 13-14. BA suggested moving earlier in May; AI suggested May 16 or 23. June 6 or May 16 would be the least conflicted dates.

Consensus for the Next Meeting: May 16, 2020 “somewhere around Amsterdam” or Minsk, Belarus. Costs will be analyzed before a decision on location is finalized.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm CET.

Sue Steckle
(IMSSC Secretary)

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) Pertti Kiiskinen (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 Repnin (RUS), Hans-Peter Ambass (SUI), Nils Larsson (SWE), Oleksandr Symonenko (UKR), Andrew Love (USA)

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)