

IPC Alpine Skiing STC Meeting

Summary of main outcomes

June 2013

International Paralympic Committee

Adenauerallee 212-214 Tel. +49 228 2097-200
53113 Bonn, Germany Fax +49 228 2097-209

www.ipc-alpineskiing.org
ipcalpineskiing@paralympic.org

Dear all,

Please find below a summary of the main outcomes from the IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Technical Committee Meeting, which was held from 29 April 2013 to 1 May 2013 in Bonn, Germany.

Report from the Chairperson

The Chairperson presented a summary of activities, accomplishments and challenges of the season 2012/2013. The STC members were informed that the IPC General Assembly will be held in November in Athens and the Sports Council in October in Portugal.

Sochi 2014 PWG

The Paralympic Games Sport and NPC Services Senior Manager joined the meeting and several topics were discussed including:

- Competition schedule – procedures during various situations
- The Chief of Race
- Qualification criteria – where the word ‘respectively’ is to be replaced and section is to be clarified
- The MOU – the jury list for alpine skiing and para-snowboard was presented
- Calendar – the latest version of the calendar was presented
- Allocation of slots – the differences in numbers between men and women were discussed
- Setters were reviewed

A discussion over the calendar regarding the Pyeongchang 2018 PWG took place in order to avoid the situation experienced with Sochi. It was agreed that competitions in Korea needed to start in 2015.

Classification

The IPC Classification Manager and the IPC Medical and Scientific Director joined the meeting, several topics were discussed including:

- Research studies – there is a need for biomechanical studies. A motion on inclusion of intellectual impairment was passed. Short stature athletes are not to be included in the study due to safety reasons and IPCAS technical requirements.

- Head of Classification – STC members, the IPC Classification Manager and the IPC Medical and Scientific Director agreed on the appointment of Markus Walser on acting as Head of Classification for season 2013/2014.
- Forms and documents – administration relating to athlete classification forms and medical documents was discussed. This included the new style of uploading medical documents starting from season 2013/2014 where NPCs will have the opportunity to upload these files to SDMS themselves
- Classification in Sochi 2014 PWG
- IPC Academy – working with IPC Academy to launch an online education system for classification, coach education and officials
- IPC Classification Handbook – definitions and wording was improved. A technical request from Italy was discussed.
- Equipment database – the idea was presented by the Chairperson. The idea is that NPCs have to send all documentation about the adaptive equipment of each athlete to IPCAS. The aim is to have an accessible and a transparent database.
- Protest fees and protest opportunities

It was agreed that classification opportunities should be published and communicated to nations early enough so that there is enough time for preparation and planning. The new Equipment Rulebook and documents related to the database for adaptive equipment was presented and later approved by the IPC Medical and Scientific Director.

Anti-doping

The IPC Anti-Doping Senior Manager was invited to attend the session. The STC members were informed that doping controls revealed one positive case this season. It was agreed that an education program should be done which should also target the youth.

Equipment specifications

The new Rule Book for Equipment was approved. The Rule Book contemplates manufactured equipment and adaptive equipment specifications.

Adaptive equipment

The members of the Sport Technical Committee members had a thorough discussion over adaptive equipment.

- Sit skis – homologation, injuries, timing issues, leg protectors and prototypes
- Prosthesis – definitions and specifications of lower limb and upper limb prosthesis
- Adaptive Equipment Form – was presented to the committee members and then approved by the committee members
- Snowboard – A motion regarding the approval for upper limb prostheses in snowboarders was passed. The technical reasons for approval include balance and safety.
- Discussion regarding the length of the limb in LW2 athletes took place. A video footage was presented by the HoC. The STC members agreed that the length cannot touch the snow what will lead to disqualification in order to be compliant with the IPCAS rules.

The Chairperson announced that the Equipment rules are to be published on 1 July 2013 after final review of the STC.

The following statement was produced:

The IPCAS TD will not represent classification at IPCAS races. The IPC race director is the highest authority for IPCAS races. In discussions of the jury, matters relating to classification are dealt with by the IPCAS race director.

Factor report

The adjustments to the factor report were minor. The Sport Technical Committee approved the adjustments to the factor report for season 2013/2014.

The Chairperson informed that new professors will be working with the factor study.

Reports

Head of Competition for North America presented a report highlighting:

- Growth from most events when compared to previous season
- The success in the integration of snowboard events to able bodied events
- A well conducted classification in Breckenridge
- The growth of NORAM Circuit. The development of IPCAS races in North America is encouraged. The goal is to reach consistency in the level of organization of the events

Following the report presented by the Head of Competition for North America a discussion was held over:

- The possible launch of a development project in USA and Canada to connect sport, disability and lifestyle

- The potential creation of junior licenses
- Competition calendar and potential classification opportunities for season 2013/2014

The Head of Competition for Europe presented a report highlighting:

- Statistics from races based on event type
- Classification statistics
- Statistics on setters
- Equipment controls conducted for speed events in Tarvisio and La Molina
- Disqualifications due to rule violations for adaptive equipment
- Competition calendar and potential classification opportunities for season 2013/2014

The Head of Competition for Asia presented a report highlighting:

- Evaluation of Asia Cup in Hakuba, Japan
- The need for more education in the region in order to increase the level and number of races.
- The main objectives for the next seasons are to increase the number of races in the region with the main target to be the PWG slopes.
- Competition calendar for season 2013/2014

After the presentations from all regions the Chairperson introduced the long term organizer's agreement where the goal is to grant organizers three or four years to allow for long term planning. The agreement was reviewed by the IPC lawyer.

The Head of Para-snowboard presented a report highlighting:

- Potential classification opportunities for season 2013/2014
- PRIS
- The need to expand female para-snowboard population

The Head of Technical Control and Officiating presented a report highlighting:

- The need for a more structured and formal equipment testing
- The work of Technical Delegates
- The need for continuous education of Technical Delegates

Coach Advisory Group

The Chairperson presented the nominations to Coach Advisory Group that were sent by the nations. Upon extensive review, five coaches were selected for one year.

STC Athlete representative report

The presentation did not take place as the athlete was not present.

Budget and finances

The IPC Snow Sports Senior Manager presented a report on budget and finances. The need for greater cooperation with the marketing department was proposed

IPCAS Rules and regulations

The Sport Technical Committee reviewed the IPCAS Rules and Regulations Book and changes that were made are to be highlighted in the document. The document is to be published on 1 July 2013.

Development projects

The Chairperson lists the outcomes of the on-going European Union development project, the Youth Circuit. More development ideas and projects are sought from the STC members and the coaches. The idea is to get help from the Agitos Foundation.

Proposals from NPCs

The letters posted to the IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Technical Committee were reviewed and answers were provided (please refer to the appendices).

The next IPC Alpine Skiing Technical Committee Meeting will take place in spring 2014 in Panorama, Canada.

Appendix 1: Proposals from Canada

1. CONNECTION COACH: The inclusion of a connection coach during the later half of IPC World Championships and at World Cup Finals in Sochi was an effective way for coaches and the ROC to communicate. This is an effective and utilized position in many levels of FIS races to ensure a clear point of contact between coaches of all nations and the ROC.

Recommendation: to create a regular Connection coach position at all continental cup races and above. This position should be included in the IPCAS Rules and Regulations (as is done in the FIS Freestyle ICR 3034.2 The Connection Coach). The IPCAS STC to create a Connection Coach list in the summer months (similar to a set list) which assigns respective nations to the connection coach position ahead of time.

STC Alpine Skiing: There will be a connection coach nominated for each of the three regions next year at the level 0/1 events.

2. START RAMPS: it was noted this season that there was a significant difference in the angle and length of start ramps at all levels of ski racing. It was noted by both coaches and athletes that there is a minimum angle and length that creates a more consistent start for all categories of athletes. For example, a short start ramp into a flat hill is a significant disadvantage for athletes that use outriggers in comparison to athletes that can use poles to push multiple times after the start and can skate into the first few gates.

Recommendation: IPCAS STC includes a minimum standard of length and angle of the start that would provide a level playing field for all categories.

STC Alpine Skiing: Start ramp/area specifications manual is being finalized and incorporated into the IPC Alpine Skiing Rules.

3. RACE ENTRY FEES: Race entry fees for IPC races being scored for points are set out in the IPC Alpine Skiing Rules and Regulations (311.3) and associated Precisions. For 2012-13, Race Entry Fees for NorAms, National Championship and IPCAS races, entry fees are capped at 25 EU. It is understood that keeping entry fees low is intended to make IPC races more accessible and increase participation. These are noble objectives, but in Canada, this 'one size fits all' approach is having the opposite of the desired effect. Capping race entry fees at such low levels is reducing the willingness of high quality race organizing committees to host IPC races, and limiting our ability to grow our sport. Although we recognize that hosting races and race entries cannot be seen as a fund raising opportunity for ROC's, it is important that the ROC's see value in hosting races and are able to cover their costs.

Recommendation: IPCAS STC permits National Sport authorities to establish race entry fees, in concert with race organizers, for events below the level of World Cup. If this is not possible, the National Sport Authority needs to be consulted prior to setting the fees.

STC Alpine Skiing: The entire fee structure was reviewed and a number of changes were made.

4. FACTOR LIST: This year there was a significant delay in access for Nations to purchase the factor list. FIS TD's working DAR Races, as well as other ROC's (without full access to software), all need the factors in order to fully execute a race.

Recommendation: IPCAS STC sets a date at spring meeting in which the factor list will be available to purchase

STC Alpine Skiing: The factor list is available from the first of July.

5. SOFTWARE: The delay in receiving the updated software in the fall and again in the new year, as well as the lack of communication about the number of licences that would be available to Canada throughout the season caused some very unnecessary last minute stresses for our timing and ROC's. In addition, our volunteers were required to use their personal computers at the last minute, which needs to be differently organized to ensure proper programming capacity. As you can appreciate, one computer in all of North America with licenced software is not adequate to service the needs of sport, and especially moving forward with the inclusion of additional events with SBX.

Recommendation: The IPCAS STC publishes the procedure for acquiring licences on a yearly-basis (prior to Nov 15th), as well as requirements for computers and associated software. This will allow the various ROC to plan financially for the computer needs, as well as volunteers across the country to become very familiar with the software and its operations well ahead of time to ensure that race days run smoothly.

STC Alpine Skiing: The Alpine Skiing software is in development process. Once this process is completed software will be available to anyone.

6. CLASSIFICATION (and classifier training): Last season there was a lack of communication about the opportunities for classifier training in coming year(s)? I can only speak for Canada, but there is a lack of trained international classifiers in Canada, and we need to continue to build this pool moving forward to help develop the sport.

Recommendation: Dates and locations to be announced during spring/summer months of current year to ensure there are opportunities for new classifiers to be trained as well as for existing classifiers to progress their education and certification standard.

STC Alpine Skiing: The information regarding classification and classifier training will be sent to NPC at the beginning of the new competition season.

7. SPEED TRACKS: This year in Sochi, the lack of any previous skiing or viewing of the track created a huge concern for safety as well as a state of panic in both athletes and coaches. Without coaches having ever had the opportunity to ski an athlete ski on the hill, or be on the hill themselves to familiarize themselves with it, it was very difficult to predict the speeds at which they would travel, thus creating many unknowns leading into the first training run.

Recommendation: In the interest of safety, it is important that all coaches and athletes have the opportunity to view (and ideally control freeski) on a DH track, especially if new to the circuit. This familiarization with the track, course names, and features will help to ensure the highest level of safety for the athletes.

STC Alpine Skiing: IPC Alpine Skiing acknowledges it is not the ideal situation, all attempts will be made to solve the problem.

8. IPC RACE DIRECTOR ROLES AND RESPONSABILITIES: The roles and responsibilities of this position need to be adjusted to reflect the important position of a Race Director and how they work with the ROC and specifically the TD. In Canada there is request for clarity for this role, as it is important that it is clearly identified who is responsible for safety. For instance, IPC Rules state that at Race Director has the authority to change gates, which if they are the acting referee is logical, however that may not always be the case. In FIS it is only the referee which has this authority.

Recommendation: IPCAS STC to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the IPC Race Director into clear sections (as FIS Freestyle has done with Chief of Competition role in ICR); Before the event, Day of the events, Reports to, Supervises directly. This will help to ensure clarity for the ROC and members of the jury.

STC Alpine Skiing: The IPC Alpine Skiing Rule Book and IPC TD Handbook description for the Race Director have been updated.

9. SC QUALIFICATION (SOCHI): currently the SOCHI 2014 PARALYMPIC WINTER GAMES QUALIFICATION GUIDE states that “for speed v vents; be ranked and have for the Men 140

IPCAS Points and Women 180 IPCAS Points or less on the IPCAS Downhill, Super G and Super Combined Ranking Lists respectively as of 17 February 2014". With the low number of SC starts, and opportunities to compete in this event, that we have had in the past two years this point cut off will eliminate some individuals if there are not multiple SC races scheduled for early next season.

Recommendation: The IPCAS STC reconsiders the criteria for SC in Sochi, or ensures the inclusion of a minimum of four (4) SC races prior to Feb 17 2014 on the calendar (between North America and Europe) to ensure that there are opportunities available.

STC Alpine Skiing: The calendar is built up based on the interest from the nations.

10. TD ROLE: We need to ensure that we have strong TD's in place for our events, specifically in speed who respect safety practices to the highest level. Although safety is everyone's responsibility, coaches should not have to worry as much about safety as we do (dye, experience of ROC, holes in netting, movement on course, photographers etc).

Recommendation: When the IPCAS STC will inform the FIS Sub-Committee for Disabled of the appointments (as per rule 401.3.3), they will only put forth names of TD's that have shown an utmost respect for safety in the sport, and who are actively involved in creating the safest environment possible.

STC Alpine Skiing: TD selection for all Level 0/1 events is carefully reviewed.

Appendix 2: Proposals from Switzerland

1. We need an urgent and detailed review of all sport classes. This is the cornerstone of a level playing field in our sport. Without accurate and fair classification the sport cannot be taken seriously by spectators or competitors.

Landgraaf VI Classification 2012: There were two separate classification panels. Each panel tested differently. One panel used scientific testing and one purely assessed on existing medical notes.

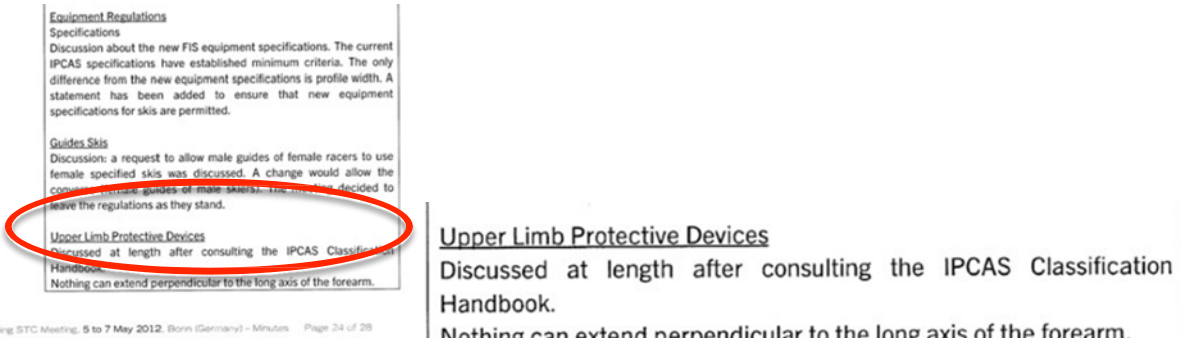
STC Alpine Skiing: VI classification in Landgraaf was done according to IPC Classification Policy.

2. Clarify the equipment regulation regarding LW 6/8, LW 5/7 and LW 9

More than one nation had disqualifications because of the “new rule” which has not yet been officially stated as a rule. ie entered in the current rule book.

The “new rule” has not been published on the IPC Alpine Skiing Website.

The only reference to this “rule” was in the IPC Minutes from the Bonn 2012 STC meeting. There has been no widespread publication to ALL teams on the update of this “rule”.



Equipment Regulations
Specifications
Discussion about the new FIS equipment specifications. The current IPCAS specifications have established minimum criteria. The only difference from the new equipment specifications is profile width. A statement has been added to ensure that new equipment specifications for skis are permitted.

Guides Skis
Discussion: a request to allow male guides of female racers to use female specified skis was discussed. A change would allow the competition guides of male skiers. The meeting decided to leave the regulations as they stand.

Upper Limb Protective Devices
Discussed at length after consulting the IPCAS Classification Handbook.
Nothing can extend perpendicular to the long axis of the forearm.

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Discussed at length after consulting the IPCAS Classification Handbook.
Nothing can extend perpendicular to the long axis of the forearm.

STC Alpine Skiing: Based on issues that arose during the season 2012/2013 a review of the classification Handbook and added Equipment Rules for the coming seasons will follow.

3. Sponsorship

We need a clear rule of what is acceptable for Standing Athletes, what is acceptable on prosthetics and/or sit-skis etc.

“Teams may enter into contracts with a commercial firm or organisation for financial sponsorship and or the supply of goods or equipment. Paralympic Winter Games have specific regulations that all NPCs must comply with. „

STC Alpine Skiing: IPC Alpine Skiing is developing the advertising policy. Paralympic Winter Games are governed by their own policy.

4. Publication of all respective forms and rules on the IPC homepage

Equipment handbook is not published on the website. Waiver Form is not published on the website.

IPC Rule 306.2 “Where an athlete uses a full-face helmet or blocks the bindings he/she is required to sign the relevant IPCAS Waiver.”

STC Alpine Skiing: All relevant material will be published on the website.

5. GS, Super G, Downhill Flags

Can you clarify if IPC Events needs new homologated FIS Flag or not. Our proposal is to use the new FIS Rule. If you do not want to affect the organizer, to buy a set of IPC Flag and to bring it at every World Cup location (which do not already have the flags), like there was a proposal at the sport forum.

STC Alpine Skiing: This issue was discussed at the Sport Forum and a response was given.

6. Course setting

The first gate in slalom and giant slalom should always be in straight direction of the starting gate. When the first gate goes to the left or to the right, it is difficult for sitting athletes to start (and not fair for athletes in LW 10 class).

STC Alpine Skiing: This will be implemented in the 2013-14 season and monitored by the jury.

7. Avoid basic mistakes in the SDMS or Points calculations or Cup Calculations or Penalty calculations

We had 4 basic mistakes this winter with the calculation system

1. SDMS WCH 2013

- a. We were able to enter Athletes on races where they did not had a correct Start Limit. Because of the fact that we could enter them, we were sure that it is because you applied the second qualification criteria for the WCH: “The STC may at its discretion reallocate unused slots in the DH and SC disciplines”. As we all know yet, this was not

the fact. But if we were not capable to enter them on the SDMS it would have been clear from the beginning.

2. IPCAS Points Calculation April 2013

- a. There were several athletes with wrong calculated points on this list. (Example: Kratter LW4 SUI, SL). In the rules (IPC Ruelbook1582) it is written that a Penalty can be maximum 300 in NC's and IPCAS Races. At the swiss national championships ladies GS and IPCAS ladies GS. If an athlete had more than 200 IPCAS Points the system took 200 as maximum value. This seems to be wrong because with this calculation the penalty will never be higher than 200.

3. Europa Cup Calculation January 2013

- a. There were several athletes with wrong calculated points in the overall EC. (Example: Salcher LW 9-1, AUT)

4. Penalty Calculation SUI NC March 2013

- a. We had wrong calculated points at the swiss national championships in Veysonnaz. This occurs in ladies competitions when there are athletes in the penalty calculation with more than 200 IPCAS Points.

In the rules (IPC Ruelbook1582) it is written that a Penalty can be maximum 300 in NC's and IPCAS Races. At the swiss national championships ladies GS and IPCAS ladies GS. If an athlete had more than 200 IPCAS Points the system took 200 as maximum value. This seems to be wrong because with this calculation the penalty will never be higher than 200 (see appendix 1).

Please check the whole system, it is not a coaches work to check every list.

STC Alpine Skiing: The software and SDMS systems are always being reviewed to limit mistakes. The values used for the penalty calculations when assessing maximum values for best five at start and best five at finish have been changed to reflect the IPCAS points system.

8. Athletes delegate

An Athletes delegate should represent all three classes. The best way would be one delegated for every class and gender. That would create an athletes advisory group of three (3) athletes:

- one (1) VI
- one (1) standing one (1) sitting
- (and there has to be a mix between women and men in a relation 2:1.)

For the STC we propose to maintain one (1) vote. The three (3) athletes can send one (1) of them to the meeting. With this the chances rises that there will be an athletes representative at these meetings.

STC Alpine Skiing: Only one delegate is allowed.

9. Create Wild Cards in World Cup technical Races for each nation

For us it would be a good instrument if there were some wild cards (for example 2 and just in technical events) for each nation in the world cup circuit. If an athlete has the permission to start in the technical events and at the same place it will be a SC he can't start there. If an athlete has a certain level (for example IPCAS EC Limits) he wouldn't disturb the race if he can start. Even with the fact that the nation in which the event takes place can give wilds card for their racers (who don't have the limits)!

It's clear there cannot be 10 places per nation. But 2 wild cards per nation would be ideal (for the organizing nation of course some additional)! Also if I have an athlete, who is just above the limits, with a wild card I could give him a possibility to show his progression at world cup events.

STC Alpine Skiing: A change in the wild card rules has been implemented for the 2013-14 season.

10. Apply adapted FIS Rule regarding Training before Racing

The question rises because we had an issue at the World Cup Event in Sestriere (ITA). There the Organizer allowed some nations to train after the GS on the World Cup slope for the next days slalom. This is not acceptable if you do not inform every nation.

We propose to apply an adapted FIS Rule (Adaptions marked yellow) out of 'Rules for the FIS Alpine Ski World Cup - edition 2012/13', regarding Training on Race Courses

14.2 Training on World Cup courses

During the last ~~five (5)~~ **three (3)** days before the official start of the training for a FIS **IPC** World Cup **or COC** event, or before the first competition, no training shall be allowed on World Cup **or COC** courses - irrespective of the events and courses. **Exception: if it is published in advance (at least two (2) weeks if it is a training before the first event, at least at the first team captains meeting if it is a training on a day during the event) to every team who will participate at the competition.** In case of an infringement of this rule, the competitors concerned shall automatically be disqualified, or not allowed to participate in the competition concerned, and the respective organiser will not be considered for the allocation of a FIS **IPCAS** World Cup event during the next two (2) years.

STC Alpine Skiing: The Race Director will along with the jury ensure that training is available to all or to none of the athletes.

11. Downhill Sochi

In our opinion, for sitting athletes it would be better to go around the first jump. If this is not possible, the jump should be as flat as possible. The problem of this special jump is, that you have no time to prepare for the jump because of the turn right in front of the jump.

When there is a jump like it was this year, many athletes, most of the sitting athletes will crash because everyone will take risk. Many crashes means many brakes in the race and this will absolutely not promote live TV coverage, also for further events! (Beside: a race with just 20 Starters on a women downhill would not promote TV coverage).

The best way would be to make sitting and blind athletes (men and women) one day and standing athletes another day. With this you can make two lines over the jump (even if all men categories start the same day, you could make two lines over the jump). We understand your argument with the IPCAS-points but this will be the Paralympic Downhill. In this race, no one will be interested in the points. Safety of athletes and attractive races should be the first goal.

STC Alpine Skiing: Careful consideration was given to determining which track was to be used in Sochi. The jury carefully evaluates the track and the athlete's performance on an on-going basis.

Appendix 3: Proposals from France

IPC Alpine rules:

1. SG of the SC in WCH La Molina:

- Not on a homologated trail
- Vertical drop not respected

STC Alpine Skiing: The jury from the DH/SG met regarding the SG. After reviewing the slope a “force majeure” decision to move the SG was made by the jury.

2. DH course set in La Molina WCH (long corridor)

STC Alpine Skiing: The slope and course were inspected by the jury and approved the course set.

3. Homologated panels

STC Alpine Skiing: This issue was discussed at the Sport Forum and a response was given.

4. Wild card in Sochi

- An athlete in SL with a wild card but was ineligible

STC Alpine Skiing: The race was reviewed and the athlete was not qualified based on wild card criteria. IPCAS will solve the problem.

5. Lodging and fee cost in St Moritz

STC Alpine Skiing: This was done according to artc. 311.2 of the 2013 IPCAS Rule and Regulation Book.

6. Use of a lighting system to guide a VI athlete:

- Only voice communication in the rule
 - Seriously modify the spirit of the guiding

STC Alpine Skiing: The adaptive equipment was approved according to artc. 318.3. 2013 Precisions addressed the equipment change.

7. Lack of clearance regarding FIS rules application:

- Not specify 1 year later and what rules

STC Alpine Skiing: Question is unclear.

8. DSQ without written notice (lack of communication and impossible to make an appeal)
STC Alpine Skiing: We cannot address the issue without specific details about the incident.

9. We did not have any official equipment control within the entire season
STC Alpine Skiing: Equipment control did occur.

10. Classification rules:

VI classification:

- As requested by IPC, all VI athletes had to undergo to the classification this season
- Not all the VI athletes did respect this obligation
- Visual field have not been measured during the testing in Landgraaf
 - VI results have been based on an unfair classification

Use of prosthesis for standing:

- There are no clear written rule regarding this matter
 - Nerveless some athletes have been DSQ
- Confusion regarding who and how can prosthesis been authorized

Classification rules have not been dully respected:

- A LW6/8-2 athlete have been DSQ in Landgraaf because of use of a ski pole
 - Rule state “cannot hold a pole” to be classified...

We have not seen any Alpine classifier this winter, including World Championships

STC Alpine Skiing: VI classification in Landgraaf was done according to IPC Classification Policy.

Based on issues that arose in the season 2012/2013 a review of the classification Handbook was conducted and Equipment Rules for the coming seasons were added.

Classification did take place at two venues this year.

11. Jury operation:

- Lack of communication with team ‘coaches:
 - Some key people with very poor English understanding
 - Impossible to bring our point of view directly (through connexion coach only)

- Systematically IPC staff as jury member
- Nomination of the connexion coach (by IPCAS, not under coaches proposal)
- Jury decision not correctly posted (no minutes, no decision' records...)
- Lack of leadership to solve issues rapidly

STC Alpine Skiing: IPC Alpine Skiing appoints the connection coach.

The jury will always have an IPC Alpine Skiing member at Level 0/1/2 events.

Jury communication was reviewed.

12. Race organisation:

- La Molina WCH DH not ready on time: course set and safety system
- IPC AS staff not enough in advance on site (have to follow FIS rules)
- Difficulties to obtain start list/results

STC Alpine Skiing: IPC Alpine Skiing discussed arrival of jury members.

IPC Alpine Skiing acknowledges Sochi was not the ideal situation; all attempts will be made to solve the problem.

La Molina was delayed by several hours. Jury members were present two days in advance of the first TCM.

13. Issues regarding calendar:

- Having Slovenia very close to La Molina WCH (WCH preparation vs WC standing)
- Very late arrival in Sochi (not enough safe for the athletes)
- Very few IPCAS speed events (impossible to gain EC/WC selection criteria):
 - 2 SG, 0 SC; 0 DH
- No SG and SC World Cup

STC Alpine Skiing: The calendar is built up based on the interest from the nations.

IPC Alpine Skiing acknowledges Sochi arrival was not a good situation.

14. Lack of education and support to organize IPCAS races:

- No Alpine ski software available, needing to have a IPCAS staff on site to run the race
- Having to pay to get race factor

STC Alpine Skiing: The Alpine Skiing software is in development process. Once this process is completed software will be available to anyone.

The factors are available to the NPCs on a yearly basis. The cost is 50€ per season and the NPCs are responsible that the factors are being used correctly.