

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1517

World Cup Speed Skating 2008/2009

1. General Conditions

- a) The World Cup Speed Skating 2008/2009 will be organized as a series of International Competitions subject to regulations given in this ISU Communication. The World Cup series is an ISU Event. Relevant parts of the ISU General Regulations apply, in particular Rules 105, 106 and 136.
- b) In accordance with a sponsorship agreement between ISU and the company *Essent N.V.* the World Cup Speed Skating 2008/2009 will be presented under the title *Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating* and a specific logo.
- c) International TV rights and advertising rights for the World Cup Speed Skating 2008/2009 belong to the ISU. Organizers of Competitions are obliged to respect commercial and TV contracts entered into by the ISU. Before concluding any commercial agreements the organizers should consult the ISU Director General in order to prevent conflicts with ISU contracts.
- d) An ISU Memorandum, specifying contractual obligations and guidelines for the organization of Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions, will be made available to the hosting ISU Members and the Organizing Committees.
- e) For each of the World Cup Competitions the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee assigns a Representative, who shall observe that the competitions are conducted in accordance with the regulations in this Communication.

2. Basic competition rules

- a) The World Cup Speed Skating is organized as a series of competitions in the following *distance categories*, with the indicated number of Competitions/races scheduled for the season 2008/2009:
 - 100 meters (Ladies and Men) 4 Competitions / 4 races
 - 500 meters (Ladies and Men) 7 Competitions / 13 races
 - 1000 meters (Ladies and Men) 7 Competitions / 10 races
 - 1500 meters (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
 - Long distances: (Ladies and Men) 6 Competitions / 6 races
For Ladies the long distances are 3000m and 5000m; for Men 5000m and 10000m.
 - Team Pursuit (national teams, Ladies and Men): 3 Competitions / 3 races
For Ladies the Team Pursuit races are over 6 laps; for Men over 8 laps.
- b) The final World Cup ranking for each distance category is determined by the accumulated points for each skater or (for Team Pursuit) national team over the season.
- c) The individual competitions (except for 100m) are organized in a format where the skaters compete in two divisions, A and B. The skaters with the currently best World Cup ranking in the distance compete in Division A, which normally consists of 20 skaters. Each competition day has a core session consisting of the races for Division A for all the distances skated on that day.
- d) The Competitions are open to all ISU Speed Skating Members. Entry quotas are based on the final World Cup rankings 2007/2008 and on the results of the qualification process for the 2008 World Single Distances Championships.
- e) Prize money, as determined by the ISU, is awarded for each individual World Cup distance category to the 6 best skaters and the 3 best pursuit teams in each competition, and to the 10 best skaters in the final World Cup ranking. However, for the 100m and the Team Pursuit only the top 6 in the final World Cup ranking will be awarded prize money.

- f) With the consent of the ISU, demonstration events may be organized on the occasion of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions, but such events will not be considered a part of the World Cup Speed Skating series.

3. Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2008/2009

November 7 – 9, 2008	<i>Berlin</i>	GER	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Team Pursuit Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Team Pursuit
November 14 – 16, 2008	<i>Heerenveen</i>	NED	Ladies: 2x 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Team Pursuit Men: 2x 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Team Pursuit
November 22 – 23, 2008	<i>Moscow</i>	RUS	Ladies: 1500m, 5000m Men: 1500m, 10000m
December 6– 7, 2008	<i>Changchun</i>	CHN	Ladies and Men: 100m, 2x 500m, 2x 1000m
December 13 – 14, 2008	<i>Nagano</i>	JPN	Ladies and Men: 100m, 2x 500m, 2x 1000m
January 24 – 25, 2009	<i>Kolomna</i>	RUS	Ladies and Men: 100m, 2x 500m, 2x 1000m
January 30 – February 1, 2009	<i>Erfurt</i>	GER	Ladies: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m, Team Pursuit Men: 2x500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m, Team Pursuit
February 14 – 15, 2009	<i>Heerenveen</i>	NED	Ladies: 1500m, 5000m Men: 1500m, 10000m
March 6-7, 2009 (World Cup final)	<i>Salt Lake City</i>	USA	Ladies: 100m, 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 3000m. Men: 100m, 500m, 1000m, 1500m, 5000m.

4. Entry rules

4.1 Qualifying times

All entered skaters (incl. substitutes) must have achieved applicable qualifying times for the respective distances.

	<u>Ladies</u>	<u>Men</u>
500m	41,00	37,50
1000m	1.22,50	1.15,00
1500m	2.07,50	1.55,00
3000m	4.32,00	----
5000m	4.24,00 or 7.45,00	7.05,00
10000m	--	6.55,00 or 14.15,00

For a result to be a valid qualifying time, it must have been achieved in ISU Events, International Competitions or National Championships in the period between *July 1, 2007* and the entry deadline for the World Cup Competition concerned. Exceptionally, the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee may grant an ISU Member the right to enter maximum one skater per category (Ladies/Men) who has not achieved an applicable qualifying time. The ISU Member should then submit such a request to the ISU Secretariat before the deadline for entries for the World Cup Competition concerned.

4.2 Entry quotas.

Subject to the qualifying times criteria of paragraph 4.1 above, for *each distance* an ISU Member may enter 1 competitor, plus the (maximum) number of skaters from the Member placed *either*

- among the 36 best in the final World Cup ranking 2007/2008, *or*

- among the qualified skaters (including the reserve list of 6 skaters for each distance) for the 2008 World Single Distances Championships.

For 100m, the 500m entry quotas apply. For Team Pursuit an ISU Member can enter only one team. For any distance the maximum entry quota for an ISU Member is 5. The hosting ISU Member is granted this maximum quota. Otherwise, the entry quotas for the season 2008/2009 are as follows (ISU Speed Skating Members not mentioned may enter maximum 1 competitor for each distance):

Ladies	100/500	1000	1500	3000/5000	Men	100/500	1000	1500	5000/10000
AUT	1	1	2	2	AUT	1	1	1	1
BLR	2	2	1	1	BLR	1	1	2	2
CAN	5	5	5	5	CAN	5	5	5	5
CHN	5	5	5	5	CHN	5	2	3	2
CZE	1	1	2	3	CZE	1	1	1	1
DEN	1	1	1	2	DEN	1	1	1	1
FIN	1	1	1	1	FIN	5	5	2	1
FRA	1	1	1	1	FRA	1	1	2	3
GER	5	5	5	5	GER	4	3	5	4
ITA	2	2	2	2	ITA	2	2	2	2
JPN	5	5	5	5	JPN	5	4	2	3
KAZ	1	2	2	2	KAZ	1	1	3	2
KOR	4	4	4	3	KOR	5	5	3	2
NED	5	5	5	5	NED	5	5	5	5
NOR	1	2	2	3	NOR	3	5	5	5
POL	1	2	3	3	POL	2	3	2	3
ROU	2	2	2	2	ROU	1	1	1	1
RUS	5	5	5	5	RUS	5	5	5	4
SUI	1	1	1	1	SUI	1	1	1	2
SWE	2	1	1	1	SWE	1	1	1	3
USA	5	4	2	3	USA	5	4	4	4

The participation in the final Competition will be restricted, according to paragraph 5.1.5.

4.3 Entries of competitors

ISU Members must send their entries to the organizer before the deadline given in the announcement for the Competition, indicating the distances to be skated by each entered competitor, and including any substitutes for each distance and entries for (when applicable) Team Pursuit competitions. The individual entries for a distance may be changed *not later than two hours before the draw* for the distance, but only among skaters entered as a competitor or a substitute for the distance concerned. The replacement of an injured or ill skater by an entered substitute *after the draw* may be accepted if the Referee has been duly informed at least two hours before the start of the distance.

5. Competition formats

5.1 Competition formats for the individual distances (except 100 meters)

For each individual distance, except the 100m, the entered skaters compete in two separate divisions with the currently best ranked skaters competing in Division A; the remaining skaters in Division B.

However, all skaters compete together in Division A in the following cases:

- When the number of entered skaters does not exceed a certain limit, see paragraph 5.1.1 a) below.
- When the prescribed number of skaters for Division A, according to paragraphs 5.1.1 b) and c) below, cannot be reached by qualified skaters.
- For all distances in the last World Cup Competition of the season, see paragraph 5.1.5.

5.1.1 Number of skaters in Division A:

- If not more than 24 skaters have been entered, all skaters compete in Division A. For 500m and 1000m, all skaters compete in Division A if not more than 28 skaters have been entered.
- If, for the distances 1500m and 3000m Ladies/5000m Men, the number of entered skaters is between 25 and 28, Division A shall consist of 16 skaters.

- c) If more than 28 skaters have been entered, Division A shall normally consist of 20 skaters, with exceptions as mentioned in items d), e) and f) below.

Exceptions:

- d) For the first World Cup Competition of the season Division A will be extended to 24 skaters, on the condition that at least 34 skaters have been entered for the distance.
- e) For 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men the number of skaters in Division A will be 12. However, if the number of entries is not more than 20, all skaters will compete in Division A.
- f) For the second race of 500m and 1000m in the same World Cup Competition the number of skaters in Division A will be determined according to paragraph 5.1.2 c) below.

5.1.2 Selection of skaters for Division A (for 100m, see paragraph 5.2).

- a) In the *first Competition* the composition of Division A is determined by the final 2007/2008 World Cup ranking and the seeding of the entered skaters, as submitted by the respective team leaders before the opening draw (see paragraph 6.1).
- b) In *all other Competitions* (also for the first competition over 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men) the selection for Division A shall be based on the current World Cup ranks of the entered skaters. Normally the 20 (or 12, for 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men) best ranked of the entered skaters shall compete in Division A. However, the lowest ranked of those skaters shall be moved to Division B, if this is necessary in order to include the following skaters in Division A:
- 1) Skaters placed among the 8 best (ties included) in Division A in the preceding Competition.
 - 2) Skaters promoted from Division B: Skaters who finished among the 3 best (ties included) in the preceding Competition, but with the following exceptions:
 - o From Competitions with two races over 500m or 1000m, the winners of the two Division B races will be promoted. Unless there are three winners (because of ties), the skater with the higher total of World Cup points from the two races will also be promoted.
 - o For 3000m Ladies / 5000m Men only the winner of Division B will be promoted to Division A if the long distances in the next Competition will be 5000m / 10000m.
 - 3) Skaters with a "Wild card":

A skater may use a "Wild card" for Division A only once per distance category, and only the first time the skater competes in the distance (category) concerned in the World Cup 2008/2009. A "Wild card" for Division A may be granted only for a skater placed among the 10 best in the final World Cup 2007/2008 ranking or in the 2008 World Single Distances Championships for the distance category concerned. The request for a "Wild card" should be made when the skater is entered for the Competition, and must be confirmed at the team leaders' meeting before the drawing for the distance. A "Wild Card" cannot be used in the first World Cup Competition of the season.
- c) In World Cup Competitions with two races over 500m or 1000m, no skaters will be promoted from Division B to Division A for the second race. However, skaters (if any) who were not entered for the first race, but who would then have been selected for Division A due to their current World Cup ranks or a "Wild card", may be entered for Division A in the second race.

5.1.3 Scheduling of Division A races.

- a) For each day of a World Cup Competition the races of Division A for all distances shall be scheduled as one block of races. The starting time for the block of Division A races shall be stated in the announcement.
- b) Quartet starts shall not be used in Division A.
- c) The Team Pursuit events are considered as part of the Division A block of races. The Team Pursuit races must be skated after all the individual races of Division A have been completed.

5.1.4 Scheduling of Division B races.

- a) The races of Division B should be skated on the same day as the races of Division A for the distance concerned, before and/or after the Division A block. The time schedule for the races of Division B shall be announced at the draw meeting. Exceptionally, at the request of the organizer, the Division B races of a distance may be held the day before the respective Division A races.
- b) Quartet starts should be used for the long distances.

5.1.5 Entry and selection of skaters for the last World Cup Competition (“World Cup final”)

- a) The entry quotas given in paragraph 4.2 apply, but without privileges for the hosting Member.
- b) For each distance only the following skaters may be entered:
 - Skaters placed among the 24 best in the current World Cup ranking.
 - The winner(s) of the Division B race(s) in the preceding Competition.
- c) For *100m* only *9 skaters* will be admitted, based on the current 100m World Cup ranking. Skaters ranked 10 and onwards in the World Cup ranking may fill vacant start positions, if not all of the top 9 ranked skaters will be entered. The competition will start with semi-finals, with heats composed according to paragraph 5.2 e) below based on the current World Cup ranking.
- d) “Wild Card” entries are not possible.

5.2 Competition format for the 100 meters

a) Entries:

All skaters entered for the first 500m of the World Cup Competition concerned, are considered as entered for the first elimination phase of the 100m. The confirmation of entries for the semi-finals will be requested at the team leaders’ meeting prior to the draw for the semi-finals.

b) Elimination phases:

The competition format is based on elimination phases, where a pre-determined number of skaters advance to the next phase. The first phase (the qualifying round) will determine the promotion to *the semi-finals* according to paragraph c) below.

c) Promotion to semi-finals:

The qualification for the semi-finals will be based on the 100m split times from the first 500m of the World Cup Competition concerned, counting the split times from the Division A and the Division B races together. The skaters with the *9 best split times* are promoted to the semi-finals (this may also include skaters who do not get a valid result in the 500m). *However*, a skater placed among the top 3 in the current 100m World Cup ranking will have the right to start in the semi-finals. Moreover, a skater placed in the top 3 in the final 100m World Cup ranking 2007/2008 may use a “Wild Card” for the semi-finals in the first 100m competition in which the skater is entered, thus replacing the skater with the 9th best time from the qualifying round.

If one or more qualified skaters would decline to take part in the semi-finals, the next ranked skaters based on the 100m split times will be allowed to compete, to fill the 9 starting positions.

d) Promotion to Finals A and B:

The winners of each of the semi-finals will be promoted to Final A, and the second placed skaters in each of the semi-finals will be promoted to Final B. In case of ties the promotion from the semi-finals will be based on the ranks of the skaters in the qualifying round.

e) Heat composition and lane assignments in the semi-finals and the finals:

In the semi-finals and the finals the skaters compete in heats of three skaters each. The usual warming-up lane will be used in addition to the two normal competition lanes.

The composition of the heats, including the starting lanes of each skater, will be based on the results from the preceding elimination phase, as follows:

Heat / lane	Semi-final 1	Semi-final 2	Semi-final 3	Finals A and B
<i>Warm-up lane</i>	Time rank 7	Time rank 8	Time rank 9	Skater qualified from Semi-final 3
<i>Inner lane (middle)</i>	Time rank 1	Time rank 2	Time rank 3	Skater qualified from Semi-final 1
<i>Outer lane</i>	Time rank 6	Time rank 5	Time rank 4	Skater qualified from Semi-final 2

If some skaters who did not compete in the 500m (and therefore have no 100m split time rank) will be admitted to the semi-finals according to paragraph c) above, these skaters will be ranked behind the other skaters. Any ties in the time rankings determining the composition of the semi-finals will be resolved by considering the skater with the better 100m World Cup rank as the better ranked skater. If there is a tie also in this ranking, the internal rank between the skaters concerned will be determined by lot.

f) Results from the competition (distance ranking):

- The skaters promoted to Final A will occupy the top 3 places in the final result list, based on their ranks in Final A only.
- The skaters promoted to Final B will occupy places 4-6 in the final result list, based on their ranks in Final B only.
- The remaining skaters who competed in the semi-finals will occupy places 7-9 in the final result list, based on their times in the semi-finals.
- The skaters eliminated in the first phase will occupy places from 10 and onwards in the final result list, based on their 100m split times in the 500m race of the qualifying round.

If several skaters in a Final (A or B) do not get a finishing time, or if skaters finishing third in the semi-finals will have the same time, the skater with the better time from previously skated races will get the better final ranking. In all other cases, ties in the Finals or in the time ranking for skaters eliminated in the qualifying round will persist in the final distance ranking.

g) Starting procedure:

The ISU Technical Rules for false starts apply also for heats with 3 skaters (Semi-finals and Finals): The second false start in a heat will lead to a disqualification of the skater(s) committing this false start. However, after a first false start in a heat, the normal procedure should be that the skaters are *not* called back in the case of a next false start, but that disqualification will be announced for the skater(s) concerned after the finish of the heat. Only in the case that a second false start would greatly disturb the other skater(s) in the heat, will the Starter call skaters back for a fresh start. Technical equipment may be used to assist the Starter in detecting false starts.

h) Scheduling of races (cf. paragraph 5.1.3):

The semi-finals and the finals shall be skated as one “sub-block” of the block of Division A races.

5.3 Competition format for the Team Pursuit competitions

a) Team Pursuit competitions will be skated with national teams of 3 skaters. Distances are 6 laps for Ladies and 8 laps for Men.

- Teams shall be composed of skaters representing the same ISU Member, and the skaters must wear the national team racing uniforms of the Member.
- Only skaters entered as a participant or a substitute for a distance at the World Cup Competition concerned may compete in the Team Pursuit.
- Each ISU Member may enter only one team.
- The deadline for entry of names of the skaters that may compete in the team (possibly more than 3 names) will be announced by the Referee during the team leaders’ meeting the day before the Team Pursuit race.
- The final composition of the team shall be declared by the team leader not later than 30 minutes before the start of the Team Pursuit competition concerned.

b) The sequence of races (heats) of the Team Pursuit competition is determined by a ranking of the teams, with the two best ranked teams competing in the last heat.

- For the first Team Pursuit World Cup Competition of the season the teams shall be ranked according to the result at the 2008 World Single Distances Championships. ISU Members that did not compete with a team in these Championships will be ranked thereafter, according to the 2007/2008 World Cup Team Pursuit ranking.
- For the subsequent Competitions teams shall be ranked according to the current World Cup Team Pursuit ranking.

c) The better ranked team in a heat will start at the normal finishing straight of the track.

5.4 Demonstration events

With the consent of the ISU World Cup Coordinator and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee the organizer of a World Cup Competition may add demonstration events to the program. Entry rules, time schedules and special conditions for the events should be included in the announcement.

6. Drawing. Composition of pairs and starting order of pairs for individual distances

A draw meeting shall take place before each day of the Competition, to announce the distribution of entered skaters between Division A and Division B, and the composition and starting order of pairs. A *team leaders' meeting* shall be held before the draw meeting, with the purpose to confirm the final entries. The drawing for Division B may be arranged immediately after the team leaders' meeting, before the announced draw meeting for Division A.

6.1 Drawing at the first World Cup Competition

- a) The entered skaters shall be placed in seven (7) groups. Group 1-6 will have 6 skaters each. Remaining skaters shall be placed in Group 7.
- b) Respecting the entry quotas given in paragraph 4.2 above, the number of skaters for an ISU Member in Group 1 corresponds to the number of skaters from this Member among the 6 best in the final World Cup ranking 2007/2008, and similarly for Groups 2 through 7.
- c) At least three hours before the draw meeting the team leaders must submit to the Referee a seeding of their entered skaters, by order of quality. The Referee then places the competitors in the respective groups, considering that Group 1 shall include the skaters of highest quality.
- d) Division A shall consist of the skaters placed into Groups 1 through 4 (In the case that Division A would not have 24 skaters, the number of skaters in Group 4 would either be reduced or increased to fit the actual number of skaters according to paragraph 5.1.1). Division B shall consist of the remaining skaters. For the second race over 500m, see item g) below.
- e) Pairs are drawn within each group. The pairs of Group 7 shall be drawn first, then the pairs of Group 6, and so on. The two last drawn skaters from Group 1 will form the last pair of Division A. In the case of an odd number of participants, the first pair will consist of a single skater.
- f) In case of withdrawals after the draw meeting, a withdrawn skater shall be replaced by the next ranked skater or substitute (according to the seeding submitted by the team leader) from the ISU Member concerned, etc. If no substitute is available, and the consequence is that less than 6 skaters remain in a group (Group 1-6), the skater with the highest rank from the next group will be moved to complete the pair, etc. Further rearrangements may be done according to Rule 245.
- g) For the second race over 500m in the first World Cup Competition the skaters shall be paired according to paragraph 6.2 c) below.
- h) For the first Competition over 5000m Ladies and 10000m Men the drawing shall be made according to paragraph 6.2, based on the current World Cup ranking in the long distances.

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

- a) Skaters shall be paired according to their individual World Cup rank, and the starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the skaters – so that the skaters with the lowest rank start in the first pair, and so on. The better ranked skater in a pair shall start in the inner lane. These rules apply to both Division A and Division B, but with exceptions as explained in paragraph c) below and in paragraph 5.2 above for the 100 m.
- b) Skaters with no World Cup points (*unranked skaters*) shall be grouped together. The pairs drawn from this group shall start first. In the case of an odd number of skaters, the first pair shall consist of a single skater. In the case of an odd number of *ranked* skaters, the lowest ranked skater shall be paired with the last drawn skater from the group of unranked skaters.
- c) For the second 500m or 1000m race in a World Cup Competition, the composition of pairs in each Division shall be based on the time ranking from the first race, so that the winner of the first race will start in the last pair. Skaters, who did not participate or did not get a result in the first race for the Division concerned, shall be considered as unranked. In case of ties in the rankings used for the composition of pairs in the second race, the skater with the better current World Cup rank shall be considered as better ranked.
 - o The composition of pairs must take into account that the skaters shall change their starting lanes from the first race. Skaters not competing in the first race may be assigned starting lanes in order to avoid odd pairs
 - o If the start list (after rearrangements following withdrawals after the draw, see item d) below) would include several single pairs, such pairs shall be merged by moving the skater from the preceding pair to the last of the single pairs. The moved skater shall start

in the outer lane of the merged pair. The procedure is to be repeated until maximum one single pair remains.

- d) In case of withdrawals after the draw, pairs shall be rearranged according to the ISU Technical Rules (Rule 245). Substitutes shall be placed in the Division and the pair corresponding to their individual World Cup rank, and necessary rearrangements must be made accordingly. However, for withdrawals announced later than two hours before the start of the distance and Division concerned, adjustment of pairs may be made according to Rule 245, paragraph 3.

6.3 Composition of quartets

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

7. World Cup points system

7.1 Points scoring tables

a) World Cup points for Division A

Based on the results of Division A and Division B, World Cup points are awarded according to the tables below. *Tables A1* and *B1* apply in most cases, but with the following exceptions:

- When the 5000m Ladies and the 10000m Men Division A consists of only 12 skaters, the World Cup points will be awarded according to *tables A2* and *B2*, respectively.
- In the final World Cup Competition, the top 5 skaters are awarded bonus points of 50% of the normal score as per *table A3*.

<i>Ran k</i>	A1 (normal)	A2 5000m Ladies 10000m Men	A3 Final Competition	<i>Ran k</i>	B1 In combination with A1	B2 (cf. A2) 5000m Ladies 10000m Men
1	100	100	150	1	25	35
2	80	80	120	2	19	30
3	70	70	105	3	15	25
4	60	60	90	4	11	21
5	50	50	75	5	8	18
6	45	45	45	6	6	15
7	40	40	40	7	4	13
8	36	35	36	8	2	11
9	32	30	32	9	1	10
10	28	25	28	10	-	9
11	24	20	24	11		8
12	21	15	21	12		7
13	18	-	18	13		6
14	16		16	14		5
15	14		14	15		4
16	12		12	16		3
17	10		10	17		2
18	8		8	18		1
19	6		6	19		-
20	5		5	20		
21	4		4	21		
22	3		3	22		
23	2		2	23		
24	1		1	24		

7.2 Points for tied ranks

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

8. World Cup Speed Skating ranking rules

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

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

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

9. Prizes

For each distance (category) prize money will be awarded for each individual competition and for the final classification at the end of the season. For each competition prize money is awarded to the top 6 skaters of Division A and the top 3 pursuit teams. For the final World Cup ranking prize money is awarded to the top 10 skaters, but for 100m and Team Pursuit only to the top 6 ranked skaters/teams.

<i>Prize money for final ranking</i>			<i>Prize money for each competition</i>		
Place	Amount (for each distance category)	Amount for 100m and Team Pursuit	Place	Full amount for a distance	Half* amount for a distance
1.	US \$ 14.000,-	US \$ 4.000,-	1.	US \$ 1.500,-	US \$ 750,-
2.	US \$ 9.000,-	US \$ 3.000,-	2.	US \$ 1.000,-	US \$ 500,-
3.	US \$ 5.000,-	US \$ 2.000,-	3.	US \$ 750,-	US \$ 375,-
4.	US \$ 3.500,-	US \$ 1.500,-	4.	US \$ 600,-	US \$ 300,-
5.	US \$ 3.000,-	US \$ 1.000,-	5.	US \$ 550,-	US \$ 275,-
6.	US \$ 2.500,-	US \$ 750,-	6.	US \$ 500,-	US \$ 250,-
7.	US \$ 2.250,-		<i>Team Pursuit prize money</i>		
8.	US \$ 2.000,-		1 st team	US \$ 2.100,-	
9.	US \$ 1.750,-		2 nd team	US \$ 1.500,-	
10.	US \$ 1.500,-		3 rd team	US \$ 1.200,-	

*) These amounts are awarded in the following cases:

- o for the final ranks of each 100m competition
- o for each race over 500m and 1000m in Competitions when these distances are skated twice.

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

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

10. Cancellation of Competitions

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

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

A Memorandum issued by the ISU contains details on the obligations of the organizers and guidelines for the organization of an Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competition. A summary is given below:

- a) The organizer is responsible for publishing the announcement for the Competition, in accordance with Rule 110 and guidelines given in the Memorandum. The draft announcement shall be submitted to the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee for approval. The announcement should be sent to ISU Speed Skating Members not later than 60 days before the Competition, and it should be made available on a suitable website with other relevant information.
- b) Referees, Assistant Referees and Starters are appointed by the ISU President, based on nominations made by the organizing Member, in consultation with the ISU Vice President, Sports Directorate and Speed Skating Technical Committee. The Referee and at least one Starter (both for the Ladies' and the Men's competitions) must be ISU Officials for the season 2008/2009, as given in ISU Communication No. **1507**. At least *two* of the ISU appointed Officials should belong to an ISU Member other than the hosting Member.
- c) The organizer must provide the Referees with adequate secretariat assistance. Computer support for the preparation and conduct of the drawings will be offered by ISU.
- d) Timekeeping by automatic timekeeping procedure with installation of photofinish system is mandatory. An automatic timekeeping system based on photocells or transponders must be connected to a scoreboard displaying live the split times and the unofficial final times and results.
- e) Anti-doping tests must be carried out according to the ISU Anti-Doping Code, as given in the applicable ISU Communications (ISU Communication Nos. 1447 and 1448 or later updates).
- f) The organizer is responsible that appropriate accommodation is available for participants and team leaders, officials, sponsors and media. For the participating teams the organizer is obliged to announce a set of guaranteed (maximum) board and lodging rates at available hotels, as follows:
 - o Hotel room rates for single and double room (without meals or only including breakfast).
 - o Rates for full board and lodging (three meals per day).
- g) The organizer is obliged to pay or reimburse *board and lodging* expenses from dinner the evening before until breakfast on the morning after the competition for (up to) 5 skaters and 1 team leader from each participating Member. Reimbursement shall be based on the announced room rates for the applicable hotels, and calculated based on the expenses for (up to) 2 double and 2 single rooms.
- h) The organizer is responsible for covering expenses for travel, board and lodging for the ISU appointed Officials, and for the board and lodging for the representative of the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.
- i) The organizer must provide a transportation service for the teams during the period of the competitions and the announced training sessions. Convenient means of transportation between the competition site and the nearest international airport must be available.
- j) The organizer is not obliged to provide services (accommodation, accredited entrance to the ice rink, transportation etc.) for an excessive number of team officials or other accompanying persons from participating ISU Members. Names and functions of all team officials must be submitted together with the final entries for the Competition.
- k) The organizer must provide ice-training possibilities for at least 3 hours per day during the last four days prior to the Competition. Adequate safety protection must be in place at the rink during the official training and the competition periods, as per guidelines given in the Memorandum and the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules.
- l) The organizer is responsible for the payment of prize money for the Competition according to procedures and financial terms agreed with the ISU.
- m) The organizer is obliged to forward to the ISU complete results of all races and classifications, on paper and in appropriate digital form. The organizer is responsible that results are forwarded to international press and news service agencies (see also paragraph 12 below).

12. Distribution of results

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

- ISU Secretariat, e-mail address: info@isu.ch
- ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Chair, e-mail address: tron.espeli@rcn.no

The organizers should ensure that results are posted continuously during the Competition at an announced Internet web site. Six (6) copies of the official protocol of results must be sent without delay *by air mail* to the ISU Secretariat.

13. Main changes compared to the season 2007-2008 (ISU Communication No. 1465)

- Adjustments of the criteria for entry quotas, introducing a basic entry quota of 1 skater per distance. Some adjustments of the qualifying times.
- Number of skaters in Division A for the first competition has been reduced to 24 (from 30).
- Simplification of points award system: Only two variants of points tables (the second variant used only for the small-sized Division A for the longest distance). Bonus points have been retained for the final Competition.
- Adjustments of the pairing rules for the second race of a sprint distance, so as to avoid multiple single pairs.
- Minor adjustments of the criteria for participation in the final World Cup Competition.
- Team Pursuit not included in the final World Cup Competition, due to season schedule concerns.

14. World Cup Speed Skating Coordination

The ISU Council has appointed Mr. Jan Dijkema as Essent ISU Speed Skating World Cup Coordinator. Any questions concerning the rules and conditions given in this Communication or concerning the organization of World Cup Speed Skating Competitions 2008/2009 should be addressed to:

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

Milano
July 23, 2008
Lausanne

Ottavio Cinquanta, President
Fredi Schmid, Director General