

**IPCAS STC MINUTES**

**Event: IPC Alpine Skiing Sport Technical Committee Meeting**

**Date: 3-4 October 2008**

**Place: Hilton Hotel, Zurich – SWITZERLAND**

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<b>Participants</b>	Name	Position	(Initials)
	Sylvana Mestre	Chairperson	SM
	Nick Dean	Vice Chairperson	ND
	Markus Walser	Head of Technical Control & Officiating	MW
	Kihong Kim	Head Competition Asia and Southern Hemisphere	KK

**IPC Management**

Eric Angstadt	IPC Winter Sports Manager	EA
Michael Knaus	IPC Race Director	MK

**Not Present**

Gillian Hall	Head of Classification	GH
Erik Petersen	Head Competition North America	EP
-	Head Competition Europe	

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<b>Purpose of the Meeting</b>	STC Autumn Meeting Race Calendar Factor System Working Groups Vancouver 2010 PWG
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**Executive Summary/ Main Outcomes**

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## AGENDA

**Event: IPC Alpine Skiing Technical Committee Meeting**

**Date: 3 October 2008**

**Place: Hilton Hotel, Zurich**

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- 3/10/2008 8:00 AM
1. IPC Alpine Technical Committee
    - a. Communication Problems(SM)
    - b. Management roles (EA/SM)
    - c. HC Europe (SM)
    - d. Athletes Representative (SM)
    - e. Review Working Groups (ALL)
    - f. Classification (SM)
    - g. Medical Study (SM)
    - h. Review Strategic planning (ALL)
    - i. Various Equipment (ALL)
  2. Finances
    - a. Review Budget 2008/2009 (EA/MK)
    - b. Payment of the race fee (SM)
  3. Races
    - a. Closing of Calendar Season 2008/2009 (MK)
    - b. TDs' Races 2008/2009 (MW/SM)
    - c. Setters Races 2008/2009 MK/SM)
    - d. Site Visits
    - e. General discussion (ALL)
  4. VANOC
  5. Factor System (EA/ND)
    - a. Future of factor system working group
    - b. Selection of the races for the restoration
    - c. Restoration process, control - correction - decision
  - 15:00 6. Various
  7. Minutes of the meeting



**SUMMARY**

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**OPENING**

**Welcome**

<p>Sylvana Mestre welcomed the committee members. As MW is arriving later this morning, SM asks the members to discuss in the meantime some issues. SM informs de committee that she is attending the 2008 Paralympic Skiing Leadership Symposium in Colorado Springs 23-26 October. EP sent his apologies. The USA did not fund his attendance.</p>
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<i>Discussion</i>	The members discussed the IPC requirement for a Business Plan.
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<i>Decision(s)</i>	The meeting decided that the IPCAS does not have the time given its workload and the need to establish the fundamental issues confronting the IPCAS. EA suggested using the baseline established by other IPC sports as a start. This would be less time consuming as the already developed IPCAS Strategic Planning contains the basis of what should be the Business Plan.
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<i>Action(s)</i>	SM will go to Bonn before Xmas to meet with IPC to discuss the Business Plan.
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<i>Discussion</i>	SM tabled a draft letter to NPCs requesting that NPCs demonstrate which athletes are registered on an existing national testing pool. IPCAS will then be able to target those athletes who are not in such a pool.
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<i>Decision(s)</i>	The committee needs the information by the end of November
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<i>Action(s)</i>	EA to send the letter to NPC by Friday 10 October.
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**Roll Call**

<p>Sylvana Mestre (ESP) Chairperson          Nick Dean (AUS) Vice Chairperson          Markus Walser (CAN) Head of Technical Control          Kihong Kim (KOR) Head of Competition Asia and S.Hemisphere          Eric Angstadt (ESP) IPC Winter Sports Manager          Michael Knaus (AUT) IPC Race Director</p>
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**Adoption of Agenda**

<i>Discussion</i>	Adoption of the agenda.
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<i>Decision(s)</i>	Agenda was adopted
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<i>Action(s)</i>	
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**ADOPTION MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

<i>Discussion</i>	Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and some items discussed.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	Minutes adopted
<i>Action(s)</i>	

**1. IPC ALPINE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

**1) COMMITTEE COMMUNICATION**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>SM opened with a discussion about internal communication. The STC must have clear communication protocols to avoid misunderstandings internally, regarding between the STC members and between the management members.</p> <p>Equipment was used as an example and it was pointed out that publishing the rules clearly on the website solved the preliminary concerns from some coaches/managers for the equipment regulations publishing. SM stressed that it is very important that we communicate intelligently so that the STC is not compromised when confronted by direct email requests.</p> <p>One solution is to provide more time for the May meeting and to split the meeting to accommodate discussion on all issues. The meeting agreed to have a “technical meeting” during the FIS spring meeting in Dubrovnik May 20-24 (Classification not required and only specific STC members). The full IPCAS STC meeting to occur from 3 Sept 7 in Bonn to coincide with the IPCs anniversary celebration on 4 September.</p> <p>MW suggested that pre meeting communication will assist with efficiency at meetings.</p> <p><u>“Flexibility” Policy</u></p> <p>ND put forward the concept of a process or mechanism to assist the IPCAS STC with issues between meetings which “don’t fit” whether the issue is classification, factor or equipment.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>Technical meeting during the FIS spring meeting in Dubrovnik May 20-24 (Classification not required).</p> <p>STC Meeting to be held in Bonn from 3 to 6 September 2009.</p> <p>The STC approved the Flexibility Initiative in principle. ND will draw a policy guideline along these lines for the IPCAS consideration.</p>



	<p><u>Communication Protocol</u></p> <p>It was agreed that all communication regarding IPCAS be copied to SM, EA, and ND. Each member must periodically register his/her current email address for correspondence with EA.</p> <p>In addition any communication regarding the Calendar must include MK (Race Director).</p> <p>Any communication with NPCs must come through IPC.</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p>EA to confirm each member's address.</p> <p>ND to draw a flexibility policy guideline.</p>

**2) HEAD COMPETITION EUROPE**

<i>Discussion</i>	SM and MK informed of not having succeeded on finding a HCE.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	A new request is to be made by IPC to the European Federations
<i>Action(s)</i>	EA to send documents to the NPCs

**3) ATHLETE'S REPRESENTATIVE**

<i>Discussion</i>	Gerd Scholfender has been formally appointed. SM informs the members that an e-mail was sent to inform GS.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	SM will write a role description for this position and circulate before sending to GS.
<i>Action(s)</i>	SM to write the role description for this position

**4) FACTOR WORKING GROUP**

<i>Discussion</i>	Appears to be working well with committed personnel. A directive has been given by IPC which is tabled and is self-explanatory. Hugh Daniels will lead a study of the factors in accordance with the directive assisted by MK.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	SM will contact HD to ask him to proceed.
<i>Action(s)</i>	SM to contact HD

**5) EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>There is concern that the group is dysfunctional.</p> <p><u>Monoskis.</u></p> <p>MW has a suggestion with monoskis, which is a big issue.</p>
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	<p>FIS has a process which begins with manufacturers. We should put standardization back on to the manufacturers by inviting them to have a meeting with us in Bonn. MK and MW to compile a list of invitees. Proposed manufacturers' meeting on 15 November. IPCAS attendees to include SM and MW as well as IPC management.</p> <p>It is important that IPCAS makes the most of this initiative by advising the stakeholders preferably through the website.</p> <p>If for whatever reason this meeting cannot occur in November the fall back time will be just prior to the Dubrovnik.</p> <p><i>The principle: Identify areas where rules and safety interact. Then approach manufacturers/appropriate technical experts.</i></p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>IPC Management to confirm the possibility of hosting this meeting.</p> <p>MK and MW to compile the list of manufactures. Management to issue invitations by 10 October.</p> <p>It is agreed that the existing working group structure will be scratched.</p> <p>The equipment working group will now be constituted on a project by project basis</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p><b>Management to issue invitations by 10 October if approved and once list of manufacturers is received.</b></p>

**6) CLASSIFICATION**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Report from Gillian Hall tabled.</p> <p>A formal letter must be sent immediately to the NPCs advising of the seminars.</p> <p>EP informed through a skype call to the STC that the NOR AM races in Breckenridge will not take place, and a nearby venue will be confirmed on Monday 6 October. EA and MK to communicate with EP asap to determine whether the Classification seminar and/or the races will occur in Breckenridge or be shifted to Copper Mountain and final dates. This information will be immediately communicated to the IPCAS STC. It is agreed that the USA seminar will occur regardless.</p> <p>The seminar organizers communicate through MK- the logistics of the Seminars must be coordinated through MK,</p>
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	<p>who is the lead person and who will then copy, whoever needs to know, GH, EA and SM.</p> <p>NZ Games have been “covered” – site visit has taken place and SM has provided the full report.</p> <p>The Classification Handbook has been tabled and is being reviewed by the Classifiers and by the IPC. The approved Handbook will contain the Classification regulations for competition. The website shall be changed to clearly indicate all rules and regulations applicable.</p> <p>IPC communicates on Classification matters with VANOC – no direct communication from the committee.</p> <p>Letter from Pieter van der Vliet tabled and SM’s reply tabled, specifying the IPCAS aim regarding the early classification of athletes, ie., all athletes at Paralympics and WCH to be classified beforehand – not at the event.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>Classifiers nominated in the report are ratified by IPCAS for Pitztal and Breckenridge.</p> <p>Logistics of the Seminars must be coordinated through MK</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p><b>EA letter to NPCs to inform about this year’s seminars</b></p>

**7) MEDICAL STUDY**

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Conducted by SM who has surveyed IPC medical committee. A pro-forma has been published on the website. The form has to be completed by the Race TD of a race where an injury occurs either in competition or in training and returned to IPC (as directed on the pro-forma).</p> <p>Protocol: All TD reports for all races anywhere must be faxed/forwarded to MW within 48hours of the event, who will then follow up any reported injuries. SM will speak with Peter Van de Vliet to implement this.</p> <p>IPC will invite NPCs to participate in medical studies conducted during Paralympic Games and will publish the results. IPCAS will encourage NPCs to participate in IPC medical studies. The last official study was in Salt Lake City.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p><b>SM to contact PV and define strategy.</b></p>



## 8) REVIEW STRATEGIC PLANNING

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>SM reports some misunderstanding with the strategic planning. The members reviewed the strategic planning and updated it.</p> <p><u>Coaches Seminar.</u> To implement the coaches seminar that will determine the parameters for course setting for the season and the rules change. The information from this seminar to be forwarded to Eric Petersen.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>Manuel Hutter to be approached by MK to lead the seminar in Pitztal.</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p>Eric Petersen to run the seminar in B.</p>

## 9) VARIOUS EQUIPMENT

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Discussion regarding ski radius and the relationship between vertical drop and course setting.</p> <p><u>LW2 class and plate heights</u> Concerns from some athlete have been received in writing to SM about the rule change regarding the plates under the boot. MK argued that safety takes precedence and pointed out that boot technology is changing to compensate for this issue as well.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>All demands regarding equipment have to be sent to MW</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	

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## 2. FINANCES

### 1) BUDGET 2008/2009

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Provisional figures presented by MK. Budget as yet not prepared.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p>EA will provide an itemised provisional budget within 2 weeks.</p>



## 2) RACE FEES

<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Fees from the event organizers have not always been collected. This is a management problem.</p> <p>Solution: A reminder template to the organizer will be forwarded at least 15 days prior to the event. The reminder will emphasise that if payment is not made in accordance with the rules the results will not qualify for the list.</p> <p>If MK is present he will follow up before the event is finished to ensure collection. Otherwise it is to be coordinated by management through the relevant Head of Competition (the relevant IPCAS member).</p> <p>It is agreed that the rule 307.4 be changed to accommodate this requirement, say, to be paid 15 days in advance.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<p>A reminder template to the organizer will be forwarded at least 15 days prior to the event.</p>
<i>Action(s)</i>	<p>Change of regulation 307.4 to be defined</p>

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## 3. RACES

### 1) CLOSING CALENDAR 2008/2009

<i>Discussion</i>	<p><i>Refer to the changes made to the existing Strategic Plan for 2008/2009 (recorded on SM's file).</i></p> <p>Note the conflict between the NZ winter games event and the IPC anniversary event.</p> <p>The IPC event has priority. It is agreed that an IPCAS member should attend the NZ event because the event is very significant.</p> <p>Note the Calendar for European Cups and World Cups will be closed in May. The other race categories will remain open till October.</p> <p>There will be a presentation for level 2 Classifiers to finalize their certification at the World Championships in Korea and trainee level seminar.</p> <p>Note that bids for the 2011 World Championships will be sent to the NPCs by 31 October 2009. There is interest from Japan and Spain.</p>
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SM is working on the “Development Camp” which is complicated by the fact that 09 is a “Paralympic year”.

Pitztal event is confirmed; MK will confirm the seminar arrangements with the venue (logistics)

Winter Park is expected to be held as planned however no NORAM contracts have been received at IPC HQ (to be reviewed once EA goes back to the office next week).

SM is very concerned that deadlines have not been applied in every instance and the Committee agrees that management must address this situation for 2009. Part of the problem relates to demarcation issues between NPCs and National Federations/Associations. The process is to be developed by EA and MK and presented to the IPCAS as a solution to this issue.

ND suggested that a quality control system incorporating a contract register be established.

La Molina anti-doping agreement has not been received. Similarly for Sestriere.

Follow up the contract for the Czech National.

Dates for the World Cup in Korea recorded.

Application received from Slovakia for Jasna in March.

In addition we expect nations to apply for lower level races such as National Championships.

MK stated that for 09/10 he is investigating the possibility of a downhill World Cup in Saalbach Hinterglemm, with technical events in Abtenau, Zauchensee and Garmisch.

*Decision(s)* MK and EA to collaborate on this project and keep the IPCAS informed.

*Action(s)*

**2) TD'S SEASON 2008/2009**

*Discussion* The TDs for the World Cup were identified where possible. Evelio Gonzalez will communicate with MK about TD for WC Italy.

*Decision(s)* WC La Molina Alfons Schranz (AUT)  
WC Sestriere TBD  
Final WC Evelio Gonzalez (ESP)

*Action(s)*



### 3) COURSE SETTERS SEASON 2008/2009

<i>Discussion</i>	<u>Course Setters for World Cup and World Championships</u> It was agreed that coaches who are appointed to set courses must be certified.
<i>Decision(s)</i>	<b>WC La Molina</b> SL: ESP / CAN SL: FR / GER GS: JAP / AUT GS: CRO / FIN  <b>WC Sestriere</b> DH: ITA SC: SUI / SVK SG: USA  <b>WC Whistler</b> - see in Vancouver update  <b>WCH Korea</b> SL: KOR / SUI GS: ESP / JAP SC: SG AUT / SL USA SG: IT DH: CAN TE: (Team Event) GER/FRA
<i>Action(s)</i>	

### 4) SITE VISITS

<i>Discussion</i>	<b><u>NZ report</u></b> Site visit tabled and accepted.  <b><u>Spain report</u></b> SM tabled her site visit report. All aspects covered. The slalom will be on the new FIS course. EA reviewed the invitation form and will make changes to the template and inform MK.  <b><u>Vancouver Update.</u></b> We are to receive a VANOC presentation this afternoon. The organizer must provide dinner or a coupon to the value of \$15. MK and EA will clarify with VANOC. The definition of half board is breakfast and one other meal. MK gave a power point presentation from a meeting with VANOC on 11 September 08. Arrival Date for the test event is 8 March 2009. Departure date is 15 March. This is 2 days later than anticipated. Korea has offered accommodation for this period at 50 euros a day (this is on
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the WCH invitation).  
 Accommodation proposed in the Fairmont Hotel (@ \$270/ room) where some of the World Cup awards will be presented. Medals will be given after each race in the World Cup plaza.

*Decision(s)*  
*Action(s)*

5) GENERAL DISCUSSION

*Discussion*

**Field Size Races.**  
 Discussion about the maximum field.

**Connecting Coach for WCup**  
 The connecting coach will be the liaison between the team coaches and the IPC officials for each race for all matters regarding the course, including course/gate changes, training, etc. The IPCAS will appoint the connecting coach for each season at its Autumn meeting at the latest.

Motion  
 position be created by SM  
 Seconded ND  
 3votes present.  
 Approved unanimously.  
 The IPCAS has identified a preferred connecting coach for the 2008/09 World Cup season – M.Hujara.

**Connecting Coach for the World Championships.**  
 The connecting coach for Korean should be a local coach with language skills. Kihong recommended Lee, Dong-jun. Kihong will determine Lee, Dong-jun’s availability. The appointed is approved subject to availability.

*Decision(s)*  
 It was decided that the maximum field size for European Cup shall be 140 in total.

*Action(s)*  
 SM will confirm the acceptance of M.Hujara as connecting coach.

**Updated IPCAS Races Participation Criteria will be published.**

4. VANOC

*Discussion*

Peter Bosinger and Elizabeth Urbach presented to the meeting regarding the test event for the Paralympics. Photos of the ramps and rollers to be used for the mono skis were displayed. The rollers feature large pneumatic wheels.  
 Attention was drawn to the differences between the North American mono ski rigs and the Japanese and some



	<p>European rigs. And the angle of the entrance to the toe binding. Assistants will require training to facilitate the use of the rollers.</p> <p>Any design issues will be addressed. Photos and specifications of the different rigs will be provided to Vanoc. MW will search the specifications.</p> <p><b>Course Setters:</b>  Ray Watkins (USA) will set the test event DH.  SC: Canada will set the SG/ITA will set the SL.  GS: SUI/GER.  SL: AUT/JAP.</p> <p>The intention is that the same course setters for the speed events perform also at the Paralympics.</p> <p>EA explained the meaning of half board. Hotel Fairmont can probably not provide the 2nd meal within the budget but VANOC will check. VANOC is investigating vouchers as a possibility, which would allow teams the chance to have several options for dinner. It depends on the “productive use of our limited budget”. VANOC anticipates responding in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>Accommodation and transport needs of IPCAS members attending the test event will be communicated to VANOC. At this stage IPCAS members anticipate arriving from Korea on 2 March.</p> <p>IPCAS will appoint a connecting coach to liaise with VANOC over individual team requirements such as training prior to the event.</p> <p>There are other specific technical matters still pending which will be discussed in the next weeks.</p> <p>All World Cup trophies will be freighted to Canada together to VANOC. This will be organized in advance by EA.</p>
<i>Decision(s)</i>	
<i>Action(s)</i>	

**5. FACTOR SYSTEM**

*Discussion*

	<p><b><u>The Factor System</u></b></p> <p>SM tabled a recommendation from H Daniels. HD and the working group considered 2 versions: one which was used before Torino (Version 1) and the one used since (Version 2). The recommendation is to use Version 1 which appears to give more consistent results and to maintain its use for the period including the Vancouver Paralympics. At the same time the working group will undertake continued</p>
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analysis to determine whether to recommend the adoption of a new mechanism beyond 2010.

*Decision(s)*  
*Action(s)*

The recommendation was accepted unanimously.

## 6. VARIOUS

*Discussion*

### **IPCAS Race Administration**

Pitztal: MK and Arnold Poller. Hugh Daniels to be asked to attend all World Cups and the World Championships.

Winter Park: EP

Kutai: MK, AP and Sabine Berger

La Molina: MK, AK, SM (Ref)

Czech: MK

Sweden: MK, SM, SB

Sestriere: MK, AK, SM (Ref)

Korea: MK, AP, Marcel Rauch, MW (TD), ND (Ref) Kihong (Ass Ref).

World Cup Final in Vancouver: MK, AP, MW (Chief of Race), SM (Ref).

MW stated that the track takes about 8 people to cover the race plus start and finish referees. The Start Referee is a key person. In principle we prefer a committee member occupying these positions. MW shall make a recommendation. (We may need 2 start referees).

Slovakia: MK, MR, SM

Note: If a Head of Competition for Europe is identified that person shall assume SM's role in Europe.

December site visit to Korea. To be conducted by Ki Hong as Head of Competition Asia. Date to be confirmed.

### **IPCAS Points Calculation**

The IPCAS STC reviewed the current situation given that the total calendar does not have critical mass of results for all disciplines and that most races occur in the northern hemisphere.

3 issues were identified for discussion:

- The proposal to increase the "points period" from 13 to 18 months
- The adoption of a non-result penalty as an alternative to the above or in conjunction
- If a non-result penalty is adopted what should the penalty value be?

The IPCAS STC decided to adopt a 15 months option in preference to 18 months and that this should be valid for seasons 08/09 and 09/10. After 09/10 it shall revert to 13 months. At the same time a non-result penalty will apply for athletes who have maintained their licence since their last result. The penalty shall be 100%. This penalty



process is explained in the 1260 Rules (Precisions for 2008/2009).

In order to deal with the lack of DH results the following method of calculating the start list for DH will be used in the 08/09 season:

For the first completed DH start this season athletes who have points get ranked according to the normal ranking system;

Athletes with no DH points will be ranked according to their SG points behind athletes with DH points.

After the first completed race athletes who have only a single result will be subject to the single result penalty as outlined in the 1260 rules.

The above proposal was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

The 1260.4 Rule concerning "small field" will be reviewed annually by the IPCAS STC to determine if changes are required.

The 1261 Rule was rewritten to reflect the fact that the points lists published in the northern hemisphere summer months will include athletes who had a valid licence in the previous competition year.

The 1264 Rule relating to Penalty Points was changed in accordance with the above decision.

#### **La Molina**

The organizers of the IPC World Cup in La Molina attended the meeting. The details of the event were presented to the meeting. Refer SM's file. There has been great attention to detail. La Molina has a history of commitment to sport for people with disabilities. SM will forward relevant descriptive information to the STC members.

La Molina is building a Paralympic week around the World Cup event. This will include presentations in the form of workshops and a skiing week for children with disability. The completed Invitation form has been received by IPC.

#### **STC Recommendation for limiting entries in EC Races**

The STC and the IPCAS Race Director reviewed a proposal that will be implemented by the IPCAS STC regarding the limiting the size field for EC races in the next few seasons to 140 athletes per race, 105 men and 35 women. For the season 2008/09 it will be up to the LOCs to make the cut if they can not cope with over 140 athletes.

#### **FIS Sub-Committee Meeting**

SM, ND, MW from the IPCAS STC and MK IPCAS Race Director and EA attended the FIS Sub-Committee for



skiers with a disability meeting on Saturday 4 October for 5 hours. Minutes were recorded by the chairman of this committee and a complete review of the status between the relation of FIS and IPC was made as well as the path for the immediate future.

**Slovakia NSF Discussion**

The Slovakian NSF approached the STC and IPC Management to get a clear understanding on the process to obtain IPCAS licenses and enter IPCAS races. The situation is that the Slovak National Ski Federation is not in good standing with the Slovak NPC. They will work at this internally but they see no straight solution in the immediate future. It was made clear from the IPC side that only if the NPC authorises the Slovak NSF in writing to the IPC, the Slovak NSF can submit the licenses and entries for IPCAS events.

*Decision(s)*

*Action(s)*

**NEXT MEETING**

May 20-24, 2009 (Side meetings with present STC members at WCH and Test Event)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned.