
SKATING ISSUE

This is in short what has happened relating to skating decisions for the next season (85/86).

I. The F.I.S. meeting in Vancouver ruled as follows (accepted by F.I.S. Council on May 30, 1985):

- In international competitions governed by F.I.S., skating will be permitted in 50% of the events.
- There will NOT be a mixture of diagonal and skating in one and the same event, i.e. last winter's concept using "skating zones" is gone. You either enter a competition where skating is permitted anywhere on the course, or you compete in an event following the rules as we basically know them from "pre-skating" days.
- Skating competitions will be named "Free Technique". Traditional competitions will be named "Classic Technique".
- In "Classic Technique" you will be permitted to skate around corners (as we have always done) and on certain steep uphill where the track has been wiped out by the organizers.
- In "Classic Technique" events, organizers are asked to provide observers along the entire length of the course, two persons at each location (this will, as I am sure you will agree, lend itself to shorter loops that will be skied many times).
- The two types of skiing will for the 85/86 season be done:
 - a) using the same equipment
 - b) using the same trail profile requirements
 - c) using the same World Cup, i.e. there will not be a separate World Cup for the two types of skiing.

Item a) may be revised during F.I.S.' cross country committee meeting in Europe in November, 1985.

- World Juniors will use "Free Technique" for 30 km and "Classic Technique" for relay and 15 km.
- World Loppet organizers are, by F.I.S., encouraged to use "Classic Technique". However, if special circumstances apply and equal conditions can be guaranteed, "Free Technique" may be permitted by The National Ski Association in which country the race is held.