

Sustainability Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 16 April 2024, 14:00-16:00 CET

Virtual Meeting

Attending virtually		Unable to attend
Katrina Galas	<i>Ex officio:</i>	Theresa Heinsinger
Gunhild Kvistad	Fabien Saguez	Sari Jormanainen
Marlen Marconi	Tim Farcnik	
Martin Ohlsson	Riikka Rakic	
Jan Skříčka	Barbara Rettenbacher	
Klaus Rambach		

Minutes	
1	<p>Welcome and approval of agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda is approved
2	<p>Season Report - Season experiences from everyone</p> <p>Nove Mesto - Jan Skříčka</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter season was tough due to unseasonably warm weather Snow storage was necessary to host the World Championships competitions in February Only a very short window of sub 0° C temperatures Some snow was saved for next season Lessons learned on snow distribution

- Without World Championships, the season would have been much shorter and not economically possible
- In the future, especially for smaller OCs it will be difficult to continue under such circumstances
- Currently the depot has 25.000m³ snow stored for next season

DSV – Klaus Rambach

- Snow depots in Oberhof and Ruhpolding are not full
- New snow storage cover pilot project in Oberhof with 3 different materials, to compare which is the best cover material
- In November a new sustainability communication campaign started with positive feedback and will continue next season
- Temporary infrastructure tents were heated with pellets instead of diesel both in Ruhpolding and Oberhof

Östersund – Martin Ohlsson

- Impact from climate change is visible but this winter has been really good in Östersund
- It was possible to ski from November until April
- Well prepared with many snow depots but this season a lot of natural snow was available which actually caused some difficulties
- Natural snow was removed from courses and replaced with machine made snow because it was unsure if the natural snow can withstand the whole 3 weeks of competition (in retrospect it would have)

Swiss-Ski – Marlen Marconi

- Very different within Switzerland, some parts had no issues (like Lenzerheide), others had difficulties and little to no snow
- Overall it was a good winter for Switzerland from elite sport perspective
- For WC at Lenzerheide, public transport from anywhere in Switzerland was included in the ticket price to travel to the venue – however it won't be financially possible to implement the same as the World Championships 2025. Public transport from within a 100km radius from Lenzerheide will be included instead..

Slovenia – Tim Farčnik

- Venue preparation started in November
- Overall satisfied with winter
- Multiple competitions took place starting from Junior Cup in December
- Microclimate in Pokljuka contributed to the success of season
- Snow depot is filled with about 18.000 m³ of snow thanks to late season cold weather

France - Fabien Saguez

- Really warm winter all over France
- New strategy for Annecy snow depots: Produce the snow on the courses and have 3 depots spread out
- Using HVO for grooming
- Strong winds have contributed to difficulties

	<p>Canmore – Katrina Galas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best conditions on tracks • Weather has good but unpredictable • Overall positive experiences at the Canmore World Cup <p>Norway – Gunhild Kvistad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good season, with lot of snow in Norway • Still a lot of snow had to be produced • Unlikely that future seasons will be as good as this one <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Snow depots are currently filled up for next season
3	<p>IBU Update</p> <p>Sustainability Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Report 2023 published in February 2024 • Deadline on reporting on season 2023/2024 for OCs is 31st of May 2024 • Including CO2 for all event hosts, Snow Network for all venues, Sustainability Charter for signatories <p>Reporting on Season 2023/2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top Tier Level was good, no races had to be cancelled due to lack of snow • However, smaller regional races had some difficulties • IBU will share documents from SIEPPUR Project - ACTION ITEM Barbara • Importance of having a solid snow strategy that is tailored to the venue • What does proper snow management cost to be efficient? <p>IBU Erasmus Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIEPPUR, sustainable snow management, about half way through • GAMES, decarbonization strategy, about half way through • BENCHES, Biodiversity in Sport, with Uni Sant’Anna from Pisa, World Athletics , World Sailing, Italian Kayak and Canoe Federation, Benfica Lisbon – total duration of 3 years • Possible new project for next year about hydrogen use in winter sports, if one of the commission members is interested, please feel free to reach out <p>HVO reimbursement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult due to different legislation in countries • However, if OC has used HVO this season, possibility to cover difference in cost. Will be sent out by Sport department <p>Sustainability Award 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional category for NF, as well as one for Gender Equality and for Social Media • Deadline 31st of May • Will be awarded in Belgrade at the Congress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Price 10.000€ for winner in each category for sustainability

4	<p>Sustainability Workshop at IBU Congress 26th of September?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A set schedule for Congress motions as per Constitution • Before the official Congress starts, there are opportunities to have workshops => possibility to create a sustainability workshop • Should Commission run a workshop? • What can be useful for audience? • Tim: at Vienna Presidents Meeting sustainability was an important topic and useful to participants • Awareness about sustainability should be kept high -> therefore include it • Fabien: permanent approach on sustainability is important • Possible Workshop content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Martin: story telling about the cases of OCs that had a tough winter is a good way to keep it on everyone's mind ○ Klaus: Solutions and best practice sharing as a possible idea for workshops ○ Marlen: Swiss-Ski is switching sustainability strategy to consider climate adaptation strategy - . Possible idea for workshops ○ Katrina: Topic of budgeting - allocated funds for making solutions possible ○ Riikka: Keynote presentation/panel discussions is on the Agenda already anyways, but additionally we can offer the workshop so these two different levels can to be catered separately • Consensus on: Both keynote and Workshop to be planned • A Commission Working Group to Draft Agenda for Workshop Congress Content: Marlen, Katrina, Gunhild
5	<p>Proposal: Sustainable Procurement for NFs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this a topic for NFs? • Would a sharing webinar what the NFs are doing be useful? • Switzerland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ improve and optimize the lifecycle of every piece of equipment, switch to three-year cycle instead of one-year cycle ○ Written policy per se does not exist yet • Sweden: not a lot of procurement happening anyways, because most of the spending goes to wages, training camps etc. • Germany: No written procurement policy • France: Difference in suppliers visible already • Would it be helpful to exchange knowledge? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Complex and country-specific topic • Difficult discussion on how to limit consumption of various stakeholders • Possible discussion at Congress? • With more consumption (i.e. athletes owning multiple skis) there is more manpower needed to care for the material • Without an IBU mandated regulation, no NF/athlete/other stakeholder will change their behavior voluntarily

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft of Target 20230 includes “Closing the Gap” what helps the sport to go towards a more sustainable future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Share Target 2030 slide deck – ACTION ITEM Riikka ○ Fabien: Requires discussion among the big nations and different levels of organisation ○ Next possible step: Continue discussion on what can be done on a smaller scale ○ Katrina: Mapping out the holistic impact of making such decisions can maybe contribute to closing the gap and taking the next step • Way forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion with Technical Committee will be necessary on any sport rule changes ○ Deciding which topics within sustainable procurement needs to be considered or focused on • Map out possible opportunities– ACTION ITEM Riikka and Barbara
6	<p>Proposal: POW Education for Athletes</p> <p>Creating more Athlete Advocates - Concept</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POW has a lot of chapters in various European countries • Offer by IBU: POW athlete workshop at training camps in summer, • IBU will pay for POW athlete workshops (in different languages available) <p>IBU will send out a concept document about POW training offer – ACTION ITEM Riikka Barbara</p>
7	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23.04.2024 IBU GAMES Webinar – Challenge of Fan Mobility WCH 2023 in Oberhof, and WC in Lenzerheide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlUBg_kyn4c • 25.04.2024 SIEPPUR Project Mid Term Conference - Sustainable Snow Summit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You can watch the Recording here: https://biathlonworld.zoom.us/rec/play/b4L8JgAaGH2LOqSJCJ2t8GDkBQMKEuLm9a0u_g9Wg_ZXfcCf9P2-epJRPCFCJLchm0HF39bsXls04Gc.wwwcOLNF-XRfbtIWj ○ Password: %zQ5^a\$u
8	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Sports 4 Nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why hasn't IBU signed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two outstanding questions considering 1) building permanent infrastructure in protected areas such as a roller ski track at an existing venue that is located in a national park and 2) usage of salt or other snow hardeners
9	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress Working Group Meeting soon • Next inperson meeting during Congress: before formal procedures start (Arrival day)

	Action Items	Responsibility	Date
1	Map out possible opportunities for sustainabl eprocuremntn policies	Riikka, Barbara	
2	Send out POW education document	Riikka	
3	Share Target 2030 slide Deck	Riikka	
4	Share Deliverables from SIEPPUR Project	Barbara	