Common waxing protocol for IBU Events

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Scope: IBU Junior Cup, JWCH, Regional Events, YOG, EYOF

Common waxing process

The Common waxing process takes place the day before the planned start, unless weather conditions are so severe that it must be carried out at the appropriate time on the day of the start.
The process consists of two stages. This means that the first part of the ski preparation is carried out by the NF's teams in their waxing cabins, while the second part is carried out at the Common Waxing Station.
The Common waxing time will be included in the Day-by-Day Competition Schedule. This also means that by that time, after the start lists are announced, the marked skis must be delivered. Technicians/ Coaches from different teams will be appointed in advance for each day of this process to carry out the Common waxing.

I NF's Team waxing preparation

Team Technicians are responsible for cleaning the ski base from unauthorised material and waxing the ski using the base wax provided by IBU. Hot base wax application must be applied.
After ironing and cooling down, the base wax needs to be scraped and brushed.

II Common waxing station (CWS)

The process will take place at the Common Waxing Station. Appropriate space of at least 45m2 must be available.
The place needs to be organised with 4-6 separate stations, each equipped with dedicated equipment and staff. IBU will provide the equipment and the materials for the Common waxing.
The process will be coordinated by the IBU-responsible Referee in close cooperation with the appointed Technicians/Coaches from different Teams.

The process will proceed according to the following steps:

1.Ski marking

Skis must be delivered to the CW station in accordance with the agreed schedule, aligned with the time required for ski preparation (by the athlete or team staff), and placed in the dedicated ski stand.
Skis need to be received, marked by sticker with the bib number of the athlete on.
Stickers can be handed out after the draw (in a separate envelope or box). Technicians are responsible for attaching the appropriate sticker to the skis in a vertical position in the area behind the binding.
The ski surface needs to be cleaned on all sides to reduce the risk of contamination.

2. Spot checks:

Randomly chosen skis might be tested by FTIR methods to exclude unauthorized material (one ski from each pair will be tested in 3 randomly chosen points on the ski base according to the IBU test protocol).
When the skis pass the control successfully, they will be returned to the ski stand. If the ski fails the check, it will not be placed in the ski stand or ski holder but will be returned to the team, which will result in a start prohibition.
A responsible member of each NF should wait near the station so that he/she will be informed immediately about a failed ski. If a team member is not present, information will be relayed by radio to TD or RD, then to the Team Coach at the shooting range.
The results of the tests are final and not subject to protest.

Measuring Fluor procedure

- 0-1 GREEN, move to next point, up to three points
- <1 RED but remeasure without moving the instrument if <1 GREEN; if >1 RED, Green means green point, red means red point.

Threshold zones

Threshold zones are based on the current IBU/FIS calibration model for Alpha II and may change after it is updated. Information about the changes will be officially announced before implementation.
The same limits apply before and after the race.

Threshold zones	
0-1	<1

Measuring base wax procedure:

Based on these measurements, the skis will also be checked to verify that the approved base wax has been used.
Green – Material is identified as BLACK BASE
Red- Material is not identified
When the skis pass the control successfully, they will be returned to the ski stand. If the ski fails the check, it will not be placed in the ski stand or ski holder but will be returned to the team, which will result in a start prohibition.

3. Wax application

Before applying the wax, the ski base will be brushed with a hand metal brush and then wiped.
Dedicated wax will be applied to the ski base. Afterwards, they will be left to dry according to the producer's recommendation.

4. Ski polishing

The skis will be polished using dedicated tools, such as a roto brush or roto wool. After wiped by special fabric.

5. Manual Structure

During the scheduled time before each Competition, Technicians may add a manual structure to their team's skis. For cleaning and polishing the skis, they may use only the tools provided at the CWS.
The time window for applying manual structures starts 1,5 h before the Competition Start, and ends 30 min before the Competition Start.

6. Ski transport (2-4 Volunteers)

Depending on the wax station location, skis will be transported by volunteers in ski holders or placed directly in a dedicated area near the start area. Ski transport must be conducted in such a way that no contamination occurs from operators, volunteers, or the OC side.
Skis must be in the "Start" ski stand at least 10 minutes before the start.

7. Pick up the ski by the athlete

Skis will be picked up from the ski racks directly by athletes only (not by team staff/not handed over by officials) before the start when entering the start zone.

Single Mixed Relay
In Single Mixed Relay Competitions, athletes can only use one pair of skis. Rewaxing in between changes is not allowed.

Ski Test after the race
Randomly selected skis will be tested using FTIR after each race, in accordance with ECR 4.2.3. The skis will be taken by the IBU official and/or the designated volunteers in the finish area and brought to the test station. At least one ski from each pair will be tested in 2 randomly chosen points on the ski base according test procedure.
The skis can be picked up at the test station by the competitors or team members 15 minutes after the finish, but not later than 20 minutes after the end of the competition.

Reserve Ski
Reserve skis do not need to be tested before the race; if used, they will be checked after the competition.

Ski preparation by Teams
Not allowed to be used:
1. Any kind of carbon-fluorine containing waxes
2. High-performance waxes (e.g.., powder, top finish liquid etc.)

Allowed to be used:
1. Only base fluor-free waxes officially supplied by the IBU (except Regional Events)
2. Manual structure

Not allowed to be used:
Any products containing fluorocarbons or any waxes other than those supplied by IBU.

Accepted waxing methods:
Liquid wax application
Hot waxing
Cold wax application by roto wool

Spot checks in wax cabins
To permanently monitor which products are used for ski preparation, IBU officials can carry out spot checks in the wax cabins, where ski and wax samples can also be collected.

Team sanctions
An NF whose athletes have violated Annex A Art. 1.3 of the ECR (red ski) multiple times may receive fines or may even be suspended for one or more IBU competitions according to ECR 11.5.4 and 11.6

NOTE: This protocol is subject to change and will be reviewed constantly with potential amendments as deemed necessary based on experience and developments during the season to ensure the fairness of IBU competitions. In case of amendments, such information will be shared actively with all involved stakeholders.