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IBU EVENT AND COMPETITION RULES

Adopted by the 1998 IBU Congress with amendments by the 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008 Congresses

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1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.1 APPLICATION

These Rules must be applied fully at World Championships (WCH), Youth/Junior World Championships (Y/J WCH) , World Cups (WC), IBU Cups and OECH U 26. At Continental Championships (CCH) and Continental Cups (CC) these rules must be applied in principle and as far as they are applicable. In other international events these rules shall be applied accordingly unless changes have been notified in separate rules or in the invitation. At the Olympic Winter Games (OWG) these rules must be used accordingly, except when otherwise stipulated by the IOC.

1.2 CLASSES OF COMPETITORS

The following classes are authorized for IBU competitions:

1.2.1 Men and Women

Male and female competitors who have completed their 21st year of life at the cut-off-date 31 December shall be called Men and Women respectively and henceforth shall start only in Men's and Women's competitions according to gender for the season starting on 1 November of the same year.

1.2.2 Junior Men and Junior Women

Male and female competitors who have completed their 19th year of life at the cut-off-date of 31 December shall be called Junior Men and Junior Women respectively and shall start only in Junior Men's and Junior Women's competitions according to gender for the season starting on 1 November of the same year. Separate competitions shall be organized for them. However, Junior Men shall be permitted to participate in Men's and Junior Women in Women's competitions respectively, according to gender.

1.2.3 Youth Men and Youth Women

Competitors who have not yet reached Junior Men's or Junior Women's age as defined above shall be Youth Men or Youth Women respectively, and separate competitions shall be organized for them. Youth Men shall be permitted to take part in Men's and Junior Men's competitions and Youth Women shall be permitted to take part in Women's and Junior

Women's competitions. However, at an event in the Individual, Sprint and Pursuit competition they may start in only one and the same class of competitor. Moreover, Youth may only participate in one relay competition at the Y/JWCH.

1.3 TYPES OF COMPETITIONS

The following types of competitions shall be authorized at IBU events:

1.3.1 Men

- a. 20 km Individual;
- b. 10 km Sprint;
- c. 12.5 km Pursuit;
- d. 4 x 7.5 km Relay;
- e. 15 km Mass Start;
- f. 6 km Super Sprint including 3.6 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.2 Women

- a. 15 km Individual;
- b. 7.5 km Sprint;
- c. 10 km Pursuit;
- d. 4 x 6 km Relay;
- e. 12.5 km Mass Start;
- f. 4 km Super Sprint including 2.4 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.3 Men and Women / Mixed Relay

2 x 6 km Women + 2 x 7.5 km Men.

1.3.4 Junior Men

- a. 15 km Individual;
- b. 10 km Sprint;
- c. 12.5 km Pursuit;
- d. 4 x 7.5 km Relay;
- e. 12.5 km Mass Start;
- f. 6 km Super Sprint including 2.4 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.5 Junior Women

- a. 12.5 km Individual;
- b. 7.5 km Sprint;
- c. 10 km Pursuit;
- d. 3 x 6 km Relay;
- e. 10 km Mass Start;
- f. 4 km Super Sprint including 2.4 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.6 Youth Men

- a. 12.5 km Individual;
- b. 7.5 km Sprint;
- c. 10 km Pursuit;
- d. 3 x 7.5 km Relay;
- e. 10 km Mass Start
- f. 4 km Super Sprint including 2.4 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.7 Youth Women

- a. 10 km Individual;
- b. 6 km Sprint;
- c. 7.5 km Pursuit;
- d. 3 x 6 km Relay;
- e. 7.5 km Mass Start
- f. 4 km Super Sprint including 2.4 km Super Sprint Qualification.

1.3.8 Competition Specifications

The following Table 1 and the appended notes set out the skiing and shooting specifications for IBU classes of competitors and the types of competitions, and shall apply for all IBU events:

1 Class of Competitor	2 Course Length and Competition Type	3 Standard Start Types and Intervals	4 Ski Loops	5 Shooting Bouts and Shot Penalty 5 Rounds per Bout except Relay	6 Distance between and Location of Shooting Bouts	7 Total Climb
MEN						
	20 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	4 km - 4, 8, 12, 16 km	600 - 800 m
	10 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	3.3 km - between 3 and 7 km	300 - 450 m
	12.5 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	350 - 500 m
	15 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	3 km - 3, 6, 9, 12 km	400 - 600 m
	4 x 7.5 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

WOMEN MEN	2 x 6 km (W) 2 x 7.5 km (M) MIXED RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag W, W, M, M	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2 km - 2 and 4 km 2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	150 - 250 m 200 - 300 m
WOMEN	15 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	3 km - 3, 6, 9, 12 km	400 - 600 m
	7.5 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	10 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	12.5 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	350 - 500 m
	4 x 6 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2 km - 2 and 4 km	150 - 250 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S, (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

1 Class of Competitor	2 Course Length and Competition Type	3 Standard Start Types and Intervals	4 Ski Loops	5 Shooting Bouts and Shot Penalty 5 Rounds per Bout except Relay	6 Distance between and Location of Shooting Bouts	7 Total Climb
JUNIOR MEN	15 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	3 km - 3, 6, 9, 12 km	400 - 500 m
	10 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	3.3 km - between 3 and 7 km	300 - 450 m
	12.5 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	350 - 500 m
	12.5 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	350 - 500 m
	4 x 7.5 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

JUNIOR WOMEN	12.5 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	400 - 600 m
	7.5 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	10 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	10 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	3 x 6 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2 km - 2 and 4 km	150 - 240 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

Notes to Table 1 Height Difference [hd]: the maximum permitted difference in altitude between the highest and lowest points on the competition course is to be 80 m for all competitions. Maximum climb (mc): the maximum permitted height difference of an ascent without either a flat part or a descent of at least 200 m in length is to be 75 m for all competitions.

1 Class of Competitor	2 Course Length and Competition Type	3 Standard Start Types and Intervals	4 Ski Loops	5 Shooting Bouts and Shot Penalty 5 Rounds per Bout except Relay	6 Distance between and Location of Shooting Bouts	7 Total Climb
YOUTH MEN						
	12.5 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	2.5 km - 2.5, 5, 7.5, 10 km	350 - 500 m
	7.5 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	10 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	10 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2.5 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	3 x 7.5 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2.5 km - 2.5 and 5 km	200 - 300 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

YOUTH WOMEN	10 km INDIVIDUAL	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	5	P, S, P, S - 1 minute	2 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	6 km SPRINT	Single, 30 sec, 1 minute	3	P, S - 150 m	2 km - 2 and 4 km	150 - 250 m
	10 km PURSUIT	Pursuit	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	2 km - 2, 4, 6, 8 km	200 - 400 m
	7,5 km MASS START	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S - 150 m	1,5 km - 1,5, 3, 4, 5, 6 km	200 - 300 m
	3 x 6 km RELAY	Simultaneous and Tag	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - 150 m	2 km - 2 and 4 km	150 - 250 m
	2.4 - 3.6 km SUPER SPRINT QUALIFICATION	Single, 15 sec	3	P, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 2400 m	45 - 75 m
	4 - 6 km SUPER SPRINT FINAL	Simultaneous	5	P, P, S, S (each) + 3 Spare Rounds per Bout - Penalty = Disqualification	800 m - 4800 m	60 - 125 m

Column 1: Class of Competitor; according to these Rules. **Column 2:** Course Length and Type of Competition; according to these Rules. **Column 3:** Start Types and Intervals; the method by which the start is made and the interval between the starts of two consecutive competitors. **Column 4:** Number of Ski Loops; course rounds to be skied by the competitor. **Column 5:** Shooting Bouts and Shot Penalties; the number of shooting bouts the competitor must do and the shooting position to be used in the bout. (P = Prone, S = Standing), the number of rounds the competitor must fire in each bout, and the automatic shot-penalty - 1 minute of added time or a 150 m penalty loop - imposed on a competitor for each target left standing after all rounds for the bout have been fired. **Column 6:** Distance Between and Location of Shooting Bouts; the minimum distance between successive shooting bouts in the competition and the ski distances after which shooting must occur. **Column 7:** Total Climb (tc); the total vertical ascent in the competition (the sum of all the ascents) for each competitor.

1.3.9 Specifications for Super Sprint

Super Sprint shall consist of a Qualification and a Final competition, which will take place on the same day.

1.3.10 Modifications and Other Types of Competitions

The IBU shall hold the right to modify existing competitions and to introduce new types of competitions into IBU events.

1.3.11 Event Programs

The schedule, sequence and types of IBU competitions for events shall be set by the IBU EB, on the recommendation of the TC.

1.3.12 Annual Schedule of Events

IBU events will be held annually as stated in the event rules or as directed by the EB. The yearly schedules will be published in the IBU Biathlon Calendar. NFs are requested to provide their national major events and proposals for international competitions to the IBU Secretary General for publication in the IBU Biathlon Calendar not later than 30 July of each year.

1.4 ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR COMPETITORS AND TEAMS**1.4.1 General**

Only those competitors who comply with the following IBU regulations shall be eligible to take part in Biathlon events and competitions organized by an IBU Member Federation. In order to be eligible to participate in an IBU event, Biathletes and team staff must sign the IBU Declaration for Obligations and the Court of Arbitration Declaration and the Declaration to fight doping in sport, which shall signify agreement to abide by and follow all IBU rules and policies. These Declarations must be signed prior to starting in the first IBU competition in which a Biathlete or staff member takes part. In addition, a copy of the passport must be attached. Each signed Declaration will remain in effect until terminated by either party.

1.4.2 A competitor must comply with Rule 45 and the By-Law to Rule 45 of the IOC Charter.

1.4.3 Competitor's Responsibility

A competitor may participate in an IBU event or competition only with material, equipment, clothing and advertising that are in accordance with the IBU Material Catalogue. It is the competitor's responsibility to

ensure that all rules regarding material and advertising are followed and that he undergoes material, equipment and clothing inspections before the start and after the finish. All competitors participating in IBU competitions are requested to certify their gender by their national passport.

1.4.4 Qualification Criteria

1.4.4.1 Olympic Winter Games

To gain the right to participate in OWG events, a competitor must fulfill one of the following criteria during the current or previous season:

- a. Two results at IBU Cup, OECH U 26 , WCH or WC in the Sprint or Individual that is max. 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, or
- b. Two placings in the top half at the JWCH (not Youth), or One result from each of the criteria a. and b. above.

All members of Relay teams must also have met this individual qualification requirement.

1.4.4.2 World Championships

To gain the right to participate in WCH events, a competitor must fulfill one of the following criteria during the current or previous season:

- a. One result at an IBU Cup, OECH U 26 , WC or OWG in the Sprint or Individual that is max. 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, or
- b. One placing in the top half at the JWCH (not Youth).

All members of Relay teams must also have met this individual qualification requirement.

1.4.4.3 World Cup

The World Cup season consists of three trimesters generally made up of three WC events each, usually WC 1-3, WC 4-6 and WC 7-9. To gain the right to participate in WC events, a competitor must fulfill one of the following criteria during the current or preceding trimester:

- a. One result at an IBU Cup, OECH U 26, WCH or OWG in the Sprint or Individual that is max. 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, or
- b. One placing in the top half at the JWCH (not Youth).

All members of Relay teams must also have met this individual qualification requirement.

The qualification criteria achieved at the IBU Cup/OECH U 26, WCH or OWG for the WC are valid only for the trimester in which the competitor begins competing at the WC.

To retain the right to participate in the next WC trimester in which a competitor chooses to start, the competitor must achieve one result that is max. 20% behind the average time of the top three competitors, in the current WC trimester in a Sprint or Individual competition.

1.4.4.4 Force majeure/extraordinary circumstances

Competitors who are hindered in achieving WC qualification at the WC level due to force majeure and/or extraordinary circumstances may submit a petition to the RD for consideration by the competition jury at that event. A special committee consisting of three members, VP Sport, Race Director and the Chairman of the Technical Committee, will determine if the competitor's qualification is to remain valid for the next trimester in which the competitor starts.

1.5 REGISTRATION AND ENTRY

1.5.1 Notice of Intent to Participate at IBU Events

There are two separate forms of notification which must be given: registration and entry.

1.5.1.1 Registration and Replacements

Registration is the early notification of intent to participate. Numbers of Biathletes and team staff members that may be registered for an event are detailed in the event-specific rules. Registration for events must be done as follows:

a. WCH and Y/JWCH

For the WCH and Y/JWCH, the estimated number of Biathletes and team staff (registration by number) must be received by the OC two months before the beginning (first official training) of the WCH or Y/JWCH. At least 14 days before the official arrival day of the WCH or Y/JWCH, a list of the names and gender of the intended participants (registration by name) must be received from each NF by the OC. Registered participants may only be replaced before the first Team Captains Meeting. If the team arrives after the first Team Captains Meeting, replacements must be announced to the OC, and will become binding, on the arrival day.

b. WC Events

For WC events, the estimated number of Biathletes and team staff (registration by number) must be received by the OC one month before the beginning of the WC. A list of the names and gender of the intended participants (registration by name) must be received by the OC at least 14 days before the official arrival day of the WC. Replacements and changes to WC registrations may only be made before the first Team Captains Meeting. If the team arrives after the first Team Captains Meeting, replacements must be announced to the OC and will become binding on the arrival day.

c. OWG

Registration for the OWG must be in accordance with IOC instructions.

d. Other Events

Registration for all other IBU events shall be at least one month for registration by number and at least 14 days for registration by name. Replacements and changes to registrations may only be made before the first Team Captains Meeting. If the team arrives after the first Team Captains Meeting, replacements must be announced to the OC and will become binding on the arrival day.

e. Accommodation reservation:

Preliminary accommodation reservations must be submitted to the OC two months before the official arrival day of the WCH/YJWCH, and for all other IBU competitions one month before. Final accommodation reservation must be submitted 14 days before the official arrival day.

f. OCs' general obligation:

OCs must present the registration list to the RD/Ass RD at least the day before the first Team Captains Meeting for inspection.

- 1.5.1.2** By sending a registration, a NF confirms and tacitly guarantees that all members of the team are covered by accident and liability insurance and that the athletes of the team are medically fit to compete.

1.5.2 Entry

Entry is the notification of an Athlete or team being entered to start in a specific competition and must be submitted in writing at least two hours before the draw for the Individual, Sprint and Super Sprint Qualification

competitions at all IBU events. Entry for team participation in the Relay and Mixed Relay competition at all IBU events must be made not later than two hours before the Team Captains Meeting for the competition or the draw, if one takes place. At OWG, WCH and WC, NFs must announce their intention to enter a Relay team by 12:00 hours on the day before the Relay competition. Names of Relay competitors in start order must be submitted by 16:00 hrs on the day before the relay. In extraordinary circumstances or if competitions are held in the evening, the deadline for submitting the registration of participants will be determined by the RD/Asst. RD/TD. Entries for the Pursuit competition are not required as all competitors who qualify for the Pursuit in the qualifying competition are assumed to be entered. Names of qualified Athletes who will not start in the Pursuit competition shall be reported to the competition office as soon as possible and at least two hours before the start. Entries for the Mass Start competition are not required as qualification is based on current WC Total Score and at WCH on previous competitions. Names of qualified Athletes who will not start in the Mass Start competition shall be reported to the competition office as soon as possible and at least two hours before the start. The number of competitors that may be entered for a competition are stated in the event rules. Entries for the Super Sprint (Qualification and Final) competition shall be based on an invitation from the OC. The OC, together with the IBU, will define the system of qualification. The OC must provide a current weather forecast 30 minutes before the entry deadline so that the teams will have the latest information for preparing entries.

1.5.3 Registration Procedures

Registration must be sent in writing, by post, fax, email or via the online registration system, to the address indicated in the invitation before the deadline. For all IBU events, registration must be made by the NF. For the OWG, IOC regulations apply.

1.5.4 Late Entries

- The Race Director (RD)/Asst. Race Director/Technical Delegate (TD) may approve a late entry due to extraordinary circumstances before the draw.
- The Competition Jury may approve a late entry due to force majeure after the draw. The Competition Jury will direct in which position(s)

the late competitor(s) will start. A separate draw may be used for this purpose.

1.5.5 Replacement of Entry - Force Majeure

If an entered competitor cannot start due to force majeure, another registered competitor may take his place, but not later than 30 minutes before the listed start time of the entered competitor for Individual and Sprint competitions. In Relay competitions, competitors may be replaced as follows: first leg – 30 minutes before simultaneous start; second – before simultaneous start; third – before the first hand-over; and, fourth – before the second handover. In the case of such a replacement, a valid reason preventing the start must be presented to the Competition Jury not later than 30 minutes before the listed start time in question or before the deadlines specified for the Relay.

1.6 DRAW AND ASSIGNMENT OF START NUMBERS

1.6.1 General

Competitors or teams will be randomly selected from the entries for the competition, by manual or computer draw, and will be assigned their start numbers based on that draw unless other rules regulate that competition.

1.6.1.1 The method of the draw must be approved by the RD/Asst. RD/TD.

1.6.2 Time of Draws

The draw for any competition must be held not earlier than 24 hours before and not later than 15 hours before the start of the competition. However, in events at which a draw is required for the Mass Start or Relay competitions, the draw for the Mass Start and Relay competitions may be held at the Team Captains Meeting for the competition which will precede the respective Mass Start or Relay competition in the event program. If the Competition Jury decides to repeat a competition or to postpone a competition, they will also decide whether a new draw must be made.

1.6.3 Place of Draws

Draws must be held during and at the place of the Team Captains Meetings, and must be visible to all Team Captains; however, the RD/Asst. RD/TD may approve for a draw to be held outside of the Team Captains

Meeting, if it is necessary due to event circumstances. Such outside draws must be supervised by at least two Competition Jury members.

1.6.3.1 Normal Assignment of Competitors into Draw Groups

When submitting their entries, Team Captains must assign one competitor to each of the draw groups. If a team consists of fewer competitors than the number of draw groups, the team captain will decide in which groups he will place his competitors (one in each group chosen). If a team consists of more competitors than the number of draw groups, the extra competitors shall be added to the draw groups at the team captain's discretion, one to each group, repeating this procedure until all the team's competitors have been placed.

1.6.4 Normal Draw for Individual and Sprint Competitions

Generally, there are four start groups at all IBU competitions. The starting order shall be decided by randomly drawing the names of competitors from the draw groups into which they have been assigned by their Team Captains and by randomly drawing the start number for each competitor. The draw will be held separately for each group in this sequence: Group 1, Group 2, Group 3, Group 4. If the draw in the Individual or Sprint competition has 60 or less competitors, the draw will be done in 3 groups. If there are 40 or less than the draw will be done in 2 groups following the same principle as for the 4 draw groups.

1.6.4.1 Start group system for WC, WCH and OWG:

- a. At the WC, competitors must be entered in draw groups as described in 1.6.3.1 above. The top-10 ranked competitors from the current WC Total Score may be placed in any draw group. However, a NF may not place more than three competitors in one of the four draw groups. Additionally, those unranked competitors and/or those ranked outside the maximum of top 80 in the current World Cup Total Score may only be entered in draw groups three and four. For the First Trimester (December World Cups), the World Cup Total Score from the previous season is valid. For the World Cups FROM January ONWARD the current World Cup Total Score is valid. In the case of extraordinary weather conditions, the Jury may suspend the requirement for unranked competitors and competitors ranked outside the maximum of top 80 to start in groups three and four. This decision shall be announced at least two hours prior to the entry deadline for the respec-

tive competition.

- b. At the OWG and WCH, competitors must be entered in draw groups as described in 1.6.3.1 above. The top-10 ranked competitors from the current WC Total Score may be placed in any draw group. However, a NF may not place more than two competitors in one of the four draw groups, including the current World Champion.

1.6.4.2 Draw for Group Starts in Sprint and Individual Competitions

At international competitions other than the OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH and WC competitions, the start for the Sprint and Individual competitions may be individual or in groups. If the start is held in groups, the draw groups shall be divided into start groups. The number of competitors in the start groups shall depend on the conditions at the competition venue and on the total number of competitors. Otherwise the draw shall be the same as for single starts. For a group start, the numbers drawn shall determine the competitors' positions at the start.

1.6.4.3 Assignment of Start Numbers and Start Times in the Pursuit Competition

No draw shall be conducted for the Pursuit competition. Competitors shall be assigned start numbers and times based on the results of the qualifying competition, which may be the Individual, Sprint or Mass Start competition as stated in the invitation. Competitors in the Pursuit will start in the same order in which they finished the qualifying competition: the winner of the qualifying competition will start first with start number 1, the second place of the qualifying competition will start second with start number 2, and so on. The winner of the qualifying competition will have a start time of zero (0) which will be shown on the start list as the clock time for the start of the Pursuit competition. The remaining competitors in the Pursuit competition will have as their start time the actual time by which they were behind the winner in the Sprint or Mass Start competition or - in the Individual - one half of the time behind the winner, expressed in time behind to the nearest full second. Start lists shall be produced based on the foregoing and must show the start lane assigned to each competitor. If there is a tie for place 60 in the qualifying competition, both of the tied competitors shall be allowed to start in the Pursuit. In Y/JWCH, CCH and CC Pursuit competitions, all competitors whose start times are more

than five minutes after the start time of the leader will be started simultaneously at five minutes after the first start, but their actual competition times will show their times calculated from their actual start times from the qualifying competition.

1.6.4.4 Assignment of Start Numbers and Start Positions

Mass Start Competition

A provisional start list shall be made within two hours after the last qualifying competition. The start list will be finalized two hours before the start, by which time Team Captains must have confirmed their start-ers. Start numbers at WCH and WC events shall be assigned according to the applicable event rules. At all other events, if no appropriate ranking list is in force, a single random draw shall be used to assign the start numbers for all competitors, who shall not number more than the number of targets available. The start number shall designate the start position for each competitor at that competition.

1.6.5 Assignment of Start Numbers for Relay Competitions

1.6.5.1 Method of Assigning Relay Start Numbers

At OWG, WCH and WC events, no draw will be made for the Relay, and start numbers will be assigned based on the current standings in the WC Relay Score – with the top ranking team receiving number 1, the second number 2, and so on. If a team or number is missing, all teams below it will move upward in number. In the first WC of the season, the final standing of the previous year's Relay Score will be used to set the start numbers. At Y/JWCH and CCH, the previous year's Y/JWCH or CCH Relay results ranking will be used to set the start numbers in the same manner as above. For all unranked NFs, a single random draw will be used. For CC events, a single random draw will be used. The assigned Relay start number shall also be each team's start position for the simultaneous start and the shooting lane number on the range for the first bout of shooting only.

1.6.5.2 Placement of Competitors in Relay Start Positions

Start positions will be numbered from left to right, facing the direction of the start. Number 1 will be the left position and the highest number of the front row will be the right position. The lowest number in the second row will be placed behind number 1 and the next consecutive number behind number 2, and so on.

1.6.5.3 Extra Relay Teams

Extra Relay teams shall not be permitted at OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH or WC competitions. At other events, extra Relay teams shall be permitted; however, they must start in rows behind the official teams and will not be awarded official prizes. Extra teams may consist of members from more than one NF.

1.6.5.4 Mixed Relay Teams – World Cup

No draw will be made for the Mixed Relay and start numbers will be assigned based on the sum of the NF's current Nations Cup Score for Men and Women – with the start numbers assigned in rank order. If a team or number is missing, all teams below it will move upward in number correspondingly. The assigned Relay start number shall be each team's start position for the simultaneous start and the shooting lane number on the range for the first bout of shooting only.

1.7 TEAM CAPTAINS MEETINGS**1.7.1 General**

At each Biathlon event, meetings must be held for the Team Captains to elect the Juries, conduct draws and to pass on information about the event and the competitions. The first meeting must be held at the latest on the day before the first day of Official Training in order to elect the Jury of Appeal and the Competition Jury. In regard to further meetings at the event, the dates and times will be dictated by the time required to conduct the draws. The Competition Chief shall chair the meetings.

1.7.2 Attendance at Team Captains Meetings

The following persons shall, if at all possible, attend the Team Captains Meetings:

- the official IBU EB representative;
- the RD/Ass. RD/TD(s) and IRs;
- Competition and Appeal Jury members;
- at least one representative from each participating team;
- the Competition Chief;
- the Chiefs of Range, Course, Timing and Results, Stadium, Logistics, and the Competition Secretary or their representatives;
- the necessary meeting support staff and interpreters, if required.

1.7.3 Team Captains Meeting Agenda

The agenda for a Team Captains Meeting must include the following items, as appropriate:

- Call to order;
- Roll call of nations (or teams);
- Election of the Jury of Appeal and Competition Juries (first meeting)
- Draw(s);
- Technical briefing for the next competition(s);
- RD/Ass. RD and/or TD's comments;
- Weather forecast;
- Miscellaneous;
- Adjournment.

1.7.4 Start lists and start numbers for the Individual and Sprint Competitions

should be issued to the teams at the end of the meeting.

1.8 PROHIBITIONS AND SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPETING PERSONS**1.8.1 General**

Unfair assistance or assistance not allowed by these Rules to competitors during a competition is prohibited.

1.8.2 Specific Prohibitions**1.8.2.1 On the Shooting Range**

It is forbidden for any person to give competitors any acoustic or visual information or advice, or to pass on any information to competitors by way of radio or any other communication method on the range including 10 m to the left and right of the range. The forbidden area at the shooting range will be marked by clearly visible markings, including 10 m from the left and right shooting lanes. It is forbidden to pass any information from the shooting butts to the coaches and/or competitors during zeroing and/or the competition. These prohibitions shall not apply to the general expressions of applause or disappointment by the spectators.

1.8.2.2 On the Course

Pacing - running or skiing in front, beside or behind competitors - is forbidden. It is permitted to run without skis up to 50 m beside competitors to give competition information or to offer beverages. It is forbidden to touch competitors in such a way as to assist their propulsion or

to obstruct other competitors. Assistance to competitors to change the glide performance of their skis is prohibited during the competition. In the area 100 m before and to 100 m after the range, in the handover zone and in the last 100 m before the finish, running beside competitors is forbidden.

1.8.3 Sanctions

Spectators and other persons must be clearly informed of these rules by the official announcer before the beginning of the competition and warned that a violation of these rules, or any behavior that disrupts the event may lead to spectators and other persons being removed from the venue by the Organizing Committee.

1.9 Awards

IBU medals will only be given for competitions where three or more competitors or Relay Teams are competing.

2. ORGANIZATION BODIES AND APPOINTMENTS

2.1 GENERAL

The following organizations and persons shall be established, elected or appointed for the preparation, conduct and control of Biathlon events and competitions:

- Organizing Committee;
- Jury of Appeal;
- Competition Juries for Men and Women;
- RD/Ass. RD/TD(s) and IRs;
- IBU EB Representative (if applicable);
- IBU Medical Delegate (if applicable).

2.2 THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The right to host an event or competition shall be awarded to a NF as host of the event. The NF must establish an Organizing Committee to prepare and conduct the event or competition by these Rules and the applicable event rules, and it shall follow the directives provided in the Organizers' Guide about all aspects of hosting an event. In order to be eligible to host an IBU event or competition, a NF must present a site

holding a valid IBU site license for the facility for the appropriate event.

2.2.1 Information Bulletins and Invitations

The OC of an IBU event must send the information bulletins and/or the invitation for the event to all IBU NFs as stipulated in the event rules, on the required dates by post, fax or email. The contents of invitations and bulletins are provided in the Organizers' Guide. The information bulletins and invitations must be approved by the RD/Asst RD/TD.

2.3 THE COMPETITION JURY

2.3.1 General

A Competition Jury shall be established for all Biathlon events to act as the authority on all matters related to the event that are not specifically designated to be under the jurisdiction of other IBU Organs. The Competition Jury shall be established and operate in accordance with these Rules. Generally, a separate Competition Jury shall be established for Men's and Women's competitions. However, at certain events, in particular at Y/JWCH, CCH, CC and Mixed Relay WCHs, the TD may also form a joint Competition Jury (e.g. Youth Men and Youth Women; Men/Youth and Junior, Women/Youth and Junior). The Competition Jury will make decisions about the event, competitions and related arrangements and conditions to ensure fairness and correct procedures. The Competition Jury shall impose penalties for rule violations reported by the RD/Asst. RD/TDs, IRs, competition officials and Competition Jury members, and penalties and disciplinary measures on its own part. Additionally, the Competition Jury shall award time adjustments and is to rule on competition situations not stipulated in these Rules or other authoritative IBU publications. The Competition Jury shall also review and decide on all protests submitted to it. The procedures of the Competition Jury shall be governed by the IBU Disciplinary Rules.

2.3.1.1 Time of Election

The Competition Juries to be established for an event must be elected at the latest on the day before the first Official Training. The Competition Juries shall remain competent throughout the event; however, changes of elected members may be made by election for pressing reasons.

2.3.1.2 Chair

The chairperson of the Competition Jury shall be the TD.

2.3.2 Competition Jury Composition

At all IBU events the Competition Jury shall consist of six members as follows:

- a. the IBU TD as chairperson;
- b. the RD or Asst. RD without the right to vote;
- c. the Assistant IBU TD at OWG;
- d. the Competition Chief;
- e. three (or two at OWG) team officials elected by the Team Captains.

2.3.2.1 Only one person from a NF may be a member of a Competition Jury at the OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, ECH and EC competitions.

2.3.2.2 At other international competitions, the composition of the Competition Jury shall be agreed upon by the OC and the Team Captains of the participating Federations or regional organizations.

2.3.3 Election of Competition Jury Members

Election of the Competition Juries shall be conducted by the TD during the Team Captains' meeting. Nominations of candidates may be made by the TD or Team Captains. If there are the same number of candidates as open Competition Jury positions, no vote will be necessary and the candidates shall become Competition Jury members by acclamation. If there are more candidates than open Competition Jury positions, a vote must be taken from the Team Captains. Only one vote per NF will be allowed. A simple majority will elect a Competition Jury member. If no simple majority is obtained by any candidate, the person with the least votes will be removed as a candidate and the vote will be repeated for the remaining candidates until the Competition Jury members have been elected.

2.3.4 Competition Jury Meetings and Decisions

The Competition Jury must be able to assemble within a minimum of time whenever a meeting is required, as directed by the Competition Jury Chairperson, and must remain readily available for Competition Jury duties for 15 minutes after the Provisional Results have been published. Specific meeting times are detailed in Annex B to these rules. Decisions of the Competition Jury shall normally be made with all members present. However, in exceptional cases the Competition Jury shall be competent to pass a resolution if at least three members are present.

The Competition Jury Chair shall only vote in case of a tie vote. Decisions shall be made by each member voting on the issue and a simple majority shall decide.

2.3.5 Tasks of the Competition Jury

A detailed list of tasks of the Competition Jury is given in Annex B to these Rules.

2.3.6 Appeals Against Competition Jury Decisions

An appeal may be made against penalties and disciplinary measures imposed by the Competition Jury. The appeal must be made to the Jury of Appeal established for the event concerned, and be put forward in accordance with the IBU Disciplinary Rules.

2.4 RACE DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT RACE DIRECTOR

2.4.1 The Race Director is an official appointed by the IBU. The RD represents the IBU in all matters having to do with the conduct of the following events: WC, WCH, Y/JWCH and OWG.

The Assistant Race Director is an official appointed by the IBU. The Asst. RD represents the IBU in all matters having to do with the conduct of the following events: IBU Cups, and OEC U26 and all summer biathlon events. In addition, the RD/Asst. RD are to act together with the TD as advisors for the OC. OCs shall follow the directions of the RD or Asst. RD in accordance with these Rules.

2.4.2 If the appointed official representative of the IBU Executive Board is not present, another member of the Executive Board, the RD/Asst. RD or the TD may perform their function.

2.4.3 The RD/Asst. RD shall conduct the necessary inspections and meetings with the OC to ensure proper preparations, or delegate this responsibility to the TD.

2.5 TECHNICAL DELEGATES

2.5.1 General Regulations

TDs shall be appointed by the IBU TC and shall work under the guidance of the RD/Asst. RD. In the absence of the RD/Asst. RD, the TD shall assume the RD's/Asst. RD's duties.

2.5.2 Appointment of TDs

TDs shall be appointed by the IBU TC from among its members or from the TD group at least three years prior to OWG, two years prior to WCH and in the season before for all other IBU events, and may not be from the host NF. Two TDs shall be appointed for the OWG, one as an assistant TD. For all other events, one TD shall be appointed. TDs for CC events may be from the host NF, except for ECs.

2.5.2.1 The TD shall be Chairperson of the Competition Jury or Juries for the event for which he has been appointed. At OWG, the assistant TD shall be a member of both the Men's and Women's Competition Juries.

2.5.2.2 A TD's function shall be valid only for the event for which he has been appointed.

2.5.3 Tasks and Duties of TDs

The TD must arrive at the event site in sufficient time before the event and must perform all the necessary functions required by these Rules and the circumstances at the venue before, during and after the event. The TD shall be responsible for directing the IRs during the event. Detailed tasks and duties of TDs are given in Annex B to these Rules.

2.5.4 TD Expenses

OCs of IBU events and competitions are responsible for paying the TDs' travel, accommodation and meal expenses for the period of the TDs' duty, and daily allowance as stipulated by the IBU regulations in force at the time.

2.6 INTERNATIONAL REFEREES**2.6.1 General Regulations**

IRs are persons who are appointed by the IBU TC to officiate at IBU events. They are responsible for the correct performance of duties and tasks related to their area of responsibility, in cooperation with the Competition Committee. In addition, IRs shall be required to direct, advise and assist other competition officials in their duties, and to intervene to prevent mistakes from being made. The IRs at an event shall be subordinate to the TD, report to him on the performance of their duties and must follow his directions.

2.6.2 Appointment of IRs

IRs appointed by the TC for the OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, and OEC U26 must hold a valid TD license. IRs for other events may be appointed by the respective NF or OC and must hold a valid IR license. At IBU Cup events, one of them must hold a valid TD license. In order to serve as an IR in another nation, the person must have held a valid IR license for at least four years; however, exceptions may be permitted by the TC. At OWG, WCH and Y/JWCH, all appointed IRs must be from outside the host nation. For WC and OEC U26 events, the IRs Range, Start/Finish, Course and Material Inspection must be from outside the host nation and must be members of the TD group. At the IBU Cup, the Material Inspection IR may not be from the host nation. At CCH and CC all IRs may be from the host nation.

2.6.2.1 At OWG, WCH and the first WC event of the season, the IR for Material Inspection should be a member of the TC Material Sub-Committee.

2.6.3 IR Functions at Competitions

The functional areas where IRs will be employed at competitions will be:

- start/finish;
- shooting range;
- course;
- Material Inspection.

2.6.4 Numbers of IRs for Events

The following numbers of IRs shall be appointed for events:

- a. OWG 8
- b. WCH 4
- c. Y/JWCH 4
- d. WC 4
- e. IBU Cup 4
- f. OEC U 26 4
- g. CCH 4
- h. CC 4

2.6.5 IR Tasks and Duties

Detailed tasks and duties of IRs are given in Annex B to these Rules.

2.6.6 IR Expenses

OCs of events and competitions shall be responsible for paying the IRs' travel, accommodation and meal expenses and daily allowance as stipulated by the IBU regulations in force at the time for the period of the IRs' employment.

3. COMPETITION VENUES AND FACILITIES

3.1 GENERAL

The competition venue is the site on which Biathlon competitions and training are conducted, and consists of the stadium area and the course. Located in the stadium area are the start/finish areas, shooting range, penalty loop, Relay hand-over zone, ski test area, team wax huts, team lounge, athlete changing area, spectator areas and parking spaces, as well as the buildings and offices necessary for the OC. The venue must be technically suitable, according to these Rules, to allow all the types of Biathlon competitions to be held, and must offer the best possible viewing of the competitions to spectators, and fulfill all the requirements of TV coverage. Venues that are candidates for hosting the WCH and WC must have an IBU A license, and for Y/JWCH, OEC U26 and IBU Cup events must have an IBU B license. Venues for OWG must acquire an IBU A license.

3.1.1 General Requirements

The start and finish areas, shooting range, penalty loop and Relay hand-over zone shall be located on level ground and close together, so as to provide good viewing of competition activities for the majority of the spectators. These areas and critical parts of the course must be fenced off in order to prevent competitors from being impeded or going astray, and to prevent access by unauthorized persons. However, the height and extent of the fencing must be minimized as much as possible to avoid interference with TV coverage. There must be sufficient space for competitors and competition officials to conduct their required activities and adequate room for team support staff, press, photographers and spectators, and enough space for TV camera crews and their broadcasting facilities without the broadcasting interfering with the competition.

Diagrams of examples of facility lay-outs are given in the Organizers' Guide.

3.1.1.1 Maximum Distance

The competition venue must be no more than 30 km or 30 minutes travel from the teams' living accommodations, unless otherwise approved by the IBU EB.

3.1.1.2 Competition Office

A Competition Office or sub-office must be located in or near the stadium area. The office shall be open during regular hours during the entire event, beginning on the arrival day, and will be the official interface between teams and the Organizing Committee. Teams must be able to submit entries for competitions at the office and information about the event and competitions must be available in the office. A mailbox for each participating team must be provided in the office or close to it.

3.1.1.3 Electronic Information Board

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH and WC there must be an electronic information board with at least six lines, in the stadium area, in a location as approved in the licensing process or by the RD/Asst. RD.

3.1.2 Artificial Lighting

IBU competitions may be held under artificial lighting when approved by the EB or TC as part of a given program. Under exceptional circumstances, the Competition Jury may authorize that a competition be held under artificial lights. In any case, the lighting must meet the following standards:

- Lighting conditions must be the same for all competitors;
- There must not be any danger for anyone involved caused by the lighting;
- If TV is involved, the light conditions must satisfy TV requirements.

3.2 START AND WARM-UP AREAS

3.2.1 General

The start area for all competitions must be level with the snow well packed and smoothly groomed, and should be visible to spectators. The start line shall be placed at right angles to the skiing direction and will be marked with a red line sunken into the snow. The area must be well fenced-off and must be suitable to cope with the traffic flow of competi-

tors, team support staff and officials without problems. There must be a warm-up area immediately adjacent to the start zone for competitors to perform their final, pre-competition warm-up, with enough room to store warm-up clothing, and space for an adequate number of rifle racks, as directed by the RD/Asst. RD.

3.2.2 Individual and Sprint Competition Start Areas

The start area for Individual and Sprint competitions must be approximately 8 - 10 m long and a minimum of 2 m wide and must be separated from the warm-up area by a fence with an opening to allow controlled access to the area.

3.2.3 Pursuit Competition Start Area

The start area for the Pursuit Competition must have a minimum of three start lanes. and the actual number of start lanes will be determined by the number of simultaneous starts in the start list - if there are four starts in the same second, then there must be four start lanes, etc. The start lanes must be 1.5 - 2 m wide and sufficiently long to hold the required number of competitors. A common start line must cross the end of the start lanes. The lanes must be immediately parallel to each other and must be clearly separated. There must be a separate passage or lane which allows access across the start line in the case of late starts. This lane must be supervised by a start official with a stopwatch synchronized to the competition time.

3.2.3.1 Pursuit Start Boards

Separate boards, showing the start numbers and start times for each lane in large print easily readable by competitors and officials, must be positioned in front of the applicable start lanes and at the start line.

3.2.4 Relay, Group and Mass Start Competition Start Area

The start area must be laid out in such a way that all the competitors will be required to ski the same distance until they reach the common course. A minimum of ten straight, parallel sets of tracks, with a minimum of 1.2 m between each set of tracks (measured from center to center), must be set for a minimum of 35 m from the start line. The number of start tracks will depend on the space available and the number of Relay teams entered, with the objective of having the fewest possible start rows. If there is more than one start row, the distance between rows must be 5 m.

The end of the parallel tracks must be clearly marked. After the first parallel-tracked section there must be a further 50 m of straight, level and smoothly groomed, trackless, gradually converging area that leads to the competition course.

3.2.4.1 Start Position Boards - Relay, Group and Mass Start competition

The start positions must be marked with numbers. There must be the same number of boards as the number of starters in the competition. The size of the board must be 20 x 20 cm. The number boards are to be placed on the left of each position and the number must be readable from the front and the rear. The numbers on the boards must be at least 10 cm high and must be highly visible to the competitors and TV.

3.2.5 Course Information Boards

There must be a board at the entrance to the start area on which the course map shows the color sequence for the competition.

3.2.6 Start Clocks

At the start area for Individual and Sprint competitions, there must be a start clock placed so that it is easily readable from the start line. The display of the clock and the sound signal must be synchronized. For the Pursuit competitions, there must be a start clock for each start lane. As well, in or near the start area there must be a clock displaying the correct time of day, which must be easily visible to competitors in the area.

3.2.7 Equipment/Material Inspection Prior to Start

The equipment/material inspection prior to the start must be located in close proximity to the start area. Its placement and design must facilitate the smooth, orderly and timely flow of competitors through to the start. The inspection station must have tables and the required equipment and materials to perform the checks.

3.3 COURSE AND ASSOCIATED SECTIONS

3.3.1 General

The course is the network of ski trails to be used for the competition. It shall consist of continuously changing flats, climbs and downhill sections. Extremely long and difficult climbs, dangerous descents and monotonous flats are not permitted. Changes in direction of the course must not occur so frequently that a competitor's ski rhythm is

seriously disturbed. Detailed course specifications are given under 1.3.8 in Table 1.

3.3.1.1 TV Zones

Zones for TV coverage of the competitions will be established on the course by the RD/Asst. RD responsible for the event. The primary purpose of the zones shall be to ensure the best possible coverage of the competition and in particular to prevent obstruction of the TV image by non-competing persons.

3.3.2 Altitude, Width, Gradient and Length

The maximum altitude of any part of the course may not be higher than 1800 m above sea level, unless an exception is specifically authorized by the IBU EB in necessary circumstances. For all IBU events, the course must have a minimum width of 6 m of groomed snow surface. In places like difficult climbs, the uphill gradient of the course may not exceed 30% and if required the trail must be even wider. If narrower sections such as bridges or mountain passes are unavoidable, the narrow parts may not be less than 4 m wide or longer than 50 m. The actual length of the course may not differ by more than 5 % from the length specified for the competition.

3.3.3 Setting of Tracks

If required, tracks will also be laid in downhill sections as directed by the RD/Asst. RD. Tracks must not be set in such a way or in places where they may endanger or hinder competitors. The width and depth of tracks must be set so that all regular types of boots and bindings can be used without side friction.

3.3.4 Safety

The course must be prepared so that a competitor may ski it at full speed without undue risk of an accident.

3.3.5 Grooming

The course must be as level as possible, solidly packed and smoothly groomed. Downhill turns must be banked as necessary. All types of hindrances and obstacles must be cleared from the course, such as stumps, branches, stones and soil. Overhanging or protruding branches must be trimmed so that they do not obstruct or endanger competitors.

3.3.6 Marking

The course must be so clearly marked and defined so that at no time a competitor is in doubt how to follow the course. This applies especially to descents and other critical points. Clear markings must be placed at such points. At 100 m from the finish line there must be a sign board indicating "Finish - 100 m".

3.3.6.1 Course Sequence Colors

The course must be uniformly marked on the most visible side in the ski direction by colored sign boards. The 1.5 km course must be marked orange, the 2 km course must be marked red, the 2.5 km course green, the 3 km course yellow, the 3.3 km course blue and the 4 km course brown. Junctions must be clearly marked with course colors.

3.3.7 Fencing

All trails that will not be used in the competition must be closed. Trails close to each other must be separated by fences or V-boards so that competitors cannot go on the wrong trail.

3.3.8 Forerunners

Immediately before the start of the competition the entire course must be skied before the first competitor's start by the course crew. While on the course, they will clear it and correct the markings, if required. The RD/Asst. RD, TD and IR will decide whether to use forerunners or not.

3.3.9 Course Specifications for Competitions

Table 1 under 1.3.8. details the required technical specifications for courses for each type of competition.

3.3.10 Relay Hand-over Zone

In Relay competitions there must be a well-marked hand-over zone, 30 m long and 8 m wide, at the end of a straight trail section placed in such a way that incoming competitors will arrive at a controlled speed. The last 50 m of the trail before the zone must be at least 8 m wide. The hand-over zone must begin at the timing line or at least close to it. The beginning and end of the zone must be marked with a red line and with a sign at the beginning: "Hand-over zone". The zone must be fenced along both sides, with one access gate for controlled entry by starting competitors.

3.3.10.1 The last 50 m of the course before the hand-over zone must be straight. The hand-over zone may only be entered by the incoming and outgoing competitors and by the officials responsible for control of the hand-over zone. At 100 m before the hand-over zone there must be a sign board indicating "100 m".

3.3.11 The Penalty Loop

For the Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions, a penalty loop must be set up immediately after the shooting range – no further than 60 m skiing distance from the right edge of the range to the entrance of the penalty loop. The loop should be an oval trail which is 5 m wide and 150 m (plus or minus 5 m) long, measured along the inside perimeter of the loop. The penalty loop must be marked off with V-boards, set up so close together that competitors have no chance of mistaking the entrance/exit.

3.3.11.1 The penalty loop must be located in a level area in such a way that no additional distance between the course and the penalty loop has to be skied by the competitors when they have to enter the penalty loop.

3.3.12 Ski Test Area

At all IBU events, a ski glide test area must be set up on slightly sloping terrain in or near the stadium area, large enough to accommodate all participating teams, including sufficient space to accommodate the traffic flow ascending the slope. The glide test downhill slope should have a gradient of 8 to 12° and be a minimum of 30 m long. The test area must be prepared and groomed in the same way as the competition trails. In the ski test area there must be an information board on which the temperature of the air and the snow at the highest and lowest points of the course profile shall be shown and updated three hours prior to the first start and thereafter every 30 minutes until the last competitor has started.

3.3.13 Warm-up Course

For all IBU events there must be a separate course, in close proximity to the stadium and with easy access from the team huts, on which competitors can warm up. The course should be approximately 600 m long and must be prepared the same as the competition course but cannot be a part of the competition course. This warm-up course should also be in place for all other events.

3.4 SHOOTING RANGE

3.4.1 General

The shooting range is where all shooting takes place during a Biathlon competition. It must be located in the central area of the stadium and both the targets and the shooting ramp must be visible to the majority of spectators. The range must be flat and level and must be surrounded by adequate safety berms on the sides and behind the targets in accordance with the applicable national safety rules. The shooting range must be set up and placed with strict regard for safety in relation to the trails, stadium and the surrounding area. The shooting direction should be generally northward with consideration for the light conditions during competitions. Safety baffles which obstruct visibility of the competition to spectators or TV should be avoided if at all possible.

3.4.1.1 The shooting range must conform with all local laws.

3.4.2 Specifications and Configurations

3.4.2.1 Shooting Distance

The distance between the front edge of the shooting ramp (firing-line) and the line of targets must be 50 m +/- 1 m.

3.4.2.2 Prone and Standing

Looking in the shooting direction, the right half of the range shall be for shooting in the prone position and the left half for shooting in the standing position. The division must be clearly indicated to the competitors by sign boards. An exception to the right and left configuration is to be made during Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions, when competitors fire from all lanes in both prone and standing positions.

3.4.2.3 Entrance and Exit

During both training and competition, competitors must enter the range from the left and exit on the right side.

3.4.2.4 Levels

The surface of the shooting ramp and the surface on which the targets are situated must be as near the same level as possible. The shooting ramp and the surface on which the targets are placed must be at a higher level than the ground between them by at least 30 cm, and more if required by local snow conditions.

3.4.2.5 Space Configurations

At the rear of the range there must be a fenced off area of 10 to 12 m width (shooting ramp), measured back from the front edge of the firing line, and extending along the entire back of the range. The area is to be reserved for competitors, officials and members of the Juries. However, if authorized by the RD/Asst. RD, other persons such as TV camera crews may be allowed in this area. Directly behind that area there must be a second fenced area of at least 2 m width reserved for three team staff members per team. This area must be configured so that the team staff members have good visibility of the targets and the shooting ramp area. Behind the coaches area there must be an area 1.5 m wide, extending the width of the range, reserved primarily for the media.

3.4.3 The Shooting Ramp

The shooting ramp is the area at the rear of the range where the competitors lie or stand to fire. The ramp must be totally covered with snow, solidly packed, even, smoothly groomed and not icy, and the entire area used by competitors during the competition must be level.

3.4.3.1 Shooting Lanes

The shooting ramp is divided into shooting lanes from which one competitor at a time will shoot. Every shooting lane must be at least 2.7 m but not more than 3 m wide (the ideal is 2.75 m). The width of the lanes must be marked on both sides on the shooting ramp from its front edge for a distance of 1.5 m to the rear with a red-colored board sunken into the snow so that it is 2 cm below the snow surface. Both sides of each lane must be marked from the ramp to the targets with T-posts, in alternating colors matching the background color of the target numbers, which clearly define the lanes but do not interfere with shooting. There must be a distance of 3 m between the outer edge of the left and right lanes and the start of the safety berms they adjoin. This distance must be maintained from the ramp to the targets.

3.4.3.2 Shooting Mats

For shooting in both the prone and standing positions, mats must be placed at the front part of each shooting lane on the shooting ramp. For all IBU events, the mats must be 200 cm x 150 cm and 1 to 2 cm thick, and must be made of synthetic or natural fibers with a non-slip surface.

3.4.4 Targets

There are two main kinds of targets used for Biathlon - metal and paper. Only metal targets shall be used for competition and only paper targets shall be used for rifle zeroing. Both paper and metal targets may be used for training. Only targets which are in conformity with the IBU Material Catalogue (Annex A) may be used for IBU competitions. A shooting range for OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, OEC U26 and IBU Cup competitions must have at least 30 shooting lanes and targets. The targets used for OWG, WCH and WC must have a remote reset capability (without rope).

3.4.4.1 The same type of targets must be used for all competitors in one competition.

3.4.4.2 Target Maintenance

Targets must be maintained, set and adjusted according to the manufacturer's instructions.

3.4.4.3 Target Placement

The targets must be set up in a level straight line, parallel to the front edge of the shooting ramp. They must be level in all directions. The targets must be placed so that the target is in the middle of the width of the lane. The targets must not deviate sideways more than 1 degree from the right angle lines of their shooting lanes. The target center must be 80 to 100 cm higher than the surface of the shooting ramp.

3.4.4.4 Target Background

The background behind the targets must be white from the bottom of the target to 1m above the upper edge of the target.

3.4.5 Numbering and Markings

The shooting lanes and the corresponding targets must each have the same number, easily visible, and beginning from the right with number 1. At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH and WC competitions the shooting lanes must be numbered on the left and right side at the front edge of the shooting ramp. The numbers at the shooting ramp must be placed so that they do not obstruct TV coverage of the shooting competitors. They must be 20 cm high and the lines of the numbers 3 cm in width, mounted on a support post 1 cm thick and 40 cm high – measured from the snow surface to the bottom of the number plate. The overall size of the number sign is specified in the IBU Rules for Advertising. The size of the target

numbers shall be 40 cm high with a line width of 4 cm and they must be mounted immediately above the targets. Both the target and firing point number signs must be in alternating colors – black on yellow and yellow on black – starting at number 1 with black on yellow and matching the t-post lane markers.

3.4.5.1 Entrance and Exit Boundaries

At the entrance and exit of the range, 10 m outward from the left and right hand shooting lanes, there must be a clear marking. These markings shall indicate the outer edges of the information prohibition zone of the range.

3.4.6 Wind Flags

At competitions and official training, wind flags must be installed at the side of every second shooting lane beginning at the right side of lane 1, at 5 m from the shooting ramp and 20 m from the target. The flags must be placed so that the top edge of the flag is at the same level as the bottom edge of the targets and can not obstruct a direct line of sight to the targets.

3.4.7 Relay Cups

At each firing point there can be a cup for spare rounds placed 1 m above the ground. The cups must have rounded bottoms and must facilitate the easy picking-up of the spare rounds.

3.4.8 Rifle Racks

Suitably placed on the range in front of the team staff area, there must be racks for two reserve rifles for each participating team during competitions and an adequate number of these racks for during training and zeroing. The racks must be clearly marked with the names of the participating nations or teams. The racks may be used by teams during competition, training and zeroing. Outside the range there must be an adequate number of racks for training.

3.4.9 Video Cameras on Range

For OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH and WC competitions, video cameras must be installed on the shooting range in sufficient number so that the placement and number of cameras totally covers and records all actions of all competitors on the range.

3.5 FINISH AREA**3.5.1 General**

The finish zone begins on the competition trail at the finish line and ends at the finish equipment/material and clothing inspection point and must be at least 30 m long and 8 m wide without obstruction. The last 50 m before the finish line must be straight and 9 m wide divided into three equal lanes, with markers that do not interfere with skis. Only officials, finishing competitors and specially authorized TV personnel under supervision of the IR Start/Finish are permitted in the finish zone.

- 3.5.1.1** The finish line must be marked by a sunken red line in the snow at a right angle to the incoming trail and clearly visible to the competitors and broadcasters' cameras.

3.5.2 Finish Equipment/Material Inspection

The finish equipment/material inspection must be located so that finishing competitors flow into it automatically and can pass through it under supervision. This is particularly important for Relay competitions so that finished competitors do not obstruct the outgoing trail from the hand-over zone. The finish zone fencing and placement must be set up so that competitors are automatically led into, and have no way of evading, the finish equipment/material inspection.

3.5.3 Media Area

Adjacent to the finish zone, a fenced-off area (Mixed Zone) has to be established for TV company representatives, journalists and photographers to have close contact with the competitors for interviews and pictures after they finish.

3.5.4 Refreshment Point

There must be a refreshment point after the finish zone, its location to be agreed with the RD/Asst. RD/TD, to serve drinks, and to provide paper tissues and similar necessary services to competitors after they finish. Any beverages or foodstuffs provided there must be protected against any introduction of unauthorized substances.

3.5.5 Clothing Change Shelter

Adjacent to the finish zone, there must be a shelter providing privacy where competitors can change their clothing. The size of this shelter shall be approximately 2 x 3 m.

3.5.6 Finish Exit Zone

After the finish zone, there must be an area where the competitors can meet their team staff, service firms and retrieve their clothing and materials/equipment.

3.6 TEAM WAX CABINS

In or very near the stadium area, there must be a sufficient number of shelters, permanent buildings or good quality temporary structures in which teams may store materials/equipment, wax skis and keep warm. The cabins must be provided with ventilation – adequate for extracting wax fumes – lights and electric power outlets, and must be warmed to at least 20 degrees Celsius. Each team should have its own cabin but combining of more than one team per cabin shall be allowed however, if work-space and security regulations permit. The cabins should be equipped with locking doors and teams are to be issued with corresponding keys. If the entrances cannot be locked, the OC must provide security for the cabins. Parking space for teams must be provided within a reasonable distance of the cabins. A loudspeaker of the public address system should be placed near the cabins.

3.7 COMPETITOR WAITING ROOMS

Rooms must be provided near the wax cabins as waiting area for the competitors. This can be a part of the stadium building, a separate warming shelter or a tent.

4. COMPETITION EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING FOR EVENTS**4.1 GENERAL RULES**

The term competition materials/equipment and clothing includes all of the materials, equipment, competition gear and clothing which the competitor uses during an event, including advertising. The definitions and specifications of competition materials/equipment and clothing, and advertising, are regulated by the IBU Material Catalogue (Annex A) and the IBU Rules for Advertising.

4.2 INSPECTIONS OF EQUIPMENT/MATERIAL AND CLOTHING

4.2.1 General

Competitors' materials/equipment and clothing shall be inspected before the start and after the finish of a competition. Additionally, a preliminary materials/equipment and clothing check is to be provided well in advance of a competition to ensure that no problems occur. No equipment, material or clothing may be used at an IBU event unless it has been approved by the IBU.

4.2.2 Pre-Start Materials/Equipment and Clothing Inspection

Competitors shall report at the start materials/equipment and clothing inspection area not later than 15 minutes prior to their scheduled time of start to have their skis and rifle checked and marked, and their clothing inspected. Competitors whose materials, equipment or clothing do not conform with IBU regulations will not be authorized to pass through the start materials/equipment and clothing inspection until the discrepancies have been corrected. Equipment, rifles, materials and clothing which have been inspected and marked at pre-start equipment inspection must not be modified in any way prohibited by these Rules or the IBU Material Catalogue. Team reserve rifles - maximum two per team - are to be brought to the materials/equipment and clothing checkpoint for inspection and marking, and then must be taken directly to the range and deposited in the reserve rifle racks before the first start. The range staff will not permit the deposit of rifles after this time. To facilitate the inspection of the reserve rifles, the materials/equipment and clothing checkpoint must be opened at least 15 minutes before the start of zeroing and the competitors shall have the right to have their rifles checked from that time onwards. The early opening of the pre-start equipment inspection shall be permitted and encouraged at all competitions in order to avoid time difficulties.

4.2.2.1 Specific Checks at Pre-Start Equipment Inspection

The following checks are to be made:

- a. That the competitor is wearing his start number and thigh numbers;
- b. The rifle shall then be safety-checked to confirm it does not contain a live cartridge in the chamber or in its inserted magazine;
- c. The weight, trigger resistance, dimensions and shape of the rifle, and

the advertising on it shall be checked for correctness. The rifle shall be marked with a small sticker affixed to the top front end part of the forestock that must be clearly visible to officials at the start and finish, and the serial number shall be recorded on a check list so that the rifle can be verified at the finish in case the sticker falls off;

- d. Skis and poles shall be checked for correctness and the skis marked;
- e. Clothing and other materials/equipment shall be inspected for correctness, including advertising;
- f. Magazines may be spot checked to ensure they contain only five rounds that can be fired directly from the magazine.

4.2.2.2 Markings

Marking of equipment shall be done to prevent unauthorized change of equipment during the competition by using the competitor's start number. Both skis and the rifle shall be marked. In Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions, only one color shall be used to mark the skis. The marking shall be made with a colored marker pen or stamp, and shall be unique for that competition. In Relay competitions, the skis must be marked according to the team start numbers and the colors or numbers of the start sequence within the team. The inspection sticker for the rifle must be placed on the top front end part of the forestock.

4.2.2.3 Delays before Start

Delays before starting times because of a competitor reporting late at the equipment inspection area, or corrections that have to be made to his clothing or equipment, shall be the responsibility of the competitor. The OC must provide sufficient staff to ensure prompt equipment inspections and thus prevent late starting times of competitors who have reported in time.

4.2.2.4 Final Check Before Start

Between one to two minutes prior to the start, a check shall be made of the competitor by the starter's assistant(s) in order to ensure the following:

- a. The competitor is wearing a start number and thigh numbers;
- b. The skis and rifle are properly marked;
- c. Advertising regulations are not being violated;

- d. By opening and closing the action of the rifle, that there is no round in the chamber or the inserted magazine;
- e. That the competitor has enough magazines;
- f. That the competitor is not in possession of any wireless communication device.

4.2.3 Finish Inspection

After arriving at the finish and - in Relay competitions - after the handover zone, a check shall be made to confirm the following:

- a. The rifle does not contain live ammunition in the chamber or the inserted magazine;
- b. Competitors have finished with at least one marked ski and their marked rifle, with the skis and poles in accordance with the Material Catalogue;
- c. The rifle trigger resistance is at least 0.5 kg (may be conducted as a spot check, if authorized by the RD/Asst. RD/TD);
- d. The advertising regulations were not violated.

4.2.4 Preliminary Examination of Materials/Equipment and Clothing

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, OEC U26 and IBU Cup events, the RD/Asst. RD, TD, and IR for Material Inspection shall conduct a preliminary inspection of equipment to confirm that the materials, equipment and clothing to be used by teams are permitted by the rules. The check will normally be done at least two days before the first competition. The preliminary examination does not relieve competitors of the obligation to pass equipment inspection at the start and finish.

4.2.4.1 Attendance

The examination will be conducted by the responsible staff of the Organizing Committee. The IR for Material Inspection must also be in attendance. The examination shall be voluntary but a team representative should attend if the use of items of clothing, materials or equipment should be questionable. At the OWG, the first WC and IBU Cup event of a season, it is mandatory that each competitor attend with his rifle and that at least one representative of each team attend the examination. Competitors or teams who are not present at the first WC or IBU Cup must make this inspection prior to their first start of the season.

5. TRAINING AND ZEROING

5.1 GENERAL

Competitors and team staff must be provided the opportunity and the facilities to prepare for the competitions. For that purpose the OC must set Official Training times, provide ski testing facilities, and offer the opportunity for competitors to zero rifles and warm-up prior to the competition.

5.1.1 Exceptions

In extraordinary circumstances, the Competition Jury may close the entire facility or limit training on the facility to certain parts or to specific times.

5.1.2 Rights for Training and Training Bibs

Competitors who have registered for an IBU event may use the course during the Official Training. Men and Women may not participate in Official Training and zeroing for the other gender, however, the RD/Asst. RD/TD shall have the authority to permit mixed training on competition days when this is in the best interest of the competitors and the OCs. The training bibs assigned by the IBU must be worn by all competitors during training, and by team staff and service firms personnel using the course at any time during the event.

5.1.3 Types of Training

Official Training is the period of time that the OC must provide for training on the facility. The facility must be prepared the same as for the competition. Unofficial Training is the time that the OC allows for training on the facility in addition to Official Training, when the facility does not have to be prepared as for the competition. OCs should allow as much time as is possible in the event program for Unofficial Training – if necessary, shooting lanes will be allocated for teams as for Official Training, as directed by the TD.

5.2 OFFICIAL TRAINING

5.2.1 General

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, CCH and CC events, the competition facility must be open for inspection and Official Training at least once before the

first competition. The facility must be prepared as for the competition and the training must be held at the same time of day as the competition itself. Each subsequent competition should also be preceded by Official Training unless it is not possible in the event program or due to other circumstances.

5.2.1.1 Training on Course

The competition course for Official Training must be open at the times corresponding to the competition times, if possible, and must also be groomed, marked and fenced or barricaded as for the competition.

5.2.1.2 Training on Shooting Range

The shooting on the day prior to the competition should be organized at times corresponding to those of the competition day. The shooting will begin at the same time as the zeroing time of the competition day, with only paper targets in use and on designated shooting lanes. After 30 minutes, metal and paper targets will be used and the choice of shooting lanes will be free, until the end of the training period. When the metal targets are opened for Mass Start and Pursuit Official Training, the odd-numbered shooting lanes will be set to Prone and the even-numbered lanes will be set to Standing.

5.3 RIFLE ZEROING

5.3.1 Zeroing Time

Prior to the start of a competition, competitors must be given the opportunity to zero their rifles on the range for a period of 45 minutes, which must begin one hour before and end no later than 5 minutes before the first start. At IBU events for the Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions, a shorter time may be used but it must be at least 30 minutes and end 15 minutes before the start, and without paper target change. If necessary, Men and Women may both zero prior to the first competition, but this must be done separately.

5.3.2 Rifle zeroing may take place only on the range and only paper targets will be used for zeroing. Paper targets for zeroing must be placed at the same level and the same distance from the firing point as the competition targets. When two rows of paper targets are placed, the second row shall be below the level of the competition targets. If the paper targets

have to be changed during zeroing, the time required for the change will not be deducted from the time allocated for zeroing.

5.3.3 Allocation of Zeroing Lanes

For Individual and Sprint competitions, each team should be allocated one zeroing lane on the range. The allocation of lanes will be determined by random draw conducted under supervision of the RD/Asst. RD/TD. For Relay competitions, the team zeroing lane is to be the same as the start number. For Mass Start competitions, the zeroing lane shall be allocated according to the start list, but the competitors will be free to zero from any lane allocated to a member of their NF. For Pursuit competitions, the shooting lane numbers shall be allocated according to the placement of the best ranked competitor of each team, but if a NF has more than 4 competitors starting, it shall be allocated 2 adjoining zeroing lanes. One reserve member of each team shall be permitted to zero before each competition, including the reserve Relay team member, except Pursuit and Mass Start competitions. Prior to the start of the Super Sprint Final competition, competitors must be given the opportunity to zero their rifles on the range for a period of 15 minutes, which must begin 20 minutes before and end no later than 5 minutes before the first start. If necessary, Men and Women may both be zeroed prior to the first Super Sprint Final competition but this must be done separately.

5.3.3.1 At the OWG, WCH, WC, and Y/JWCH events the top 15 teams, based on the current Nations Cup Score standings, will be allocated lanes 1 to 15 by random draw, and the remaining teams' lanes will be separately drawn from the remaining lanes.

5.3.3.2 When a team has more than eight competitors, the OC may allocate an additional zeroing lane if available.

5.4 WARM-UP ON THE COURSE

For all IBU events, the course shall be open for warming up for entered competitors and team staff until five minutes before the start, unless otherwise decided by the Jury. All competitors on the course must wear their start numbers. From five minutes before the start, skiing on the course is forbidden, but team members may walk on the edge of the course.

5.5

SKI TESTING

It is forbidden to use electronic timing equipment on the competition course. Electronic ski testing can only be done in an area exclusively designated for ski testing. The TD in coordination with the RD, may authorize ski testing on the competition course considering width and configuration. Those authorized ski testing zones must be clearly marked. Electronic ski testing devices must be removed from the course at least 5 minutes before the start.

6. START REGULATIONS

6.1

START TYPES AND INTERVALS**6.1.1 General**

There are four types of starts: single; pursuit; group and simultaneous; and two standard start intervals – 1 minute or 30 seconds. At all IBU events, the following regulations shall apply:

6.1.2 Individual and Sprint Competitions

For all Individual and Sprint competitions single starts will be made, normally with 30 second intervals. However, shorter or longer intervals shall be permitted if it is best for the competition. For the Sprint competition, group starts can be used. The RD/Asst. RD/TD in consultation with the OC will decide which start type and start interval is the best for the circumstances.

6.1.3 Pursuit Competitions

In all Pursuit competitions, no standard start interval will be used. Competitors shall start at the exact time listed in the start list as their start time, which is the length of time they finished behind the winner of the qualifying competition, rounded to the nearest second.

6.1.4 Mass Start Competitions

Start in the Mass Start competitions will be made in one single simultaneous start of all the competitors.

6.1.5 Relay and Mixed Relay Competitions

Start in Relay and Mixed Relay competitions will be made in a simultaneous start of the first competitor of each team. Subsequent starts

of other team members will be made with a tag by the incoming team member in the Relay hand-over zone. The start sequence in the Mixed Relay is Woman, Woman, Man, Man.

6.1.6 Super Sprint Competition

6.1.6.1 Start in the Super Sprint Qualification Competition will be made as a single start – interval 15 seconds.

6.1.6.2 Start in the Super Sprint Final Competition will be made in one single simultaneous start of all the competitors.

6.2 STARTING POSITIONS AND STARTS

6.2.1 Single Start with Electronic Timing

Competitors shall stand as close to the gate as possible and will pass through the gate at their starting time.

6.2.2 Single Start with Manual Timing

If only manual timing is used, competitors shall stand with both feet completely behind the start line and will cross the line at their starting time.

6.2.3 Pursuit Start

Competitors must arrive in the start area at the time directed by the Competition Jury for placement into their start lanes. They will then be lined up sequentially in their start lanes. If a competitor is not present at the start, an OC official must stand in his place. Each simultaneous start must be from a separate lane. Physical inspection of each start will be done by an official located at the start line of each lane. The officials will bar the crossing of the start line by holding their arm horizontally across the end of the lane, and quickly lowering the arm at the exact start time for that lane. Competitors will start when they are the next in line and when the arm is dropped.

6.2.4 Relay Start

In Relay competitions the first starters will stand in their assigned start tracks with both feet behind the line marking their start row, or beside their start position if no line is marked. They will cross the line when the designated start signal is given. Subsequent members of a Relay team will stand in the hand-over zone, according to the current competition standing, and will start when tagged by the incoming team member.

6.2.5 Group Start

In group starts, the competitor with the lowest start number of that group shall take position 1, the second lowest position 2, etc. They shall stand as for the Relay simultaneous start and will start when the designated signal is given. This process shall be repeated for each group.

6.2.6 Mass Start Competition Start

The Mass Start competition will start in the same way as the first starters in the Relay simultaneous start.

6.2.7 Super Sprint Competition Start

The start order for the Super Sprint Qualification competition will be decided by the OC together with the IBU, for the respective competition. For the Super Sprint Final competition, competitors will be assigned start numbers and start positions based on the results of the Super Sprint Qualification competition. Competitors in the Super Sprint Final competition will start in the same order in which they finished the Qualification competition: the winner of the Qualification competition will start with start number 1, the second place of the Qualification competition will start with start number 2, and so on.

6.3 START SIGNALS**6.3.1 Single Starts – Electronic Timing**

The start command shall be given by the sound of the start clock – a loud beep, and by the visual time on the start clock. The starter must not touch the competitor.

6.3.2 Single Starts – Manual Timing

At single starts without an electronic start gate, the starter shall say "Ready" 10 seconds before the time of start and then count down loudly from 5 seconds before the start, saying "Five-four-three-two-one". At the exact start time, the starter shall give the command "Go". The starter must not touch the competitor.

6.3.3 Pursuit Starts

The start signal for each Pursuit start will be the dropped arm of the lane official.

6.3.4 Simultaneous and Group Starts

In the Relay, Mixed Relay, Mass Start competition, Sprint competition

with group starts and Super Sprint Final, the start signal shall be given by a shot from a start pistol or another start device, or with a flag. Verbal warning signals will be given at 1 minute, 30 seconds and "Ready" prior to the start, with the start signal given within 5 seconds after "ready".

6.3.5 Start in the Hand-over Zone

In Relay competitions the Relay hand-over must take place within the hand-over zone in such a way that the arriving competitor touches the body (including torso, arms, legs, hands, feet and head) or the rifle of the outgoing competitor with his hand.

6.4 START TIME, EARLY START, LATE START AND FALSE START

6.4.1 Electronic Start Time

In single starts, the electronically recorded time of activating the gate shall be the start time if the competitors activate the gate within 3 seconds before or 3 seconds after the time designated in the start list. If a competitor starts more than 3 seconds before the scheduled time, it is an early start. If a competitor starts more than 3 seconds later than the scheduled start time, it is a late start and the time will begin from the scheduled time of start.

6.4.2 Manual Start Time

If only manual timing is used and the start is single, the time of start for competitors shall be the time stated in the start list. If a competitor starts before the start signal, it shall be an early start. If the competitor starts too late, it shall be a late start.

6.4.2.1 Pursuit Competition

The time of start for each competitor shall be the time listed in the start list. In the event of an early start, time adjustments or time penalties must be made by the Competition Jury. If a competitor arrives too late at a start, the late competitor must be directed through the spare passage, and the official at that point will record the exact time when the competitor crosses the start line. If the competitor was late by his own or his team's fault, his competition time will be calculated from his official start time in the start list. If the cause of the delay was force majeure or incorrect or accidental actions of someone outside his team, his competition time and placement in the Pursuit will be calculated from the time recorded by the official.

6.4.3 Relay and Mass Start Competitions and Sprint Competitions with Group starts

The moment of start shall be at the time of the start signal.

6.4.4 Hand-over Zone Start Time

The start time for the Relay team member taking over shall be the moment when the incoming team member enters the hand-over zone by crossing the timing line at the beginning of the zone.

6.4.5 Early Start - Single and Relay Teams

If an early start occurs in a single competition or in the hand-over zone, the starter's assistant must stop the competitor as quickly as possible after the start line or the hand-over zone and send him back. The competitor must then return to behind the start line - or to the hand-over zone in Relay competitions - and start again. If possible, except in a Relay, the competitors will be restarted at their correct start time either through the gate or over the start line using manual timing. If the correct start time has already expired, the time of start shall revert to the listed start time. Time thus lost will count against the competitor.

6.4.6 False Start - Simultaneous, Group and Hand-over

If there is a false start during a simultaneous or group start, the IR and officials in charge will stop the competitors at the end of the set parallel tracks. After a false start, there must be a new start. If the Relay hand-over occurs before or after (outside) the hand-over zone, it shall be a false start and the procedure must be repeated within the zone. A competitor or Relay Team will be considered as having not started if they have made a false start and do not return to start again, correctly.

6.4.7 Late Start

If competitors are late to the start, they must start at the first possible opportunity as directed by the starter, without obstructing other competitors.

6.4.7.1 If the competitor was late due to his own fault, his start time will be the one on the start list. If the late start was due to force majeure, the Competition Jury will decide his start time.

6.5 START NUMBERS**6.5.1 General**

At all IBU competitions, all competitors must wear a bib which has their start number on it. Competitors must also wear their start number on both thighs. Competitors are responsible to ensure that their start numbers remain attached to the required positions during a competition. The start number and sequence color worn by a competitor must be the number and color assigned for that competitor for that competition by the competition start list.

6.5.1.1 Numbering

At OWG, WCH, WC, OEC U26 and IBU Cup competitions, the set of start numbers for Men and Women for each start must begin with the number 1 and must continue in numerical sequence to the last number.

6.5.1.2 Color

The color of the start numbers must clearly contrast against the base color of the cloth.

6.5.1.3 Sizes of Start Numbers

The sizes which must be used for start numbers in IBU competitions are detailed in the Material Catalogue.

6.5.2 Start Number Colors by Competitions**6.5.2.1 Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start and Super Sprint Competitions**

The start numbers of all competitors shall be of the same design.

6.5.2.2 Relay Competitions

The start number colors within the team shall be red for the starting member, green for the second, yellow for the third and blue for the fourth.

6.6 WEATHER CONDITIONS**6.6.1 Temperature**

Biathlon competitions must not be started if the air temperature is colder than minus 20 degrees Celsius measured at the coldest part of the site (range or course), 1.5 m above ground.

6.6.2 Wind Chill

Regardless of temperature, wind chill must be considered before start-

ing and during the competition. In the case of a high wind chill factor, the Competition Jury, in consultation with the IBU Medical Delegate or the Competition Physician, will decide whether to start or continue the competition. Changing of the course to be skied may also be done to avoid windy areas. The following Table 2 shows wind chill temperature equivalents.

TABLE 2 WIND CHILL TEMPERATURE EQUIVALENTS WIND SPEED IN KM/H

Wind speed	Temperature (degree Celsius) °C												
	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45	-50
10 km/h	8,6	2,7	-3,3	-9,3	-15,3	-21,1	-27,2	-33,2	-39,2	-45,1	-51,1	-57,1	-63
15 km/h	7,9	1,7	-4,4	-10,6	-16,7	-22,9	-29,1	-35,2	-41,4	-47,6	-53,7	-59,9	-66,1
20 km/h	7,4	1,1	-5,2	-11,6	-17,9	-24,2	-30,5	-36,8	-43,1	-49,4	-55,7	-62	-68,3
25 km/h	6,9	0,5	-5,9	-12,3	-18,8	-25,2	-31,6	-38	-44,5	-50,9	-57,3	-63,7	-70,2
30 km/h	6,6	0,1	-6,5	-13	-19,5	-26	-32,6	-39,1	-45,6	-52,1	-58,7	-65,2	-71,7
35 km/h	6,3	-0,4	-7	-13,6	-20,2	-26,8	-33,4	-40	-46,6	-53,2	-59,8	-66,4	-73,1
40 km/h	6	-0,7	-7,4	-14,1	-20,8	-27,4	-34,1	-40,8	-47,5	-54,2	-60,9	-67,6	-74,2
45 km/h	5,7	-1	-7,8	-14,5	-21,3	-28	-34,8	-41,5	-48,3	-55,1	-61,8	-68,6	-75,3
50 km/h	5,5	-1,3	-8,1	-15	-21,8	-28,6	-35,4	-42,2	-49	-55,8	-62,7	-69,5	-76,3
55 km/h	5,3	-1,6	-8,5	-15,3	-22,2	-29,1	-36	-42,8	-49,7	-56,6	-63,4	-70,3	-77,2
60 km/h	5,1	-1,8	-8,8	-15,7	-22,6	-29,5	-36,5	-43,4	-50,3	-57,2	-64,2	-71,1	-78

Notes to Table 2 1. This is only a guide - the decision to start or not will be made by the Competition Jury in consultation with the IBU Medical Delegate or the Competition Physician. 2. Top shaded line is the -20 degree Celsius equivalent boundary. 3. Bottom shaded area indicates that exposed flesh freezes in one minute. 4. Wind speed is to be measured at height of 1.5 m on the range. 5. Temperature is measured at 1.5 m at the coldest point in the competition area.

7. SKIING REGULATIONS

7.1 GENERAL

7.1.1 General Skiing Rules

Competitors must ski the entire distance of the stipulated competition course in the correct sequence and direction on skis, carrying their rifle and the required number of rounds, and following the marked course precisely. They may use no other form of propulsion than skis, poles and their own muscular force. All skiing techniques shall be permitted. As required for timing and other sensor purposes, competitors must carry the electronic transponder device(s) provided by the event timing firm, during the competition, attached to one or both ankles as directed. The transponder may not be removed until the official removal place after the competition. The transponder must be of such design that it does not interfere with the competitors' movements in the competition. Maximum weight of a transponder may not exceed 25 gm each.

7.1.1.1 Did Not Finish

If a competitor withdraws from the competition before the finish, he must inform the first official he meets and is responsible for returning the transponders and the start number to the finish equipment/material and clothing inspection area as soon as possible.

7.1.2 Carrying the Rifle

The rifle must be carried on the back, with the barrel pointing up. If the rifle is so damaged during the competition that it can not be carried on the back, it must be safely carried in hand to the shooting range and then must be immediately exchanged for the team reserve rifle.

7.1.3 Wrong Course Section

If a competitor skis on a wrong course section, which would result in a time advantage or the wrong sequence, he must return to the point where he made the wrong turn, along the part of the course he skied in error. In order to do so, the competitor may have to ski against the correct ski direction and shall be totally responsible for ensuring that he does not obstruct or endanger other competitors. There will be no penalty for having committed the error as long as no time advantage has been gained and there has been no interference with other competitors.

7.1.4 Passing and Giving Way

A competitor who is in position to pass another competitor, and wishes to pass, will yell "Track". A competitor who is about to be overtaken must clear the course in front of the passing competitor at the first yell of "Track" or other voice signal, even if the course is wide enough. However, this obligation does not apply to the last 50 m before the finish line and the last 50 m before the hand-over zone.

7.1.5 Skiing Penalty Loops

In all competitions in which the shot-penalty is the 150 m penalty loop, the competitors must ski the loop once for every missed target immediately after the shooting bout.

7.1.5.1 Responsibility

Competitors themselves shall be responsible for skiing the required number of penalty loops immediately after the shooting bout. It is not permitted to complete penalty loops at a later time.

7.1.5.2 Penalty Loop Error

If competitors, due to a mistake by the OC or a target malfunction, ski too many penalty loops, the Competition Jury shall decide on an appropriate time allowance. The OC shall ensure, in each competition in which the penalty loop is used, that the average penalty loop ski time is recorded, based on at least five competitors.

7.1.6 Skating at Relay, Mass and Group Starts

The use of the skating technique (one or both legs sideways) is prohibited in the tracked portion after the start line in simultaneous or group starts.

7.2 OBSTRUCTION

It is strictly forbidden to impede other competitors in any way at any time during the competition. This prohibition also includes the dropping of objects on the competition course or the shooting range in such a way that it obstructs other competitors.

7.3 EXCHANGING EQUIPMENT, REPAIRS, ASSISTANCE**7.3.1 Exchange of Skis and Poles**

A competitor may exchange one of his skis, but only if it is broken or the

binding is damaged. Broken poles and straps may be exchanged repeatedly. The replacement skis and poles must be in conformity with the IBU Material Catalogue rules.

7.3.2 Glide Performance and Equipment Repairs

The competitors may not change the glide performance of their skis by the application of any substances during a competition. They may repair their equipment during a competition, provided they receive no assistance from any person.

7.3.3 Rifle Repairs, Exchange and Ammunition

Assistance to repair a rifle shall only be permitted on the shooting range, by the Competition Armourer or a competition official on the shooting range. A rifle may be exchanged only on the shooting range. Competitors shall be permitted to receive ammunition on the course and the shooting range.

7.3.4 Refreshments

Competitors may consume refreshments during the competition. The refreshments may be carried by the competitors or be given to them.

7.3.5 Other Assistance

Competitors are not permitted to receive any assistance from any person, other than as expressly stated in these Rules.

8. SHOOTING REGULATIONS

8.1 GENERAL

8.1.1 Shooting Rules

All shooting during training and competition shall take place at the shooting range. In a competition competitors shall shoot after having completed each of the required sections of the course for the competition, except the last section which shall end at the finish or the Relay hand-over. The shooting specifications for all competitions are given in Table 1 under 1.3.8. When a rifle is taken out of the stadium area, it must be in a case or a cover bag.

8.2 SPECIFIC SHOOTING RULES FOR TYPES OF COMPETITIONS**8.2.1 Selection of Shooting Lanes**

In Individual and Sprint competitions, shooting lanes may be freely chosen by the competitor from among the targets that are ready in the correct sequence (prone or standing). In the Pursuit, Individual and Sprint with group start competitions, the competitors must go sequentially in the shooting lanes starting with lane 1 and taking the lowest available number, until the last shooting lane is reached, at which time the next competitor must go to lane number 1 and the process begins again. For the Mass Start, in the first shooting bout the competitors must shoot from the lane number designated by their start number and for subsequent bouts by filling in the range sequentially from the right in the order of arrival on the range. In Relay competitions, the shooting lane designated by the team's start number must be used for the first shooting bout of the first competitor of each team and after that the range will be filled in sequentially from the right in the order of arrival on the range.

8.2.2 Relay Competitions – Spare Rounds

In the Relay competition, each competitor must fire the first 5 rounds and if targets remain standing he must use the 3 spare rounds until all 5 targets are hit or until all 8 rounds are fired. If the spare rounds are needed after having fired the first 5 rounds, the spare rounds must be hand loaded one by one – not loaded directly from a magazine.

8.3 SHOOTING POSITIONS**8.3.1 Prone Position**

In the prone position the competitors must comply with the following regulations: the rifle may only be in contact with hands, shoulder and cheek. The lower side of the wrist of the arm supporting the rifle must be distinctly raised from the ground (snow surface).

8.3.2 Standing Position

In the standing position the competitors must comply with the following regulations: they must stand without any support. Only hands, shoulder, cheek and the chest next to the shoulder may be in contact with the rifle. The arm supporting the rifle may be held against the chest or put onto the hip.

8.3.2.1 No Removal of Skis

It is prohibited to remove one or both skis while shooting, including training and zeroing, and it is prohibited for athletes to place any kind of object under their skis.

8.3.3 Position in Shooting Lane

The competitor must ensure that no part of his body, clothing, materials or equipment protrudes over the 1.5 m red lines marking the shooting lane or the extension of those boundaries while shooting. The competitor must also ensure that the rifle muzzle extends over the firing line.

8.3.4 Enforcement

If a competitor is warned by a Range Official that his shooting position or his position in the shooting lane is not according to the rules, the competitor must immediately make the correction.

8.4 SHOOTING AIDS**8.4.1 Use of Shooting Sling and Arm Cuff**

The use of a shooting sling and arm cuff is permitted in both the prone and standing positions.

8.4.2 Use of Magazine

The five rounds required in each bout of shooting may be loaded with the use of a magazine. If rounds are lost from the magazine or fail to fire, a new magazine may not be inserted into the rifle. Such rounds must be loaded individually. However, if a magazine is lost or defective, it may be replaced with another magazine.

8.5 SAFETY REGULATIONS**8.5.1 General**

Shooting shall be permitted only on the shooting range, during officially authorized times. It is forbidden to make movements with a rifle which might endanger persons, or which may be perceived by others as dangerous. The rifle muzzle must be over the forward edge of the shooting ramp (= firing line) from the beginning to the end of the shooting stage. When the range is open for shooting, no one shall be permitted to be forward of this line. TV crew members and photographers shall take responsibility for their own safety if they enter this area. At all times, the

competitor shall be responsible for the safety of his actions and rifle.

8.5.2 Loading and Unloading

The rifle may be loaded and unloaded only with the barrel pointing in the direction of the targets or up. To insert a magazine containing bullets into the rifle is also part of the loading procedure. When moving from one shooting lane to another, the competitor must first unload his rifle and place the rifle on his back in the normal carrying position.

8.5.2.1 Safety Check on the Range after Shooting

After each shooting bout the rifle must be unloaded – that is, no round may be left in the chamber or in the inserted magazine. However, it is permitted to leave the cartridge case in the chamber and the empty magazine in the rifle after the last shot. At the end of training and/or zeroing sessions, the competitor must perform a safety check before leaving the shooting range by opening the bolt and removing the inserted magazine, with the barrel pointed toward the target or upward.

8.5.3 Aimed Shots

All shots must be aimed and fired only at the targets.

8.5.4 Removal of Rifle on the Range

A competitor may not remove a strap of his rifle carrying harness from his shoulder before he has reached the firing lane from which he will shoot. He must cross the lane marking line with both feet and lay both ski poles on the ground prior to removing his rifle from the carrying position.

8.5.5 Safety at the Finish

At all IBU competitions there must be one or more official(s) at the end of the finish area who will open the rifle action of every competitor. This check may only be performed when the rifle is pointing upwards. At the same time, the official will inspect the cartridge case ejected from the chamber. If this safety check is not done, the competitor must do it himself.

8.6 MISFIRES, LOST ROUNDS/MAGAZINES AND DAMAGED RIFLES

8.6.1 Misfires and Lost Rounds/ Magazines and Damaged Rifles

Misfired or lost rounds, or magazines, may be replaced by a competitor if he is carrying spare rounds or magazines. If he is not carrying

spare rounds or magazines, replacement rounds or magazines may be obtained by the competitor from a Range Official by raising a hand and saying "Ammunition" and the name of his NF loudly. The Range Official who responds will get the spare rounds from the team's reserve rifle or from the team's support staff behind the range and deliver them to the competitor. Competitors are permitted to receive ammunition and magazines on the course as well.

8.6.2 Damaged Rifles

If a rifle needs to be repaired, the competitor may do the repairs or may accept assistance, but only from the Competition Armourer or a Range Official. If the rifle cannot be made functional, it may be exchanged for the team's reserve rifle.

8.6.2.1 Reserve Rifle

A rifle which has been damaged during the competition or malfunctions for technical reasons to such an extent that it cannot be used to continue the competition may be exchanged for a team reserve rifle which has been inspected and marked at the equipment check and deposited in the designated reserve rifle rack on the range before the competition by the team. The competitor must then continue the competition with the reserve rifle.

8.6.2.2 Rifle/Magazine/Ammunition Exchange Procedure

If the rifle has been damaged or a magazine lost on the course, the competitor himself may ski to the team reserve rifle in the rack on the range, prior to going to the shooting lane, and exchange his rifle or replace his magazine, and then continue to his shooting lane. During shooting the competitor shall indicate that his rifle needs to be exchanged by raising his hand. When a Range Official responds, the competitor will point to his rifle and say "Rifle" and the name of his NF loudly. The Range Official will obtain the team's spare rifle from the designated rifle rack and bring it to the competitor.

8.6.3 No Time Adjustment

There shall be no time adjustment for repairing or exchanging a rifle or obtaining a spare magazine or rounds.

8.6.4 Response by Range Officials

All Range Officials must be alert to observe a raised hand or a yell by a

competitor to ask for spare rounds or rifle exchange. The Range Officials must react with a sense of urgency and move quickly to minimize the time required to bring the rounds or to exchange the rifle.

8.7 TARGET ERRORS AND MALFUNCTIONS

8.7.1 Incorrectly Set Target

If a competitor is confronted with an incorrectly set target, standing for the prone position or vice versa, the incorrect target shall be set to the correct position immediately. The competitor will then commence shooting from the beginning.

8.7.2 Target Malfunction

If a target fails to function, the competitor must be directed to another target and the defective target must be blocked off immediately. The range official will inform the competitor whether he should continue the shooting bout or recommence shooting from the beginning.

8.7.3 Cross-firing and Target Hit by Another Competitor

If the target on which a competitor is shooting is fired on by another competitor, the one shooting incorrectly must be stopped immediately. If no target plates have fallen, the correct competitor may continue shooting. If a target plate has been hit, the target must be reset immediately and the competitor shall then fire the remaining shots on the reset target.

8.7.3.1 Before such a target is reset, the hits and their positions must be recorded. In such a case in the Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start or Relay competition, the competitor must be told by the Range Official how many penalty loops must be done.

8.7.3.2 If a competitor cross-fires onto a target not in his shooting lane, and no other competitor is shooting on that target, he shall be allowed to continue without the mistake being pointed out to him. The competitor's hits will be only those which are on the correct target.

8.7.4 Time Adjustments and Responsibility

In those cases where a competitor loses time due to a target error which is not his fault or a target malfunction, the Competition Jury shall make an appropriate time adjustment.

8.7.4.1 Own Error

If, however, a competitor makes an error such as cross-firing or selecting a target which has been used and not reset, he shall be responsible and no time adjustment will be made.

8.7.5 Scoring of Shooting

For all shooting in competitions, a system of scoring the shooting must be put in place by the OC. Each shot that is fired in a competition must be observed by three independent persons or methods. For OWG, WCH and WC competitions, the system shall consist of the electronic target scoring device and two separate observations by Range Officials.

9. THE FINISH, COMPETITION TIME AND RESULTS**9.1 THE FINISH****9.1.1 Moment of Finish**

Finish is the moment when a competitor's or a Relay team's competition time ends. When electronic timing is used, the finish will occur when the beam of the electronic sensor at the finish line is broken by the competitor. When manual timing is used, the finish will occur when the competitor crosses the finish line with one or both feet. In Relay competitions the timing is to be taken from the last member to finish.

9.2 COMPETITION TIME

The competition time is the period of elapsed time during the competition on which the placing of a competitor or Relay team in the results of the competition are based. The time always includes any penalties or adjustments imposed or awarded by the Competition Jury.

9.2.1 Individual Competitions

In Individual competitions, the competitor's time will be the elapsed time between start and finish plus any shot-penalty minutes imposed.

9.2.2 Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start Competitions

In Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions the competitor's time will be the elapsed time between start and finish. In the Pursuit competition and the Mass Start competition, the first competitor to cross the finish line, subject to penalties and time adjustments, shall be declared the

winner. This also applies to the rankings of subsequent finishers.

9.2.3 Overtaken competitors in Pursuit and Mass Start competitions

At OWG, WCH and WC, in Pursuit and Mass Start competitions if the leading competitor laps a competitor on the course, the overtaken competitor must withdraw from the competition at a suitable area in connection with the shooting range.

9.2.4 Relay Competitions

In all Relay competitions the competition time of a team member shall be the elapsed time from the start, or hand-over, to the next completed hand-over or from the hand-over to the finish. The total time of a Relay team is the time elapsed between the start of the first member to the finish of the last member. The time of the incoming member stops when he crosses the timing line into the hand-over zone and the time of the outgoing member begins at the same moment.

9.2.4.1 Placing in Relay competition

The placings of Relay teams in the results shall be decided by the order of finish of their respective last competitors, subject to time penalties or time adjustments.

9.2.5 Equal Time – Tie

If two or more competitors have the same competition time, they shall be placed in the results with equal (tie) rankings. At OWG, WCH, Y/J WCH, WC and OEC U26 in Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions, if analysis of the photo-finish camera data cannot resolve the order of finish of two or more athletes then a tie shall be declared. Equal placings (tie) in a competition shall be given an equal number of points.

9.2.6 Photo-Finish

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC, and OEC U26 in Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions, a photo-finish camera must be installed at the finish line to record the finish. The camera must be placed exactly in line with the finish line and in such a position that the entire finish line is seen by the camera. If the photo-finish record is required to decide the order of finish, the order in the photo-finish record shall determine the placings. The decision shall be based on the first part of the first foot crossing the finish line. If there is a photo finish, the Competition Jury shall decide the finish order based on the photo finish record.

9.2.6.1 Finish Video Camera

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH, WC and OEC U26 events a video camera must be installed at the finish in such a way that it will record the start numbers of competitors as they cross the finish line. Such a system is recommended for all other events as well.

9.2.7 Intermediate Times

At OWG, WCH, Y/JWCH and WC competitions, times after each bout of shooting must be available to the electronic information board, the media and teams. An intermediate timing line will be set after the penalty loop (or after the range for the Individual competition) and each competitor's time shall be recorded after each bout of shooting.

9.3 TIMING SYSTEMS**9.3.1 Requirements**

Competition time must be measured electronically, backed by manual timing. Manual timing shall be used only if the electronic system fails during the competition. Specifications of timing equipments are given in the IBU Material Catalogue (Annex A).

9.3.2 Units of Measurement

Electronically and manually measured competition times must be registered to 1/10 (0.1) of a second.

9.4 THE COMPETITION RESULTS**9.4.1 General**

Results are the record of the performance of the competitors or teams in a competition. The OC shall be responsible for producing and distributing the results on paper and electronically. At all IBU events, English must be used in the results, however, more than one language may be used in the same results. Provisional and Final Results must include the following information:

- Name and location of the event;
- Type, time and date of the competition;
- Course and weather data;
- Names of the Competition Jury members;
- Signature of the TD;

- f. Number of entered competitors and total ranked;
- g. Number of those who did not start and did not finish;
- h. Notes about imposed penalties: article, time adjustment or kind of penalty;
- i. Columns for:
 - placings, in ranking order from first to last;
 - start numbers;
 - last and first names of competitors;
 - NF or team;
 - shooting penalties per bout;
 - shooting penalties, total;
 - ski times to 1/10 (0.1) second;
 - total time, and team time in Relay;
 - time behind;
 - World Cup points (when appropriate);
 - Nations Cup points (when appropriate).

For the Pursuit Competition the times shown will be the time behind the first starter for the winner, followed by the time behind the winner for the remaining competitors.

9.4.1.1 Ties

If there is an equal competition time, the tied competitors shall be given equal ranking and equal points in the results, however, there shall be no next placing in the results.

9.4.2 Types of Results

There are three types of results: Intermediate, Provisional and Final.

9.4.2.1 Intermediate Results

Intermediate Results reflect the competition situation during the competition and are for information only. They will be displayed on the score board, announced by the public announcer and will be available through the electronic information system.

9.4.2.2 Provisional Results

Provisional Results are the first official record of the competition produced by the OC after the last finish. Provisional Results are always subject to protest and must be published and posted at the finish area and competition office as soon as possible after the finish of the last com-

petitor. The TD must sign and write the time of posting on the Provisional Results List so that the end of the protest period will be clear.

9.4.2.3 Final Results

The Final Results are the incontestable final record of the competition and must be published immediately after the deadline for protests has passed, or as soon as the Competition Jury has made its decisions on protests which were submitted.

9.4.3 Results Booklet

The Final Results and other important information about all the competitions for all IBU events must be made into a booklet. The booklet must contain:

- a. the event program;
- b. participant list - NFs, competitors, trainers;
- c. decisions of the Competition Jury and Jury of Appeal;
- d. all Final Results, with applicable points lists and title page.

All results pages of the booklet must be on white paper only.

9.4.4 Distribution of Booklets and Results

At all IBU events, one copy of the Results Booklet must be distributed to all NFs that have participated in the event. If this cannot be done before their departure, the booklet must be sent by mail as soon as it is ready. A copy of the Results Booklet must be sent to the SG of the IBU. In addition, the Results Booklet, and CD, produced at the WC Final must be sent to all NFs that have participated in any WC event during the season. One copy of each results list and meeting minutes as well as analysis after each competition shall be distributed to the mailbox of each participating NF. Additional copies shall be available at the competition office upon request.

10. PROTESTS

10.1 GENERAL

Protests must be submitted in writing, using the official IBU Protest Form, to the Competition Secretary, for the Competition Jury, and must be accompanied by a fee of EUR 50, or equivalent in the currency of the host NF.

The IBU protest form can be obtained from the Competition Secretary. If the protest is upheld, the money shall be paid back. If the protest is rejected, the money will go to the IBU.

10.2 PROTEST TYPES AND CONDITIONS

10.2.1 Eligibility Protests

Protests concerning the eligibility of a competitor may be submitted at any time up to the end of the protest time for the competition in question.

10.2.2 Protests During and After Competitions

Protests concerning violation of rules by competitors and team staff, mistakes made by officials, competition conditions and the Provisional Results must be submitted in the time period between the start of zeroing for the competition until 15 minutes after the posting of the Provisional Results. A clear announcement must be made by the OC immediately after the posting of the Provisional Results to inform everyone that they have been posted.

10.2.3 Repetition or Annulment

If the examination of a protest reveals circumstances which are so serious that they make the sporting value of the competition doubtful, or if the Competition Jury from its own observation comes to the same conclusion, the Competition Jury may decide to repeat the competition or to annul the competition without repetition.

11. PENALTIES

For penalties, refer to the IBU Disciplinary Rules.

12. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – EVENT RULES

12.1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

12.1.1 Jurisdiction and Terms

The WCH and Y/JWCH are IBU events and shall be held under its jurisdiction for Men, Women, Junior Men and Junior Women, and for Youth Men and Youth Women. In this section the rules stipulated for WCH shall

also apply to the Y/JWCH unless a specific difference is indicated.

12.1.2 Event Dates

WCH shall be held for Men and Women together annually during dates approved by the IBU EB, but shall not be held during years of the OWG. Y/JWCH for Junior Men and Junior Women and for Youth Men and Youth Women together shall be held annually during dates approved by the IBU EB. If any IBU authorized competition is not in the program of the OWG, a WCH competition shall be held for it in years of the OWG.

12.1.3 Best Biathletes – Financial Responsibility and Selection

Each OC of the WCH must pay the accommodation and meal expenses for the best male and the best female Biathletes for a maximum of twelve days during the WCH according to the numbers of Biathletes set by the IBU EB. Selection of the best Biathletes at the WCH will be from the top rankings of the current WC Total Score prior to the start of the WCH.

12.2 BIDS TO HOST AND APPOINTMENT OF OCS

12.2.1 General

The task of organizing the WCH shall be entrusted to a Member Federation of the IBU, for the appointed location, by the IBU Congress at least four years and not more than five years in advance.

12.2.2 Application to Host a WCH

The bid to host a WCH must be submitted by a NF wishing to host to the IBU SG in writing, and the application must be received not later than 90 days before the applicable IBU Congress. The site for which the bid is made must have a current IBU license. The application must be submitted using the official IBU application form and must be signed by the NF President or SG.

12.2.3 The IBU Event Hosting Declaration

After a host for a WCH has been appointed, the hosting NF must sign the IBU Event Hosting Declaration. By signing, the hosting NF shall testify that it accepts and will fulfill, in the required time, the tasks, measures and duties stipulated in the Declaration.

12.3 EVENT SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM

The proposed event schedule and program will be established by the OC

in consultation with the RD/Asst. RD and submitted to the IBU Headquarters at least two years prior to the start of the event. The program must be submitted to the TC for review and must be approved by the IBU EB at the latest one year prior to the start of the WCH.

12.4 PROGRESS REPORTS

The OC must report regularly about its progress to the IBU.

12.5 INFORMATION BULLETINS AND INVITATIONS

12.5.1 Preliminary Information

At least one year prior to the WCH, the OC must send a preliminary information bulletin approved by the RD/Asst. RD to all IBU Member Federations and to the IBU Headquarters. The bulletin must provide all significant information about the WCH which is required by the NFs at that time.

12.5.2 Official Invitation

Not later than 1 September of the year preceding the WCH, the OC must send the official invitations approved by the RD to all IBU NFs and to the IBU Headquarters. NFs which require a special invitation for visa purposes must request them from the OC.

12.5.3 Final Bulletin

Not later than 15 October prior to the WCH, the OC must circulate a detailed information bulletin to all IBU NFs and to the IBU Headquarters. The bulletin must provide detailed information in accordance with the Organizers' Guide.

12.5.4. Electronic Bulletins and Invitations

Bulletins and invitations may be sent in electronic form by e-mail and by placing it on a website, with notification by e-mail.

12.6 PARTICIPATION

12.6.1 Quotas - WCH

12.6.1.1 Maximum Registration and Entries

Each NF in good standing shall have the right to register a maximum of 8 male and 8 female competitors and to enter 4 male and 4 female

competitors in the Individual and Sprint competitions. Additionally, the NFs of the Individual, Sprint and Mass Start champions of the previous year's OWG or WCH will be granted the right to enter those competitors at the WCH Individual, Sprint and Mass Start competitions respectively, in addition to their NF's quota.

12.6.1.2 Pursuit Competitions

The top 60 competitors from the qualifying competition shall be entitled to start in the Pursuit competition.

12.6.1.3 Mass Start Competitions

The Mass Start competition entries shall consist of 30 competitors, selected as follows: the top 15 from the WC Total Score plus any medal winners that are not among the top 15 in the WC Total Score, then the remaining competitors shall be filled in from the points they have acquired in the Individual, Sprint and Pursuit competitions of the WCH being held, in ranking order. Start numbers shall be assigned in the order as follows: the gold medalist of the first personal competition of the WCH shall receive start number 1; the gold medalist of the second personal competition shall receive number 2; and the gold medalist of the third personal competition shall receive number 3, with the silver medalists of the personal competition receiving start numbers in the same order beginning with start number 4 – 6, and bronze medalists in the same way beginning with start number 7 – 9. The top competitors in the current WC Total Score will receive start number 10, and so on. If a competitor has won more than one medal in the personal competitions of the WCH being held, he will receive the lowest start number in keeping with the above sequence and other competitors will move up in the same order, and the same principle shall apply if more than one competitor wins multiple medals, or if one or more competitors are missing. Four competitors will be the maximum number of entries for any NF. However, if an NF has more than four medalists, then all medalists of this NF will be entitled to start. In addition to the NF's quota, the champion of the previous year's OWG or WCH in Mass Start will be allowed to be entered. Unless he is not already selected in accordance with the above rule, he shall receive start number 30.

12.6.1.4 Relay Competitions

The best 30 NFs, for Men and Women, may enter Relay teams based on the previous year's Nations Cup Score.

12.6.1.5 Mixed Relay Competitions

A maximum of 30 Mixed Relay Teams shall be allowed to participate, based on the sum of the NF's current Nations Cup Score for Men and Women.

12.6.1.6 Team Staff

NFs shall be allowed to register team staff according to the number of competitors they registered. If this number is 4 or less, they shall be allowed to register a maximum of 4 team staff members. Starting from 5 competitors the maximum number of team staff that may be registered shall equal the number of competitors registered by the respective NF. If the OC is able to accept more than this number, the number must be stated in the invitation along with the conditions for the extra staff.

12.6.2 Quota – Y/JWCH**12.6.2.1 Maximum Registration and Entries**

Each NF may register a maximum of five each of Junior Men and Junior Women, and five each Youth Men and Youth Women for the Y/JWCH. Entries for specific competitions at Y/JWCH shall be as follows:

12.6.2.2 Individual and Sprint Competitions

A maximum of four competitors per NF may be entered for each Junior Men, Junior Women, Youth Men and Youth Women. Additionally, the NFs of the Individual and Sprint champions of the previous year's Y/JWCH shall be granted the right to enter them at the Y/JWCH Individual and Sprint competitions in addition to their NF's quota, as long as the competitors are still in the same class as they were at the previous Y/JWCH.

12.6.2.3 Pursuit Competitions

The top 60 competitors from the qualifying competitions will be entered for each of the competitions Junior Men, Junior Women, Youth Men and Youth Women.

12.6.2.4 Relay Competitions

Each NF shall have the right to enter one Relay team per class for the Y/JWCH Relay competitions.

A competitor may start in one Relay only (Youth or Junior).

12.6.2.5 Team Staff

Article 12.6.1.6 shall apply accordingly.

12.7 AWARDS**12.7.1 Official Medals**

Competitors placed first, second and third in the Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions shall be awarded the IBU medal in gold, silver and bronze, respectively. Each member of the Relay teams placed first, second and third shall be awarded the IBU medal, in gold, silver and bronze, respectively.

12.7.1.1 Awards Ceremony

The presentation of the official World Championships medals must include flag raising and national anthems. Competitors may not appear with their competition materials/equipment.

12.7.1.2 Flower Ceremony

The flower ceremony is the presentation of the top 8 competitors and top 6 Relay teams immediately after the end of the competition. The competitors shall appear wearing their competition start numbers and may have with them their competition materials/ equipment.

12.7.2 Other Prizes

The Organizing Committee and other bodies may present other prizes.

12.8 LEADER START NUMBERS

The competitors, both Men and Women, who are the best ranked in the current World Cup Score for the Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions shall wear a numbered "World Cup Leader" start number during the World Championships instead of a conventional start number. World Cup Leader Bib colors:

- a) Total Score leaders - yellow
- b) Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start leaders - red
- c) Total Score leaders who are at the same time best ranked in the respective competition type - yellow/red combined.

13. THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES – EVENT RULES**13.1 RULES**

The IOC has jurisdiction over the OWG; however, these Event and Competition Rules shall apply for the OWG except when otherwise stipulated by IOC regulations. For the Mass Start competition at OWG, the World Championships Event Rules shall apply accordingly, except that the previous year's world champion shall not be allowed to start in addition to the NF quota unless otherwise qualified.

13.2 SCHEDULE AND PROGRAM

The event schedule and program for the competitions will be established by the OC in consultation with the RD/TD and Assistant TD. The schedule and program must be submitted to the TC for review and must be approved by the IBU EB.

13.3 NATIONAL FEDERATION QUOTA

The NF Registration and Entry Quota for the OWG shall be based on NF's ranking of Nations Cup Points achieved at the two preceding World Championship events, scoring the top three athletes of each NF in the Individual, Sprint, and Relay competitions. Further details are determined by agreement between the IOC and IBU EB. Note: for the OWG 2010, the Relay competition will not count and the IBU Point system will be used as described in the letter to the IOC dated 20 May 2007.

14. CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CONTINENTAL CUPS – EVENT RULES**14.1 CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIPS****14.1.1 General**

The CCH are IBU events that are organized under its jurisdiction jointly for Men, Women, Junior Men and Junior Women. These rules shall apply to the following championships:

- a. Asian Championships (ACH)
- b. Open European Championships (OECH U26)
- c. North American Championships (NACH)

d. South American Championships (SACH).

FOR CCHs, the host will be appointed two years in advance of the event by the EB based on recommendations by the TC. OECH U26 are subject to an event hosting declaration.

14.1.2 Inspection

The immediate inspection is to be exercised by an IBU Asst. RD whose expenses are to be paid by the OC.

14.1.3 Competition Types

The following competition types shall be authorized for CCH: Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start, Mixed Relay and Relay. All official IBU classes of competitors will be authorized to participate as set by the respective NFs of the continent.

14.1.4 Eligibility and Participation

Biathletes of all IBU member NFs shall be eligible to participate in CC and CCH events.

However, only members of the teams of the host continent NFs shall be eligible to be Continental Champions and medalists. Participation quotas will be set by the respective NFs of the continent.

14.1.5 Competition Rules

The IBU Event and Competition Rules shall apply to the CCH. Special rules may be prepared and set by the respective NFs of the continent. CCH rules are detailed in Annex D.

14.1.6 Awards

Official IBU medals will be awarded to the competitors as follows: first place – gold; second – silver; third – bronze. Additional prizes may be awarded by the respective NFs of the continent.

14.2 CONTINENTAL CUPS

14.2.1 General

The CC are IBU events that are organized under its jurisdiction. They can be organized as joint event series for Men, Women, Junior Men, Junior Women, Youth Men and Youth Women. The CCH rules shall apply to CC with the following exceptions. The following CC Series are authorized:

- a. Asian Cup (AC)
- b. IBU Cup (Open European Cup)

c. North America Cup (NAC)

d. South America Cup (SAC).

14.2.2 Not to be Held Together with WC

The CC are separate events and may not be organized at the same venue together with WC competitions.

14.2.3 Event Hosting Applications and Appointment of NFs

Each IBU member NF may apply to organize one or more CC event(s) a season. Applications must be submitted to the IBU SG by the deadline established by the EB. The host NFs will be appointed by the IBU EB based on recommendations of the TC.

14.2.4 Competition Rules

The IBU Event and Competition Rules shall apply to the CC. Special rules may be prepared and set by the respective NFs of the continent. The CC competition rules are detailed in Annex E.

14.2.5 Juries

Only Competition Juries will be established, under IBU jurisdiction for CC events. NFs of the continent may establish a Jury of Appeal for events.

15. WORLD CUP – EVENT RULES

15.1 GENERAL REGULATIONS

15.1.1 Jurisdiction

WC are IBU events and shall be held under its jurisdiction for Men and Women. These Rules shall apply for WC events.

15.1.2 TD and IR Expenses

The travel, accommodation and meal costs, and daily allowance of the IBU TD and IRs shall be borne by the OC for the period they are required for the event, in accordance with the current IBU policy.

15.1.3 Best Biathletes – Financial Responsibility and Selection

Each OC of a WC event must pay the accommodation and meal expenses for the best male and the best female Biathletes for a maximum of seven full days for a three-competition WC event and five full days for a two-competition WC event, according to the numbers of Biathletes set by the IBU EB.

Selection of the best Biathletes for the current competition season, up to the end of December, will be from the top rankings of the previous year's World Cup Total Score. For the part of the season beginning on 1 January, the selection will be from the top rankings in the World Cup Total Score as of the end of December. For the part of the season beginning on 1 February, the selection will be from the top rankings in the World Cup Total Score as of the end of January and will continue on that basis for the remainder of the season.

15.2 WC ANNUAL SCHEDULING

15.2.1 Number of WC per Season

The number of events to be held shall be determined by the IBU EB based on the recommendation by the TC.

15.2.2 WC Annual Calendar

WC events shall be held prior to and after the annual WCH or the OWG. They are to be held in the time-frame set by the IBU EB.

15.3 BIDS TO HOST AN EVENT AND APPOINTMENT OF HOSTS

15.3.1 Authority to Appoint

Hosts of WC events shall be appointed by the IBU EB, based on a recommendation by the IBU TC.

15.3.2 Applications to Host WC Events

Applications for hosting WC events must be submitted by the applying NFs to the IBU Headquarters before the deadline established by the IBU EB. An IBU A license is required to apply. Applications must be submitted to the IBU Headquarters using the official IBU application form and must be signed by the President or SG of the NF.

- 15.3.2.1** A NF may apply to organize one or more WC events during a competition season. Normally a NF may organize only one WC event per season.

15.3.3 The IBU Event Hosting Declaration

The hosting NF must sign the IBU Event Hosting Declaration, thereby testifying that it accepts and will fulfill, in the required time, the tasks, measures and duties stipulated in the Declaration.

15.4 WC PROGRAM

The program for a WC event will be established by the IBU EB in consultation with the event host, the broadcasting company with which the IBU has entered a contractual agreement for TV distribution and the TC, as soon as possible.

15.5 INVITATIONS

Invitations to WC events must be approved by the RD and must be sent by the OC to all IBU NFs and the IBU Headquarters not later than three months before the start of the event. The invitation may be sent electronically by email or posting on a website with notification by e-mail.

15.6 PARTICIPATION**15.6.1 Registration and Entry Quotas**

Based on the previous year's Nations Cup Score final standings, NFs may participate with the following numbers of male and female competitors respectively at WC events: Individual and Sprint Competitions. The quota is based on the NF's ranking in the previous season's Nations Cup Score:

NF CUP RANKING	REGISTER	ENTER
1 - 4	8	7
5 - 8	7	6
9 - 12	6	5
13 - 22	5	4
23 - up	5	2

15.6.2 Additional Start Rights at WC Final on the basis of IBU Cup Total Score

For the World Cup Final, the winner of the IBU Cup Total Score for men and women can be entered in addition to the NF quota and the respective NFs shall receive additional funding (as determined annually by the EB) for this competitor's participation. Furthermore, NFs are allowed to enter competitors in addition to the quota based on how many com-

petitors they have ranked in the top 10 of the IBU Cup Total Score Final Standing up to a maximum of two per NF. The NF is free to use these additional entries for any qualified competitor.

15.6.3 Pursuit Competitions

For the Pursuit competition, the top 60 competitors from the qualifying competition shall be entitled to start.

15.6.4 Mass Start Competitions

The Mass Start competition entries shall consist of the top 30 competitors in the current WC Total Score list. If competitors are missing, filling in will be done from the current WC Total Score list in rank order. Start numbers shall be assigned based on the list standings - with the top ranking NF receiving number 1, the second number 2, and so on.

15.6.5 Relay Competitions

The best 30 nations may enter Relay teams for Men and Women respectively, based on the previous season's Nations Cup Score.

15.6.6 Team Staff

NFs shall be allowed to register team staff according to the number of competitors they registered. If this number is 4 or less, they shall be allowed to register a maximum of 4 team staff members. Starting from 5 competitors the maximum number of team staff that may be registered shall be equal to the number of competitors registered by the respective NF. If the OC is able to accept more than this number, the number must be stated in the invitation along with the conditions for the extra staff.

15.6.7 NFs Not Registered in Time

NFs that have not registered their team by name by the official deadline may participate if the OC accepts the registration and if it is approved by the TD.

15.7 WORLD CUP LEADER START NUMBERS AND FLOWER CEREMONY

15.7.1 General

The competitors, both Men and Women, who are the best ranked in the current World Cup Score in the Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions, and in the WC Total Score must wear during the competition a "World Cup Leader" start number.

15.7.2 World Cup Leader Start Numbers

The WC leader start numbers shall have the competitors' number according to the start list and be coloured as follows:

- a. WC Total Score leaders – yellow;
- b. Each Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start leader – red;
- c. WC Total Score leaders who are at the same time best ranked in the respective competition type – yellow/red combined.

Numbers shall be printed on the start numbers. Any advertising on the WC leader start numbers shall be totally under IBU jurisdiction.

15.7.3 Provision of Leader Start Numbers

The World Cup leader start numbers shall be provided by the IBU and will be brought to WC events as organized by IBU.

15.7.4 Flower Ceremony

The flower ceremony is the presentation of the top 8 competitors and top 6 Relay teams immediately after the end of the competition. The competitors shall appear wearing their competition start numbers and may have with them their competition materials/equipment.

15.8 WORLD CUP SCORING SYSTEM**15.8.1 General**

A scoring system will be used to reflect the competition performance of competitors, Relay teams and NFs throughout each WC competition season. Those competitors who have attained the highest final scores of the season shall be the winners.

15.8.1.1 Types of Scores

The following types of scores will be used.

- a. World Cup Total Score;
- b. World Cup Individual Score;
- c. World Cup Sprint Score;
- d. World Cup Pursuit Score;
- e. World Cup Mass Start Score;
- f. World Cup Relay Score;
- g. Nations Cup Score.

15.8.2 Awarding of Points

There will be two kinds of points awarded at WC and WCH, or OWG, competitions: World Cup points and Nations Cup points. They will be awarded as follows:

15.8.2.1 World Cup Points

At each WC, WCH or OWG Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competition, a first place shall give the competitor (relay)

1. place 60 Points;
2. place 54 Points;
3. place 48 Points;
4. place 43 Points;
5. place 40 Points;
6. place 38 Points;
7. place 36 Points;
8. place 34 Points;
9. place 32 Points;
10. place 31 Points further decreasing by one down to ... 40. place (1 Point).

15.8.2.2 Nations Cup Points

At each IBU Cup, WC, WCH or OWG Individual and Sprint competition the following points are awarded:

1. place 160 points
2. place 154 points
3. place 148 points
4. place 143 points
5. place 140 points
6. place 138 points
7. place 136 points
8. place 134 points
9. place 132 points
10. place 131 points and then decreasing by one point down to the last place.

15.8.3 Criteria

The number of competitions to be scored in each type of competition, the Total Score and the Nations Cup score will be set annually by the EB upon recommendation of the TC and will be published in the IBU Biath-

lon Calendar.

15.8.3.1 WC Total, Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay Scores

Scoring will be based on the Individual, Sprint, Pursuit, Mass Start and Relay competitions of the WC events and the WCH, or OWG, of that season.

15.8.3.2 Nations Cup Score

Scoring of the Nations Cup shall be based on all of the WC and WCH, or OWG, Individual, Sprint, and Relay competitions of that season.

15.8.4 Calculation

15.8.4.1 World Cup Total Score

For all competitors, the World Cup Total Score will be based on the Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start competitions. The scores from the set numbers of competitions will be added together and the sum will be the WC Total Score.

15.8.4.2 World Cup Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start score

The WC score of each of the types of the competitions will be calculated the same way by adding together the scores of the set number of competitions for each type.

15.8.4.3 Nations Cup Score

- a) The NFs' best three competitors' Nations Cup points in Individual and Sprint competitions shall be added together and that sum shall become the NF's Nations Cup Score for that competition. The Relay Nations Cup points shall be added to those from the Individual and Sprint; the cumulative sum shall become the respective NF's current ranking.
- b) After the WC Final, based on numbers set by the IBU EB, the best Individual, best Sprint and the best Relay competition Nations Cup Scores for each NF shall be counted from all of the Individual, Sprint, and Relay competitions of that season and will be added together. The sum will become the NF's Nations Cup Score.

15.8.5 Breaking of Ties in Standings

If there is an equal number of points in any standings during or at the end of the season, the best placed competitor or NF shall be the one who won more first places, and if there is still a tie, who won the most

second places, etc. If, after following this procedure, the tie cannot be broken, a tie will be declared.

15.8.6 World Cup Score

15.8.6.1 Interim Standings

After each WC and WCH, or OWG competition, the OC of the event must compile and distribute a World Cup interim standing list based on the results of that and the preceding competitions.

15.8.6.2 Final Score

The OC of the World Cup Final must compile and distribute lists for the final Score of all the World Cup and Nations Cup Scores to all NFs that took part in any WC event in that season.

15.9 AWARDS

15.9.1 General

World Cup trophies will be awarded at the end of the competition season, based on the World Cup Score final standings. In order to avoid extremely lengthy ceremonies, the trophies will be awarded by the IBU Representative in a dignified ceremony after the last competition of each competition type of a season.

15.9.2 Award Categories

The World Cup trophies shall be awarded to:

- a. the Man and Woman placed first in the World Cup Total Score;
- b. the Man and Woman placed first in the World Cup Individual Score;
- c. the Man and Woman placed first in the World Cup Sprint Score;
- d. the Man and Woman placed first in the World Cup Pursuit Score;
- e. the Man and Woman placed first in the World Cup Mass Start Score;
- f. the NFs placed first in the Men's and Women's World Cup Relay Scores;
- g. the NFs placed first in the Men's and Women's World Cup Nations Score.

15.9.3 Right to Retain Trophies

World Cup trophies may be retained as follows:

- a. The World Cup trophies awarded for the World Cup Total, Individual, Sprint, Pursuit and Mass Start Scores shall become the property of

the winners.

- b. The World Cup trophies awarded for the World Cup Relay Score shall become the property of that NF.
- c. The Cup for the World Cup Nations Score is a perpetual challenge cup that will be retained by the IBU. Miniature cups, for retention by the winning NFs, will be awarded every year.

15.9.4 Provision of Trophies

The World Cup trophies and certificates shall be provided by and at the expense of the IBU.

15.9.5 World Cup and Nations Cup Certificates

The IBU will present a certificate to the 10 best placed competitors and NFs according to the World Cup Total Score and Nations Cup. In each type of competition the IBU will present a certificate to the top placed competitor at the end of a competition season. The presentations will take place during the WC Final at a suitable occasion.

15.9.6 Other Prizes

The OC and other bodies may present other prizes.

15.9.7 Prize Money

Prize money shall be permitted in amounts as directed by the IBU EB.

16. ENTRY INTO FORCE

The IBU Event and Competition Rules were adopted by the 1998 Congress and amended by the 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006 Congresses. The last amended version entered into force on 7 September 2008.