



To the members of:

- Rules and Officials Sub-Committee

For information to:

- Freestyle Sport Committee
- U.S. Freestyle Division Chairman
- U.S. Freestyle Programs
- Freestyle Coaches
- Interested Parties

**Invitation - Sub-Committee for Freestyle Rules and Officials**

Dear Friends,

Please find attached the “**Provisional Minutes**” for the meeting of the Rules and Officials Sub-Committee at Congress that took place on **5/13/2025**.

With kind regards,

Thom Schaefer  
*Freestyle Rules and Officials Subcommittee Chair*



## **U.S. SKI AND SNOWBOARD ASSOCIATION**

**ROSC Minutes – for the meeting of the - Rules and Officials Sub-Committee (ROSC)  
Wednesday, May 14th, 2025- 8:00-10:00 am MT, Westgate Park City/ Zoom**

### **ROSC Meeting Minutes 5/14/2025**

#### **Meeting Purpose**

Review and discuss proposals, updates, and initiatives for U.S. Ski & Snowboard freestyle officials and rules.

#### [Provisional Meeting Agenda](#)

#### **Attendance**

Thom Schaefer - Chairman - Present

\*TJ Soar - TD Representative - Present

\*Chuck Search - Judge Representative - Present

\*Tom Stevenson - Division Representative (Central, East, Rocky) - Absent

\*Mark Pederson - Division Representative (IM, PNSA, FW, Northern) - Present

\*Jeff Lange - At Large - Present

\*Alex Jensen - Athlete Representative - Present

\*Dani Loeb - Athlete Representative - Absent

\*Chris Lillis - Athlete Representative - Absent

\*Morgan Schild - Athlete Representative - Absent

Matt Gnoza - Staff - Freestyle Sports Director- non-voting - Present

Maddie Hogg - Staff - Freestyle Development Manager- non-voting - Present

\*Voting

\*Voting = 8 voting members in attendance equals a quorum

In Person: Maddie Hogg, Mike Page, John Kavas, Matt Gnoza, David Dreitlein, Mike Papke, Tami Strong, Sam Tarrant, Mark Pederson, Nat Schirman

Virtual: Thomas Schaefer, Konrad Rotermund, Alex Jensen, Tim Massucco, John Gandolfo, TJ Soar, Larry Titus, Ann Battelle, Chuck Search, Alex Johnson, Jack Boyczuk, Helena Carpenter, Kris Pepe, Jeff Lange, Erick Panelli, Jimeel Ferris, Erik Peterson



## **Key Takeaways**

- New dual mogul seeding proposal approved by Mogul subcommittee; Rules & Officials to review and finalize wording within 48 hours
- Officials database created; divisions asked to review and update information
- Urgent need to recruit more judges; initiative proposed to formalize recruitment efforts
- Plans to develop nationwide U.S. education program for judges and TDs

## **Topics**

### **Officials Database Update**

- New database created for tracking officials (judges, TDs, chief of comps)
- Divisions asked to review and ensure information is complete and accurate
- Database includes contact info, license levels, clinics attended
- Useful for finding officials across divisions when needed

### **TD Training and Updates**

- International TD training offered at high-level events (e.g. World Cup in Finland)
- Multi-day program with proctors training on all aspects
- Domestic TD training calls held annually for new and returning TDs
- 100% of TD reports received this year with mostly positive feedback

### **Judge Recruitment and Training**

- Urgent need to recruit more judges, especially at higher levels
- Proposal to formalize judge recruitment initiative:
  - Each current judge challenged to recruit one new person
  - Division directors asked to recruit one judge each
  - Track progress and identify barriers
- Judge clinics scheduled:
  - Lake Placid: September 26-28
  - Calgary: October 17-19
  - Online webinars: October 10-12

### **Dual Mogul Seeding Proposal**

- New proposal to align U.S. events with FIS practices:
  - Seed using combination of mogul event results and ranking list
  - Addresses issues with "bracket busters" due to scheduling conflicts/injuries
- Mogul subcommittee approved; Rules & Officials to review rewritten version
- Committee to finalize wording and vote within 48 hours



### **Comp Guide Update**

- Annual process to align U.S. rules with FIS exceptions
- Call for volunteers to help review and compare manuals
- Ensure final FIS rules are incorporated before publishing

### **Officials Education Initiative**

- Plans to develop nationwide U.S. education program for judges and TDs
- Aim for more consistency in event formats and approaches across divisions
- Details to be worked out in coming months

### **New Business**

- Nationwide program for continuing education for officials and Judges.

## **Next Steps**

- Thomas to send out rewritten dual mogul seeding proposal for R&O review (48-hour deadline)
- All divisions to review and update officials database
- Formalize judge recruitment initiative and track progress
- Begin development of nationwide officials education program
- Volunteers needed for annual comp guide update

## **Action Items**

- Develop national judge recruitment initiative. Coord w/ Maddie on Lake Placid clinic logistics/sign-up info.
- Update Winfrey software for new dual mogul seeding calc (combo of mogul results + ranking list).
- Send updated dual mogul seeding proposal to R&O committee. Give 48hr deadline for review. Compile feedback, finalize numbering for FSC.