



JAPAN SKATING FEDERATION

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PRESIDENT KATSUKIHIRO HISANAGA
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SECRETARY GENERAL MITSUO MATSUMOTO
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Tokyo, April 22, 2003

Via Facsimile Transmission

Mrs. Phyllis Howard
President, USFSA

Mrs. Marilyn Chidlow
President, Skate Canada

Mr. Reinhard Mermseker
President, DEU

M. Eugène Peizerat
General Secretary, FFSG

Mr. Valentin Piseev
President, FSFR

Mr. Tian Xiao
President, CSA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have received a copy of the ISU Press Release dated April 2, 2003, which, among other things, announces the decision of the ISU Council that the "New Judging System" (the one originally described in Urgent Proposal No. 4 and presented to the 49th Ordinary Congress as a "project") will be implemented in various specified international competitions in 2003, including the six individual events of the Grand Prix of Figure Skating. We have also just now received ISU Communication No. 1207 providing the formal communication of that decision as required by Article 21 of the Constitution. We have also received a Fax copy of the letter from Mr. Jerry Lacey dated April 14, 2003.

We understand that the Council has made a decision to replace the Deutsch Eislauf Union with the Chinese Skating Association as a Grand Prix host Member. We have not, however, seen that decision reflected in a communication meeting the requirements of Article 21 of the Constitution. We thus include both the DEU and the CSA in the distribution list for this letter.

As you may recall from the copy of our letter dated March 13, 2003, the Japan Skating Federation has previously notified the ISU Council that the JSF will not consider implementing the "New Judging System" except in accordance with the procedures specified in Rules 367 and 551 and then only in circumstances set forth in that letter. Given the manner in which that letter has been treated by the ISU Council and/or the ISU Secretariat, we believe that we have no choice but to put each of you on notice that the JSF is highly unlikely to submit a request under Rules 367 and 551 (and thus permit use of the "New Judging System at the NHK Trophy) and would do so only in the following context:

- (1) all other Grand Prix Members submit a request under Rules 367 and 551 for use of the "New Judging System";
- (2) the NHK Trophy is conducted using both the "New Judging System" and the one specified in the 2002 rulebooks, in parallel;
- (3) both systems fully comply with the openness requirements of the current rules as specified in the 2002 rulebooks including (without limitation) publication of marks by judge, on the scoreboard for the current system and not later than upon completion of each event segment for the "New Judging System", as well as full use of the Classification List and a full Event Review Meeting;
- (4) the ISU fully absorb all costs of conducting the "New Judging System" in parallel and in calculating results under it, but that will be done under the supervision of the JSF as provided in the Rules; and
- (5) the results as calculated under the current system will determine the medals awarded in the NHK Trophy, even if the ISU decides to use the results as calculated under the "New Judging System" for purposes of determining which competitors qualify for the Grand Prix Final.

The JSF considers this a critical matter of its sovereign rights as an ISU Member and as the sole and exclusive authority over the sport of Figure Skating in Japan. The JSF will fully support corresponding efforts by each of you to preserve your own such sovereign rights. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Please note that this letter also is being sent to the ISU Management Commission Members and as such constitutes our formal response to the letter dated April 14 from Mr. Lacey.

Sincerely,


Katsuichiro Hisanaga
President

cc: Mr. Ottavio Cinquanta, ISU President
ISU Management Commission Members