

Hyannis, March 21, 2003

Mr. Ottavio Cinquanta
President
International Skating Union
Chemin de Primerose 2
CH 1007 Lausanne
Switzerland

Dear Mr. President:

It had been increasingly apparent over the past few weeks that it might be necessary for me to send you this letter. I have now received your FAX message of yesterday's date announcing that you have removed me as Referee of the Ladies' event at the upcoming World Figure Skating Championships. The record shows that you have done so for the simple reason I have declined to accept your ultimatum that I ignore the clear provisions of the International Skating Union's Special Regulations 2002 and that I confirm in writing that I will not enforce them. There can no longer be any uncertainty as to the need for this letter.

The integrity of administration of the sport of figure skating has deteriorated over the past several years and continues to do so. Not only do we find corruption and collusion amongst the judges and Member federations, we now observe ISU Officials breaching the Rules and Regulations which past Congresses have adopted and which remain in force.

A sport judged by individuals should always require transparency of the entire process. What judges gave what marks and placements must be known to the public in the arena and on the television. The calculation system for results must be able to be manually checked. We must not rely completely on computers that potentially can be manipulated.

Recently I read: "Change the judges and not the system"; I believe this is right on target and has validity. All ISU Officials must be held to the highest accountability standard and when there is proven misconduct by an ISU Official, a sanction, with suspensions commensurate with the offense, must be imposed; fixing a result can never be tolerated in our sport and a life suspension must be the only penalty.

Currently within the ISU there is little or no opportunity to be heard, even by ISU Office Holders, of which I am one, when one holds positions and opinions contrary to the President or Vice President for Figure Skating. As an example, Urgent Proposal No. 4 pertaining to Rule 121, paragraph 3, was never debated. The Congress was informed during discussion of this proposal on numerous occasions that this was only a project and not a rule. You personally told me that all four urgent proposals dealing with a judging/results system would be considered in the figure skating section meeting; yet Urgent Proposal No. 4 was taken up in the General Session where the speed skating delegates, with 50% of the votes, had the opportunity to vote on an exclusive figure skating matter. For me this illustrates an abuse of power by the Chair of the Congress. Several proposals were denied consideration for lack of financial impact statements; yet Urgent Proposal No. 4 was considered without any mention of potential cost. Another example is ISU Communication No. 1197 which purports to change Rules but does so completely in contravention of the ISU Constitution. As a result, Referees are prevented from implementing the Rules faithfully, as *all* ISU Office Holders are obligated to do.

Mr. Ottavio Cinquanta
ISU President

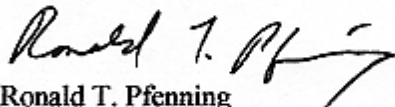
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At the present time I do not find the ISU focused on resolving the real issues within the Union, including those regarding proper respect for each of the separate sports it administers. More importantly, the efforts of the ISU are not focused on our athletes. The ISU is currently being governed in a manner which, in my opinion, is not in the best interest of figure skating.

It is extremely difficult to be an ISU "team player" when the leadership breaches and ignores the rules, misleads the Membership, and uses one's position for advancement. I can no longer be effective and contribute positively to the growth of my chosen sport as an ISU Office Holder; therefore I have concluded that it is time for me to step aside.

With a very heavy heart I hereby tender my resignation from the ISU Figure Skating Technical Committee effective as of April 15, 2003. I was elected to that Office by a vote of the Members acting in Congress and for that reason copies of this resignation are appropriately also being submitted to them directly. Members of the Council have serious obligations to the Members in matters addressed in this letter and copies of it are thus being submitted to each of them as well.

Respectfully,



Ronald T. Pfenning
ISU FSTC Member

cc: ISU Members
Members, ISU Council