

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

Communication No. 1871

ISU Blood Screening Program

(This ISU Communication cancels and replaces ISU Communication No. 1693)

A. PURPOSE OF THE ISU BLOOD SCREENING PROGRAM

The Blood Screening Program assists the ISU to establish a basic haematological profile for all Speed Skaters and Short Track Speed Skaters who take part in ISU Events.

The ISU Blood Screening program is a separate and independent ISU Program and is not subject to the ISU Skater Biological Passport Program (Communication No 1872).

A.1 Blood Testing at ISU Event

At designated ISU Events, a blood draw for analysis of haematological parameters will be organized by the ISU Medical Advisor or a designated Agency appointed by the ISU.

All Skaters entered in the competition, including substitutes, shall have a blood test done, either a Screening Blood Test as per this Communication or an ABP Blood Test as per ISU Communication 1872. Decision on the blood test which must be done is made by the ISU Medical Advisor or Anti-Doping Administrator prior to the blood draw.

A.2 Every Skater selected to undergo Blood Screening/ABP Blood Testing is obliged to report for and undergo Blood Screening/ABP Blood Testing, even if the Skater has withdrawn from the competition. Failure to do so will be reported to the appointed ISU Official responsible for the Event. Such failure to comply with the procedure will be considered a violation of the ISU Anti-Doping Rules.

B. BLOOD SCREENING PROCEDURES FOR BLOOD DRAW

B.1 The materials for the Blood Draw for screening of haematological parameters shall be of an approved standard, determined by the ISU before the start of the season. The needles must be in sealed and sterile packaging.

B.2 A sample of blood will be taken from a forearm vein by a Blood Collection Officer (BCO) appointed by the ISU Medical Advisor, after the Skater has been sitting for a minimum of 10 minutes. The ISU Medical Advisor may also serve as the BCO.

B.3 Each sample will be given an anonymous code number.

B.4 In the case of refusal by a Skater to give a blood sample for such purpose, the ISU will forbid participation of the Skater in the present and future ISU sanctioned events until such a blood sample has been provided according to the ISU procedures.

B.5 The samples are transported in a sealed transmittal container to a designated laboratory with an appropriate Chain of Custody Form or to the analyzer located on site of the Event.

B.6 Analysis of the blood screening samples will be carried out using a calibrated haematological analyzer that is capable of measuring various parameters, including haemoglobin (Hb), Hematocrit (Hct), and % reticulocytes (%ret). Further investigation of the samples may be performed including, but not limited to, any of the following: Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin (MCH) Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV), Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin Concentration (MCHC), Platelets (PLT), White Blood Cell Count (WBC), Red Blood Cell Count (RBC), determination of ferritin, soluble transferrin receptor, bilirubin, haptoglobin, total protein, erythropoietin receptors, serum EPO level, plasma expanders, oxygen carriers, familial and genetic tests.

B.7 The analysis shall be performed on an analyzer approved by the ISU Medical Commission and may be performed either in a laboratory appointed by the ISU or on site of the Event.

B.8 The calibration and operation of the analyzer shall be performed by a duly qualified technician.

C. LOGISTICS

C.1 Information to Team Leaders

Information about the location of the In-competition blood draw will be available to Team Leaders. A notification will be provided at the Event to inform all teams that an In-competition Blood Draw for analysis of hematological parameters will occur at that Event. It is the responsibility of the Team Leader to notify their team/Skaters of the place and time of the In-competition Blood Draw.

The Skater must report at the place and time indicated in the notification provided to all Teams. In case of late arrival at the blood screening station, the ISU Medical Advisor together with the ISU Representative may forbid participation of the Skater in the present Event.

C.2 Place of In-competition Blood Draw

The location for the Blood Draw will be indicated depending on the logistics of the specific competition venue. (see C.1)

C.3 In addition to the Skater(s) and one team representative, only the following persons may be present in the Blood Drawing room:

- ISU Representative;
- ISU Medical Advisor or in the case of unavailability, another physician approved by the ISU Medical Commission;
- The Skater's medical doctor;
- Technician(s) to assist with collecting and analyzing the sample;
- Administration person(s) as necessary

C.4 After the blood sample has been obtained the Skater will sign a master control sheet prepared by the ISU Medical Advisor or the designated physician to confirm that the Skater's name is linked to a specific barcode.

D. RESULTS MANAGEMENT

D.1 The results of the analysis will be given to the ISU Medical Advisor present at the Event and will be sent by the lab technician, when possible, directly in an electronic form into the ISU Data base in which the results will be organized and stored.

D.2 If, on the basis of results of one or more blood analyses, the ISU Medical Advisor, after consultation with a second ISU Medical Advisor, comes to the conclusion that there are abnormal haematological values of a particular Skater, such Skater shall be included into the ISU Skater Biological Passport Program.

E. ADDITIONAL RULES

E.1 Neither the Skater, his/her team or Member may ask to carry out another analysis of a new blood sample.

E.2 Persons participating or involved in Blood Screening/ ABP Blood Test are reminded that according to the current ISU Anti-Doping Rules they shall not make any statement regarding specific procedures or results relative to these Blood Screening/ABP Blood Test activities to the media without prior authorization from the ISU.

F. COSTS

F.1 The Event Organizers are responsible for providing the facility/rooms for the Blood Draws and for assisting in the organization of the necessary number of personnel for blood collection.

F.2 The ISU will be responsible for the other costs including the analysis fees, officials' accommodation and travel costs, and equipment.

Milan,

June 19, 2014

Lausanne,

Ottavio Cinquanta, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General