



International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Rules for Push Competitions

1. General Aspects

The IBSF and its Members (National Federations) are the only bodies that have the right to organize International Push Competitions.

With the exception of the regulations specifically listed in this document, all provisions of the currently valid International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Rules apply equally for push competitions.

1.1 Competitions

1.1.1 World Championships

The World Championships are held once every year.

The IBSF assigns the competitions pursuant to 1.5. of the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Rules to the candidate upon written application.

1.1.2 Disciplines

The World Championships are assigned in the following disciplines:

Men: 2-man and 4-man Bobsleigh (Men and/or Women), Skeleton

Women: Monobob, 2-woman Bobsleigh, Skeleton

1.1.3 Admission

Maximum 3 teams/athletes per discipline, gender and National Federation. As to the position of pilot, participation is allowed only for pilots who have obtained a license and competed in an official IBSF event during the previous season in the relevant discipline.

1.1.4 Event announcement and invitations

Announcements and invitations are made by the Organizer of the competition.

The Organizer must present the official event announcement together with the program for approval and coordination with the IBSF at the latest 3 months prior to the event. The Organizer must guarantee that the official event announcement together with the program will be sent to the National Federations and the appointed Jury President within two months prior to the date of the competition.

The event announcement must include the following:

- The name of the competition
- The location, the date and the schedule for the training and the competitions
- The number and type of the prizes
- The awards
- The amount of the entry fees
- The entry deadline
- The location, date and time of the draw of start numbers
- Information about benefits offered to the participants (lodging, board etc.)
- The name of the Chief of Organization
- The name of the Jury President
- The name of the Race Director
- The headquarters of the Organizing Committee, including the precise address, phone and fax number, e-mail address and office times
- A short description of the push track (length, gradient etc.)
- The commitment of the participants to stipulate an accident insurance policy

The conditions for admission to the competition shall be established in the official event announcement.

1.2 Licenses

All competitors must have a valid IBSF license.

1.3 Entries

Entries of the teams by name shall be made through the IBSF online registration system, and according to the article 8.6. of the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Rules.

1.4 Acceptance of Rules

By submitting the entry the participants (competitors, coaches and officials) accept these Rules as mandatory.

1.5 Violation of Rules

Any violation of the provisions of these Rules will be sanctioned by the Jury according to the gravity of the offense by applying:

- A warning
- A fine
- Disqualification from the competition

1.6 Liability and Insurance

The Organizer does not assume any liability for any accidents, damages, theft or other claims deriving from the conduct of the event.

The Organizer must guarantee that the push track has been tested, is certified and is functioning properly. The Organizer must present an official certification of the track at least 4 weeks prior to the event.

The Organizer is obliged to stipulate a sufficient public and third-party liability insurance policy. The Organizer must grant the general safety and security at the track.

1.7 Push track

1.7.1 The track consists of a straight path which is either iced and thus equipped with conventional grooves or provided with two rails used to guide the bob/skeleton. In between and outside these rails the track shall be constructed in such a manner to allow the use of spikes or bob/skeleton starting shoes. All other conditions should comply with those established for the bob/skeleton starting area.

- Transportable push tracks with or without gradient
- Fixed push tracks with gradient
- Iced push tracks with gradient

1.7.2 The total length of the track shall amount to approximately 60 – 100 m, whilst the section of measurement of the push stretch should have a minimum length of 40 meters.

1.7.3 A safe deceleration stretch shall be provided behind the finish. This deceleration stretch must be constructed in such a way that the sled can stop safely.

1.8 Sled

- 1.8.1 The sleds (Monobob, 2-man and 4-man bobsleigh, skeleton) are provided by the Organizer. Each competitor uses the same sled.
- 1.8.2 The sled runs on pairs of runners/rollers which are fixed to the front and rear axles.
- 1.8.3 The sled construction must comply with the fundamental characteristics of the bob/skeleton defined in the IBSF International Rules.
- 1.8.4 The sled must be equipped with efficient braking devices, which allow to decelerate and stop the sled sufficiently, unless the track itself is provided with a safe braking system.
- 1.8.5 The sled must be checked by the Jury prior to the beginning of the competition. The test results must be recorded.

1.9 Sports clothing

- 1.9.1 The athletes must wear adequate sport clothing during the races.
- 1.9.2 The use of helmets is mandatory.
- 1.9.3 On non-iced push tracks competitors may also wear running shoes provided with short spikes (maximum 7 mm).

2. Organizer

- 2.1 The Organizer, who was assigned a competition, shall assume the responsibility for the entire organization of the event and the corresponding costs.
- 2.2 The Organizer must provide the functioning track both for the official training and the competition heats.

3. Organizing Committee and Race Organization

- 3.1 An Organizing Committee shall be formed for the event, the structure and members of which are to be established by the Organizer.
- 3.2 The Race Organization shall comprise the following officials:
 - Race director
 - Chief of the track
 - Race doctor
 - Chief of the start
 - Chief of the finish
 - Timekeeper
 - Speaker
 - Security service
 - Bobsleigh/Skeleton mechanic

3.3 Prizes

- 3.3.1** The IBSF awards gold, silver and bronze medals to each athlete belonging to the first, second and third placed team/to each first, second and third placed athlete.
- 3.3.2** The Organizer awards additional honorary prizes to the athletes.
- 3.3.3** The procedure for awarding the medals and additional honorary prizes is described in the official event announcement.

4. Jury

4.1 Nomination

The IBSF appoints the Jury President as well as one Jury Member. All Jury Members must possess a valid IBSF Jury license. Arrival and departure dates of the Jury will be arranged between IBSF and the Organizer.

4.2 Travel and accommodation expenses

The travel, board and lodging costs of the Jury are at the expense of the Organizer.

4.3. Competence

The Jury is the highest authority of the competition and exercises control with the right to make judgments within the scope of these Rules.

- Conduct of the draw
- Any change of athletes
- Any ban of athletes from starting
- Any repetition of a heat
- Any repetition of the start
- Any penalties for Rule violations
- Decisions regarding protests

Furthermore, the Jury is responsible for any decision on issues regarding the competition, which are not dealt with and established in these Rules.

5. Race Director

- 5.1** The Race Director appointed by the Organizer must possess a valid IBSF Jury license.
- 5.2** The Race Director is responsible for ensuring that under the direction of the Jury all measures are taken to grant the orderly progression of the training and competition.
- 5.3** During the training and the competition the Race Director authorizes the start of each competitor after consultation with the Jury.
- 5.4** If the Jury detects any deficiencies, which may affect the orderly progression of the competition, the Race Director must have the deficiencies remedied.
- 5.5** The Race Director must execute the decisions made by the Jury.

5.6 Upon request of the Jury the Race Director convenes the team captains' meetings. The Race Director attends these meetings.

5.7 The Race Director has authority - on the part of the organizer - over all officials in charge of the sporting activities of the competition.

6. Insurance

The National Federations are responsible for ensuring that each of their athletes is sufficiently covered by accident and disability insurance and has a public and third-party liability insurance covering all risks that may arise from an accident.

6.1 Medical Services

6.1.1 During the official training and race heats the following must be available at the track: one medical specialist with certified knowledge/training of emergency medical aid

6.1.2 Upon request an ambulance must be immediately available.

6.1.3 The medical specialist is responsible for the first medical aid in case of injuries and illness of any athlete. They direct the transportation of any injured or ill athlete for further medical treatment.

7. Training and Competition

7.1 Training

7.1.1 The organizer offers at least 3 official training heats with timing per discipline.

7.1.2 Participation in the official training is only permitted for teams/athletes registered for the competition.

7.2 Competition

7.2.1 The starting order for the competition shall be determined by draw.

7.2.2 Each registered team shall keep the same number throughout the entire competition. Numbers are non-transferable and non-exchangeable.

7.2.3 At the competition 3 push heats per discipline shall be carried out.

7.2.4 For the competition athletes will be grouped in one starting group per discipline and gender.

7.2.5 Starting order

1st heat: from starting number 1 to the end

2nd heat: from starting number 1 to the end

3rd heat: from the 10th to the 1st according to the ranking after the 2nd heat

If after the first or second heat two or more teams/athletes have achieved the same time, the starting order of these teams/athletes for the second or third race heat will be determined according to the "Bib" number, i.e. the team/athlete with the highest "Bib" number is the first to start.

If the number of teams/athletes is reduced prior to the last race heat, the eliminated teams/athletes remain in the results with their final ranking.

7.3 Start

7.3.1 The start is carried out according to the established starting order.

7.3.2 Once the starter has cleared the track (by means of an acoustic signal) the team/athlete must start within 30 seconds.

7.3.3 In the case the bobsled/skeleton is lifted out of the grooves/rails during the start, the start may be repeated once only.

7.4 Crossing the finish line

7.4.1 All team members/athletes must be inside the bobsled/on the skeleton, when the sled crosses the finish line.

7.4.2 Both feet of each athlete must be inside the edges of the bob frame.

7.4.3 Above the finish line a control tape is tensely fixed at a height of 130 cm, which must not be torn off by the teams/athletes.

7.5 Teams

7.5.1 All race heats must be carried out by the same members of each team.

7.5.2 If any team member is injured or gets ill, the athlete concerned may be replaced by an athlete of the same National Federation upon approval by the Jury.

7.5.3 Repetition of a heat.
After a malfunction not caused by the team, the heat may be repeated with the authorization of the Jury.

7.6 Time Measurement and Ranking

7.6.1 The ranking is defined by summation of the single heat times. Heat times are measured electrically or electronically.
At least one interval time shall be measured.

7.6.2 In the case of times equal to 1/100th of a second of two or more teams/athletes to be ranked on places 1 to 3, the ranking is determined on the bases of the following criteria:
the time measured for the best heat;
In the case times remain equal even according to this criterion, the ranking will be determined on the bases of the result of the final heat.
In the case of equal times referred to other positions of the ranking, the same position in the ranking will be assigned.
The rankings of training and the race are to be published as soon as possible.

7.6.3 The official ranking list must be signed by the Jury President and the Race Director.

8. Awards ceremony

8.1 After the conclusion of the race the awards ceremony should take place as soon as possible after the deadline for submitting protests.

8.1.1 At all competitions pursuant to Article 1 of the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton rules the national flags of the first three placed teams/athletes must be hoisted.
In addition, the anthem of the Nation of the winning athlete/team must be played.

9. Protests

9.1 Protests must be made verbally to the Jury at latest within 5 minutes after the heat in which that incident happened.

9.2 Additionally, the grounds for the protest must be submitted in writing to the Jury no more than 20 minutes after the conclusion of the race.

9.3 Only the officially designated team captains may submit verbal and written protests.

9.4 No protests are accepted after the submission deadline has passed.

9.5 A fee in the value of € 100,00 shall be paid with the submission of the written protest. If the protest is rejected, the fee is forfeited in favor of the IBSF. Otherwise, the protest fee is returned.

9.6 The decision regarding a protest submitted during a competition shall be made in a timely manner to allow the team/athlete affected by the protest to potentially continue to participate in the competition, if the protest is rejected.

9.7 In cases of protests submitted after the conclusion of the race, the Jury shall announce its decision possibly not later than 15 minutes after the submission of the protest.

9.8 The decision of the Jury is determined by a simple majority of votes. If the votes are equal, the Jury President casts the deciding vote.

9.9 The decision of the Jury is final, incontestable and takes effect immediately.

10. Final Clauses

These Rules come into effect on 1st July 2022.