



# **68. FIL-KONGRESS**

Großgmain / AUT  
20. November 2020

# **68<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS OF THE FIL**

Großgmain / AUT  
November 20, 2020

## **Protokoll / *Minutes***

Erstellt und übersetzt durch das FIL-Büro in Berchtesgaden, Deutschland.  
*Prepared and translated by the FIL Office in Berchtesgaden, Germany.*



**Friday, November 20, 2020**

**8:00 am**

**1. Opening and greeting**

**FIL President Josef Fendt warmly welcomes** the Congress participants and officially opens the **68th FIL Congress 2020**, for the first time in the form of an online Congress. He regrets not being able to welcome the delegates in person. Due to the Covid-19 situation, the Congress will take place in Großgmain/AUT instead of Berchtesgaden/GER.

He informs the Congress that an Executive Board meeting already took place yesterday and points out that the Congress will not take place in its original scope of 2 days but rather needs to be held in one day (also due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

He addresses special greetings to the **two FIL Honorary Members Hartmut Kardaetz** and **Svein Romstad**, to **Kit McConnel**, **Irina Gladkikh**, **Kristin Brynildsen** and **Andrew Hofer** from the IOC Sports Department, to the newly elected and re-elected Presidents and Secretaries General of the National Federations, to the representatives of the agencies Infront, Stefan Kraus and RGS, Rudi Größwang, as well as to all those who will join the Congress via livestream on the FIL website.

The **LUMI** company introduces their team to the Congress and explains the voting system, as well as all technical procedures during the Congress.  
A mock vote is conducted.

**J. Fendt** thanks the company LUMI and gives the floor to **Dr. Ch. Krähe**. **Dr. Ch. Krähe, Chairman of the Legal Committee**, makes a motion on behalf of the Legal Committee that this Congress also be recorded via video. J. Fendt puts Dr. Krähe's motion to vote. Secretary General E. Fogelis welcomes the congress participants and opens the election to vote on the motion.

**Congress Resolution 01/20**

**68<sup>th</sup> FIL online Congress can be also video recorded.**

**-unanimous/approved-**

A minute of silence follows in **silent remembrance** of the **luge officials and former athletes who passed away** last year.

Representatively, President J. Fendt names:

- **Michal Jasnosz/POL**  
*President of the Polish national federation.*  
*Died on September 29, 2019 at the age of 71 years.*
- **Walter Ausserdorfer/ITA**  
*Bronze medal winner at the 1964 Olympic Winter Games in doubles.*  
*Died on October 27, 2019 of a heart attack at the age of 80 years.*



- **Josef Thaler/AUT**  
*Won the title in doubles at the first World Championships in Oslo in 1955.  
Died on February 09, 2020 at the age of 90 years.*
- **Felix Kumaritashvili/GEO**  
*President of the Georgian luge federation.  
Died on March 12, 2020 at the age of 62 years.*
- **Chi-You Hsu/TPE**  
*FIL Honorary President for Asia.  
Died on April 14, 2020 at the age of 94 years.*
- **Elly Lieber- Lienorter/AUT**  
*1956 European Champion 1956 in Imst, 1959 World Champion in Villard-de-Lans.  
Died on August 01, 2020 at the age of 87 years.*

**President J. Fendt** states that the invitations were sent to the NFs by the deadline and, as there are no comments, declares the **convening of the 68<sup>th</sup> FIL Congress in online form according to the regulations.**

**President J. Fendt** points out that the representatives of the IOC Sports Department will join at 9 o'clock.

## **2. Roll call and right to vote**

**Secretary General E. Fogelis** takes attendance. At the opening of the Congress **34 members/NFs** have registered (ARG, AUT, BEL, BIH, CAN, CHN, CRO, CZE, FIN, FRA, GBR, GER, GEO, ITA, JPN, KAZ, KOR, LIE, LTU, MDA, NED, NOR, NZL, POL, ROU, RUS, SLO, SRB, SVK, SUI, SWE, TPE, UKR, USA).

**30 members/NFs with seat and vote** are registered.

2/3 majority: 21 votes

majority: 16 votes

## **3. Approval of the minutes from the last Congress**

### **Congress Resolution 02/20**

The minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> FIL Congress 2019 in Ljubljana/SLO are approved.

- 24 in favor, 6 abstentions-

## **4. Awards**

**President J. Fendt and Secretary General E. Fogelis** present the following awards:



### **FIL Medal of Honor in Gold:**

- Dr. Christian KRÄHE/GER

Unfortunately, due to the online format of the Congress, all other awards could not be presented personally today:

### **FIL Medal of Honor in Bronze:**

- Wolfgang MERRBACH/GER
- Dieter RUDOLPH/GER
- Joachim MÄTZEL/GER
- Dipl.-Med. Rudi VONAU/GER
- Thomas ZIMMERMANN/GER
- Hans-Jürgen KÖHNE/GER
- Wolfgang ROS/GER
- Dmitry KASATKIN/RUS
- Artemiy RODIONOV/RUS
- Dr. Natalia SEDYKH/RUS

### **FIL Medal of Honor in Silber:**

- Gerhard KIRCHNER/GER
- Wolfgang HARDER/GER

**J. Fendt** informs that Wolfgang Ros and Karl Flacher are retiring. The FIL will send them a sign of recognition for their work (in another form).

## **5. Admission of new members**

A written application has been submitted by Ireland.

**President J. Fendt** informs that the Executive Board decided at its meeting on November 19, 2020 to accept **Ireland as a provisional member** of the FIL.

The necessary requirements (federation statutes, recognition by the NOC of Ireland (beginning of December)) have been or will be provided.

One athlete is expected to participate in the 2nd half of the coming season.

## **6. Reports from the members of the Executive Board**

### **6.1 President (is read)**

**President J. Fendt and Secretary General E. Fogelis** present their reports (**see enclosure 1 and enclosure 2**), while the reports of the other members of the Executive Board and functionaries can be read in the Congress dossier. The dossier was made available to all national federations in good time in advance via e-mail / FTP server.

In his **Congress report**, **President Josef Fendt** addresses the following topics among others:

- All artificial and natural track competitions in the 2019/20 season were able to be held successfully.
  - o AT WCh on the 2014 Olympic track in Sochi
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Lausanne/ St. Moritz



- NT ECh in Moscow with difficult weather conditions
- Doubles women is added to the Juniors this season, in the 2021/2022 season also to the general class.
- The construction of the standard sled was an important step into the future.
- Successful prehomologation of the new Olympic track in Beijing
- New artificial track is being built in Bludenz, the IBSF and the FIL are supporting this project.
- Development of a new improved race shoe with the company Rass, the contracts with Rass and GTS were renewed.
- Viessmann has withdrawn as main sponsor, a transition period was achieved.
- Eberspächer remains and is the main sponsor for the coming season (switch the advertising spaces)  
A new sponsor needs to be found for next season.
- VP Marketing Th. Schwab has developed a new marketing concept together with Infront.
- TV rights: contract extension with Sport A soon
- Contract with main sponsor *Südtirol* for natural track
- Natural track sport in program of the Olympic Winter Games is dependent on many factors which the FIL only has limited influence on (IOC)
- Strategy plan "SLIDE 2026" –draft by the WG under the leadership of SG E. Fogelis together with a professional agency
- FIL is still very well connected, currently only through online meetings unfortunately, e.g. AIOWF Meeting at which Ivo Ferriani is elected new president, Heike Größwang new secretary general, and Einars Fogelis to new auditor
- Good Governance: In a study, the FIL achieved a good middle placement withing all international Olympic sport federations
- Creation of the new events schedule very difficult due to the current circumstances
- Creation of an extension hygiene concept under the leadership of VP Th. Schwab, ML Rainer, and Ch. Eigentler; FIL hygiene manager is Ch. Schweiger
- The preparations for 2022 OWG are already going very well, the organization of the 2026 OWG has also begun
  - J. Fendt lists interesting stages of development from his time in office at the FIL

**J. Fendt** states that he would like say thank you at a later point.

***E. Fogelis changes the agenda as the IOC members have joined the meeting.***

**Report from Kit McConnell/ IOC Sports Director**

- *He says thanks you that he is able to attend the FIL Congress*
- *Congratulations to J. Fendt on his 26 years as president and for everything that he has done for the sport of luge*
- *The president and he look forward to meeting with J. Fendt personally soon*
- *Presentation*
- **COVID-19 Impact on Sports / Olympic Games**

***President J. Fendt thanks Kit McConnell for the kind words and the many years of work together as well as for the interesting presentation.***



**VP NB P. Knauseder** asks Kit McConnell what possibilities exist to loosen the quotas.

**Kit McConnell** answers that it will be difficult to change the quotas. He asks what else is gained (younger audience, larger audience etc.) After the season, he would gladly continue the discussion.

**VP NT P. Knauseder** says thank you for the information and promises to further follow the efforts.

**Kit McConnell** shows a video about the Olympic Games.

**Report from Niccolo Campriani (former sports marksman) / Senior Sports Intelligence Manager of the IOC**

- Presentation on mental health
- Presentation on data collection

**E. Fogelis** and **J. Fendt** thank Kit McConnell and Niccolo Campriani.

**6.2 Secretary General (is read)**

In his speech, **Secretary General Einars Fogelis** emphasizes to the FIL congress that the COVIS-19 crisis has very big limitations also in the FIL family and regrets very much that the delegates cannot be present in person. He thanks the colleagues of the IOC for the detailed reports.

- Die FIL actively worked on the preparations for the next Olympic Games 2022 in Bejiing
- The prehomologation was carried out successfully with the IBSF and BOCOG
- The next important step is the test event as well as the training weeks
- Video conference with BOCOG in the coming week, the resulting information will be passed onto the NFs
- Topics such as athlete support and youth participation in sports are also included in the FIL strategy plan "SLIDE 2026"
- In the AIOWF IF Governance Questionnaire with 6 chapters: Background, Transparency, Integrity, Democracy, Development, and Control Mechanism, the FIL was assessed category B with 120 points.
- The FIL cooperation with the IOC, the other Olympic winter sport federations, WADA, and the ITA is very important and valuable in daily business
- Gender equality is an important issue in creating the program of YOG 2024 and the OWG 2026
- Active work is being done to position natural track luge and on its addition to the Olympic program
- COVID-19: The safety and health of the athletes and coaches has priority; The protection and hygiene concept of the FIL was developed within the FIL
- E. Fogelis thanks all FIL and working group colleagues for the development of the new road map.

**J. Fendt** thanks **E. Fogelis** for what is likely his last report as secretary general.

**All other reports can be found in the Congress dossier.**



## **7. Discussion on the work reports**

**J. Fendt** gives the congress participants the opportunity to ask questions. The congress participants do not have any other questions about the reports.

### ***15 MINUTEN BREAK***

## **8. Strategy Plan**

The strategy plan “**SLIDE 2026**” (see enclosure 3) has been created from the 2019 Congress in Ljubljana/SLO up to this year’s congress.

**Secretary E. Fogelis** gives a brief explanation of the strategy plan:

- 11 working groups
- It was a great challenge to create a new map for the federation: the last strategy plan was made in 2011.
- The FIL has grown since 2011, there are new successful disciplines, the sport of luge has become more interesting for the spectators.
- The goals have not changed but the situation has (audience, fans, internet,...); The question is how to get more people interested in the sport of luge?
- The strategy plan joins aspects of the FIL’s future: a mission, a vision, values, strategic priorities, goals and the desired results
- Attractiveness for the media, mass participation in the sport of luge, develop own activities, youth work, development program also for coaches
- Transparency in the FIL for all partners and national federations
- The strategy plan “SLIDE 2026” was approved in May 2020.

**J. Fendt** gives the participants the opportunity to ask questions about the strategy plan “SLIDE 2026”. The Congress does not have any other questions.

### **Congress Resolution 03/20**

**The strategy plan “SLIDE 2026” is approved by the Congress.**

**-25 in favor, 7 abstentions-**

## **9. Pre-discussion on the motion**

### **9.1 Motions to the statutes**

- **Motion 1** (applicant Swedish federation) **§ 1.4.1 of the statutes** (addition of alpine luge)

**Johan Ahlberg/SWE** withdraws the current motion from the Swedish national federation due to the FIL’s new strategy plan.

- **Motion 2** (applicant FIL Legal Committee/Executive Board) **§ 4.5.6 of the Statutes** (emergency decision by the Executive Board)



**Dr. Ch. Krähe, Chairman of the FIL Legal Committee**, explains these changes to the FIL Statutes. They are mostly based on the current COVID-19 conditions.

**Congress Resolution 04/20**

**The motion on paragraph 4.5.6 of the FIL Statutes is approved.**

**-24 in favor, 2 against, 6 abstentions-**

- **Motion 3** (applicant FIL Legal Committee/Executive Board) **FIL Anti-Doping Code 2021**

Dr. Ch. Krähe, Chairman of the FIL Legal Committee, explains the changes in the FIL Anti-Doping Code. *The WADA Code is a completely new version. Dr. Ch. Krähe calls on the Congress to approve the new FIL Anti-Doping Code.*

4 fundamental principle in the new version:

- *The athletes' surroundings (coaches, sport doctors, assistants, etc.) can also be sanctioned effective immediately*
- *Sanctions will be made more flexibly*
- *The FIL accepted an offer from the IOC to have all doping tests done through the ITA*
- *The FIL has joined the CAS ADD (neutral body) which carries out the proceeding in the case of a violation*

**Congress Resolution 05/20**

**Motion 3 to change the 2021 FIL Anti-Doping Code is approved.**

**-24 in favor, 8 abstentions-**

**9.2 Motions to the IRO**

- IRO motions are always submitted to the Congress when they achieve at least a 2/3 majority approval in the respective expert commission or when the IRO motion must be approved by the Executive Board.

**Congress Resolution 06/20**

**The motions for changes to the 2020 IRO AT and NT which were approved in advance by the Executive Board at the recommendation of the expert commission as a matter of urgency are approved.**

**-23 in favor, 9 abstentions-**



- **Amendment motion** (applicant Medical Commission) **§6 of the IRO** (race doctor/paramedics/EMT with highest level of education in emergency service)

**Secretary General E. Fogelis** explains the amendment motion from the Medical Commission.

#### **Congress Resolution 07/20**

**The amendment motion on paragraph 6 (Medical Service) of the IRO AT and NT is approved.**

**-26 in favor, 6 abstentions-**

### **9.3 Other motions**

**No other general motions have been submitted to the Congress.**

## **10. Finances**

### **10.1 Approval of the Annual Statement of Accounts (01 April 2019 – 31 March 2020)**

**Vice President Harald Steyrer** explains the **2019/20 Annual Statement of Accounts** and points out the reasons for lower income and lower expenditures in his “Explanations of the 2019/2020 Annual Statement of Accounts” which is included in the dossier.

He states that the FIL Control Commission met October 16-18, 2020 in Prein an der Rax. The audit report was sent to the Congress on time.

The external audit of the plausibility of FIL assets by the auditing firm SOT Salzburg has also taken place. The corresponding audit report is available as PDF on request.

#### **Congress Resolution 08/20**

**The 2019/2020 Annual Statement of Accounts is approved.**

**-25 in favor, 7 abstentions-**

Afterwards, **VP H. Steyrer** presents the financial status of the FIL and thanks the members of the Executive Board and the other responsible persons in the FIL for their high financial discipline.

### **10.2 Approval of the budget proposal (01 April 2020 – 31 March 2021)**

In his explanations on the **2020/2021 budget estimate**, VP H. Steyrer insistently points out that it takes into account all revenues and expenses of a regular sports year at the time of preparation. The present 2020/2021 budget had to be confirmed by the FIL Executive Board already in May 2020, because otherwise, due to the



COVID-19 related postponement of the FIL Congress from June to November, there would have been no basis for proper management in this period.

VP H. Steyrer asks for Congressional approval of the submitted 2020/2021 budget, taking into account the ever-changing COVID-19 situation and the associated risks.

#### **Congress Resolution 09/20**

**The 2020/2021 budget is approved in the submitted form.**

**-23 in favor, 9 abstentions-**

**VP H. Steyrer** thanks his colleagues for the cooperation this past year.

He also thanks **President J. Fendt** in particular for his extraordinary dedication and for the many years (since 1996) of excellent cooperation as well as for sustainable changes in the sport of luge that he was striving for.

**President J. Fendt** thanks **VP H. Steyrer** for his personal words and for his **committed, conscientious and prudent management of the FIL finances** for more than 24 years now.

#### **11. Report of the Control Commission and release of the Executive Board**

The chairman of the Control Commission **V. Vavruskova** presents the audit report, in which the professional and prudent management of finances by VP H. Steyrer is emphasized.

She thanks everyone for their cooperation and proposes to the Congress to grant release to the Vice President for Finance, the Presidium, the entire Executive Board and the Audit Commission.

#### **Congress Resolution 10/20**

**The FIL Executive Board is released at the proposal of the Control Commission.**

**-22 in favor, 10 abstentions-**

#### **12. Setting the membership fees**

#### **Congress Resolution 11/20**

**The annual membership fee is set at € 100 as previous.**

**-22 in favor, 10 abstentions-**

**60 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK**



***The company LUMI explains the voting procedure again.***

**13. Information from the OC of the 2022 OWG on the preparation of the luge competitions in Beijing/ CHN**

ZHANG Xudong („Clive“) from the sport department of the OC (BOCOG) informs the Congress participants extensively on the status of the preparations for the 2022 OWG. **(enclosure 4).**

**J. Fendt and Th. Schwab** thank Zhang Xudong for the presentation and the fantastic organization and cooperation in the past 4 years.

**14. Presentation of the OCs of the 2021 FIL Championships**

No presentations were submitted by the OCs.

**15. Resolution of the motions**

**15.1 Motions to the statutes**

**15.2 Motions to the IRO**

**15.3 Other motions**

***Agenda item 15 is dropped as all motions have already been resolved under agenda item 9.***

**16. Awarding of the FIL Championships until 2024 at the latest**

**16.1 Presentations from the applicants (if desired)**

- The OC “2023 Luge JWCh AT and 2024 WCh AT in Altenberg” with Mr. Jens Morgenstern at the helm, presents the very informative application from Altenberg as event organizer of the 2023 FIL Junior World Championships and the 2024 FIL World Championships.
- The OC “2023 Luge JWCh AT in Bludenz” with Mr. Markus Prock provides information about the preparations as well as the track construction and presents the application for the 2023 FIL Junior World Championships.

**16.2 Vote**

**Congress Resolution 12/20**

**The Congress awards the 2022 FIL Junior World Championships Artificial Track to the German Bobsleigh and Luge Federation with the event organizer Winterberg.**

**-28 in favor, 3 abstentions-**



### **Congress Resolution 13/20**

The Congress awards the 2023 FIL Junior World Championships Artificial Track to the Austrian Luge Federation with event organizer Bludenz under the condition that a Junior World Cup is staged successfully in the 2021/2022 season.

-Bludenz/AUT: 22 votes-  
-Altenberg/GER: 6 votes-  
-3 abstentions-

### **Congress Resolution 14/20**

The Congress awards the 2024 FIL World Championships Artificial Track to the German Bobsleigh and Luge Federation with the event organizer Altenberg.

- 28 in favor, 3 abstentions-

### **Congress Resolution 15/20**

The Congress awards the 2022 FIL Junior World Championships Natural Track to the event organizer Jaufental/ITA.

- 29 in favor, 2 abstentions-

## **17. Elections**

**President J. Fendt** proposes the following **Election Committee**:

- Dr. Ch. Krähe/GER (Chairman of the Legal Committee)
- V. Vavruskova (Control Commission)
- G. Beck (Control Commission)

The Congress approves this proposal, there are no other proposals.

**Dr. Ch. Krähe** brings **President J. Fendt's** attention to placing **S. Romstad** as a **substitute for V. Vavruskova** as she cannot be in the Election Committee for her own election.

**J. Fendt gives his last speech as FIL President to the Congress** in which he goes into more detail about his career, his goals in the FIL and his many positive experiences during the last 26 years.

He thanks the previous Executive Board for the trustful cooperation and the NFs for supporting his work. J. Fendt relinquishes his presidency of his own free will and thus officially announces his resignation.

He hands over the Congress leadership to the Election Committee.

Comment from **Sepp Benz**: Thanks to **J. Fendt** for his work for his work over the years and wishes him the best for the future.

The Election Committee appoints **Dr. Ch. Krähe** its chairman.

He states that the election results are only valid until 2022. The online election is secret.



### **17.1 Election of the President**

- **Einars Fogelis/LAT**

**E. Fogelis** declares himself ready to stand for election for the office of President. He presents himself to the Congress and wants to do everything in his power for the sport of luge together with the new Secretary General and with the Executive Board.

#### **Congress Resolution 16/20**

**Einars Fogelis/LAT is elected president (unopposed) via the online voting system.**

**-30 in favor, 1 abstention-**

**E. Fogelis** thanks everyone for their trust in him and **accepts the presidency**. **Former President J. Fendt congratulates E. Fogelis on his new office as president** and wishes him all the best for the future.

### **17.2 Election of the Secretary General (in the case of a vacancy)**

- **Dwight Bell/USA**

**D. Bell** introduces himself to the Congress and promises, if elected, to give his full commitment to the sport of luge.

#### **Congress Resolution 17/20**

**Dwight Bell/USA is elected Secretary General (unopposed) per the online voting system.**

**-26 in favor, 1 against, 4 abstentions-**

**D. Bell** accepts the election and thanks the Congress for their trust. He emphasizes that he is looking forward to the work together with the new president, E. Fogelis, the Executive Board members, and the national federations. He thanks former president J. Fendt for the wonderful cooperation in the past years and wishes him all the best for the future.

### **17.3 Election of an Executive Board member (in the case of a vacancy)**

- **Sorin Buta/ROU**

**S. Buta** introduces himself to the delegates and would like to face the challenges for artificial and natural track luge together with the Executive Board and the national federation.

#### **Comment from M. Prock:**

M. Prock thanks J. Fendt for the great work together and wishes him all the best for the future. He congratulates President E. Fogelis on his election to president, as well as Secretary General D. Bell on his election. He approves the election of Sorin Buta as new Executive Member!

He also thanks for the awarding of 2023 JWCh AT to Bludenz.



- **Steve Harris/CAN**

**S. Harris** introduces himself to the delegates and explains his goals and ideas. He would like to work and contribute as a member of the Executive Board.

#### **Congress Resolution 18/20**

The election results for the Executive Board member are as follows:

**Steve Harris/CAN: 12 votes**

**Sorin Buta/ROU: 16 votes**

**-3 abstentions-**

**Therefore, Sorin Buta/ROU is elected Executive Board member.**

**S. Buta** accepts the election and thanks the national federations for their trust.

#### **17.4 Election of the substitute member of the Control Commission**

- **V. Vavruskova/CZE**

#### **Congress Resolution 19/20**

**V. Vavruskova/CZE is elected substitute member of the Control Commission.**

**-28 in favor, 3 abstentions-**

**V. Vavruskova** says thank you and accepts the election.

**Dr. Ch. Krähe** gives the floor to the **new president, E. Fogelis.**

**President E. Fogelis** welcomes the **new Executive Board** and the **new Presidium.**

#### **18. Determining the location of the 2022 Congress**

- **Riga/LAT**

**Atis Strenga, President of the Latvian luge federation,** informs the delegates of Latvia's willingness to **host the 2022 FIL Congress.**

There are no other candidates.

#### **Congress Resolution 20/20**

**The 2022 FIL Congress is awarded to Latvia with Riga as the congress city.**

**-30 in favor, 1 abstention-**



## **19. Miscellaneous**

**M. Prock/AUT** announces that in his opinion the starting fields must be filled up. Currently, only 106 starters are registered and he has received information that the starting fields are not to be filled.

He clarifies that the starting fields must be filled from a legal point of view.

**Dr. Ch. Krähe** states that the Executive Board has already decided that the field of participants must be filled.

**President E. Fogelis** confirms this and thanks M. Prock and his team for their efforts and wishes a good start into the new season.

**Jim Leahy/USA** thanks J. Fendt for the excellent cooperation and wishes him and his wife, Renate, all the best and good health for the future. He looks forward to seeing them again soon.

**Gennady Rodionov/RUS** thanks J. Fendt for his many ideas and his many active and fruitful activities in the last 26 years. He wishes him health and harmony for the future. He thanks him for the many years of friendship and looks forward to seeing him again soon.

## ***30 MINUTEN BREAK***

**Ch. Schweiger** welcomes the Congress after a short break.  
A video honoring **FIL former president J. Fendt** is played.

**President E. Fogelis** reports on his first meeting with J. Fendt in 1990 and the beginning of their work together. In 1994, J. Fendt was elected FIL President and a new era began for the FIL.

He thanks J. Fendt for his work in maintaining a modern federation. His always open ear for the whole FIL family makes him stand out and is very valuable. He also admires his relationship with people all over the world. He emphasizes J. Fendt's handling of all problems without conflict.

A big thank you also goes to wife Renate Fendt.

He promises a big celebration, as soon as it is possible again, in honor of former president J. Fendt, with all friends and members of the FIL family.

### **President E. Fogelis honors former President J. Fendt as the 1st Honorary President of the FIL.**

J. Fendt is presented with a certificate, a ring and a gift certificate from the FIL.  
R. Fendt is given a bouquet of flowers by E. Fogelis.

On behalf of BSD, **VP Th. Schwab** thanks **J. Fendt** und admires the ever-present loyalty to all delegates.

**Honorary President J. Fendt** receives a curve of the artificial track Königssee as a gift. The **Seekurve** in Königssee is renamed the **Josef Fendt Curve**.

**Honorary President J. Fendt** says thank you for all of the kind words and gifts.



**S. Romstad** thanks **J. Fendt** for the work together and welcomes him to the club of honorary members.

**Executive Director Ch. Schweiger** presents **Honorary President J. Fendt** a pair of sunglasses, thanks him for the work together and wishes him all the best for the future.

Thomas Bach, President of the IOC, joins via video.

He presents the **Olympic Order** to **FIL Honorary President J. Fendt**.

**J. Fendt** says thank you for the kind words and the excellent cooperation throughout the years and most of all for their friendship of many years. He is very happy about the Olympic Order and is touched. He thanks Thomas Bach very very much.

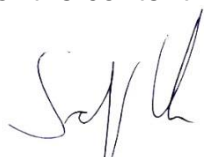
**Honorary President J. Fendt** thanks everyone that the Congress was able to take place despite all of the difficulties.

**President E. Fogelis** says thank you for everyone's discipline through which this online Congress was possible. He wishes everyone a good start into the new season and most of all good health.

He thanks all Congress participants, the FIL office, and the interpreters for their excellent work. In addition, he thanks LUMI (voting system) and the technical company VTG. The gifts are presented to the interpreters.

**President E. Fogelis** officially ends the 68<sup>th</sup> Congress.

For the content of the minutes:



Christoph Schweiger  
Executive Director of the FIL

The President



Einars Fogelis

**4 enclosures**



## **President's Report at the 68th FIL Congress on November 20, 2020 (video conference)**

Ladies and Gentlemen, sports enthusiasts,

Never before have I had to give my president's report under such difficult circumstances. The COVID-19 pandemic poses great challenges for all of us, and it forces us to take actions unlike any we have known before. Unfortunately, this is, for example, the first time this FIL Congress has had to be held without in-person participation. It had to be held in an online format by video conference. Naturally, I regret this very much personally, because it is my final FIL Congress in more than 26 years as the president of FIL.

So, it is also my final president's report to the Congress, and this time I will offer brief recaps of the past season and of our tasks along with some key points that I think are noteworthy. All other information of interest is contained in the detailed reports by the members of our Executive Board and officeholders.

Regarding the past 2019/20 season, I can report that we were able to complete all of our competitions on artificial and natural track before the COVID pandemic broke out. Sport highlights on artificial track were the very good World Championships on the 2014 Olympic track in Sochi and the interesting 3rd Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Lausanne and St. Moritz. On natural track, we successfully held the European Championships in Moscow under difficult weather conditions. At the YOG in St. Moritz, we introduced the discipline of women's doubles with the newly developed standard doubles sled with great success.

To achieve gender equality in doubles, we will also be adding this discipline for women to the FIL events calendar (initially just for juniors, but then starting in the 2021/22 season in the general class too). Our technical department developed its own standard doubles sled with a lot of dedicated effort in cooperation with a professional ski manufacturing company. In making this future-oriented decision, the FIL is taking a completely new approach to equipment development – an approach which, in my opinion, is the right one.

A very important step, which was taken just a couple of weeks ago, was the very successful pre-homologation of the new track for the Olympic Winter Games in Beijing/Yanqing. Here, I would like to offer a big thank-you to all participants and to BOCOC for its very good organization.

A highly interesting, new, artificial-ice short track with completely new technology is currently being built in Bludenz. It is suitable for luge, bobsled, and skeleton, and it is therefore being supported by both international federations, FIL and IBSF. I am convinced that this facility represents a wonderful step forward in developing our sport internationally, and I am very grateful to the Austrian Luge Federation for its tireless commitment in implementing this project. I think it will take some time before people realize what an important pioneering effort this facility actually represents.



After the Adidas company ceased its FIL sponsorship, our technical department took the initiative of developing a new, improved luge race shoe together with shoe manufacturer Rass – emphasizing safety and durability. We have extended our contracts with the Rass company and with the Texspo/GTS company – our new partner for winter apparel for our FIL officials – and this gives us planning security.

We also experienced a significant change in our main sponsors for artificial track luge. After the planned withdrawal by Viessmann, our sponsor of many years, we negotiated a goodwill extension for the upcoming season. Since we were able to retain our other long-time sponsor, Eberspächer, the advertising spaces will alternate between the two main sponsor packages in cooperation with the RGS agency. For the season after next, however, we will need to find a new main sponsor to take Viessmann's place, which will definitely not be easy.

In this context, it is certainly of interest that FIL, under the leadership Thomas Schwab, our VP Marketing, has developed a new marketing concept in cooperation with the Infront agency.

In the area of TV rights, we will soon be finalizing another contract extension with our long-term partner Sport A (German television ARD / ZDF).

In natural track luge, we were able to sign a very interesting contract with a new main sponsor from South Tyrol thanks to the good mediation work by Karl Damian. We also continue to work towards our long-standing goal of having natural track luge added to the Olympic winter games program. Whether we can achieve this for the 2026 Winter Games in Milan/Cortina will depend on many factors, some of which we have little influence over. The FIL will need to address this topic intensively in the near future. In this context, we are anticipating more information from IOC Sports Director Kit McConnell (or .....)

One big task was, and still is, to continue the FIL strategic plan "SLIDE 2026" which also includes recommendations for structural reform. Under the leadership of General Secretary Einars Fogelis, a total of 11 working groups (!) worked together with a professional agency to draft the strategic plan which is being presented to the Congress today for a vote. SG Einars Fogelis will explain this in more detail in his report.

We continue to be very well integrated in the various international organizations, but we have a completely new situation here too. These days, our contacts are restricted to the virtual world, and so SG Einars Fogelis and I have already participated in many video conferences, e.g., with the IOC and the Olympic Committee for the Olympic games in Beijing. Just 2 weeks ago, we had an interesting online meeting with our Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations (AIOWF), in which we elected IBSF President IVO Ferriani to be the new president of AIOWF. He replaces FIS President GianFranco Kasper who withdrew. Heike Größwang, IBSF, was selected as the new AIOWF Secretary General after



the departure of Sarah Lewis. Einars Fogelis, who is still our Secretary General, was named the new auditor for AIOWF and is also assuming my previous post here.

The theme of good governance demands a lot of our work and attention and we have made great efforts in this area, attaining a good mid-place standing among all international Olympic sports federations in a study commissioned by the IOC. Here, a big thank-you goes out to Christoph Schweiger who assumed primary responsibility in this area.

One great challenge we had, and still have, is to create an events calendar for the upcoming season that takes COVID-19 conditions into account. All of our managers made tremendous efforts here, and they had to react quickly to many changes, such as relocating the World Championships from Whistler to Königssee. An extensive hygiene concept was worked out for participation in our sport events. It was also validated by a leading German virologist. Here, I would like to thank our VP Thomas Schwab and our directors Maria Luise Rainer and Christian Eigentler who guided this work. We have also appointed our own FIL hygiene manager who will assist teams at all events. I am very grateful that our Executive Director Christoph Schweiger volunteered for this post. We at the FIL have done everything imaginable to enable our sporting events to be held despite COVID-19, whereby our top priority is to protect the health of all participants.

Unfortunately, the North American luge teams of USLA and Canada will not be able to participate in the first 4 world cup races in Europe, and we at the FIL regret this very much.

Preparations are already underway for the next Olympic Winter Games in 2022, and I am certain that we can expect ideally organized Winter Games there. But the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milan/Cortina are already on the horizon. In this endeavor, we expect that interesting decisions will have to be made for our sport, especially with regard to our sport facilities.

In closing, I would like to make a couple of remarks from my previous Congress reports (I actually still have them all in paper form). I would like to mention a few milestones from them in reminiscing on some interesting development phases:

Back in 1986/87, we introduced the “FIL Mentors” assistance programs (with financial support from the IOC), and we hired our own FIL coaches.

In 1987, we took the important step of introducing protective safety helmets (new design by Uvex company based on requirements by our FIL experts), despite initial resistance from some national federations. A great supporter and helper back then was Walter Plaikner, Chairman of the Technical Commission.

For 10 years, from 1993 to 2013, we also had added the sport of horn sled as a separate discipline in the natural track area.



In 1996, the FIL Congress resolved to hold the FIL Congress just once every 2 years. That lasted just one trial period, and starting in 1998 the Congresses were once again held annually.

In 2018, at the initiative of our former Secretary General Svein Romstad, we set up our own sport museum in the spaces of the new FIL offices.

From my remarks, you can certainly ascertain that we at the FIL have had many different tasks to handle – and will continue to have in the future.

From a sports perspective, we can look forward to some exciting times ahead of us, and I will of course be following all of the events with great interest.

(In my final remarks before the election, I will have a few more words of thanks for my “comrades-in-arms”).

Thank you for your attention.



68th FIL Congress  
Großgmain, 20 November 2020

Dear friends, dear Congress delegates,

First of all, in this constantly changing world of COVID-19, I want to express the hope that you and your families are safe and in good health! At the end of the last season, we could not have imagined that in the coming weeks and months we would have to look for new solutions to keep the sport safe, athletes healthy and, among other things, to ensure preparation for the next season.

The new situation forces us to rearrange our priorities, moving towards the main goal - a strong sport and a strong federation in the Olympic movement!

- FIL and the Olympic Movement

Over the past year, we have been working on a number of main topics that are closely linked to the development of our sport and its position in the Olympic family.

The Olympic Games are a unifying link in the chain of 206 National Olympic Committees, national and international sports federations, where there is only one policy - sports policy.

In this context, FIL has been active over the past year in preparation for the next Olympic Games in Beijing 2022. We have actively participated in the meetings of the Coordinating Commission, addressing issues directly related to our federation and luge competitions in Beijing. Successful, and in consultative capacity, cooperation with the BOCOG, AIOWF and IOC, have already given its first results today - the first Pre-Homologation tests on the new track have been carried out together with IBSF. We are currently working to take the next steps towards the Olympic Games - Test event and training week, in which, according to FIL rules, all potential participants will be given the opportunity to try out the new Olympic track.

It is already clear today that the Yanqing Sliding Center is an important venue for luge and for sliding sport in general in the world and especially in Asia. We very much appreciate China's achievements in this area! We clearly see two important values - sustainability and legacy.

During the time together with the IOC and GAISF international federation (IF Forum), very significant topics such as athlete support and youth involvement in sport



were discussed and the reflection of it you will see further in our new FIL Strategy “Slide 2026” presentation. The world is changing fast. Generations, technologies and habits are changing, especially in the virtual environment! Our task is not only to introduce people to sport, but in this case, to bring the sport to the people.

- FIL and Good Governance

In recent years, one of the most important topics of a sports organization has been 'Good governance'. This section is integral to the operation of modern and contemporary sports organization. In collaboration with the IOC and our colleagues at AIOWF (Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federations), FIL in 2020 worked on the completion of the third AIOWF IF governance questionnaire, where our colleagues in the FIL office, under guidance of Christoph Schweiger, made a great contribution, particular appreciation goes to Dr. Christian Krähe and to FIL Presidium Sepp Fendt and Harald Steyrer!

Overall, this document contains six chapters, Background, Transparency, Integrity, Democracy, Development, Control Mechanisms with 62 sub-themes, to which precise answers and a description of the situation in our federation, were prepared.

For the first time, FIL completed this document in 2016/2017, obtaining an assessment of 64 points. The second time in 2017/2018, 89 points were obtained. In 2019/2020, 124 points were obtained, which places our Federation in the B category. Naturally, our goal is to continue this progress in accordance with the IOC guidelines, improving the operations of our Federation in accordance with modern requirements. We are a service organization for our members in all areas - athletic, organizational, personal and financial!

By developing and adhering to the principles and model of good governance, we create our common image in the eyes of society. I very much appreciate the sports governance consultancy company “I Trust Sport”, in particular Jack Rowland's contribution to this topic.

An important and very extensive part of the daily work is related to maintaining close cooperation with colleagues from other winter IFs. Mutual cooperation, regular video conferences and daily communications are very valuable in the daily work of our Federation and I hope that our experience and contribution to colleagues is just as important!



FIL is one of the first winter IFs to sign a contract with ITA. Last year, we participated in the WADA World Conference in Katowice, which provided valuable information for our future activities.

Last season was rich with World Cup sports events with an outstanding final in Koenigssee. Exciting and top-tier World Championships in Sochi, Winter Youth Olympic Games in St. Moritz, with the participation of athletes from 22 nations, representing four continents. IOC delegation led by President Thomas Bach observed a successful women's doubles debut in the Youth Olympic circuit. This situation proved that things that seemed unreal a few years ago, by setting a clear goal and working purposefully can be fulfilled and can give positive emotions.

Of course, this aspect is very important in achieving gender equality and overall equality in our sport. This topic is currently relevant when working on the YOG 2024 PyeongChang program, also starting active cooperation with the organizers of the 2026 Olympic Games in Milan Cortina.

In this context, we are working together with the Organizing Committee and the IOC, which directly address two globally important topics, Sustainability and Legacy. FIL is also actively working on the position of Natural Track Luge and its integration into the Olympic programme.

Over the past year, we have paid increased attention to our athletes, their development opportunities and safety. Substantial work is currently being done through our FIL team, using the assistance provided by the FIL resources and the IOC Olympic Solidarity program. More detail on these matters will come later in the presentation of our strategy.

The main challenge this season is COVID-19 and ensuring sports under special conditions. Priority number 1 - safety and health of athletes and coaches. "The FIL Protection and Hygiene Protocol" has been developed within the FIL. The working group has done a tremendous job of fine-tuning the activities that will ensure safe training runs and competitions, which is important now, that we don't deprive athletes of their faith and motivation for the future!

I hope and wish us all - safe and strong health, the fulfilment of this and future seasons sports goals.

Since the last congress in Ljubljana, we all together have been devoting a lot of attention and work to the development of the FIL strategy plan "Slide 2026". I am extremely grateful to many of you, dear colleagues, for your selfless work and your



time in drafting this document. Special thanks today to FIL President Josef Fendt, with whom I have had 2 years to serve as Secretary General, and the opportunity to work and learn together since 1994.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you all and the main thing I want to emphasize is - teamwork. As IOC President Thomas Bach often reminds - no one is perfect! We are all in the movement and honoring the Olympic values.

Sincerely yours,

Einars Fogelis

Secretary - General





# THE FASTEST SPORT ON ICE **SLIDE 2026**





# ABOUT THE STRATEGY

Significant events have taken place since 2011 when the previous FIL strategy was approved. Celebration of 50 years of the artificial ice track at Königsee and release of new sport disciplines – the team relay and sprint race are just a few of them. The assets of the FIL have been continuously increased. Not just due to the constantly higher contributions of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) after the Olympic Winter Games (OWG), but also through the acquisition of new sponsors, TV contracts and so on. During the same period, the FIL's support program has expanded enormously. However, it must also be acknowledged that many of the goals set in the previous strategy have not lost their relevance today. Improving global attractiveness of the sport of luge, using new media power, realizing greater transparency of organization and improvement of performance within Olympic winter sport federations are still on the table.

The world is changing rapidly. Generations, technologies, and habits are changing. The Internet has changed everyday habits and the issue remains – how to connect the next generation to the world of sliding digitally and physically. It is time to shift a paradigm of the FIL – develop the spirit of sliding activities and sport. It is time to unite all the sliding activities and share the experience with millions of people around the world. We as the FIL need to figure out ways to provide the sliding experience in order to connect the public to our sport. Instead of bringing people to the sport, bring the sport to the people!

As an organization, the FIL has taken major steps towards implementing the needed components of being a sport on an Olympic level so far. Now it is time to review the existing situation, evaluate it, and provide a new strategic vision for the next 6 years to ensure the development and growth of the FIL.





# STRUCTURE OF PLANNING DOCUMENTS

## STRATEGY SLIDE 2026

This document defines the key aspects of the FIL future:

- Mission
- Vision
- Values
- Core ambitions/  
Strategic priorities
- Objectives
- Desired results by  
milestones for  
2022-2026

## OPERATING PLANS

Operating plans are created by the management team on a yearly base to connect the long-term strategy with the committees and the staff. It includes:

- Objectives
- Desired results
- Specific tasks and  
projects
- Deadlines
- Responsibilities

## BUDGET

The budget is created by the FIL staff and the chief of finance to connect operating plans to the organization's budget and spending priorities. The budget includes:

- Revenues
- Expenses
- Investments

## FIL VALUES

The FIL upholds the key values in sport of **fairness, integrity, responsibility, safety, and respect**. All stakeholders within the FIL membership – national federations, athletes, coaches, officials, and event organizers – are expected to respect these values throughout their involvement and interactions with our sport. The FIL also fully adopts and adheres to all the standards of fair play, including but not limited to the Anti-Doping Code as set up by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

## FIL MISSION

Our mission is to unite the voice of the luge sports to build strong communities through the power of sport and thereby create a safer, more equitable, and inclusive world.

## FIL VISION

Our vision is to unite all aspects of sliding for masses and provide our athletes, coaches, and the wide luge sports community the best opportunity to achieve their highest potential in all aspects of the Olympic Games.



## **CORE AMBITIONS / STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This Strategic plan identifies five focus areas, with strategic goals and objectives to take the FIL to a new level and to set an example for the whole sports community.

### **EXPANSION OF THE FIL REACH GLOBALLY**

We need to expand our reach globally and unite all aspects of sliding activities both for sport and leisure

### **BEING ATTRACTIVE FOR ALL MEDIA CHANNELS**

Today more than ever, it is important to have a presence in the digital media with attractive content available on request

### **INCREASE OF MASS PARTICIPATION IN LUGE**

Make sliding available to the general public and integrate sliding sports into daily sporting activities to create the basis for growth in our community

### **DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CORE SPORTS**

Artificial and natural track sports are our basic sports. Their development and improvement must keep pace with the times and ensure adaptation to new trends in communication and technology

### **GOOD GOVERNANCE OF THE FIL AS THE ORGANISATION**

A supportive, transparent, and well-governed structure must be created for achieving the set goals and objectives



# PRIORITY 1 /Expansion of the FIL reach globally

*Prepared by the working group led by Mr. Dwight Bell*

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

### 1. Consider the FIL as an “umbrella” governing body for the related sliding sports, both competitive and recreational

- Affiliate with other sliding and winter sports organizations globally including roller luge and street luge

### 2. Develop a new branding strategy and message to the world

- Re-brand the FIL to have more mass appeal, while still projecting elite Olympic program status. Consider a new logo, brand, and image, which in turn should be incorporated in all FIL communications and images, including at events, officials and activities, along with the FIL sponsors, fans, and spectator experience
- While retaining the use of the word **Luge**, incorporate more use of the words **Sled, Sledding** or **Toboggan, Tobogganing** in the brand and communications
- New dynamic website and enhanced social media / PR / Marketing outreach

### 3. Encourage NFs to develop and oversee basic sliding events/competitions

- Utilize ski resort programmes to promote mass-participation. Make a leisure standard sled and sell them retail to the general public
- Work with the NFs to create and utilize a summer roller luge recruitment and development program. It is cost effective, and operates in the summer when young athletes are out of school and it can be done in communities in strategic locations
- Create a “Luge Toolbox” for member NFs, including the development of basic/beginner snow/ ice tracks, to assist and accelerate the development of luge in member countries for sustainable programmes



#### 4. Establish major regional hubs for training and competitions

- Establish hubs in Europe, North America, and Asia
- Take inventory of all tracks around the world that could be utilized for the regional hub system, with emphasis on Olympic tracks that are currently NOT being utilized
- Use the tracks in the major hubs to develop athletes from countries that are geographically close to the respective hubs
- For efficiency and global exposure, establish world cup (WC) circuits in each of the 3 hubs

#### 5. Standardize sleds

- Standardized sleds, as the ones developed for women's doubles, can be expanded to all disciplines, which will lower the barriers to entry at the elite level and better connect with basic sliding

### OUR ROADMAP TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Create strategy to be an umbrella organization for sliding activities around the world						
Prepare plan for rebranding of the FIL						
Establish regional hubs - Europe, North America, and Asia						
Complete inventory of all tracks in the world						
Review membership guidelines and expectations for NFs						
Create luge toolbox for NFs						
Expand umbrella structure for sliding						
Expand and enhance the image of the FIL to the world audience as an umbrella structure for sliding worldwide						
Active utilization of the regional hubs in WC race calendar						
Implement standardized sleds at junior and senior levels						
Expand and enhance events for basic/mass-participation sliding in winter sport areas						



# PRIORITY 2 / Being attractive for all media channels

*Prepared by the working group led by Mr. Thomas Schwab*

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

### 1. Significantly improve the creation of TV content in accordance with the modern media and audience demand

- Introduce the FIL TV coordinator with authority to oversee all aspects of TV content production (standardized camera plans, lighting, innovative camera techniques, etc.)
- Introduce the FIL TV channel
- Active use of the FIL TV in social media content
- Introduce one standard for all seasons - corporate design, venue dressing

### 2. Special attention to awareness in digital world

- Involve athletes and former athletes
- Involve influencers
- Special attention to the sliding image – “the fastest sport on ice”
- Special attention to awareness indicators in digital world
- Introduce e-sport game with luge, summer luge





### 3. Move from sport-based to event-based programmes in all FIL events

- Redesign the sport to include more action
- Set standards for event programmes / entertainment
- Integration of attractive accompanying programme into the events
- Award subsidies according to the performance of a respective event. Set proper criteria for evaluation
- Joint competition with other sports

## OUR ROADMAP TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
New advertising strategy						
New TV standard / FIL TV coordinator						
Introduction of FIL TV						
One standard introduction for TV						
Improve of TV techniques						
Introduce standards for event programmes						
Award program for subsidies according to performance						



# **PRIORITY 3** /Increase participation in luge

*Prepared by the working group led by Mrs. Natalia Gart*

## **MAIN OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Increase the scope of the FIL by including the field of “public sledding”**
- 2. Introduce a definition of “public sledding” - all kinds of activities with sleds approved by the FIL for children and adults**
- 3. Develop the regulations for public sliding (IRO):**
  - General regulation
  - Sleds and equipment
  - Tracks
- 4. Include public sliding in the purview of the FIL – change the FIL Statutes**
- 5. Develop the methodical literature for coaches and specialists**
- 6. Consolidate the developed information into a Programme of Public Sliding**
- 7. Provide the Programme of Public Sliding to the NFs**
- 8. Perform FIL monitoring of the realization of the Programme of Public Sliding by the NFs**



## OUR ROADMAP TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Status for public sliding - changes in the FIL Statutes						
IRO of public sliding						
FIL-approved non-professional models of sleds						
FIL-established non-professional tracks						
Methodical literature for coaches and specialists						
Active work of NFs with the developed Programme of Public Sliding						
Luge is a basic sport in the school program						
Development of the sliding club culture and organization of the amateur club competitions at different levels (schools, clubs, villages/cities, etc.)						
Possibility of transition of talented children (Amateur tournaments) to the professional sports						





# PRIORITY 4 /Development of our core sports

## MAIN OBJECTIVES FOR ARTIFICIAL TRACK SPORTS

*Prepared by the working group led by Alexander Resch, Christoph Schweiger*

### 1. Relaunch sport format /rethink/ revise all luge disciplines with a purpose to be more attractive in digital world (create a more dynamic and authentic outlook)

- Create awareness and show that luge is not a niche sport but it is a popular sport – everybody is sliding
- Develop new markets where our athletes will be positioned as testimonials and having incomes from sales of leisure sliding equipment and accessories
- Implement new outlook of athletes so that the athletes look more like athletes, they look more dynamic and are able to walk like athletes
- Implement new advertising rules for athletes and coaches to enhance the marketing effects for athletes and national federations

### 2. Relaunch competition format to improve its tension and dynamics

- Revise the Sprint-World Cup taking place to create more tension on the one side and to offer a new chance for small or new nations to take part at World Cups on the other side
- Introduce new start formats for the competition disciplines
- Introduce new start and finish protocol to create more tension, dynamics as well as to focus more on the athletes and their emotions
- New starting sequence to create a systematic suspense for a competition day, to create highlights and reduce the duration for the visitors at the track and therefore enhance the number of visitors. Decrease “no action time”



### 3. Sport development for small and new luge nations

- Education programmes / manuals for coaches and athletes (including track lines). Establish a Luge Academy for a better knowledge management and knowledge distribution to reduce the time for luge athletes and enhance the number of new athletes entering the sports of luge with a focus of being a part of the Olympic programme in the future, too
- Guidelines / manuals for acquiring new athletes / talent scouting
- Implementation of standard luge components to reduce development costs especially for new and growing nations, creating aftermarkets for leisure sliding, reduce education time for athletes and guarantee equal opportunities for athletes
- Focusing on the athlete experience and providing the expertise to help athletes succeed on and off the playing field.

## OUR ROADMAP FOR ARTIFICIAL TRACK LUGE TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Implement new outlook of athletes						
Revise advertising for athletes						
New format of revision of the Sprint-World Cup						
New start format taking place						
New start and finish protocol						
Luge Academy						
Step by step introduction of standard sleds						





# MAIN OBJECTIVES FOR NATURAL TRACK SPORTS

*Prepared by the working group led by Karl Damian, Christoph Schweiger*

## 1. Increase the attractiveness of natural track luge

- Relaunch the sport in more exciting formats: women's relay, men's relay, parallel, knockout sprint (to replace the current pursuit race)
- Relaunch the sled. Further aspects to be considered are the steerability and safety of the sled as well as a simplified preparation of race and training equipment. Sleds should be more flexible to use in the future
- Relaunch sport equipment (race clothing, shoes, etc.) – the visual appearance of our athletes should become more professional and "cooler"
- Utilize sport venues in ski regions, big cities
- Expand media presence (social media, TV). Emphasis on storytelling, well-produced live stream in combination with a distributed news cut and several short social media highlight clips
- Re-activate traditional winter sport nations

## 2. Optimise the natural track development programme

- Establish the Luge Academy for the purpose of educating coaches and officials, promotion of talented athletes in the FIL group, creating general teaching material, providing input for mass sports, cooperation with ski resorts and track construction
- Road map for the independence of nations. Focus on the traditional winter sports nations. Supporting nations through know-how. Support for cooperation between smaller nations or regions



### 3. Self-financing of natural track luge as far as possible

- Sponsoring natural track luge with the reference to the mass sport of sliding

### 4. Inclusion of natural track luge in the Olympic programme

- The gradual implementation of the renewal process of natural track luge can be incorporated in the application documents step by step (by October 2020).

## OUR ROADMAP FOR NATURAL TRACK LUGE TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
New attractive race formats						
New sport equipment						
Signing short, medium, and long-term sponsorship contracts						
Application for Olympic Games and YOG						
New platform around luge						
Live shows from all World Cup races						
Pilot project "luge centre" for ski regions						
Luge Academy						
Application documents for the 2026 Olympics						



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# PRIORITY 5 / Good organizational governance of the FIL

*Prepared by the working group led by Mr. Einars Fogelis*

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

### 1. Follow the best practice for good governance according to the IOC guidelines

- Transparency, integrity, democracy, development, solidarity, checks and balances – fill the gaps between self-assessed and moderated scores and reach no less than 3 in all indicators
- Review best practices and cooperation with the relevant IFs (like IBSF)
- Ensure there is full gender equality in athletes quotas, competition formats and schedule, coaches, career specific transition programs and establish strategic mechanisms to increase the pipeline of female candidates for governance roles in general as well as for executive board positions.

### 2. Set up the new governance structure of the FIL - board governed, staff driven/delivered, and develop an efficient organization culture

- Change the structure, rules, and procedures within the FIL
- Build up professional skills of the staff in new fields and areas of responsibilities

### 3. Supplement corporate communication and corporate behavior in the FIL

### 4. Together with representatives of NFs establish guidelines for NFs

### 5. Create online guide with suggestions for good governance to provide information to schools via NFs with the purpose to raise the awareness of the significance of good governance



## OUR ROADMAP TO 2026

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Establish working group for restructuration of the FIL						
All indicators of the IOC guidelines implemented in the FIL of AIOWF IF governance questionnaire no less than score 3 in the moderated score						
New governance structure of the FIL established						
Staff training program development and implementation						
Online guide for schools						
Guidelines for NFs						

## ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER WITH THIS STRATEGY

1. A STRATEGY FRAMEWORK “Safeguarding Athletes Involved Within the FIL from Bullying, Abuse, Harassment & Discrimination”
2. IOC’s “Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance of the Olympic and Sports Movement” as a guideline for implementation of good governance within FIL



# ABOUT THE DOCUMENT

In the autumn of 2019, the International Luge Federation (FIL) Executive Board members made the decision to launch the working group called "Strategy and Structures". The purpose of the group was to prepare a new strategic plan for luge till 2026, to be presented at the 2020 FIL Congress.

This document was created during the 2019-20 season in a joint effort of the working group and many subgroups involving a broad range of stakeholders of the luge community. It was adopted by the FIL Executive Board in spring 2020.

**The working group that created this plan consisted of the following members of the working group "Strategy and Structure" and the members of the luge family:**

- |                         |                       |                       |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| ○ Alexander Resch       | ○ Erin Warren         | ○ Helmut Ruetz        | ○ Raluca Stramaturaru |
| ○ Britta Semmler        | ○ Evi Mitterstieler   | ○ Jim Leahy           | ○ Sorina Ticu         |
| ○ Caroline Kammerlander | ○ Fred Zimny          | ○ Josef Fendt         | ○ Steve Harris        |
| ○ Chris Mazdzer         | ○ Geoff Balme         | ○ Karl Damian         | ○ Summer Britcher     |
| ○ Christoph Schweiger   | ○ Gerald Kammerlander | ○ Margit Dengler-Paar | ○ Svein Romstad       |
| ○ Claire Del Negro      | ○ Gordy Sheer         | ○ Markus Prock        | ○ Thomas Schwab       |
| ○ Dr. Christian Krähe   | ○ Harald Rolfsen      | ○ Natalia Gart        | ○ Tim Farstad         |
| ○ Dwight Bell           | ○ Harald Steyrer      | ○ Niclas Bentzer      | ○ Tina Unterberger    |
| ○ Einars Fogelis        | ○ Heike Größwang      | ○ Peter Knauseder     |                       |







# 68<sup>th</sup> FIL Congress Beijing 2022 Presentation

**ZHANG Xudong**  
Sliding Sports Manager





- **Venue Readiness**
- **Sports Workforce**
- **Pre-homologation**
- **Test Events**



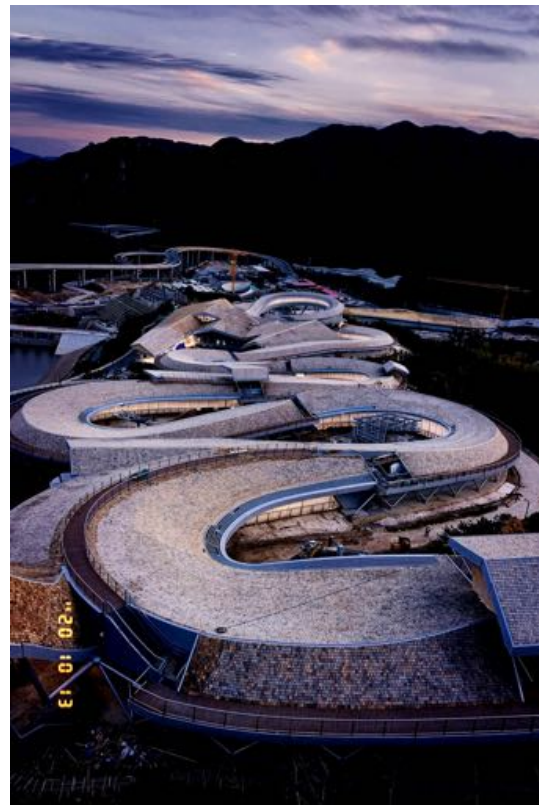
# Venue Readiness





# Construction update

- The Field of Play Area has been completed and ready for sliding trainings and events.
- The Yanqing National Sliding Centre has met the requirements of the Pre-homologation, and the remaining part will be finished before the next IF events.





# Yanqing National Sliding Centre



Overlook View



Downhill View



# Start House 1



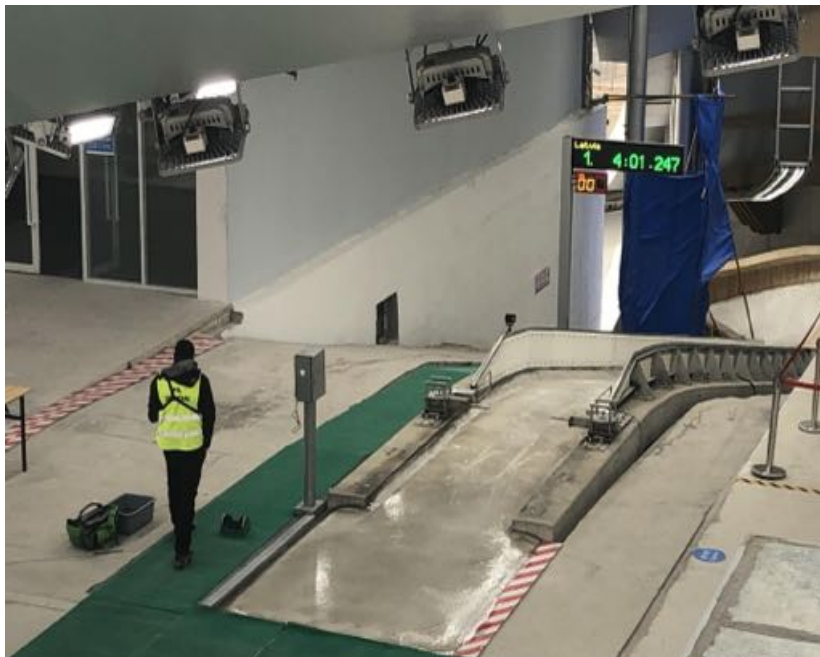
Overall View



Preparation Area



# Start House 2



Ladies's & Doubles's Start



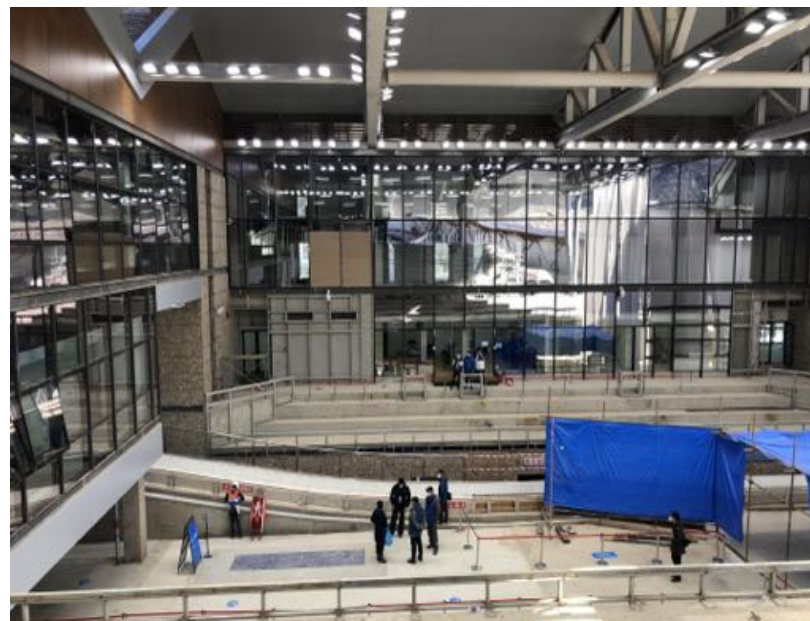
Preparation Area



# Finish House



Finish Area



Overall View



# Venue Readiness



Rooftop View  
(Start House 1&2)



Start House 3



# Venue Facility



Sled Truck



Control Tower

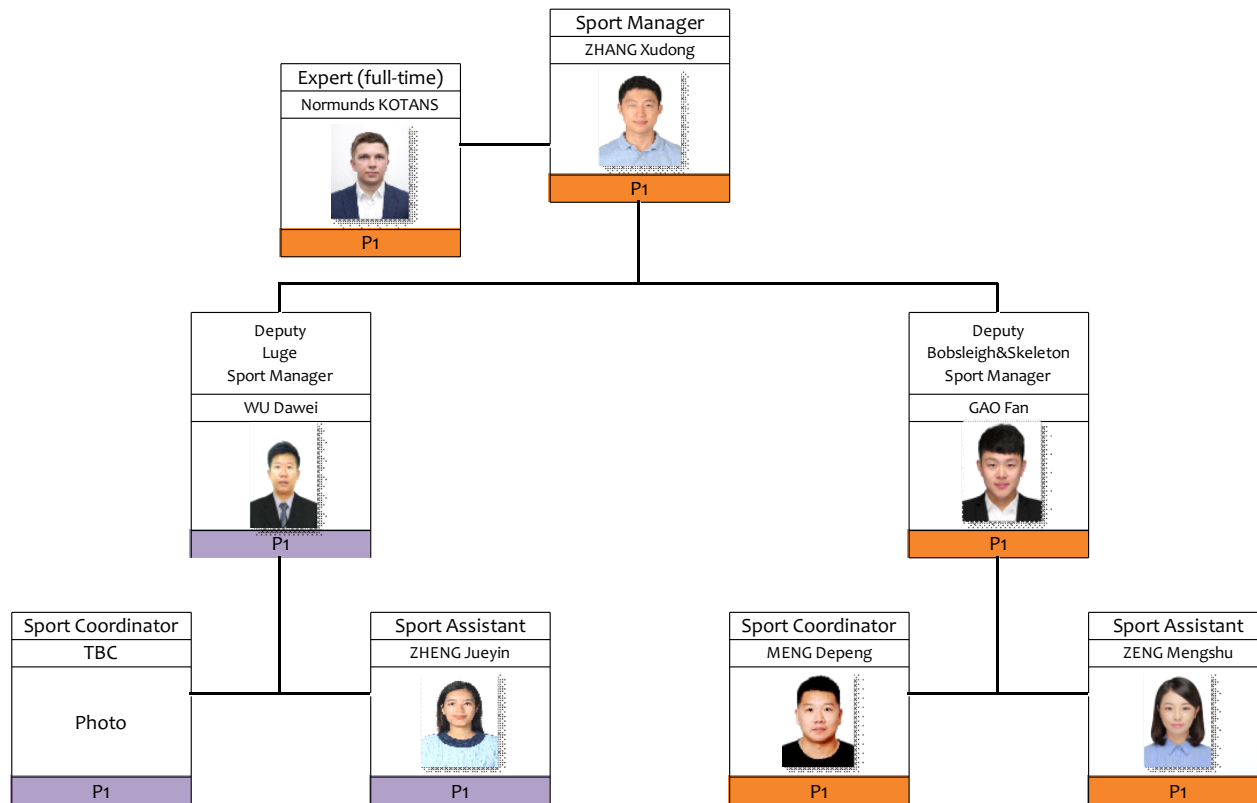


# Sports Workforce





# Staffing Plan





# FIL NTO On-site Training

- On Oct.14-16 , the on-site training seminar for Pre-homologation has been successfully held at the Yanqing National Sliding Centre.
- 15 FIL NTOs chosen for the Pre-homologation have participated the training.





# NTO Pre-homologation Workshop

- During the Pre-homologation , Luge NTO Workshop was successfully conducted with Mr.Eigentler.
- Sled temperature, weight and sled measurement protocols and responsibilities of different NTO positions were discussed.





# Pre-homologation





# Pre-homologation

- Pre-homologation test runs at Yanqing National Sliding Center successfully finished on Oct.24-Nov.1.
- A group of experts of the FIL, led by the FIL Technical Director Christian Eigentler have attended the Pre-homologation under closed-loop management carrying out the strict hygiene concept.





# Video Highlights





# Test Runs

## Luge test runs stats:

- Total athletes (16)
  - CHN - 10 athletes, 9 Sleds
  - International - 6 athletes, 5 sleds
- Total countries (6)
  - China , Slovakia, Switzerland , Germany , Austria , Latvia
- Total runs (260)
  - CHN - 145
  - International - 115
- Top Speed
  - Men's Singles - 129.0 km/h
  - Ladies's Singles - 125.9 km/h
  - Doubles - 130.4 km/h

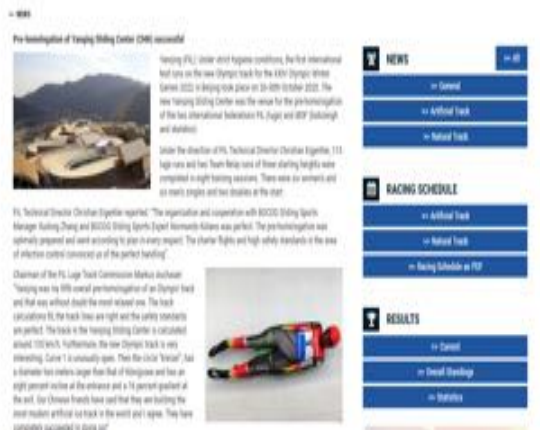




- During the Pre-homologation, the followings were tested:
  - Timing System
  - Power Back-up System
  - FOP
  - Safety Barriers
  - Video/Audio system
  - Intercom system
  - Medical Service
- Next step, we will make adjustments based on the FIL report.







- Christian Eigentler : “The pre-homologation was optimally prepared and went according to plan in every respect. The charter flights and high safety standards in the area of infection control convinced us of the perfect handling”
- Markus Aschauer: “Yanqing was my fifth overall pre-homologation of an Olympic track and that was without doubt the most relaxed one. The track calculations fit, the track lines are right and the safety standards are perfect.”
- David Gleirscher: “I like the new Olympic track in the Yanqing National Sliding Center very much. It is a lot of fun to slide there. The new track in China has a very special rhythm. You definitely have to luge with a lot of feeling.”



# Test Events





- The Test Event and ITW plan are under discussion between Beijing 2022 and FIL, updates will be informed once the final decision is made.
- We will ensure that athletes will have enough test runs before the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic Games in accordance with the rules to ensure the safety.



# Thank you!

