

*FIS - Information, by Sigge Bergman,
Secretary General*



The FIS Council had a very heavy programme at its latest meeting 2nd-3rd December in Marbella (ESP), where the Spanish Ski Association's new President, H. R. H. Prince Alfonso de Borbon was the host. The effective meeting time of the Council was 14 hours.

At the 32nd FIS Congress in Nice, 13th-19th May 1979, the Council will present a proposal whereby the Alpine combination competition in the skiing world championships is to be organised as a separate event with separate rules. The combination is to consist of downhill and slalom.

The Ski Association of Norway, in a proposal, has created a guarantee that the rules for the Alpine world cup are to be thoroughly discussed by the Congress (not as hitherto only within the FIS World Cup Committee). The criticism of the new rules applied during 1979 has been very severe, and the deliberations in Nice promise to be very interesting indeed.

The Council recommends Oberstdorf (GER) as organiser of the 1981 ski-flying world championships.

As the newly introduced event on the skiing world championship programme (Lahti 1978) — 20 km cross-country for ladies — has not been accepted on the 1980 Olympic programme in Lake Placid, the Council recommends that the Congress organise this event in connection with the 1980 Swedish ski games in Falun, Sweden.

The Council proposes that the present European junior championships in the Nordic disciplines be replaced by world championships, to take place every year. Rules for amateur freestyle skiing will be put before the Congress. The FIS is thus including this new competition form in its activity programme, with the same innovation likely to be introduced in grass-skiing.

The ski associations of Finland, Norway and Sweden propose the introduction of a world cup in ski jumping (on a trial basis) and also wish to include a team competition in ski jumping in the skiing world championships and the Olympic Winter Games.

The Congress in Nice is a so called rule Congress. A great many proposals will be presented from the Council and from all technical committees concerning amendments and additions to the international competition rules.

The meeting in Marbella was led by the FIS President Marc Hodler with customary skill and efficiency. The Council took the occasion to honour the President at a jubilee dinner at the Marbella Club Hotel as Marc Hodler had just become 60 years old. Hodler was elected FIS President in 1951. By the work he has achieved and is still achieving, Marc Hodler has made a phenomenal contribution towards the development of international skiing. The-world of skiing has every reason to feel grateful.

S. B.