



Fédération Internationale de Bobsleigh et de Tobogganing

Via Piranesi, 44/B - I 20137 MILANO, Italy

Phone no.: +39.02.757-3319 - Fax no. +39.02.757-3384

e-mail: egarde@tin.it

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Our ref. no. 7640

To the National Bob & Skeleton Federations

Subject: Information

Dear Ladies and Sirs,

During its last meetings the Executive Board of Directors has made the following decisions:

1. Congress 2008

Considering the fact that no bid for the organisation of the next Congress 2008 was submitted by our members, our Federation decided to provide directly for the organisation of the latter.

Since the Association of Hotels (Associazione Albergatori) and the Società delle Terme (Administration of the thermal resort) have offered particularly favourable conditions, the Congress will be held in Chianciano Terme, Italy, from 6 to 8 June 2008, according to the following schedule:

Friday, 6 June 2008:	arrival of participants
Saturday, 7 June 2008:	9 a.m. Skeleton Pre-Congress 2 p.m. Bob Pre-Congress
Sunday, 8 June 2008:	9 a.m. Congress after the end of the Congress: departure of participants.

Chianciano Terme is a thermal resort situated to the south of Florence. It is connected to Florence and Rome by highway no. A1. It may be reached by train from Florence (downtown), Rome (downtown and airport Fiumicino) and Pisa (downtown and airport).

The train station of Chianciano is "Chiusi-Chianciano Terme" and is located on the railway line Milan-Florence-Rome.

Our Federation will offer free board and lodging to one delegate per nation, starting from dinner on Friday, 6 June, to breakfast on Monday, 9 June.

We shall send out additional information as well as the participation conditions for persons who wish to accompany the delegates very soon.

Please be informed, that in the case any delegates and accompanying persons wish to stay longer in Chianciano Terme, special conditions will be granted and they may make use of the thermal treatments and wellness facilities offered on site.

Furthermore, during their stay, delegates may organise individual or group visits to Siena, Florence, Orvieto, Assisi, Spoleto and other places, which are situated nearby, through the local Tourism Office.

Finally we inform you that Chianciano is particularly suitable for physical trainings of the national bob and skeleton teams, since the athletes will be granted particularly favourable conditions and may get treatments against rheumatism, bronchitis, asthma a.s.o.
Additional information in this regard will be provided on site.

2. Homologation of the Olympic track in Whistler/Vancouver

We wish to inform you that our Federation's Track Commission will carry out the homologation of the Olympic track in Whistler/Vancouver from 4 to 9 March 2008.

The following bob crews and skeleton athletes will be invited to the test runs:

Men's bob

- a) 2 Canadian two-man bob crews whose pilots will be selected as follows: the first pilot among the best Canadian pilots; the second pilot among those Canadian pilots who are classified between the 10th and 20th place of the FIBT's combined pilots' ranking, updated after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008);
- b) 2 Canadian four-man bob crews whose pilots are the same as those of the two-man bobs;
- c) the bobs whose pilots are classified on the 1st and 2nd place of the FIBT's combined pilots' ranking and are at any rate the first pilots in the ranking who are not Canadians; reference will be made to the updated ranking after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008). If the pilot placed 2nd in the ranking belongs to the same nation as the pilot placed 1st, the first pilot of another nation ranked after the 2nd place will have the right to participate in the homologation descends.
The above mentioned two pilots will have the right to carry out both two-man and four-man runs.

The brakemen and four-man bob crew members belonging to the pilots who are invited to Whistler for the test runs must not be "pilots", but actual brakemen and crew members. In the case any pilot is included in a crew as brakeman or crew member, that crew will be excluded from the test runs.

Women's bob

- a) 2 Canadian bob crews whose pilots will be selected as follows: the first pilot among the best Canadian pilots; the second pilot among those Canadian pilots who are classified between the 10th and 20th place of the FIBT's pilots' ranking, updated after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008);
- b) 2 bobs whose pilots are classified on the 1st and 2nd place of the FIBT's pilots' ranking and are, at any rate, the first two pilots in the ranking who are not Canadians; reference will be made to the updated ranking after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008). If the pilot placed 2nd in the ranking belongs to the same nation as the pilot placed 1st, the first pilot of another nation ranked after the 2nd place will have the right to participate in the homologation descends.

The brakewomen belonging to the pilots who are invited to Whistler for the test runs must not be "pilots", but actual brakewomen. In the case any pilot is included in a crew as brakewoman that crew will be excluded from the test runs.

Men's and Women's Skeleton

- a) 2 Canadian athletes, men and women respectively. One man and one woman must be chosen among the best sliders. The second man and the second woman must be selected among those athletes that are placed between the 10th and 20th place in the FIBT's general skeleton man and woman ranking, respectively; reference is made to the updated ranking after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008);
- b) the men and woman classified 1st and 2nd in the FIBT's general skeleton man and woman ranking, respectively; reference is made to the updated ranking after the World Cup race in Winterberg (4 – 10 February 2008). In the case the men or women placed 1st and 2nd, respectively, are Canadians, the athletes – men and woman, respectively – placed best in the ranking, who are not Canadians, will be selected. If the athletes – men and woman respectively – placed 2nd belong to the same nation as the athletes placed 1st, the athlete – man and woman respectively – best placed after the 2nd who belongs to another nation will be chosen.

Accompanying coaches

The nation to which the invited bob crews belong has the right to include one accompanying coach in its team. If one nation has been invited to participate with one man bob pilot and one woman bob pilot, that nation may include only one accompanying coach in its team.

The nation to which the invited skeleton athletes belong has the right to include one accompanying coach in its team. If one nation has been invited to participate with one man and one woman slider, that nation may include only one accompanying coach in its team.

Schedule and participation conditions

- a) The athletes are to arrive in Vancouver on 4 March 2008; departure is scheduled for 9 March.
- b) The Vancouver organisers will cover the following costs:
 - round trip flight ticket for the invited athletes and accompanying coaches from and to their domiciles in Economy class;
 - transportation of the two-man bobs; the organisers will make available two **competitive** four-man bobs to the foreign bob crews;
 - if necessary, additional baggage costs for skeletons which are carried along as personal baggage;
 - board and lodging in Whistler
- c) The athletes must have the International FIBT Licence.
- d) Test runs will be carried out both in the morning and afternoon; the final programme will be provided on site.
- e) During the test runs access to the track will be allowed to authorised persons only.

3. Youth Olympic Winter Games 2012

Further to our previous letters, we confirm that in 2012 the first edition of the Youth Olympic Winter Games will be held.

As far as bob and skeleton are concerned, 17 and 18 years had been established as age limits for the athletes to be admitted.

We have submitted an application to the I.O.C in order to obtain an extension of the age limit for bob athletes up to 19 years.

We are still looking forward to receive the I.O.C.'s answer.

At any rate, we suggest the National Federations to prepare themselves for this new event.

Yours truly,

Ermanno Gardella
General Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ermanno Gardella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.