

FIS Homologation procedure for cross-country skiing courses

1. FIS Homologation

The FIS homologation is the approval issued by a FIS appointed homologation inspector and certifies that the homologated Cross-Country course is suitable to host FIS competitions.

Homologation represents a “system of evaluation” that is meant to guide the development and the upgrade of Cross-Country competition courses and venues. It is not just a set of numbers and standards but is a process towards certification, that provides a forum for constructive discussion between Organizers, FIS and Inspectors.

1.1 Application

The application for a new FIS homologation certificate or for a renewal of an existing one must be done by the National Ski Association (NSA) to the FIS Nordic Office (copy to FIS Para Nordic Office in case of para nordic courses) that appoints a HI. For the appointment procedure see the Rules for the organization, education and nomination of FIS Cross-Country Technical Officials **7.2 HI Nomination**.

The application for a renewal of existing FIS homologation certificates must be submitted latest before August 15th for the Northern Hemisphere and February 15th for the Southern Hemisphere. Otherwise the expired courses will be cancelled without any replacement.

The application form is published in the Cross-country documents section of the FIS website.

When appointed by FIS the HI cannot be paid as course designer (or consultant) for the same courses.

Course designers are not appointed by FIS.

For OWG/NWSC/World Cup competition sites the inspector must be from a different country, for all other competition sites and for WC city sprints the inspector can be from the same country and NSA can propose a name.

The NSA must provide the following documentation:

- stadium diagram(s)
- digital line files (.gpx or .kml format) for each course(s)
- accurate elevation data (e.i. waypoints, digital elevations model, contours) for each course(s)

2. Homologation Report

Upon the completion of a site visit, the appointed HI is responsible for providing the organizers, the NSA and the FIS Nordic Office a written report of the inspection. The report should include:

- analysis of the elevation profiles of the proposed courses with any comments on any elements that are deficient in terms of the ICR requirements;
- a clear report of any required adjustments to the courses for width, alignment, gradient, or safety accompanied with photos and a location map for reference;
- analysis of the capacity of the stadium;
- analysis of the warm up and wax testing facilities;
- analysis of the supporting infrastructure.
- analysis of transition and staging area for sit-ski athletes in order to access start, finish and warm up areas (in case of para nordic courses)

The need for temporary protection and other special measures that the organiser must take into consideration under certain course conditions should also be also mentioned in the homologation report.

3. FIS Certificate

The homologation certificate draft is done by the appointed HI within the given homologation software and sent to the Regional HI coordinators (and to the Chief of HI coordinators) for the final approval and they send it to the FIS Nordic Office.

The FIS Nordic Office adds all required dates, signatures, stamps and registration number and informs the respective NSA and homologation Inspector that the certificate is completed and uploaded to the FIS website.

3.1 Certificate validity

The certificate is valid for 5 seasons (expires 30 June for Northern Hemisphere / 30 December for Southern Hemisphere). The FIS Nordic office sends a notice of expiring certificates to the respective NSA and Regional HI coordinator no later than May 15 for the Northern Hemisphere and November 15 for the Southern Hemisphere.

If the given course has been used in a FIS Competition, there have been no significant changes to the alignment, width, or profile and no negative comments to the safety or functionality have been recorded in a TD Report within the 5 previous years, the certificates can be renewed, with a new certificate number, for an additional five years.

Certificates may only be renewed one time. After ten years, courses are subject to a new homologation.

In case TD report shows that the course is no longer as it is described in the certificate, the Chief of HI coordinators evaluates the case and decides how to proceed.

3.1 Provisional certificate

A NSA may request provisional homologation certificates for courses that have not yet met the final homologation. The application must be done by the NSA to the FIS Nordic Office at least 4 weeks before the course is used for a FIS competition under the following conditions:

- A HI has been appointed and has verified that the elevation profile meets the ICR requirements
- The appointed HI (or the FIS race director) has made a site visit

Provisional certificates expire 30 June for Northern Hemisphere / 30 December for Southern Hemisphere.

4. Costs

4.1 Administrative costs

The National Ski Association (NSA) is charged the cost of the certificate, and must itself invoice the OC if applicable. The following homologation fees will be charged to the NSA by the FIS Nordic Office:

- Application fee: CHF 100.-
- Homologation certificate fee: CHF 125.- for each new course certificate (included provisional one)

There is no cost for the first renewal while courses which are due to new homologation are subject to certificate Fee, but not the application Fee.

4.1 Homologation inspector costs

The FIS appointed HI is entitled to reimbursement for all appointment related travel expenses according to ICR 304.1.1. The daily rate is 125 CHF.

For his or her work at home related to the FIS appointment, both after the site visit or without it, the HI has the right of reimbursement of maximum one additional day.