



Fédération Internationale de Roller Sports

FIRS

Regulations endorsement of materials and systems for the ratification of sports facilities

Approved Portimao 05th December 2010

1. Introduction

Subject of these Regulations are the endorsement procedures for the approval of facilities for skating and of products and / or systems, issued by the Fédération Internationale de Roller Sports (FIRS).

As ratification we mean FIRS suitability certificate of sport facilities both for the performance of international competitions of figure skating, speed, rink hockey , inline hockey and all other roller disciplines and for the formalisation of the results reported to a realized, complete and potentially functional sports facility. The ratification certifies the compliance of the facilities to the regulations issued by the International Technical Committees, as specified below.

For ratification we mean FIRS suitability certificate of products and / or systems (eg. flooring, fences, etc..) to be used in facilities to be approved for competition. In particular, the use of FIRS approved system is required.

2. Firs sport facility commission

The control of the regulations, ratification and approval specified above are coordinated and technically supported by FIRS Sports Facilities Commission, which has in particular the task of providing technical support for:

- providing a positive opinion for approval by FIRS of the regulations of the International Technical Committees regarding the technical, functional and safety features of the facilities and of the concerning equipment;
- providing a positive opinion for approval by FIRS of products and systems for flooring and other equipment;
- developing studies, researches, proposals, manuals and publications for the development and the spread of sports facilities of all roller disciplines;
- monitoring and coordinating the activities of international ratification of facilities;
- providing information and, on request, consulting to the realization of facilities;

The Facilities Commission is composed of a President and a Secretary and of a maximum of four members who must be engineers or architects and have specific experience in their sector, all appointed by the President of FIRS.

Any appointment may be revoked at any time. At the renewal of the appointments, each appointment, unless modified by the new President-elect, is automatically confirmed.

The President of the Facilities Commission will be in close contact with the Presidents of the Technical Committees and will take advantage of the collaboration of experts from various disciplines.

The Commission shall be convened each time by its President.

The President of the Commission may, without convening the Commission:

- appoint the ratification expert to visit to a facility;
- after having checked the existence of ratification conditions, propose to the Secretary General of FIRS to issue the approval.

- instruct a technician to provide technical support for information or consulting to those, who request them for the realization of facilities;
 - carry out other coordination activities of the facilities
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3. Ratification expert

Ratification experts should have the title of engineer, architect or otherwise be technical experts with expertise in this field.

The ratification expert has the task of developing all the works outlined in the next chapter, as soon as possible, from the received appointment.

The appointment may be revoked at any time at the only discretion of FIRS President.

4. Facilities ratification

For ratification of a sports facility we mean a suitability statement issued by FIRS for the carrying out of international competitions and for the approval of the results.

The facility to be approved must be finished, complete with the required equipments and ready to host the sporting event.

Ratification procedure

The ratification may be required by the owner or administrator of the facility at FIRS Facilities Commission, presenting the information below. The Commission, after verifying the documents submitted, will contract to an approved expert, to run the necessary visit and to take minutes for ratification, with his signature, showing the data below.

Upon receipt of the ratification minutes, the President of the Facility Commission proposes to FIRS Secretary General the issuance of the official ratification of the facility itself.

Documentation for the application for approval

To begin the ratification process the applicant (owner or administrator) must submit the following documentation:

A) Application for approval containing the following information:

- Name of the facility
- Location
- Description of the facility (indoor / outdoor, fitness hall, arena attendance of spectators, etc.).
- sports activities planned
- case of a new approval or renewal

B) Drawings of the facility (on file in pdf format) on an appropriate scale and appropriately dimensioned, showing the characteristics of the facility required by regulation.

Tasks of the ratification expert

Task of the ratification expert is to verify the correspondence of the realized facilities to the features given by the existing rules and with the procedures established by the Facility Commission of FIRS.

In particular, he should verify the geometric characteristics of the facility and its lines, the geometric and efficiency characteristics of the flooring and of the concerning equipments. (eg: gates, fences, etc.)..

The expert, for his own opinion, when in doubt (eg in the presence of a new type of flooring or equipment) will require the implementation of sport suitability, testing activities, with the support of athletes or trainers of the National Team and any further tests.

For facilities realized with products and / or systems not coming from those approved by FIRS, following the procedure indicated below, the Facility Commission or the expert may require, at the expense of the applicant, to perform on-site tests and suitability sport tests in different environmental conditions.

Ratification report

The ratification expert in charge by FIRS Facility Commission, completed his verification, is required to submit to the Facility Commission the ratification report, signed, showing the data below:

- Name of facility
- Location
- Description of the facility (indoor / outdoor, fitness hall, arena etc.).
- Sports activities planned / and level of ratification proposed under the Regulation (local, regional, national, international)
- Case of a new approval or renewal
- Dimensions
- Lines
- Type of flooring and any eventually found characteristics.
- Characteristics of any equipment (eg gates, fences, etc..) required by the Rules
- Presence of support services and first aid
- Presence of public
- Levels of provided illumination
- Any additional endorsements
- Name of the ratification expert, date of inspection and signature
- Any reports of sporting activities for which approval is required

Ratification period

The ratification has a validity period of four years from the date of issuance, after which it is automatically revoked. On request it may be renewed, provided that technical conditions subsist. .

Any modification of parts of the facility specified by the Rules, in particular the flooring (extraordinary maintenance, replacement or renovation of the lines) or of its equipments (gates, fences, etc..) shuts the validity of the granted ratification.

Temporary approvals and waivers

Notwithstanding the provisions in these Rules, FIRS Secretary General, heard the President of the Facility Commission, may grant, for justified reasons related to the conduct of competitions of federal interest, temporary approval of the facility for a time limited to the development of the international sport event.

Contribution for ratification

The amount of the contribution, which is charged to the applicant, shall be established by FIRS taking into account the costs for:

- Payment to the ratification expert
- Costs of travel, accommodation, food that will be determined each time by the Secretariat of FIRS
- Technical assistance
- Measurements and laboratory or on-site testing
- Administrative FIRS expenses.

5. Endorsement of products and systems for flooring

Definition

The endorsement can be requested by the producer of systems with a defined, univocal and constant commercial definition.

The endorsed products and/or systems can use the definition "Products and systems endorsed by FIRS for (specify the sport activity/the sport activities)" and have simplified approval procedures for the sports facilities in which they will be used.

The brands of endorsed products and/or should be allowed to get the definition of "Products and systems recommended by FIRS" or "FIRS official supplier" and be promoted according to what FIRS defined.

Products and systems classes and requirements

The products and systems features required in sports flooring are the ones indicated in FIRS sports facilities regulations. Their preventive endorsement is carried on referring to the sports discipline for which the flooring will be considered suitable.

For new or not well known kind of materials and systems, FIRS will have the right to endorse them in an experimental way, giving them a temporary recognition.

Products and systems to be endorsed, have to be perfectly and univocally defined by the producer/installer. Any subsequent changing in dimensions, materials or in the way of their realization will require a new endorsement.

Procedures and documents for the endorsement

In order to ask for a new endorsement, the producer/installer, has to pay the amount established by FIRS and provide the following documentation:

- endorsement request to FIRS;
- material's and system's commercial appellation, from which it results univocally identified;

- detailed description of the material and system with the note of what is protected from the patent;
- eventual material samples in the quantities and sizes established by FIRS;
- details of the specifications related to the product or system and its components;
- producer's/installer's detailed references and detailed list of already realized sports executions;
- eventual certifications about carried out lab tests, referring to specific rules.

FIRS can, at its own final opinion:

- ask for further information about the product and/or system or the presentation of new material samples for the carrying out of additional lab tests;
- organize, at the applicant producer/installer expenditures, inspections and sports suitability tests in various weather conditions on one or more sports facilities already realized by the producer/installer;
- organize, at the applicant producer/installer expenditures, further lab or/and on site tests.

At the end of the preliminary investigation, with a positive result, FIRS will endorse the products and the systems, which are subject of the request.

Endorsement term

Any changes in the product's and/or system's features from the producer/installer, will involve the need of a new endorsement procedure, according to FIRS criteria.

FIRS reserves the faculty to verify, at any moment, the conformity of the products and/or systems features defined upon endorsement with the actual ones.

Moreover, FIRS reserves the faculty to suspend or revoke the endorsement if the realized products or systems should show hidden defects which do not come from errors or realization's faults.

Approval contribution

The contribution amount is yearly established by FIRS.