Dear Freeski Nations,

The Audi quattro Winter Games NZ returns for its fifth edition from 25 August to 10 September 2017. Running 5 months prior to the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games, the best winter sports athletes in the world will once again descend on New Zealand’s South Island for an action packed programme of alpine ski racing, cross country skiing, curling, Ice hockey, big mountain freeriding, freeskiing and snowboarding.

The 2017 competition schedule has extended to 2 weeks, moved a week later than previous years and sees the addition of a FWQ Freeride series for the first time at The Remarkables, as well as the return of para-snowboarding with a Para World Cup Banked Slalom at Treble Cone. The Merino Muster is also joining the Games for the first time as an associate Cross Country race.

We are delighted to invite all freeski nations to the FIS Freeski Slopestyle and Halfpipe World Cups, both of which are AFP Platinum sanctioned events and will take place at Cardrona Alpine Resort, Wanaka, NZ. Cardrona Alpine Resort is home to a 22ft Olympic Halfpipe and the World Class Slopestyle course. The nearest township is Wanaka (34km, 35 minute drive). The nearest major airport, Queenstown, is 50km (50 minute drive).

Entries for the FIS Freeski Slopestyle and Halfpipe World Cups are open now through the FIS Website at www.fis-ski.com.

Please find the athlete and team information below. For further information please contact Winter Games NZ Sports Manager, Anna McConville, on annamc@wintergamesnz.kiwi

We look forward to welcoming you to Wanaka and the Audi quattro Winter Games New Zealand.

Kind regards

Arthur Klap
Chief Executive
The 5th edition of the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ will take place over a 16 day period from 25 August - 10 September 2017 and will feature elite winter sports competitions in Alpine Skiing, Cross Country Skiing, Curling, Ice Hockey, Freeride, Freeski & Snowboarding.

Invitation contents

- Key Dates and Venues
- Halfpipe & Slopestyle Schedule
- Entries, Fees & Registration
- Sanctioning, Awards & Prize Money
- Draft Schedules
- Other Freeski Events in NZ/AUS
- Media & Entertainment
- Travel, Logistics & Accommodation

Local Organising Committee Contact Info:

- Sports Manager: Anna McConville  annamc@wintergamesnz.kiwi
- Freeski & Snowboard Manager: Eric Zerrenner  eric@wintergamesnz.kiwi
- Travel/ Accommodation: Jane Todd  jane@wintergamesnz.kiwi
- Media Manager: George Berry  george@wintergamesnz.kiwi

Winter Games NZ
PO Box 389. Lake Wanaka, New Zealand
Phone: +64 3 443 2258  www.wintergamesnz.kiwi
Key Dates and Venues

Dates
The Audi quattro Winter Games NZ officially runs from 25th August - 10th September (though please note that the first training day is Thursday 24th August).

Host towns & venues
The event is based across the 3 towns of Queenstown, Wanaka and Naseby in the South Island of New Zealand. The Curling Tournament will take place in the Maniototo Curling Rink in Naseby and the mountain events are held at Cardrona Alpine Resort (Freeski, Snowboarding & Para Alpine), Coronet Peak (Alpine Skiing), Remarkables (Freeride), Treble Cone (Para Snowboard) and Snow Farm NZ (Cross Country Skiing). There are also on mountain awards ceremonies and entertainment.

Halfpipe & Slopestyle Venue - Cardrona Alpine Resort
Cardrona is home to the 22ft Olympic Halfpipe and world class Slopestyle and Park facilities. The course builders are John Melville (Halfpipe) and Heath Richmond (Slopestyle).

Provided that the weather behaves itself, the park and pipe at Cardrona should be open by late July. There will be also be training camps late season. For all training information and team pass rates, please contact Graham Dunbar on events@cardrona.com
Halfpipe & Slopestyle Schedule

Audi quattro Winter Games NZ Ceremonies
Fri 25th Aug: Opening Ceremony for the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ Coronet Peak, Queenstown
Sat 9th Sept: Closing Ceremony for Audi quattro Winter Games NZ Cardrona, Wanaka

FIS Freeski & AFP Platinum Slopestyle
Thur 24th Aug Slopestyle Training (Men & Ladies)
Fri 25th Aug Slopestyle Training (Men & Ladies)
Sat 26th Aug Slopestyle Qualification
Sun 27th Aug Slopestyle Finals
Mon 28th Aug Weather day Slopestyle

FIS Freeski & AFP Platinum Halfpipe
Tue 29th Aug Halfpipe Training (Men & Ladies)
Wed 30th Aug Halfpipe Training (Men & Ladies)
Thur 31st Aug Halfpipe Qualification
Fri 1st Sept Halfpipe Finals
Sat 2nd Sept Weather day Halfpipe

Team Captain’s Meetings & Coaches Welcome Drinks
All Team Captain’s Meetings will take place in the Armstrong Room at the Lake Wanaka Centre, 89 Ardmore Street. Additional downtown or on course meetings may be arranged, this information will be shared at the first Team Captain’s Meeting for each event.

6.30pm Wed 23rd Aug Slopestyle TCM and Coaches Welcome Drinks
6.30pm Thurs 24th Aug Slopestyle TCM
6.30pm Fri 25th Aug Slopestyle TCM
6.30pm Sat 26th Aug Slopestyle TCM
6.30pm Mon 28th Aug Halfpipe TCM
6.30pm Tue 29th Aug Halfpipe TCM
6.30pm Wed 30th Aug Halfpipe TCM
6.00pm Thur 31st Aug Halfpipe TCM
Entry Process, Fees & Accreditation

Entry Criteria
Entries for Halfpipe and Slopestyle will be accepted in accordance with the FIS quotas and rules for the World Cup, and must be processed by the national snow sports association through the FIS Online Registration and Entry System at www.fis-ski.com.

If you have any questions please contact Winter Games NZ Sports Manager, Anna McConville, on annamc@wintergamesnz.kiwi.

Entry Fees
An administrative fee will be charged for each World Cup competitor. This fee will be refundable should the event be cancelled.

- Administrative Fee 120 CHF (as per FIS rules) per competitor (Halfpipe & Slopestyle)
- All team captains should pay any relevant fees at the first Team Captains Meeting

Deadlines for Entries
- Preliminary Entry (Announcement of Team Size): 17th July 2017
- Final Team Names: 16th August 2017

Lift passes and competitors bibs
Lift passes will be provided to all competitors and team officials for official training and competition days and will be distributed at the team captain meetings. The number of free passes given out to team officials will be relative to team size (as per FIS World Cup Rules 7.9.1).

Training and competition bibs will also be allocated at the Team Captains Meetings. A bib deposit of $100 per team or $20 per individual will be required in cash at the first Team Captains Meeting. It is mandatory that all competitors wear their bibs during all official training and competition days and at award ceremonies.

Accreditation
All athletes and coaches should collect their Accreditation card upon arrival in Wanaka. This card entitles athletes to benefits and discounts with local restaurants, cafes, bars and shops. More information on where to collect these cards along with a list of participating companies will be posted on the event website from 1st August.
Sanctioning, Awards & Prize Money

Sanctioning
The Slopestyle and Halfpipe events are both co-sanctioned at FIS World Cup and at AFP Platinum levels. Athletes must have a valid FIS license to compete, and will only receive points in the AFP ranking system if they hold a current AFP membership. AFP profiles will be used by event commentators, so we recommend that all athletes update them with sponsors and bio information. Visit www.afpworldtour.com/register/ and click on the SIGN IN button.

AFP
The Association of Freeskiing Professionals is an organization responsible for implementing a global ranking system and to serve as a unified voice for the athletes and our sport. Made up of athletes and key influencers within the sport of freeskiing, the AFP is proactive in the future direction of events, judging, growth and evolution of the sport. For the up-and-coming athlete, they help create a development pathway that clearly outlines the steps required to fulfill their freeskiing goals. Additionally, the AFP assists event promoters and governing bodies to ensure consistent on-hill competition, organization and judging.

Awards ceremonies
Flower and medal ceremonies will take place on hill at the end of each competition final.

Podium placing athletes are obligated to attend these ceremonies and should be available for media interviews and athlete signings immediately after the awards.

Prize money
The total prize purse for Halfpipe and Slopestyle is CHF 100,000.

Prize money breakdown is as per FIS Rules and payments will be made electronically.
FREESKI SLOPESTYLE WORLD CUP
Venue: Cardrona Alpine Resort
Dates: 24 - 28 August 2017

Wed 23 August: Arrival Day
Thur 24 August: Official Training
Fri 25 August: Official Training
Sat 26 August: Competition Day - Qualification
  8:30 AM - 9:15 AM Training H1 & H2 Ladies
  9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Qualification H1 & H2 Ladies
  10:35 AM - 11:20 AM Training H1 & H2 Men
  11:30 AM - 12:50 PM Qualification H1 & H2 Men
  12:55 PM - 13:40 PM Training H3 & H4 Men
  13:55 PM - 15:15 PM Qualification H3 & H4 Men
  18:30PM - 19:00PM Team Captains Meeting
Sun 27 August
  09:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
  11.30 AM - 12:15 PM  
  12:30 PM - 14.10 PM  
  14:15 PM  
  14:45 PM
Mon 28 August: Weather Day

FREESKI HALFPIPE WORLD CUP
Venue: Cardrona Alpine Resort
Dates: 29 August - 2 September 2017

Mon 28 August: Arrival Day
Tue 29 August: Official Training
Wed 30 August: Official Training
Thur 31 August: Competition Day - Qualification
  8:30 AM - 9:05 AM Training H1 Men
  9:15 AM - 10:07 AM Qualification H1 Men
  10:10 AM - 10.45 AM Training H2 Men
  10.55 AM - 11.48 PM Qualification H2 Men
  11.55 AM - 12.30 PM Training Ladies
  12.40 PM - 13.42 PM Qualification Ladies
  18:00 PM - Team Captains Meeting
Fri 1 September: Competition Day - Finals
  07:50AM - 10:20 AM  
  10.20 AM - 10.50 AM  
  11.00 AM - 12.30 AM  
  12:35 PM  
  13:05 PM
Sat 2 September: Weather Day
Other Freeski Events in NZ & AUS

Jossi Wells Invitational Big Air at Cardrona
The second annual Jossi Wells Invitational Big Air is set to take place from 12 - 16 September. Athletes will be throwing down in practice from September 12–14, with the main event place on Friday September 15. This year Jossi is adding a skate comp at the Wanaka Skate Park on Saturday September 16. An awards presentation & party are scheduled for after the event. This event is by invite only!
Email events@cardrona.com for more information.

One Hit Wonder Big Air
The world’s best skiers will drop-in to the biggest jump on the AFP World Tour at this year’s One Hit Wonder Big Air event at Thredbo Alpine Resort from 5th-9th of September. Athlete interest registration will open in June for this invitation only event at www.onehitwonderevent.com

Nutrition
PURE Sports Nutrition is proud to be the official hydration sponsor of this years event. The PURE team will be on hand on competition days to fuel your performance with the latest premium sports nutrition products.
www.puresportnutrition.com
Winter Games NZ Media & Social Media

2017 is a huge year for both you and the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ, and part of its future success lays with you! Not only are your performances on the snow and ice super important, but so to is how you talk about the Games and the vibe of the event.

Our social media channels will focus on Facebook for almost everything, Instagram for the sexiest imagery possible and Twitter for news and information, and we’d love for you to join in on the conversation at #WGNZ and @WinterGamesNZ Images and highlights of your runs for your social channels may also be available for purchase/distribution by contacting Media Manager George Berry.

Accreditation
If you are planning to bring a media team with you or know of someone wishing to cover the events, please note that they must be accredited by the Winter Games NZ Media Office. This applies whether they are editorial media or filming for promotional purposes. Please contact Winter Games Media Manager directly george@wintergamesnz.kiwi

We can’t wait to see you at the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ and have you join the conversation now.

Entertainment Programme

Festival events are an essential part of Audi quattro Winter Games NZ. From the 2017 opening ceremony at Coronet Peak, which includes a dramatic dual slalom raced under floodlights, to the glittering closing ceremony at Cardrona Alpine Resort, there’s an awesome free to watch programme. Stand by for more information about our daily entertainment programme and keep up to date via our website and social media channels.

The Wanaka App

While in Wanaka live like a local! Download the Wanaka App for up to date local news and sport, road conditions and things to do while in town.
MONS Royale Athlete Party

Mark the evening of **Friday 1 September** in your calendar. Official merino base layer of the Winter Games NZ, Mons Royale invite you to their VIP AW17 range launch party in Wanaka. It’s sure to be huge. Time and location tbc.

Travel & Logistics

Visas
New Zealand has a special policy for athletes, coaches, administrators, officials and support staff visiting the country to participate in sporting events. Please check with NZ Immigration to find out if visitors from your country require a visitor visa to enter New Zealand. Information and application forms for visitor visas are available on [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz) or from New Zealand and Australian Consulates, Embassies or High commissions.

Liability & Insurance
All athletes, officials and members of the National Associations who attend and participate in the event shall do so at their own risk. Winter Games NZ, sponsors and suppliers, their agents, employees and volunteers shall not be responsible for any losses or injuries incurred or suffered by the athletes, official or other person in conjunction with the organising or staging of the event. Public Liability Insurance (CHF) 3 million, for the period of the event, is in place.

If you are injured in New Zealand (including whilst competing in a competition), you may need the assistance of the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC), New Zealand’s accident compensation scheme. ACC helps pay for your care – and that means paying towards the cost of your treatment and helping your recovery while you remain in New Zealand. ACC will not cover any medical or related costs arising from the accident after you leave New Zealand. You will accordingly still need to arrange your own travel and medical insurance. New Zealand’s medical facilities are not free to visitors except as a result of an accident but even in the case of an accident, surcharges in private facilities will apply.
Air travel
We recommend that you book your flights as early as possible and fly into Queenstown or Christchurch depending on your travel plans. Air New Zealand, Jetstar, Qantas and Virgin Australia are the only airlines flying directly into Queenstown. However many others come into Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Car/Van Transport
We highly recommend that teams organize their own transport to ensure full control over movement to and from the resort. JUCY Rentals is New Zealand’s favourite and most trusted rental company. Kiwi owned and operated, JUCY can get you zipping around in one of their rides for a few days or touring our country for a couple of weeks or more. With a range of cars and campers, they have something for everyone’s budget. JUCY is so stoked to be involved with the Winter Games NZ again that they are offering 20% off all car hire when you book online. Please visit our website for further information.

Accommodation
N.B. Due to number of athletes competing in the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ, we are not able to guarantee Team Accommodation bookings (as per WC rules) after 30th June 2017. A 50% deposit per person is required prior to this deadline to secure your booking. Accommodation will be offered at 80 CHF per day per person as per FIS World Cup rules. For all entry and accommodation enquiries please contact Jane Todd on jane@wintergamesnz.kiwi. We strongly recommend the teams identify and book their own accommodation.
Queenstown

Accor Hotels are the official 3.5, 4 and 5 star hotel accommodation providers for the Audi quattro Winter Games NZ. They offer four unique and distinct accommodation options in Queenstown. For bookings and more information visit

https://www.wintergamesnz.kiwi/get-here/accommodation

Rental houses or apartments

It’s possible to rent houses or apartments on short or long term basis in all townships. Most of the houses would be a minimum rental of 5-7 days.

www.holidayhouses.co.nz  www.bookabach.co.nz

Additional services

**Fitness Gyms**

- **Proactive24:** Wanaka
- **Alpine Health & Fitness:** Queenstown

**Physiotherapists**

- **Wanaka Physiotherapy:** Wanaka
- **Queenstown Physiotherapy:** Queenstown

**Massage**

- **Body Workshop:** Wanaka
- **Remedial Massage:** Queenstown

www.wintergamesnz.kiwi