

INTERNATIONAL SKI FEDERATION
Blochstrasse 2
3653 Oberhofen/Thunersee
Switzerland
Tel +41 33 244 61 61

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Jenny Wiedeke
FIS Communication Manager
Mobile: +41 79 449 5399
E-Mail: wiedeke@fisski.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Legacy of Nik Zoricic

OBERHOFEN, Switzerland, 10 March 2014 – Two years after the tragic accident that claimed the life of Canadian ski cross skier Nik Zoricic, the Foundation set up in his name is realising its goal of improving the safety of ski cross athletes. The International Ski Federation (FIS) is pleased to support the Nik Zoricic Foundation and its objectives.

The accident that claimed Nik's life at a ski cross competition in Grindelwald, Switzerland on 10 March 2012 deeply touched the entire international ski community. The International Ski Federation (FIS), the Verein Ski Cross Berner Oberland, the Canadian Snowsport Association (CSA), Alpine Canada (ACA) and all persons involved with the Grindelwald event and Nik's participation, stand by his family in their loss.

During the last two years, FIS has further developed the Ski Cross Course Guidelines ([LINK HERE](#)) taking into consideration the suggestions that have been made by the constituents of the Ski Cross family in the aftermath of Nik's accident. The updated Guidelines include important improvements that speak to the legacy of Nik Zoricic to the sport of Ski Cross.

In addition, Nik's family and friends started the Nik Zoricic Foundation, which is dedicated to the improvement of the safety of ski cross athletes. FIS highly welcomes this initiative and is proud to support its efforts and to offer its close cooperation. To demonstrate its backing for the activities of the Nik Zoricic Foundation the FIS will contribute \$ 250,000 over five years to the foundation.

FIS never takes a ski accident lightly, but always undertakes substantial efforts to learn from the unfortunate events to further improve the safety of the competitors and to minimize the risks of accidents. Thanks to the family and friends of Nik, and the entire ski cross community's dedication to his memory, Nik's legacy will be strongly associated with the improvements to safety for his fellow ski cross competitors.

ABOUT FIS:

FIS, founded in 1924, is the governing body for international skiing and snowboarding. Recognised by the International Olympic Committee, FIS manages the Olympic disciplines of Alpine Skiing, Cross-Country Skiing, Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined, Freestyle Skiing and Snowboarding and sets the international competition rules. Through its 119 nations, more than 7'000 FIS ski and snowboard competitions are staged annually. Specific initiatives are undertaken by FIS to promote snow activities, notably for the young.

ABOUT THE NIK ZORICIC FOUNDATION:

Athletes have the ability to be incredible contributors to society. Athletes inspire, create and lead. They are role models and demonstrate values by showing us what we all are capable of if we commit ourselves to excellence.

The Nik Zoricic (NZ) Foundation strives to support these athletes as our ambassadors of Ontario and Canada while supporting the development of ski sport in general and its safety in particular. We envision supporting other registered charities whose missions complement ours in terms of the development of ski sport and safety initiatives. NZ's mission is to support the growth of ski sport in general while minimizing the risk of serious accidents happening due to lack of safe conditions and training.

Athletes cannot excel if they need to be worried about safety conditions, or about access to the right developmental opportunities. Rewards from competition cannot be achieved when injuries, or worse, death, occurs.

The Nik Zoricic (NZ) Foundation strives to support athletes by facilitating the continuous advocacy of the importance and implementation of safety initiatives in sport.

The impact that athletes have in the environments they are part of, be the schools or working establishments, are substantial, as their work ethic, commitment to excellence and teamwork reflect on others. The rewards they carry to these endeavours can be substantial, particularly when these skills are properly channeled.

The Nik Zoricic (NZ) Foundation strives to support these athletes achieve long-term success by providing proper education on the opportunities available to athletes through sport.