



ISMF Manufacturers Pool: concept and guidelines

Introduction

The ISMF, as an international federation according to its Statutes, is willing to contribute to the development of ski mountaineering used for competitions.

The goal of the ISMF is to create a platform to discuss all matters related to the equipment in a non-competitive constructive way, in order to build a synergy in terms of standards and to help the general development of the equipment used during competitions.

The ISMF also expects an effort on behalf of the manufacturers regarding contributions to the development of this sport and of its equipment, since this cooperation will definitely lead to positive outcomes (more athletes, greater impact in the media sector, etc.)

For that reason, the ISMF has decided to create a group called "Manufacturers Pool".

The Manufacturers Pool does not sponsor the ISMF. The goal of its members is the development of the sport, not only in terms of direct impact on the media.

Legal form

The Manufacturers Pool is a group of manufacturers which will not be appointed by the members of the ISMF but are accepted if they respect the admission criteria.

Objectives and principles

The main goal of the Manufacturers Pool is the development of the equipment for ski mountaineering competitions.

The specific objectives are:

- To cooperate in order to establish an exact description of the equipment compliant to ISMF regulations.
- To help the general development of the ISMF regulations.

The work ethic of the Manufacturers Pool is:

- Members participate in the Manufacturers Pool for the development of the sport, not for their personal interests. The pursuit of individual gain is strictly prohibited.
- Members undertake to actively participate in the Manufacturers Pool's activities.
- The annual membership fee (see section "Finance") of the members is not intended to sponsor the ISMF or to provide sponsorship rights. In appreciation of this collaborative



partnership, the ISMF may include the list of Manufacturers Pool members in some brochures, mailings or banners, but it is not an obligation of the ISMF.

Membership

Admission criteria

Any manufacturer can be a member of the Manufacturers Pool if the following three conditions are fulfilled:

- 1) The manufacturer is registered as a commercial entity in the country of origin.
- 2) The manufacturer produces at least one piece of equipment, which is or can be used for ski mountaineering competitions.
- 3) The manufacturer is ready to pay the annual membership fee (see section "Finance").

The Manufacturers Pool's season always starts on 1 July and lasts until 30 June of the following year.

The candidate member must send a subscription form (Appendix 1) to the ISMF administrative office within 30 June. The Technical and Commercial Coordinators of the Manufacturers Pool (see Appendix 3) will evaluate the subscription and propose or not the admission of the new member to the ISMF Bureau.

The ISMF will accept new members also during the season, but no later than 31 December.

Rights of the members

Every member has the right to:

- a) Participate in Manufacturers Pool's meetings (in person once a year and in digital format if necessary).
- b) Become a member of different working groups. To belong to a specific working group, the member must market one product of that working group.
- c) Be consulted about all specific matters regarding the own equipment.
- d) Be informed about all discussions and decisions taken by the ISMF concerning the equipment.
- e) Have their self-certified products in the ISMF whitelist to be uploaded on the ISMF website. The ISMF whitelist is a list of products to be used for competitive ski mountaineering. This list is provided by the manufacturers which are member of the ISMF Manufacturers Pool. Each product is self-certified by the manufacturer to comply with the ISMF standards. Therefore, when an athlete looks at the ISMF whitelist, he/she knows that the products are suitable for use in ISMF races.

Items which do not feature in the list are not necessarily outside of the guidelines. It is just that the manufacturer has chosen not to participate in this initiative. Therefore, the validity of products not listed should be checked directly with the information provided by the manufacturers. In any case, the equipment used in ISMF competitions must comply with the ISMF Sporting Rules.

- f) Use the ISMF pictogram reserved to the members of the Manufacturers Pool, subject to the following conditions:
 - The equipment marked by the ISMF must respect the criteria imposed by the ISMF regulations.
 - The interested manufacturers must supply the ISMF the technical details of the equipment concerned.
 - It is not compulsory to mark the equipment with the ISMF pictogram. Manufacturers decide whether or not to mark the equipment and/or packaging and/or catalogues.
 - The ISMF pictogram used is followed by the words "Pool Member" in compliance with the ISMF brand guidelines (see Appendix 2).
 - Products in the ISMF whitelist are "Products complying with the ISMF regulations".
- g) To show the company logo on the ISMF website.
- h) Promote products during ISMF competitions (World Cups, World Championships, European Championships) in a special panel (roll-up) provided by the ISMF.
- i) Receive periodical reports about the work of the Manufacturers Pool.

Obligations of the members

Every member has the obligation to:

- a) Be registered as a commercial entity in the country of origin.
- b) Pay the annual membership fee.
- c) Accept all decisions taken by the ISMF, especially by the ISMF and the ISMF Rules Commission, even if this negatively affects the equipment manufactured by the Manufacturers Pool members.

Exclusion/resignation of the members

A member of the Manufacturers Pool can be excluded:

- a) If it has not paid the annual membership fee
- b) For infringement of the Manufacturers Pool guidelines or any other ISMF regulation.
- c) In case of showing an unwillingness to collaborate and/or being too self-serving.

The exclusion will be proposed by the ISMF to the ISMF Bureau, which will decide about it.

If a member wants to leave the Manufacturers Pool, it must send an advance-warning letter to the ISMF at least three months before the end of the Manufacturers Pool season (before 31 March).

Parties

All parties of the Manufacturers Pool must consult the ISMF Sporting Rules in place. The ISMF Rules Commission always makes the final decision about a specific topic and it needs the approval of the ISMF Bureau/Council and/or of the Plenary Assembly.



The ISMF Manufacturers Pool

The Manufacturers Pool is composed of all the members who are up to date with the payments of the annual membership fee for the season of pertinence (July-June). The persons in charge of the Manufacturers Pool are the Technical and Commercial Coordinators or a person appointed by them (see Appendix 3).

The Manufacturers Pool appoints a "Coordinator of the manufacturers", whose role is:

- To organise sessions of discussion between the members of the Manufacturers Pool, without the ISMF (manufacturers committee).
- As Coordinator of the manufacturers, to discuss with the ISMF editorial issues to update the Manufacturers Pool Guidelines and the ISMF Sporting Rules (according to the manufacturers committee).

The goal of this group is to be more efficient and to lose less time during the Manufacturers Pool meetings. The manufacturers committee discuss through e-mail, coordinated by the Coordinator of the manufacturers.

The rights of the Manufacturers Pool are as follows:

- a) To discuss all articles concerning the Manufacturers Pool Guidelines;
- b) To discuss the structure of the working groups;
- c) To discuss the decisions taken by the Manufacturers Pool and the working groups;
- d) To make recommendations and communications to the ISMF Rules Commission, the ISMF Bureau or the ISMF Council.

Working groups

The Manufacturers Pool will be divided into 3 important working groups:

Group 1: Progression:

Skis, poles, boots, skins and bindings

Group 2: Technical and safety equipment:

Crampons, helmet, karabiners, ropes, all equipment with the label of the UIAA and/or the CE... DVA, snow probe, snow shovel, etc.

Groups 1 and 2 constitute the Technical Manufacturers Pool.

Group 3, commercial pool: Clothing and other equipment:

Clothing, sunglasses, backpack, etc.

The Manufacturers Pool has the reserved right to invite any persons considered pertinent to the discussions to these meetings. This invitation is carried out via the Coordinator of the manufacturers and/or the Technical and Commercial Coordinators of the Manufacturers Pool with the agreement of the ISMF or directly by the latter.

Decision making and voting

Decision making and voting are the same for the Manufacturers Pool and for the working groups. Every member has one voice and one vote. Members can delegate their vote to other members



by writing a power of attorney (proxy). One member cannot have more than 2 powers of attorney. The handheld voting system will be applied. A secret ballot is available on demand. There is no minimal quorum required.

All notes, recommendations or communication that the Manufacturers Pool wants to send must be accepted by the majority of the members present.

Finance

Every member must pay the annual membership fee of 2.500,00 €.

The annual membership fee can be re-examined every year by the ISMF Bureau, which will inform the members of the Manufacturers Pool. Notice of change must be given at least three months before the start of the following season.

If during the abovementioned period there are no modifications, the participation in the Manufacturers Pool will continue as in the previous season, except when the member presents a valid resignation (Exclusion/resignation).

Every new member that joins the Manufacturers Pool during the season (within 31 December at the latest) will pay the total amount of the annual membership fee.

Dissolution

A majority of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Manufacturers Pool can demand its dissolution. This dissolution must be approved by the ISMF Council, in compliance with the ISMF Statutes.