

# 7<sup>th</sup> ASIAN WINTER GAMES Rights Holders Newsletter



Astana - Almaty  
7<sup>th</sup> ASIAN WINTER GAMES  
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## WORLD BROADCASTER MEETING RECAP

The daily 7<sup>th</sup> Asian Winter Games World Broadcaster Meeting took place this afternoon in the Almaty IBC. The main points raised in the meeting follow:

- The Closing Ceremony transmission will begin on 6 February at 16:55 with the show itself beginning at 17:00. It is anticipated to run for approximately one and a half hours and will be followed by a fireworks display. A script will be made available at the IBC BIO tomorrow.
- Access procedures to the Closing Ceremony have been clarified and Day Passes are now available for collection from the Booking Office at the IBC.
- The Closing Ceremony rehearsal will take place on 5 February with an expected approximate start time of 18:00, although this is still to be confirmed.
- The rehearsal will be open to Rights Holders at the venue and will also be distributed at the IBC for viewing purposes only.
- It is anticipated that the Men's Ice Hockey victory ceremony and the Figure Skating gala could overlap with the Closing Ceremony broadcast.
- Due to a course change, the timings for today's Biathlon event are only correct as of the second shooting.
- All delayed events from yesterday took place today and both the ISJ and SAR venues are now closed.

## LAST OF THE WBMS

At present there are no plans to hold further daily World Broadcaster Meetings at the IBC on 5 February or 6 February. Should matters of importance arise then a further briefing may be scheduled. Details of any such meeting would be circulated by the IBC Broadcast Information Office.

IGBS thanks all Rights Holders for their attendance at the WBMS.

## RIGHTS HOLDER PROFILE - KHABAR TV

After such a long build up to an event so important for the nation of Kazakhstan, the approach to the finish line is a time for reflection and evaluation. For Khabar TV that process is wholly positive. "Our transmissions have all gone very well and we have no complaints or problems. In terms of the technical work it has also gone very well, the picture in the Basic Feed has been splendid and the work of all the camera staff and directors has been exceptional," enthused Technical Director Aidyn Bazhikeyev.

"It is the first time an event of this magnitude has been held in Kazakhstan and it has been a great experience for us. Thanks to IGBS we have learnt so many things that will be important to us in the future and that we will use in our coverage for years to come." Broadcasting eight Asian Winter Games events, Khabar TV have been putting out six hours of coverage per day on each of their three channels. Along with 80% live coverage and 20% delayed, viewers have also enjoyed a daily highlights programme as well as a magazine show.

Curiously the broadcaster's biggest challenge and biggest success at the event can be traced to the same root. "The largest difficulty was when we first began preparation with IGBS as we did not know what to expect and what services would be provided. However, IGBS carefully explained everything to us and now we have a perfect understanding of how an event like this is broadcast. And, of course, gaining that knowledge is our biggest success."

A team effort with Kazakhstan TV has provided coverage to viewers in the host nation, and there was a huge sense of anticipation in the build-up to the event. "Ourselves and Kazakhstan TV are the two most important broadcasters in the country and we have worked together on this project with one goal and one purpose. We are not competitors but partners who have helped each other."



Khabar TV's Technical Director Aidyn Bazhikeyev and the IBC CDT room

"There was a feeling of responsibility ahead of the event, everyone involved was very excited but also very worried as we all wanted to ensure that we broadcast this important event successfully and with dignity," emphasised Bazhikeyev. "Especially for the Asian Winter Games we acquired TV equipment which we exploited in full for the unilateral broadcasting of the event. I am pleased to say that we have now gained very useful first-hand experience."

## KNOW YOUR AWG SPORTS - SPEED SKATING

Speed skating has been part of every Asian Winter Games schedule, an honour shared by just six sporting disciplines. Similar to its shorter form, the circuit used for long track racing is usually 400 metres but can be as short as 200 metres.



Events can be contested either as mass start races or as individual start time-trials and in previous Asian Winter Games the contests have been held over distances ranging from 100 metres to 10,000 metres.

As a practice speed skating can be traced back over 1,000 years, when natives first began using bones as skates to traverse frozen lakes and rivers. It was eventually introduced as an Olympic sport in 1924 – having been intended to be included in the aborted 1916 summer Olympics in Berlin.