



SPORTS RULES SHORT TRACK 2026

June 2026

Note:

In the ISU Constitution and Regulations, the masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, Skater/Competitor, Official, member of an ISU Member etc. or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.

See also the ISU Constitution
and
Competition and Event Regulations (“CER”)

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

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A. Tracks and Venues

Rule 280

Track Layout, Facilities and Safety

1.
 - a) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games the track shall be an oval of 111.12 m in a covered, enclosed and heated ice rink with minimum measurements of 60 x 30 m (see diagram in the Technical Rules).
 - b) The width of the straight shall not be less than 7 m.
 - c) The measurements from the apex block of the bends to the barrier shall not be less than 4 m.
 - d) Curves and turns should be made symmetrically, there should be a symmetrical curve from the end of one straight to the point where the next straight begins.
 - e) Besides the standard track there will be four or six other tracks laid out which are symmetrical to the standard track but moved in the direction of the straight with equal intermediate distances of up to 0.7 m when seven tracks are used, up to 1 m when five tracks are used to preserve good ice conditions. For all tracks one finish line will be used. For the starting lines see diagram in Technical Rules.
 - f) In Semi-Finals and Finals of 500 m, the outside tracks (1 and 5 when there are five tracks and 1 and 7 when there are seven tracks) will not be used. Only the middle tracks as marked on the diagram shall be used.
 - g) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games: in the straight, a line will be drawn between the last block of the curve and the first block of the next curve.
2.
 - a) The starting lines and finish line are to be denoted by lines (colored) drawn at right angles to the straight and not more than 2 cm wide.
 - b) Starting lines are drawn from the barrier and will have a length equivalent to the actual width of the straight. The finish line is drawn from the barrier and will have a length of the actual width of the straight plus 1.5 m.
 - c) Only for 500 and 1000 m: Starting at 50 cm from the inner side of the track, dots 2 cm diameter shall mark five starting positions every 1.3 m in order to define the starting positions.
 - d) If the inner surface of the track is colored differently from the surface of the track for esthetic purposes, then this inner surface shall be symmetrical to the layout of the track, and start exactly at the end of the finish line (see diagram in the Technical Rules).
3. For International Competitions on ice rinks of less than 30 m in width the track that may be used is shown in the diagram in the respective Announcement.

Track markers

4. Track marking blocks of an approved design by the ISU Short Track Technical Committee shall be used and seven must be used in each curve.

Padding Systems

5. a) Protective mats must be installed around the ice surface. All measures must be taken in order to improve the safety of the Skaters. Mats must be covered with a water-resistant, not necessarily cut-resistant, material. Mats must be attached to each other, standing with their weight on the ice.
- b) All Padding systems must comply to the minimum specifications laid out in the respective ISU Communication.
- c) The following types of systems are defined:
 - Basic and Traditional rink board Padding System: the pads are placed against the boarding surrounding the ice surface. The details are laid down in an ISU Communication;
 - Hybrid Padding system: the boarding is partially removed, especially on the exit of the curves and in the skating direction up to about 10 m ahead of the starting and finishing line. The mats are self-standing and connected to each other, so that sufficient movement of the mats is possible in order to slow down falling Skater(s). Traditional mats are placed against the boarding in the other areas;
 - Moveable Padding system: there is no boarding around the ice surface and the mats are self-standing, connected to each other, so that sufficient movement of the mats is possible to slow down falling Skater(s).
- d) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games, a feasibility plan with all the technical descriptions of the material properties and drawing of the construction of the mats must be submitted with the initial application.
- e) For the Olympic Winter Games, a Moveable Padding system is mandatory. The Padding must comply with the specifications laid out in the respective ISU Communication. The selection of the Padding must also take into account the requirements for the final setup and logistical change-over issues, when sharing a venue with Figure Skating.
- f) For ISU Events and Winter Youth Olympic Games a Moveable Padding system or a Hybrid Padding system must be used as a minimum.
- g) For International Senior and for International Junior Competitions age categories A & B, as a minimum a Traditional rink board Padding system must be used.
- h) For International Junior Competitions age categories C & D, as a minimum a Basic Padding System must be used.

Facilities at rink

6. a) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games, electronic equipment capable of producing an image of the finish and the times of the competitors shall be used. Times shall be produced in thousands of a second. These results shall be considered Official Results.
- b) For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games (OWG) and Winter Youth Olympic Games (WYOG), an Instant Video Replay System (IVR) and Race Reporting System (RRS) approved by the ISU shall be used.
- c) For International Competitions a manual procedure explained in Rule 286, paragraphs 14 and 15 may be used, if the above equipment is not available.
- d) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games, only computer software approved by the Short Track Technical Committee shall be used to document the results of races, prepare the make-up of the next round of races, and produce the final results and Protocol of the competition.
- e) For International Competitions the procedure outlined in Rule 293 can also be done manually.
- f) All technical equipment shall be located in areas restricted to public access.

B. Organization of the Competitions

1. The announcements of ISU Events and of International Competitions are set out in the Competition & Event Regulations (“CER”). The conditions of contest shall be set out in the published program.
2. Entries for ISU Events can be made only through the respective ISU Members. Each ISU Member may enter a number of competitors in accordance with Rule 281, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5. This maximum number of competitors is confirmed in an ISU Communication. Besides that, the ISU Member may enter the same number of alternate names.

Rule 281 ISU Championships

Distances and program at Championships

1. a) The distances will be: 500, 1000 and 1500 m individual, 3000 m Relay for Women, 5000 m Relay for Men and 2000 m Relay for Mixed Relay Teams. The number of days and the daily program (competitions and order of races) will be decided by the ISU Council in consultation with the ISU Event Director, the ISU Short Track Technical Committee and the organizers and will be published in an ISU Communication issued before October 1st of each season.
b) For all individual distances there will be two Finals. The qualification for the Finals will be through Qualifying rounds, according to Rule 291, paragraph 8.
c) On the Relay Distances there will be two Finals. The qualification for the Finals will be through Qualifying rounds, according to Rule 291, paragraph 8.
d) Based upon the number of entries the Competition Coordinator confirms the qualifying schedule in accordance with the qualifying tables published by the Technical Committee.
e) In all Championships, there will be rounds of Repechage. The number of Skaters in the Repechage Races may be limited in accordance with the respective ISU Communication.
f) For the World Championships, the top 20 Skaters for each individual distance will be prequalified for the Heats (500m, 1000m) and Quarter-finals (1500m) based on their relevant World Tour Classification.

Specific Distances and Program at World Junior Championships

2. a) The distances will be: 500, 1000 and 1500 m individual. Relay races will go over 3000 m.
The distance for Mixed Relay races is: 2000m. If an ISU Member participates with more Skaters in the Championships, a Mixed Relay Team can consist of maximum 3 Women and 3 Men.
The number of days and the daily program (competitions and order of races) will be decided by the ISU Council in consultation with the ISU Event Director, the ISU Short Track Technical Committee and the organizers and will be published in an ISU Communication issued before October 1st of each season.
b) The Championships are planned to be held over 4 days but may be held over 3 days depending on the expected number of entries.

Entries for World Championships

3. a) Each ISU Member, with the right of participation, is entitled to enter at least one Competitor in each category of each distance.

More entries are possible based on the distance classification of the same preceding Championships.

An ISU Member may enter two Competitors if the ISU Member had one or more Skaters amongst the best thirty-two Competitors on the distance at the preceding Championships.

An ISU Member may enter three Competitors if it had two or more Skaters amongst the best sixteen Competitors on the distance at the preceding Championships.

For every distance for which the Host ISU Member has not qualified three Skaters, it may choose to enter three Skaters. However, only the original number of qualified Skaters count as the maximum number of Skaters to qualify for the same following Championships.

The total number of Competitors per category that may be entered for the Championships is:

- One or;
- Two, if the ISU Member has qualified only two Skaters on one of the distances;
- Three, if the ISU Member has qualified two on more than one of the distances;
- Four, if the ISU Member has qualified three on any of the distances;
- Three in both categories, if the ISU Member has qualified a Mixed Relay Team;
- Or the number of Skaters in accordance with Rule 295, paragraph 3 a), if the ISU Member has qualified a Relay Team.

Each ISU Member may enter different Skaters in each distance within the maximum number of Skaters (see Rule 292).

- b) ISU Members who qualify amongst the best twelve Relay Teams from the World Tour and Junior World Cup Relay Classification Women/Men and Mixed Team Relay Classification (see Rule 282, paragraph 8) may enter a Team in the respective Relay competition. If the host country is not ranked amongst the top twelve Teams of the respective Relay Classification or Mixed Team Relay Classification, they will replace the lowest ranked Team. ISU Members entering a Relay Team can only enter a maximum number of five Skaters which will include all Skaters for both competitions: individual and Relay.

Entries for European Championships

4. a) Each ISU Member, with the right of participation, is entitled to enter two Competitors in each category for each distance.

More entries are possible based on the distance classification of the same preceding Championships.

An ISU Member may enter three Competitors if it had two or more Skaters amongst the best sixteen Competitors on the distance at the preceding Championships.

For every distance for which the Host ISU Member has not qualified three Skaters, it may choose to enter three Skaters. However, only the original number of qualified Skaters count as the maximum number of Skaters to qualify for the same following Championships.

The total number of Competitors per category that may be entered in the Championships is:

- Three, if the ISU Member has qualified two on more than one of the distances;
- Four, if the ISU Member has qualified three on any of the distances;
- Three in both categories, if the ISU Member has qualified a Mixed Relay Team;
- Or the number of Skaters in accordance with Rule 295, paragraph 3 a), if the ISU Member has qualified a Relay Team.

Each ISU Member may enter different Skaters in each distance within the maximum number of Skaters (see Rule 292).

- b) Only the twelve highest ranked European ISU Members in the World Ranking Lists Relay, as per the moment of the closing of the Final Entries can enter a Relay Team Women/Men/Mixed in the respective category in the Relay competition. If the Host ISU Member is not qualified, it will replace the lowest ranked Team.
- c) If a European ISU Member forfeits its right to participate in any Relay, it must inform the ISU immediately after the last World Tour Competition before the Championship. The next eligible ranked ISU Member will be invited to participate.

Entries for World Junior Championships

- 5. a) Each ISU Member has the right to enter three Competitors in each category. ISU Members entering a Relay Team may enter a maximum of five Competitors in the respective category.
- b) Each ISU Member has the right to enter two Competitors in each category for each individual distance.
If an ISU Member had two or more Skaters amongst the best thirty-two Competitors in the final classification of a distance in the preceding Championships, that ISU Member may enter a maximum of three Competitors on that distance. Each ISU Member may select different Skaters for each distance among its three or four Competitors entered for the Championships.
- c) If the Host ISU Member has not qualified three Skaters in a distance, then the Host ISU Member may nevertheless choose to still enter three Skaters for that distance. However, if the Host ISU Member chooses to enter three Skaters in the distance, then this Member cannot enter more than two Skaters for the same distance in the following Championship.
- d) ISU Members who qualify amongst the best twelve Relay Teams from the Junior World Cup Relay Classification Women/Men and Mixed Team Relay Classification after Junior World Cup 2 (see Rule 282, paragraph 8) may enter a Team in the respective Relay competition. If the Host ISU Member is not ranked amongst the top twelve Teams of the Junior World Cup Relay Classification or Junior World Cup Mixed Team Relay Classification, after Junior World Cup 2, the Host ISU Member will replace the lowest ranked Team. ISU Members entering a Relay Team can only enter a maximum number of five Skaters. This number includes the combination of all Skaters for both individual and Relay.

Further Conditions for World, European and World Junior Championships

- 6. For drawing and seeding procedure, see Rule 293.
- 7. For each of the distances a classification will be made according to Rule 297, paragraph 2.
- 8. a) The winner of the Championships 500/1000/1500m is the Skater being declared winner of the Final of the distance concerned. The second and third placed Skaters of the Championships are the Skaters ranked accordingly in the Final. Medals will be awarded to these Skaters in accordance with the CER.

- b) The winning Team of the Championships for each of the Relay competitions is the Team which has been declared winner of the Final. The second and third placed Teams of the Championships are the teams ranked accordingly in the Final. Medals will be awarded to these Teams in accordance with the CER.
- c) For titles see the CER.

Rule 282 ISU World Tour and Junior World Cup Short Track

Conditions of contest

1. A World Tour series for Women and Men, and a World Cup series for Junior Women and Junior Men will be organized as an ISU Event under the responsibility of the Short Track Technical Committee. Additional rules and details are published each season in an ISU Communication.
2.
 - a) During a season a number of World Tour and Junior World Cup Competitions are scheduled.
 - b) The World Tour Competitions designated for Olympic Qualification may have a different competition format.
3. The World Tour and Junior World Cup are a series of ISU Events held each season, open to ISU Members, with the following criteria:
Entries from at least four ISU Members;
 - The Competitions must follow the rules in the appropriate Communication. The Short Track Technical Committee may if needed modify the respective Communication after the second Event of each block of Competitions in a season;
 - Each ISU Member may enter a number of Skaters, in accordance with the applicable Communication, which will include all Skaters for all Individual, Relay and Mixed Team Relay competitions;
 - All Officials are appointed by the ISU;
 - For World Tour Competitions designated for Olympic qualification, all Assistant Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators must be on the List of ISU Officials;
 - At least three qualified Officials from other ISU Members shall be included amongst those appointed.
4.
 - a) The World Tour Relay Classification determines the entries for the Relay at the World Championships according to Rule 281, paragraph 3.b). The Junior World Cup Relay Classification after the second Event determines the entries for the Relay at the World Junior Championships in accordance with Rule 281, new paragraph 5 d).
 - b) The World Ranking Lists Relay referred to in Rule 281, paragraphs 4.b) and 4.c), determines the entries for the Relay at the European Championships.
 - c) By making an entry for a World Tour Competition, the ISU Member confirms that, if qualified, the ISU Member will participate in the Relay Competition at the respective Championships. The ISU Member may forfeit these rights by notifying the ISU Office immediately after the last World Tour Competition before the Championships.

Program

5. The program of each World Tour and Junior World Cup Competition can include the following items:
Single distances for individuals:
 - 500, 1000, 1500 m. One of these distances may be skated twice.

Relay:

- 3000 m for Women
- 3000 m (Junior)/ 5000 m for Men.
- 2000 m Mixed Team Relay

Other distances, Team competitions and Race formats may also be introduced.

Classifications

7. Classifications at each World Tour and Junior World Cup Competition:
At each World Tour and Junior World Cup Competition, the following Classifications will be made following the Rules for Distance Classifications (see Rule 295):
 - Distance Classification 500 m Women / Men;
 - Distance Classification 1000 m Women / Men;
 - Distance Classification 1500 m Women / Men;
 - Distance Classification Relay Women / Men / Mixed Team.
8. World Tour and Junior World Cup Classifications:
World Tour and Junior Cup Classifications will be established at the end of each season, for the individual distances, Relay, and Mixed Team Relay.
In order to establish those Overall Classifications, a number of best Results over the respective distance / competition in the season will be taken into consideration. All related details (classification, ranking, points system, tie breaking rules, etc.) will be provided in a Communication to be issued before the season concerned.
9. These current World Tour and Junior World Cup Classifications shall be circulated upon the conclusion of each Competition. The Classifications commence with the first Competition of the relevant series each season and are maintained throughout the season. The Classifications will be concluded with final standings after the last World Tour and Junior World Cup Competition respectively.
10. World Ranking Lists:
 - a) For the purpose of seeding the Skaters, i.e. spreading the top Skaters into all races of the first Qualifying Round at any ISU Event, except for Junior ISU Events, the following World Ranking Lists are made using results from multiple events over individual and Relay Distances:
 - World Ranking List 500 m Women / Men;
 - World Ranking List 1000 m Women / Men;
 - World Ranking List 1500 m Women / Men;
 - World Ranking List Relay Women / Men / Mixed Team.
 - b) For the first World Tour Event of a season the World Ranking List of the preceding season is used for the seeding. If a season, or part of a season, has been cancelled, the next preceding season or a part of it might be considered.
As the season progresses, the results of competitions over a distance at the World Tour Competitions replace one by one the results from World Tour Competitions and World Championships of the preceding season for the calculation of the World Ranking. The number of competitions that will be taken into account, all related details (classifications, ranking point system, tie breaking rules, etc.) for this calculation and the number of poorest results that will be excluded from the addition will be announced in a Communication before the start of the season.
 - c) In the case of a tie in a World Ranking List the most recent result in any of the above-mentioned results will decide the final order of ranking. If the tie persists, subsequent results will be used to determine the order of ranking. If the tie further persists, the best time from the specified results (paragraph 10.b) above) will be taken.

11. An Overall World Classification based on the accumulation of points from individual distances will be established for the purpose of determining the Combined Season Ranking and crown the Overall World Tour Champions and winners of the Crystal Globe for Women and Men. A determined number of results per distance (500, 1000 and 1500 m) from the ISU Events will be taken into consideration. All related details (name, number of results counting, classification, ranking, points system, tie breaking rules, etc.) will be provided in an ISU Communication to be issued before the season concerned.

C. Other International Competitions

Rule 283

1. In addition to the distances 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, 3000 m, 2000 m Mixed Team Relay, 3000 m Relay and 5000 m Relay, International Competitions may also include races held over shorter or longer distances and possibly with a different number of participants per race. In Short Track, the following races and/or competitions can be held additionally:
 - Mixed Team competition
 - Team competition
 - Points races
 - Elimination races
 - Combined Points races
 - Pursuit races
 - Team Madison Relay races
 - Nations Trophy Short Track Speed Skating
 - Win & Out races
 - Competitions with categories based on comparable skills, with the possibility to combine age categories and also genders. Times skated in these races will not be eligible for qualification times for ISU Events or records.
2. The Global Club Competition can be organized biannually under the responsibility of the Short Track Technical Committee. Basic principle of the Competition is one overall club classification so that only a club can win this Competition. Every club affiliated to an ISU Member is eligible to participate. Conditions of contest, entries, additional rules and details are published in the Announcement.
3. Novelty formats at International Competitions
For modifications of a technical nature and new methods/systems with respect to the Special Regulations and Technical Rules, the CER apply.

Rule 284 Olympic Winter Games & Winter Youth Olympic Games

Distances

1. The Olympic Winter Games (OWG), and the Winter Youth Olympic Games (WYOG) are the exclusive property of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The following Rules for the OWG and WYOG are subject to an agreement to be achieved by the ISU Council with the IOC for each edition of the OWG and WYOG. The details will be laid down in an ISU Communication for each edition of the OWG and WYOG.
2. a) For Olympic Winter Games the competitions are:
 - Individual Races

- Relay Races
 - Mixed Team Relay Races
 - b) The distances for Individual Races are:
 - 500, 1000 and 1500 m individual distances for Women and Men;
 - c) The distances for Relay Races are:
 - 3000 m Relay for Women;
 - 5000 m Relay for Men.
 - 2000 m Mixed Team Relay
 - d) On each of the distances there may be Qualifying Rounds, depending on the number of entries, in which the Skaters/Teams qualify for the Final according to Rule 291, paragraph 8.
3. The distances, entry quotas and the outcome of the qualification process for the Winter Youth Olympic Games are published in an ISU Communication.

Entry quotas

4. a) For each edition of the Olympic Winter Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) stipulates an overall maximum number of Skaters to be entered into Short Track competitions (IOC Quota), with a target number for each gender. If for either Women or Men the respective IOC quota would not be reached according to the Qualifying System described in the ISU Regulations, the respective unused number of quota places would be credited and added to the quota of the other gender.
- b) The total overall number of entered Short Track Skaters per ISU Member, respectively National Olympic Committee (NOC quota) will be maximum ten Skaters; maximum five Women, respectively five Men (for ISU Members/NOC qualified for the Relay competition) and maximum three Women, respectively three Men (for ISU Member/NOC not qualified for the Relay competition).

Qualification system

5. General
- The quota places are allocated to the NOC.
- Quota places per gender are earned by the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) based on the results achieved by the National ISU Members (NFs) from the four Special Olympic Qualification Classifications (SOQC) per gender and from the Special Olympic Qualification Classification (SOQC) of the Mixed Team Relay.
- Each SOQC is based on three best results out of four results over the respective distance achieved at the ISU World Tour Competitions designated by the ISU that will be held between September and December preceding the respective edition of the Olympic Winter Games.
- The four SOQC for men will be for the Men's 500 m, Men's 1000 m, Men's 1500 m and Men's 5000 m Relay.
- The four SOQC for women will be for Women's 500 m, Women's 1000 m, Women's 1500 m and Women's 3000 m Relay.
- There will be one SOQC for the Mixed Team Relay.
- These SOQCs will be calculated following the same Rules and principles as the ISU World Tour Short Track classifications, i.e. using the World Tour points earned at the designated World Tour Competitions (for details please refer to the respective ISU Rules and ISU Communications). In the case of a tie in the SOQC, the following tie-breaking system will be used:
- i) Best place on the distance in one of the designated World Tour Competitions;
 - ii) Best time on the distance;
 - iii) Second (or if needed third, fourth, etc.) best times on the distance.

Two out of four World Tour Competitions shall preferably be held on the same continent as the Olympic Winter Games.

As per ISU Regulations, only ISU Members are allowed to enter ISU sanctioned competitions, which include ISU World Tour Short Track Competitions.

Upon confirmation by the ISU of the quota places earned by the ISU Members/NOCs, the subsequent entries by name to the Olympic Winter Games to be made within the applicable deadlines, are at the discretion of the respective ISU Member/NOC subject to the entered Skaters being eligible according to ISU and IOC rules.

Process of confirmation of places

6. After the designated ISU World Tour Competitions will be completed and based on the resulting SOQC, the ISU will inform the ISU Members/NOCs of their respective total number of quota places and the number of Skaters each ISU Member/NOC can enter per individual distance. NOCs will be requested to confirm to the ISU the use of quota places within a specific deadline to be announced through an ISU Communication.

Reallocation of unused quota positions

7. Unused quota places will be redistributed to ISU Members/NOCs based on the different SOQCs. NOCs will be requested to confirm within 3 days whether they accept the offered reallocation of quota places, but at the latest within the deadline to be announced through an ISU Communication.
Unused Relay quota places will be replaced with the next best placed Team based on the results of the relay SOQC.

Qualifying Timeline

8. Qualifying procedures for the Olympic Winter Games will be defined and communicated through a specific ISU Communication at the latest by October 1st in the pre-Olympic season.

Medal assignments at Olympic Winter Games

9.
 - a) For the Olympic Winter Games only, Finals A and B will take place for the 500, 1000 and 1500 m individual final races, and for the Women 3000 m Relay, Men's 5000 m Relay and Mixed Team 2000 m Relay final races.
 - b) The Finals A and B are created so that, to the extent possible, the three IOC medals with accompanying diplomas and the five additional IOC diplomas (together referred to as the "IOC Awards") available for each race are actually awarded to eight Skaters or eight Relay Teams.
 - c) The eight IOC Awards are conferred on Skaters or Teams in the order of finish (from first to last), starting with the Final, and thereafter, as necessary to fill the IOC Award positions, continuing with Skaters or Teams (from first to last) finishing the Final B.
 - d) The IOC Awards will be distributed to the top eight Skaters and Relay Teams based on the Distance Classification as per Rule 297, paragraphs 1 and 2.

Rule 285 World Records

1.
 - a) World Records will be registered by the ISU. The ISU Council will only recognize as World Records times skated in ISU Events (ISU Championships, ISU World Tour and Junior World Cup Competitions and other Events specifically designated "ISU" by the ISU as well as the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games for the following distances and under the following conditions:

- For Women over distances of 500, 1000, and 1500 m;
 - For Men over distances of 500, 1000, and 1500 m;
 - For Junior Women over distances of 500, 1000 and 1500 m;
 - For Junior Men over distances of 500, 1000 and 1500 m;
 - For Women Teams over distances of 3000 m Relay;
 - For Men Teams over distances of 5000 m Relay;
 - For Junior Women Teams over distances of 3000 m Relay;
 - For Junior Men Teams over distances of 3000 m Relay.
 - For Mixed Teams over the distance of 2000 m Relay.
 - For Junior Mixed Teams over the distance of 2000 m Relay.
- b) World Records will be considered in thousandths of seconds provided such times have been established:
- on an official ISU track as listed in Rule 280, paragraph 1;
 - that photo finish and/or electronic timing has been used, proved by original outputs of the respective equipment;
 - an ISU Referee and Starter are officiating;
 - that lap times were duly recorded for distance of 1500 m or over;
 - that the distances skated and the starting times were in accordance with the announcement;
 - that the original official ISU Protocol of the competition, together with certificates regarding the watches and track and a program of the competition are available.
- c) Junior World Records can only be accepted provided these times have been established in a competition open only to Juniors.
- d) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same distance in a competition, only the best time obtained shall be considered as a World Record.
- e) For individual distances the Skater who achieves a World Record result, must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified.
- f) For Team/Relay competitions a minimum of two Skaters per team must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race and have tested negative in order for the World Record to be ratified.
- g) If the existing World Record is broken more than once on the same day in Competitions at the same venue, the top two Skaters or top two Teams achieving a World Record result must have been selected for doping control on the day of the race.
- h) Any Competitor who equals an existing World Record shall have his name entered in the list of records.
- i) For each record obtained, or the equaling of any record, the ISU shall issue a diploma to the Skater.
- j) All respective documents must be submitted by the organizing committee to the ISU Director General within 30 days following the competition.

C. Officials

Rule 286 Officials

1. a) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games the following Officials are appointed by the President, subject to Rule 287, paragraph 7:
- Referee and four Assistant Referees. Two Assistant Referees will be assigned to the Video Replay System. An Assistant Referee Video may be assigned as First Assistant Referee;
- For Junior World Cup Competitions: one or two Assistant Referees Video;

Two Starters (one per Category);
Two Competition Coordinators.

The following Officials are appointed by the Organizers: Heat Box Steward, Photo Finish Judge, Lap Scorer, Lap Recorder, Announcer and Track Stewards. However for ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and for the Winter Youth Olympic Games, the Heat Box Steward and the Announcer must be approved by the ISU.

- b) For International Competitions with Photo Finish Equipment the following Officials are appointed by the Organizers: Referee, Assistant Referees, Starter(s), Competition Coordinator(s), Heat Box Steward, Photo Finish Judge, Lap Scorer, Lap Recorder, Announcer and Track Stewards.
- c) For International Competitions without Photo Finish Equipment the following Officials are appointed by the Organizers: Referee, Assistant Referees, Starter(s), Competition Coordinator(s), Heat Box Steward, Chief Finish Line Judge, Finish Line Judges, Chief Timekeeper, Timekeepers, Lap Scorer, Lap Recorder, Announcer and Track Stewards.

Representative of the Technical Committee

- 2. a) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee will be present at the ISU Event and check all technical matters concerning the condition, adequacy and scheduling for use of all skating facilities used in connection with the ISU Event. The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee will closely observe the work of the Officials without interfering with their duties under these rules and be in charge of a daily Review Meeting with the Officials. In addition, as necessary, he will act as a liaison between the Referee and the organizers.
- b) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee shall not also serve as a Referee, Assistant Referee, Starter or Competition Coordinator in the same ISU Event except in an emergency.
- c) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee or his Assistant must be present from the beginning of the official training for all Competitors.
- d) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee shall conduct inquiries during a competition regarding any omissions or failure to observe the regulations with the Officials and/or organizers concerned.
- e) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee is required to conduct an end of day review meeting with the Officials.
- f) The Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee shall submit a written report to the Technical Committee regarding his observations.
- g) The Chair of the Short Track Technical Committee shall conduct inquiries regarding any reported omissions or failure to observe the regulations.

Medical

- 3. A Medical Doctor and First Aid attendants must be in attendance.

Referee

- 4. The Referee shall be the chief executive officer, and shall decide all points of dispute and infringements of rules, which can result in sanctions. Only racing incidents that are clear and obvious, and not in line with the principles of the general racing rule, as specified in rule 295 may result in sanctions.
The decisions of the Referee shall be final (CER about protests and appeals).

For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games

- 5. The Referee is responsible for:
 - a) Seeing that all applicable rules be observed for the competition he is conducting;

- b) Reporting within 30 days to the Short Track Technical Committee on the officiating at the Competition using the Report for ISU Events;
6. The Referee is empowered to:
- a) If necessary, to exclude Skaters, coaches, Team leaders and other Team officials from the competition;
 - b) Remove the Starter, Competition Coordinator or other Officials in consultation with the ISU Representative;
 - c) Suspend skating until order is restored when the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;
 - d) Delegate tasks to other Officials in order to assist him to carry his duties. In the case of Relay Races the Referee may assign other attending Officials listed on the List of International Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators to also assist him;
 - e) Add a Skater/Team to the next round, if he considers that the Skater/Team was prevented from qualifying due to any reason not resulting from any direct or indirect action of the Skater/Team concerned.
The Referee makes these advancements solely at his discretion;
 - f) The Referee, at his discretion or when called upon by the Assistant Referees Video, before a decision is made, may view the Video Replay System at full speed, slow motion or still picture, with the exception of matters concerning the detection of false starts. When the Referee decides to view the Video Replay system due to a possible infringement and a penalty is awarded, then the video footage concerning the infringement will also be shown on the screen in the stadium;
 - g) Except in a Final, after the last race of a qualifying round, the Referee may review a race situation that has not yet been reviewed. Such a review may result in an advancement of a Skater/Team only (paragraph 6.) above) and may not change nor affect a decision resulting in an Infringement.
7. The Referee decides upon:
- a) All protests submitted and other matters in dispute, except disputes concerning the start (Rule 294) and the make-up of races (Rule 293). Protests must be made to the Referee. All discussions concerning a protest will be held in private. The CER apply;
 - b) All matters concerning any breaches of the Constitution and Regulations of the ISU, even though no protest has been made;

For Other Events:

8. The Referee is responsible for:
- a) Deciding the program and qualifying procedure in consultation with the Competition Coordinator;
 - b) Seeing that all applicable rules be observed for the competition he is conducting;
 - c) Giving information as to the preparation of the ice;
 - d) Conducting a Competition review meeting with all major Officials to evaluate all decisions and activities.
9. The Referee is empowered to:
- a) Amend the program, if applicable in agreement with the host, unless this conflicts with any ISU Regulations;
 - b) Decide whether the conditions of the rink permits the holding of the Competition;
 - c) Accept, in agreement with the organizers, another rink for the holding of the Competition;
 - d) If necessary, exclude Skaters, coaches, Team leaders and other Team officials from the competition;
 - e) Remove the Starter, Competition Coordinator or other Officials;

- f) Suspend skating until order is restored when the public interrupts the competition or interferes with its orderly conduct;
 - g) Delegate tasks to other Officials in order to assist him to carry his duties. In the case of Relay Races the Referee may assign other attending Officials also assist him;
 - h) Add a Skater/Team to the next round, if he considers that the Skater/Team was prevented from qualifying due to any reason not resulting from any direct or indirect action of the Skater/Team concerned.
The Referee makes these advancements solely at his discretion;
 - i) The Referee, at his discretion or when called upon by the Assistant Referees Video, before a decision is made, may view the Video Replay System at full speed, slow motion or still picture, with the exception of matters concerning the detection of false starts.
10. The Referee decides upon:
- a) All protests submitted and other matters in dispute, except disputes concerning the start (Rule 294) and the make-up of races (Rule 293). Protests must be made to the Referee. All discussions concerning a protest will be held in private. The CER apply;
 - b) All matters concerning any breach of the Constitution and ISU Regulations. of the ISU, even though no protest has been made.
to be removed from here and moved to Rule 295 para 3 new d):

Assistant Referee

11. a) The Assistant Referee appointed by the President as First Assistant will substitute in case the Referee is no longer able to do his job due to illness or injury.
- b) The Assistant Referee(s) shall perform all duties and tasks as assigned by the Referee
- c) The Assistant Referee(s) must record their observations either electronically (Race Report System) or in written form. In the case of the written form the observations must be reported verbally after each race and the written documentation must be submitted to the Referee after each Round.
- d) One of the Assistant Referees on ice will be designated to check the positions of the Skaters at the Start and will instruct the Skaters to move to the right position, if necessary,. Once the positions are correct the Assistant Referee will inform the Starters accordingly.

Assistant Referees Video

12. a) Shall perform all duties and tasks as assigned by the Referee;
- b) Shall observe the Video Replay System during all races and report the observations to the Referee;
- c) Must record the observations.

Starter

13. a) For ISU Championships, Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games a Starter shall be assigned per category. Changes can only be made by the Referee in consultation with the Representative of the Technical Committee or Technical Delegate.
- b) The Starters are in control of the starting procedure. The Starter assigned to the respective category gives the verbal commands of the starts and announces the decisions in English. Both Starters have the authority to recall a start. The Starters will agree on how to call infringements of the Starting rule.
- c) The Starter shall take his position, so that he has a clear view of all Skaters starting in the race.

- d) In the Relay race, the Starter having been warned by the lap scorer, will fire the Starting Gun signifying the last three laps.
- e) The Starter may designate another Starter to call the Skaters back in case of a false start.

Competition Coordinator

- 14. a) The Competition Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of all administrative matters and shall observe Rules 292 and 293 completely.
- b) The Competition Coordinator shall check the eligibility of Skaters.
- c) Based on the results of the races the Competition Coordinator shall, according to the official program, determine the Skaters taking part in the next Qualifying Round.
- d) The Competition Coordinator shall make-up the races for each Qualifying Round and draw the order of the races.
- e) The Competition Coordinator shall inform those Skaters of their qualification and the race in which they shall start.

Heat Box Steward

- 15. a) The Heat Box Steward shall work in a designated staging area called heat box.
- b) The Heat Box Steward shall observe all requirements of Rule 294, paragraph 1.
- c) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games the Heat Box Steward must be listed on the ISU List of Referees for International Competitions or on any of the Lists of Officials for Championships.
- d) The Heat Box Steward is responsible for checking that the Skaters for the upcoming race are on the ice before closing the entrance to the ice. Any omissions are to be reported to the Referee before the race.

Photo Finish Judge

- 16. a) The Photo Finish Judge shall read the photo finish. He shall report the order of finish and times of each Competitor to the Competition Coordinator or electronic equipment recording the results of each race. The results shall be considered official. This official may be the person operating the photo finish equipment described in Rule 280, paragraph 6.
- b) For International Competitions photo finish equipment may be used in determining the order of finish of all Skaters.
- c) The term photo finish equipment denotes a system that records the order of finish in such a way that it can be reproduced immediately after the race concerned. The equipment must be able to reproduce a clear and undistorted photo of the finish of each race.
- d) If the photo finish equipment is able to produce a time scale on the finish photo, the times read of this scale be taken as official times.
- e) If it is not possible to record times with the photo finish equipment then electronic time keeping equipment, according to Rule 251, may be used to record the times of all Skaters.

Chief Finish Line Judge and Finish Line Judges

- 17. For International Competitions without photo finish equipment:
 - a) The official order of finish is determined by the Chief Finish Line Judge.
 - b) The order of all finishers shall be recorded.
 - c) The Chief Line Judge shall assign finish positions to the Finish Line Judges. The Chief Finish Line Judge shall pick first place only.

- d) There shall be four Finish Line Judges: Judge No. 1 picks Skaters 1st and 2nd; Judge No. 2 picks Skaters 2nd and 3rd; Judge No. 3 picks Skaters 3rd and 4th; and Judge No. 4 picks Skaters 4th and 5th.
- e) In case of six or more Skaters, the Starter or his Assistant shall act as Judge No. 5 and pick 6th place only.
- f) In the Relay races the Finish Line Judges will be assigned to a Skater or Team and record the number of laps skated and the place on the finish.

Chief Timekeeper and Timekeepers

- 18. For International Competitions without photo-finish equipment:
 - a) The Chief Timekeeper is responsible for the recording of times and shall comply with all sections of Rules 247 and 250 that apply to Short Track.
 - b) The Chief Timekeeper will ensure that he and the timekeepers are positioned off the ice and adjacent to the finish line necessary to record the accurate time of the Skaters.
 - c) When digital watches are used, the times will be recorded in hundredths of a second.
 - d) The Chief Timekeeper must read each watch, record the results, and declare the official time. He will warn the timekeepers not to clear their watches until he has ordered them to do so.
 - e) A minimum of two Timekeepers plus one reserve on first and second place and one timekeeper on third position is required.
 - f) They will also pretest their watches in accordance with standard procedures.
 - g) The Timekeepers must not clear their watches until such time as they have been instructed by the Chief Timekeeper.
 - h) Timekeepers should not call out their times but if requested by the chief timekeeper show their watch.

Lap Scorer

- 19. a) The Lap Scorer shall visibly show the number of laps still to be skated by the leading Skater at all times and he will turn the lap-board each time the leading Skater passes.
- b) The Lap Scorer will ring the bell to signify the last lap of each race.
- c) In Relay races the Lap Scorer will advise the Starter that the last three laps are coming up.
- d) In Relay races a Lap Scorer shall be assigned to each Team.

Lap Recorder

- 20. a) The Lap Recorder shall complete a lap by lap record in writing of the lap times of the leading Skater with an accuracy of one second or less and keep check on the Lap Scorer at all times.
- b) The Lap Recorder shall be positioned off the ice but near the Lap Scorer.

Announcer

- 21. The Announcer will keep the spectators fully informed throughout the competition. In addition, if requested by the Referee, he will announce sanctions specifying where and how the Skater(s) concerned made an infringement and whether there is an advancement.
The Announcer shall also ensure that all Officials, Team leaders, Coaches and Skaters are kept fully informed by public announcements regarding competition details. All announcements are in English. If applicable the same announcements may be made in a second language.

Track Stewards

22. A minimum of two Track Stewards shall work at each end of the track. The Track Stewards must be experienced Skaters and have knowledge of the English language and have an understanding of the Short Track Rules. If possible the Track Steward should be positioned so that he will not interfere with the Skaters and Officials but can readily replace missing blocks.

On-ice Officials

23. a) Only the Referee, Assistant Referee(s) and Track Stewards may be on the ice during the running of the race.
b) On-ice Officials should be appropriately dressed and must wear speed skates and may wear approved safety helmets.
c) Only with the permission of the Referee other Officials may be on the ice during a race, i. e. to operate equipment if necessary.
d) At ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games the Referee and his Assistants shall use radio equipment and the ISU Race Report System (RRS) to communicate their observations provided this equipment is protected against third party intrusion.

Apprentices and Senior Officials

24. a) Apprentices in the position of Referee, Starter and Competition Coordinator can be added to the list of Officials. They join the appointed Officials in their work and attend all Meetings held by the Officials, to gain experience at a higher level of competition. For an Apprentice position at an ISU Event, the Official must be on the ISU List of Officials for International Competitions. Apprentices at ISU Events must be approved by the Short Track Technical Committee.
b) For an Apprentice position at International Competitions the Official must be a national official, accepted for this position by the ISU Member concerned and by the Referee of the International Competition. Apprentices at International Competitions must be approved by the Organizing Committee.
c) The costs for officiating in an Apprentice position are in principle under the responsibility of the Official concerned or the ISU Member of the Official concerned.
25. Officials can be assigned a Senior Official (Rule 287, paragraph 6.c) or an ISU Official as Mentor. Officials can call upon their Mentor for questions and advice. The Mentor will report to the Technical Committee on the Official(s) that have been assigned to them.

Rule 287 Nomination and Appointment of Officials

Nomination of Officials

1. a) Every ISU Member may submit applications of named individuals within their Association qualified to serve as Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators at International Competitions to the ISU Director General.
b) These completed applications may be made at any time during the year.

- c) To qualify as an International Official, the ISU Member must confirm in writing to the Short Track Technical Committee that the individual concerned has at least the following experience at competitions and courses conducted in accordance with ISU Regulations within 36 months preceding the application:
 - Served at two National Competitions in the position being nominated for;
 - Attended an Officials' Course conducted by an ISU Member;
 - Served as an Apprentice or Official at an International Competition, if geographically feasible;
 - The nominated Official must comply with additional onboarding requirements set by the Technical Committee Short Track.
 - d) Once an individual is approved by the Short Track Technical Committee and placed on the International List, that individual shall remain on the list if sufficient proof of activity is provided and the Official meets the minimum yearly requirements as per paragraph 6 below.
 - e) Removal from the List of International Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators shall occur if:
 - a written resignation, signed by the individual concerned, is received from the ISU Member announcing the individual's retirement, or
 - the Short Track Technical Committee removes the individual from the List as the result of an imposed penalty, or
 - the Official does not meet the minimum yearly requirements, or a written request, with reasoning, is received from the ISU Member concerned, or
 - the official has not officiated and/or not participated in any seminar or workshop, or had not had any other activities within the past 36 months.
2. These Officials should in general have the nationality of the country of the ISU Member nominating them.
 3. If an Official is of a foreign nationality, he can be accepted only with the approval of the ISU Member of the country of which he is a national. The name of this Official is to be entered in the list of the nominating ISU Member. An official so nominated is counted in the quota of the nominating ISU Member.
 4. ISU Members should exercise the utmost care to nominate as Referees, Starters, and Competition Coordinators only fully experienced, reliable and entirely impartial individuals who possess a thorough knowledge of the appropriate ISU Rules and fluent ability in the English language.
 5. a) Among the Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators, on the International List, the Short Track Technical Committee shall recognize a maximum of thirty-five individuals who shall officiate as Referees or Assistant Referees, a maximum of twenty individuals who may officiate as Starters and a maximum of twenty individuals who may act as Competition Coordinators in ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and Youth Olympic Winter Games, and place their names on the ISU List. For every season, the Short Track Technical Committee will review and update the ISU List with the following considerations: activity, availability, geographical balance, specific needs, expertise and experience.
 - b) The Technical Committee will record all activities of these Officials and maintain a Database of Officials.
 - c) The Short Track Technical Committee may mark individuals on the List of ISU Officials with an "A" indicating that they may only officiate in an assisting capacity at ISU Events.
 - d) The Short Track Technical Committee may mark individuals on the List of ISU Referees with a "V" indicating that they are specialized on Video Replay.
 - e) The Short Track Technical Committee may mark individuals on the List of International Officials with a "W" indicating that they may officiate at World Tour and Junior World Cup Competitions also.

6. a) To be considered as ISU Referees, ISU Starters and ISU Competition Coordinators, those individuals on the International List shall have at least fulfilled the following requirements:
- Served in his nominated category at least twice at International Competitions during the past 36 months and (when applicable) have satisfactory reports from the Referees at these Competitions;
 - Attended an ISU course and/or official ISU webinar for ISU/International Officials within the past 36 months;
 - Have successfully passed an English conversational test and maintain this standard;
 - For Referees: have passed the appropriate examination during the past 36 months;
 - Must have been listed on the respective List of International Officials for at least 2 consecutive years with a "W" indication, immediately prior to a promotion to the List of ISU Officials;
 - Must have participated in an ISU Event in an Apprentice role with a successful evaluation.
- b) To be reconsidered as an ISU Official the individual shall maintain the following qualifications:
- Attend the minimum number of sessions required for the ongoing education seminars and workshops planned during the season as agreed in their Officials' Agreement;
 - Submit a report to the Short Track Technical Committee each time the individual serves as a Referee;
 - Successfully completed the appropriate examination(s) within the past 24 months.
 - Have successfully passed an English conversational test and maintain this standard.
- c) No person who has reached the age of 65 years shall after the following July 1st be eligible to be a Referee or a Starter in ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games and no person who has reached the age of 70 years shall after the following July 1st be eligible to be a Competition Coordinator in ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games.
ISU Officials (Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators) who have reached the age of retirement will be placed back on the International List of Officials with an S (Senior Official) for the following 3 seasons, after that, they will be removed from the list completely. "S" Officials wishing to remain on the International List of Officials after that 3 year period, must apply for a special permission with proof of activity and participation in the ongoing education workshops and seminars.
Officials with a Senior Status may be assigned by the Technical Committee as Mentor for young Officials.
- d) The full List of ISU Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators recognized by the Short Track Technical Committee in accordance with paragraph 5.a) above and the List of International Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators approved by the Short Track Technical Committee shall be communicated to the ISU Members by the ISU Director General by August 1st every year.

Appointment of Officials

7. a) The Officials are appointed in accordance with the CER. The Referee, the Assistant Referees Video, at least one but possibly all Assistant Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators for each Junior World Cup Competition shall be appointed by the President.
- b) Appointed Officials must be invited by the organizing ISU Member not less than 60 days before the start of the respective Competition.

- c) At least three qualified Officials, from other ISU Members than the ISU Member of the country in which the Competition is held, shall be among those appointed. For each Junior World Cup Competition, at least one qualified Official from another ISU Member must be among the appointed Officials.
 - d) During ISU Events the maximum number of Officials (Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators) per ISU Member that can officiate at the same time is four. In each category not more than half of the Officials can be of the same ISU Member. This does not apply to the Junior World Cup Competitions.
 - e) For ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games all Officials required (other than the Representative of the Short Track Technical Committee and the Technical Delegate), not appointed by the President, shall be appointed by the ISU Member in the country where the Competition is held.
 - f) For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games all Referees, Starters and Competition Coordinators must be selected from the current List of ISU Officials.
 - g) Appointed Officials must be invited by the organizing ISU Member not less than 60 days before the start of the respective Competition.
8. All activities of Officials shall be observed by the Short Track Technical Committee. In case of failure to comply with or observe a rule the Official will be subjected to a system for recommendation of sanctions and penalties. See the respective ISU Communication.

D. Skaters

Rule 288 Equipment of Skaters

1. In ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, all Skaters must be equipped with, and in International Competitions should be equipped with:
- a) Safety type helmet that is in compliance with the current ASTM standard (American Society for Testing and Materials) or other standard approved helmets by the ISU for Short Track. The helmets must have a regular shape and may not have protrusions.
 - b) Cut resistant gloves or mitts. For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games the gloves or mitts must be predominantly white.
 - c) Shin protection.
 - d) Long sleeved and long legged clothing outlined in the current ISU Communication or any update of this Communication.
 - e) Padded or padded hard shell knee protection.
 - f) All speed skates must have the tubes closed and the blade ends must be rounded off, with a minimum radius of 10 mm. Blades must be fixed to the boot at a minimum of two points with no moveable parts.
 - g) Neck protection of cut-resistant nature, fully covering the neck.
 - h) For all ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, Skaters must wear Eye wear protection meeting the approved standards as listed in the latest relevant ISU Communication.
 - i) At Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games each item of equipment must be compliant with IOC requirements.

2. Each Skater is solely responsible that his personal equipment meets the highest safety criteria in order to obtain the utmost safety of the Skaters. In case of a non-compulsory personal equipment/item (not listed in paragraph 1 above) is lost on-ice, causing a disadvantage to a Skater/Team, the Skater/Team who lost their belongings shall be sanctioned with a penalty.
3. Further specification concerning the equipment described in paragraph 1 above, which may include enforcement of a world-wide accepted industry standard, may be issued by the ISU and shall then be announced in an ISU Communication or ISU Circular Letter.
All safety criteria included in the relevant ISU Communication for the level of the Skaters must be respected.
4. The Heat Box Steward in the heat box shall determine whether a Skater has respected the safety conditions, so that they can start a race. Skaters whose equipment is not in compliance with these rules shall be excluded from participation in the race. The results of the race will show Did Not Start.
5. A Skater who removes his equipment before the end of the race shall receive a penalty. The loss of compulsory or recommended safety equipment beyond the control of the Skater, i.e. due to a fall, will not result in a penalty.
6. While competing, the Skater is not allowed to wear any technical communication equipment for the purpose of having contact with or receive information from other persons or sources. In case of violation the Skater shall receive a penalty.
7.
 - a) Only with the approval of the ISU a system using signals from a transmitter or similar equipment, worn by the Skaters may be used at ISU Events to record information for the public, media and officials. The equipment must be worn as instructed. Failure to do so will result in a penalty.
 - b) If a system using signals from a transmitter or similar equipment, worn by the Skaters, to detect the position i.e. crossing the finish line and the corresponding time is used and approved by the ISU then failure to wear the equipment at the beginning of the race will result in a penalty. For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, it is the responsibility of the Skater to check the equipment in the Heat Box if there is a detection system installed.

Uniforms

8.
 - a) During ISU Events and the Olympic Winter Games all Skaters, members of the same national Team (Individual and Relay) must wear identical uniforms. The racing uniforms shall show on the external part of both lower legs the name of the country or the official abbreviation. The size of the characters must not be smaller than 7 cm high. The racing uniforms and the warming-up uniforms may show the name of the Skater. See the respective ISU Communication.
 - b) At Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games the uniform and clothing of Skaters and Teams must be compliant with IOC requirements.

Helmet Numbers and Helmet-Covers

9.
 - a) For ISU Events (except World Junior Championships and Junior World Cup Competitions) and Olympic Winter Games each Skater is assigned a helmet number before the start of the season and keeps the same number throughout the season. The number must be displayed on the left and right hand side of the helmet. For all details about helmet numbers please refer to the ISU Communication released annually.

- b) Helmet-covers, supplied by the ISU or, upon approval by the ISU, by the Organizers, must be worn at ISU World Junior Short Track Championships, Junior World Cup Competitions and Winter Youth Olympic Games. The helmet-covers must display the Skater's number in contrasting colors and must be approved by the ISU Technical Committee Representative or ISU Technical Delegate. Currently the ISU does not make use of its right to supply helmet-covers for obligatory use at other ISU Events.
- c) When no helmet-covers are provided, Skaters may display artistic design on their helmets respecting requirements specified in an ISU Communication and for the Olympic Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, by the IOC. For advertising markings and manufacturer trademarks on helmets, please refer to the CER).

Rules 289 & 290 are reserved.

E. Technical Specifications

Rule 291 Organization of the Competitions

Type of races

1. Short Track competitions consist of races with mass start:
 - a) Individual races;
 - b) Relay races;
 - c) Team races. Relay races and Team races may be organized as Mixed Gender Competitions.
All the above races may be organized based on skill (mixed gender & age).
2. Other format of races such as Pursuit and Team Pursuit are also possible.
3. For World Tour Competitions, Junior World Cup Competitions and International Competitions, a selected number of Skaters/Relay Teams may be prequalified for a predetermined qualification round based on their World Ranking or other type of rankings for Junior and International Competitions.
4. For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games and the Winter Youth Olympic Games progression on each distance from first round to the Finals will be by elimination.
5. For Ranking Finals and for International Competitions, an All Finals system may be used, in which all Skaters qualify for final races in different levels. Ranking finals can also consist of one single round to provide a more precise classification amongst eliminated Skaters.
6. Repechage Races can be used as part of qualifying rounds.

General conditions/Definitions

7. a) Races (going over metric distances) are the parts forming the program of a Short Track competition. The applicable metric distances of such competitions are listed in these Sports Rules.
 - b) Qualifying Rounds May consist of pre-preliminaries, preliminaries and heats that are the first instance elimination races. Depending on the number of entries, Eight-Finals, Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals may be required to determine who will skate in the Final or Final B. The Final is the final race of the competition over the relevant distance. Qualifying Rounds may also include Repechage Races.
 - c) Ranking Finals: One Round to determine the Ranking of Skaters/Teams excluded in the elimination process;

- d) Repechage: One or more Qualifying Rounds to determine which of the initially eliminated Skaters/Teams, will qualify for the subsequent qualification round of the Competition program.
The first round of a competition can be considered as repechage races.
- e) Competitions are competitive events (ISU Events and other events).
- f) Coach/Team leader/Support staff: Eligible persons appointed by the respective ISU Member to support and represent the Skater/Team of the ISU Member;
- g) The "Field of Play" during Short Track competitions are the ice surface, the immediate surroundings, Heat Box, Coaches Box, Officials restricted area and any other so designated areas;
- h) During each Qualifying Round and Finals there shall be allowed only one person per participating Skater or Relay Team in the designated coaching area. When needed a Team Official (technician) may enter the Coaches Box to repair equipment of a Skater.

Program

- 8. a) Individual races are held over 500, 1000 and 1500 m. Mixed Team Relay races are held over 2000 m. Relay Races for Women are held over 3000 m. Relay Races for Men are held over 3000 m (Juniors) and 5000 m.
- b) At International Competitions, Individual, Mixed Team Relay and Relay Races may also be held over other distances.
- c) At ISU Events, races may be held over other distances with the approval of the Council and after published in an ISU Communication.
- d) Names of the Qualifying Rounds depend on the number of rounds and will be:
 - 1: Final(s);
 - 2: Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 3: Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 4: Heats, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 5: Preliminaries, Heats, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 6: Pre-preliminaries, Preliminaries, Heats, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 7: Pre-preliminaries, Preliminaries, Heats, Eight-Finals, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, Final(s);
 - 8: Repechage Races (which can be one or more rounds and can be integrated before any of the above rounds);
 - 9: Ranking Finals (an extra set of races to better determined the classification of eliminated Skaters).

At ISU Events, round of Finals always includes two (2) races, the Final, determining the winner winner of a distance, and the Final B, determining the further ranks. The exact name of each Final can change, but the main principle remains.
- e) The number of Skaters per race at ISU Events and Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games is limited and must be scheduled as follows:

	500 m	1000 m	1500 m
Quarter-Finals	5	5	
Semi-Finals	5	5	7
Finals	5	5	7

- f) Exceptions:
 - See Rule 286, paragraph 6.h);
 - For competitions held according to Rule 283 other numbers of Skaters per Race may be used;
 - If the Quarter Finals or Semi Finals are the first round of the competition, then different numbers of Skaters per race may be used.
- g) - Race winners in the races will qualify to move forward to the next round.

- Additional finish places will qualify to move directly forward to the next round as specified on the Qualification table for the Distance.
 - Skaters who were impeded, for which another Skater received a penalty, a yellow card or a red card, and at the moment of the infringement were in direct qualifying position (positions qualifying to the next round as published in the qualification tables excluding those who might qualify by time) , will be advanced to the next round. In Semi-Finals, Skaters in a qualifying position to access the Final B will be advanced to the Final B.
 - In the case that the directly qualified Skaters and advanced Skaters, if any, do not fill up the scheduled number of Skaters in the next round, the fastest Skaters in the next finishing positions may be added to the next round or Final (First with all the Skaters in the next direct finishing position, then subsequent if needed).
- h) Skaters/Relay Teams/Mixed Relay Teams may also qualify through a repechage process.
 - i) For the Finals, Skaters qualify from the Semi-Finals according to paragraph 8.g) above.
 - j) For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games a Final B with only one Skater/Relay Team will not be skated and the qualified Skater/Relay Team will be assigned the corresponding rank and points.
 - k) Under exceptional circumstances, the Host Country of a World Tour Competition may request the possibility to enter one Skater, subject to approval by the Technical Committee, on each of the individual distances in each category in the World Tour session, except during World Tour Competitions designated for Olympic Qualification.
 - l) Competitors shall be allowed a minimum rest of 15 minutes between races.
 - m) If the track markers are not placed on corresponding tracks, the times from the respective race shall not be recorded, and if Skaters can qualify by time to the next round, the Skater(s) concerned shall be advanced without removing a place for another Skater qualified by time.

Rule 292 Entries for ISU Events

1.
 - a) ENTRIES: The number of Skaters, Coaches and Team leaders shall be entered at least 6 weeks before the first day of the Competition. The number of other personnel travelling with the Team shall also be submitted at least 6 weeks before the ISU Event concerned. ISU Members are seriously requested to enter only the number of Skaters they actually intend to send to the ISU Event concerned.
 - b) Any financial requirements imposed by the Organizing Committee for making on-site arrangements shall be communicated in the Announcement.
2.
 - a) FINAL ENTRIES: At the latest on the 10th day before the start of the first race of the Competition the following information must be communicated to the organizing committee:
 - Names of the Skaters and a list of alternate names, as per subparagraph 1 a) above, per category with their International Registration Numbers.
 - Only the Skaters listed on the Final Entry, with a maximum number equal to the number of allowed entries can attend and be accredited for the Event;
 - Names of the Skaters and their personal best time recorded during the period of eligibility for all distances they might participate in for each of the competitions over the individual distances, if applicable;
 - Names of the Skaters for each of the competitions over the individual distances, if applicable.
 - Confirmation of participation in all the competitions of the Relay, if applicable;

- b) The names and the complete travel detailed information for all Skaters, Coaches, Team Leaders and the full Team Delegation must be submitted with the Final Entries.
 - c) For post entries see the CER.
 - d) All entered Skaters must be eligible persons and have skated a distance in a time faster than the required Qualifying Time.
 - e) The required Qualifying Time(s), Distance(s), qualifying period, category of competitions and other conditions under which the times must have been achieved are decided by the Technical Committee and announced on an annual basis through an ISU Communication.
 - f) The time(s) to qualify must have been skated before the closing of the Final Entry.
 - g) ISU Members entering participants must submit verification of the times achieved by each Skater. The time, name of competition, place, date and a copy of the protocol must be uploaded in the Online Registration System (ORS) before the closing of the Final Entries.
 - h) The Competition Coordinator is responsible to check that all the requirements are met and if any omission is found will inform the Representative of the Technical Committee, the Referee and the ISU Office. The latter will inform the respective Member accordingly.
3. a) **CONFIRMED DISTANCE ENTRIES:** The names of the Skaters for each of the respective individual distances, if applicable, shall be communicated to the Competition Coordinator at the latest at 18:00 h in the evening 2 days before the start of the first race of the Competition.
- b) Skaters must be present at the site of the ISU Event at 18:00 h on the day before the start of the first race of the competition, or the Organizing Committee must confirm their arrival in the city of the ISU Event concerned.
 - c) The Seeding List of Participants for the first Qualifying Round (see Rule 293) shall be published at the latest at 15h00 (local time) on the day before the start of the first race of the Competition.
 - d) Any comments regarding the Seeding List of Participants, Qualifying Schedule and other distributed official documents can be addressed to the Competition Coordinator up to 18:00 h on the day before the start of the first race of the Competition.
 - e) The Make-up of the Races will be published 3 hours before the start of the first race of the respective distance/category.
 - f) If a Skater is not able to start in the races of the first qualifying round of an individual distance due to illness after the names have been officially communicated to the Competition Coordinator in accordance with subparagraph a) above, this Skater may be replaced by another entered Skater on the Final Entry of the ISU Member concerned until 30 minutes before the start of the first race of a qualifying round for the distance concerned. The Competition Coordinator may change the make-up of the races according to the seeding procedure, Rule 293.

Rule 293 Drawing and seeding procedures

- 1. In ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, the starting order of the races are following the seeding.
In International Competitions, a draw shall be made by the Competition Coordinator to establish the starting order of each race.
- 2. For ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games, the Winter Youth Olympic Games and all International Competitions, the composition of each Qualifying Round of all distances, both Individual and Relay, is made up by the Competition Coordinator.

3. a) The composition of the races in each Qualifying Round is based on the Seeding List of all the qualified Skaters.
- b) For the First Qualifying Rounds of each distance in ISU Events, with the exception of the World Junior Championships, the Winter Youth Olympic Games and the Junior World Cup Competitions, the current World Ranking List will be used as Seeding List. Skaters without a World Ranking will be placed after all the Skaters with a World Ranking and ranked in order of their time submitted with their Final Entry for the relevant distance. In the exceptional case of Skaters without a submitted best time, they will be ranked last. If there are more than 1 Skater without a World Ranking and an approved best time, these Skaters will be given a ranking by means of a draw.
- c) For all other Qualifying Rounds, the seeding list will contain all qualified Skaters listed first in order of their finishing positions and second by their time skated in the preceding round.

If the current round is the first round of a Repechage and the qualified Skaters come from different rounds then priority will be given to the most recent round.

The seeding list for each qualifying round shall be established according to the following order of priority:

- Prequalified Skaters: Skaters who are prequalified for the respective Round shall be seeded first. Their order shall be determined by their current World Ranking for that distance.
- Qualifiers from the Previous Qualifying Round: Skaters who have qualified directly or are advanced from the preceding qualifying round shall be seeded next, based on their results from the preceding round, in the order of their finishing positions, and then by time skated in the preceding qualifying round and if applicable, then the Skaters who have been advanced and last the Skaters who qualified by time outside of the direct qualifying positions.
- Qualifiers from the Repechage: Skaters who qualified or have been being advanced through the repechage shall be seeded next, in the order of their finishing positions within the repechage first by finishing order and then by their times recorded in the last Repechage round.
- Qualifiers through a Wild Card: Skaters entered with a Wild Card will be seeded last.

In event of a tie, the time submitted with the final entry will decide the seeding. Any further tie will be broken by a draw.

- d) For World Junior Championships, Junior World Cup Competitions and the Winter Youth Olympic Games the Seeding List for the first round of individual distances will be established solely based on time for each distance submitted with the final entry.

The seeding list for the Relay distances will be based on the results of the two preceding World Junior Championships.

For each of the two preceding Championships, points as indicated in the table below will be given to the Teams based on the Distance Classification. In case of a tie in total points, the results of the most recent championships will be the tie breaker, and the table must be kept.

4. The composition of the races in each Qualifying Round shall be made by the Competition Coordinator by placing the Skaters in the races by means of the Skaters current ranking in the Seeding List, e.g. the number one ranked Skater will be placed in the first race, the number two ranked Skater will be placed in the second race etc., filling the races from the first race to the last race in the first instance. The second row, i.e. the second Skater in each race, will be filled from the last race to the first race. The next rows will be filled alternating from the first race to the last race, and from the last race to the first race until all Skaters have been placed.

5. a) Except for Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals: If any Skater is to be placed in a race which includes a Skater from the same country, that Skater will be moved to the next available race, unless the Skater would be placed in a race on the next row. In that case the Skater will be exchanged with the previously placed Skater, or with his predecessors on the same row, if necessary to avoid placement of Skaters of the same country in a race. If there are no more races available to move a Skater to, then the Competition Coordinator, with the approval of the Referee, may reverse Skaters on a previous line, but only within that line, commencing with the lowest ranked, to solve the matter. Reversing Skaters between lines is not allowed. If the matter cannot be solved then the Skater will be placed in the originally designated race.
- b) For International Competitions: If the Quarter Finals or Semi-Finals are the first round of the competition, Skaters from the same ISU Member will be separated whenever possible following the procedure outlined in subparagraph a) above.
6. The composition of the Ranking Finals over each distance is made by the Competition Coordinators by placing the Skaters in the Ranking Finals in the order of the distance classification. The number of Skaters per race is according to the Qualifying Tables published by the Technical Committee Short Track. The highest ranked Skaters will be in the last Ranking Final, the next highest ranked Skaters will be in the second last Ranking Final, etc. Ranking Finals with only one Skater will not be skated.
7. The lane positions of the first Qualifying Round of all distances at ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, are decided by the Seeding List of Competitors as specified in paragraph 3.
For International Competitions the lane positions of the first Qualifying Round of a distance will be drawn by the Competition Coordinator unless otherwise specified in the Announcement of the Competition.
For each subsequent round the lane positions will not be drawn but will be decided by the ranks on the Seeding List and the times skated in the preceding Qualifying Round. The Skaters/Relay Teams will be assigned the lane positions from the inside of the track to the outside in the order of their rankings and times: starting with the Skater having finished first with the fastest time. The determination of the lane positions shall always use the rank as first criteria, and the time shall be used as second criteria. Once all the Skaters finishing in first place have a lane position, then the Skaters in second place, starting with the fastest time, get the next available lane, etc.
 - a) In the case that no time in the previous round is available for a Skater/Relay Team due to failure of technical equipment or incorrect placement of blocks, then the Skater/Relay Team is placed on the line after all Skaters/Relay Teams with the same ranking in the previous qualifying round;
 - b) In the case that no time in the previous round is available due to being declared finished without a time, the Skater/Relay Team concerned will be assigned a starting lane position in the next qualifying round after the Skaters/Relay Teams with the same ranking that have a time;
 - c) Skaters who qualified through a Repechage will be assigned a starting lane position in the next qualifying round after the Skaters/Relay Teams who qualified directly for the round or were prequalified;
 - d) Skaters qualified through a wild card will be placed last;
 - e) In the case that two or more Skaters/Relay Teams have the same time, then the best time in any race in this competition over the distance concerned will be taken to determine the order in which the respective Skaters/Relay Teams will be assigned a lane position.

- f) In the case that Skaters/Teams are prequalified for a qualifying round, the start position for these Skaters/Teams will be in order of their World Ranking and they will be assigned the inside lane positions before the other Skaters/Teams that qualify regularly.

Rule 294 Start of the Race

Heat Box

1.
 - a) The Heat Box is a designated area where the Skaters must report when called and stay before their Race. Depending on the Qualifying Round this designated area may be different.
 - b) Prior to each start, the names of those about to compete are to be clearly called at the Heat Box.
 - c) Skaters who do not report to the Heat Box will be recorded as “Did not Start”. For international Competitions: If these Skaters are entered for other distances on the program of the Event, they must confirm their participation on these distances to the Competition Coordinator at the latest 30 min before the next distance.
 - d) The Heat Box Steward will check that the Skaters are wearing their racing numbers and correct equipment.
 - e) Skaters with defective equipment (e.g. broken Skate blade) will not be allowed to start. The results of the race will show DNS (Did not start). The conditions of Rule 288, paragraph 4 apply.
After a race is stopped, Skaters with defective equipment, which cannot be repaired in due time, will not be allowed to re-start. The results of such Skater will be shown as “Did Not Finish” and the Skater will be ranked according to Rule 297, paragraph 1.
 - f) Skaters have to enter the ice through the Heat Box only.

Starting equipment

2. Instead of an ordinary start revolver an electronic starting device may be used as Starting gun. In this case the following conditions should be observed:
 - a) The starting device should have a firm trigger point;
 - b) The synthetic sound at the “firing of the gun” should be loud and distinct, and similar to the sound of the shot from an ordinary starting gun;
 - c) The smoke fire must be replaced with a visual flash, which must be distinctly different from a photoflash.

Lane Positions

3. If more than five Skaters are starting in a race, the starting dots will not be used, and the Starter will direct the Skaters in the respective order of their position to the starting line.
If due to the number of Skaters in a race a second row is required at the start then the Skaters at this line will be positioned as far as possible to the outside of the track in the order of the lane positions.

Starting procedure

For ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games and other International Competitions using the “0 False Start” procedure:

4. Once the Referee is satisfied that all necessary arrangements for the race to come have been taken, the Referee will inform the Starter who will then initiate the Starting procedure.
 - a) The Starter will blow the whistle.
 - b) From this moment the Skaters have a limited time to come to the start line. This time may be displayed using technical equipment. Also starting from this moment, the Announcer will ask for silence, if necessary.

5. Any Skater who arrives at the start line after the limited time will be warned by the Starter of a False Start. The announcement should be:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";
 - "Delaying the start";
 - "Penalty".

6.
 - a) The Skaters will line up a short distance away from the start line.
 - b) In the case of a Semi-Final or Final Race where the Skaters are being introduced individually by the Announcer, they will position themselves a little further away from the start line and when introduced by the Announcer they will move forward closer to the start line.
 - c) Prior to the start of a Final over an individual distance and Relay Races, the participants are introduced by the Announcer stating their full name, country, and other information for the interest of the public.

The same procedure may be applied also for the Semi-Finals. The introduction of the Skaters/ Relay Teams can also be done before the Skaters/ Relay Teams get on the ice.

7.
 - a) The Starter will command:
 - "Go to the Start".
 - b) On this command the Skaters move forward to the start line and place themselves at their respective dot at the start line. The Skaters stand up straight and stand still.
 - c) Until the Skater has finalized his still position, touching the Start line is not an offence.
 - d) Putting the tip of the blade in the ice is an offence and a penalty will be given to the Skater concerned.
 - e) The announcement of the Starter should then be:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";
 - "Penalty";
 - "Wrong Blade Position".

8.
 - a) The Starter will command:
 - "Ready".
 - b) The Skaters will go down and take their final starting positions immediately with the center of the body over the respective dot and keep this position.
 - c) It is a False Start when the Skater:
 - Places one or both skates on or over the start line;
 - Places one or both hands on the ice;
 - Does not have both skates on the ice, i.e. full contact over the length of the blades;
 - Takes the starting position before the command "Ready";
 - Takes the starting position too slow after the command "Ready".

9. a) When all Skaters are positioned in their final starting position and stand still, i.e. there is no more movement, the Starter will wait a defined period of time and then fire the gun.
 - b) It is a False Start when the Skater:
 - Makes a clear and obvious move before the gun is fired;
 - Slides on or over the line before the gun is fired;
 - Moves forward on the tip of his blades.
 - c) In the case of a False Start the Starter will fire the gun again and/or uses the whistle to call the Skaters back.
 - d) The Skaters must return to the start line without delay. Any Skater who does not return directly to the start line will be assessed a False Start for delaying the start.
 - e) If more than one Skater is responsible for a False Start, the concerned Skaters shall all be assessed a False Start.
 - f) If one of the Skaters breaks from his mark, thereby causing another Skater to follow him, only the Skater at fault shall be assessed a False Start.
 - g) If a Skater makes noise, e.g. with his skates on the ice, thereby causing another Skater to move, the Skater shall be assessed a False Start.
 - h) Commands given by the Starter will include:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";
 - "Penalty".And if necessary any statement reasoning the false start, e.g.:
 - Moving;
 - Wrong blade position;
 - Crossing the line.
 - i) If more than one Skater made a clear and obvious offence, the statements above will be given for each Skater concerned.
 - j) If there are multiple offences of the Starting Rule then these will be announced in the order they occurred.
10. Before a start, the equipment of the Skater may be fixed, without going beyond the Padding. At "Go to the Start" the Skaters must be fully prepared with all equipment in order. Any omission will result in a warning of a False Start for "delaying the start" to the Skater concerned (see paragraph 5 above).
11. a) The announcement of an exclusion from the race will include:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence leading to a penalty;
 - "Penalty".b) On direction of the Referee the Skater may be sent off the ice.
12. If a Skater is interfered with before the last block of the first curve after the starting line, the Skaters shall be called back to start again. The decision whether the interference is an offence according to the Racing Rules is a decision of the Referee.
13. At ISU Events, Olympic Winter Games and Winter Youth Olympic Games, the Starter after recalling a start can consult with an Assistant Referee Video before making his decision. For this purpose a monitor to show a video recording of the start may be installed on the Starters' platform.

For International Competitions there is an option to apply a starting procedure where one false start is allowed for the race, without leading to a penalty. This option must then be specified in the Announcement of the Competition. In that case, the complete starting procedure for the International Competition will be as follows:

14. a) Once the Referee is satisfied that all necessary arrangements for the race to come have been taken, he will inform the Starter who will then initiate the Starting procedure.
 - b) The Starter will blow the whistle.
 - c) From this moment the Skaters have a limited time to come to the start line. This time may be displayed using technical equipment. Also starting from this moment, the Announcer will ask for silence, if necessary
 - d) Any Skater who arrives at the start line after the limited time will be warned by the Starter of a False Start. The announcement should be:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";
 - "Delaying the start".
 - e) Any warnings of a False Start for "delaying the start" do not affect the other Skaters coming to the start line.
 - f) In the case that a second warning of False Start for "delaying the start" is given to the same Skater, the Starter shall tell the Skater that he gets a penalty and is excluded from the race.
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15. a) The Skaters will line up a short distance away from the start line.
 - b) In the case of a Semi-Final or Final Race where the Skaters are being introduced individually by the Announcer, they will position themselves a little further away from the start line and when introduced by the Announcer they will move forward closer to the start line.
 - c) Prior to the start of a Final over an individual distance and Relay Races, the participants are introduced by the Announcer stating their full name, country, and other information for the interest of the public. The same procedure may be applied also for the Semi-Finals. The introduction of the Skaters/ Relay Teams can also be done before the Skaters/ Relay Teams get on the ice.
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16. a) The Starter will command:
 - "Go to the Start".
 - b) On this command the Skaters move forward to the start line and place themselves at their respective dot at the start line. The Skaters stand up straight and stand still.
 - c) Until the Skater has finalized his still position, touching the Start line is not an offence.
 - d) Putting the tip of the blade in the ice is an offence and a false start will be given to the Skater concerned.
 - e) The announcement of the Starter should then be:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";
 - "Wrong Blade Position".
-
17. a) The Starter will command:
 - "Ready".
 - b) The Skaters will go down and take their final starting positions immediately with the center of the body over the respective dot and keep this position.
 - c) It is a False Start when the Skater:
 - Places one or both skates on or over the start line;
 - Places one or both hands on the ice;
 - Does not have both skates on the ice, i.e. full contact over the length of the blades;
 - Takes the starting position before the command "Ready";
 - Takes the starting position too slow after the command "Ready".

18. a) When all Skaters are positioned in their final starting position and stand still, i.e. there is no more movement, the Starter will wait a defined period of time and then fire the gun.
 - b) It is a False Start when the Skater:
 - Makes a clear and obvious move before the gun is fired;
 - Slides on or over the line before the gun is fired;
 - Moves forward on the tip of his blades.
 - c) In the case of a False Start the Starter will fire the gun again and/or uses the whistle to call the Skaters back.
 - d) The Skaters must return to the start line without delay. Any Skater who does not return directly to the start line will receive a warning of a False Start for delaying the start.
 - e) If more than one Skater is responsible for a False Start, the concerned Skaters shall all be assessed a False Start.
 - f) If one of the Skaters breaks from his marks, thereby causing another Skater to follow him, only the Skater at fault shall be assessed a False Start.
 - g) If a Skater makes noise, e.g. with his skates on the ice, thereby causing another Skater to move, the Skater shall be assessed a False Start.
 - h) Commands given by the Starter will include:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence;
 - "False Start";And if necessary any statement reasoning the false start, e.g.:
 - Moving;
 - Wrong blade position;
 - Crossing the line.
 - i) If more than one Skater made a clear and obvious offence, the statements above will be given for each Skater concerned.
 - j) If there are multiple offences of the Starting Rule then these will be announced in the order they occurred.
19. If a False Start was made by a Skater who had already received a warning for "False Start for delaying the start", this Skater will receive a penalty and is excluded from the race.
20. a) After a False Start of a race and before resuming the starting procedure, the Starter will warn all Skaters:
 - "This race has one False Start".
 - b) In the case of a False Start by any of the Skaters in the next start, the Skater(s) concerned will be given a penalty and is/are excluded from the race.
21. a) Before a start, the equipment of the Skater may be fixed, without going beyond the Padding. At "Go to the Start" the Skaters must be fully prepared with all equipment in order. Any omission will result in a warning for a False Start for "delaying the start" to the Skater concerned (see paragraph 5 above).
22. a) The announcement of an exclusion from the race will include:
 - The lane position of the Skater who made the offence leading to a penalty;
 - "Penalty".
 - b) On direction of the Referee the Skater may be sent off the ice.
23. If a Skater is interfered with before the last block of the first curve after the starting line, the Skaters shall be called back to start again. The decision whether the interference is an offence according to the Racing Rules is a decision of the Referee.

24. The end of the race is declared by the Referee. Different means can be used to communicate that information to the Skaters and all Officials. Except for Finals: Any Skater who has not yet finished will be declared finished by the Referee, but no time will be assigned.

Rule 295 Racing Rules

Individual Racing Rules

1.
 - a) Races are run counter-clockwise, that is to say the inner side of the track is on the left-hand side of the Skater/Relay Team.
 - b) Overtaking is allowed at all times, but until the Skaters/Relay Teams are besides each other the responsibility for any obstruction or collision shall be upon the Skater/Relay Team overtaking, provided the Skater/Relay Team being overtaken does not act improperly.
 - c) Any Skater/Relay Team who is bound to be lapped, either for the first time or other time, must move to the outside and may not interfere with the Skater(s)/Relay Team(s) overtaking him/them. Violation with interference will result in a Yellow or Red Card.
 - d) A Skater/Relay Team has completed the distance when the Skater has reached the finish line with the leading tip of the skate blade.

Infringements

2.
 - a) The general racing rule is that the Skaters/Relay Teams by their way of skating shall contribute to the honest sporting and safe progress of the race in order to determine the result of the race on its merits.
 - b) The following actions by Skaters are considered breaches of the Racing Rules and are to be sanctioned if the facts are clear and obvious and no shared responsibility is to be established: Off-Track, Impeding, Assistance, Kicking-Out and Embellishment. The descriptions of the actions and clarification of the consequences are set out in the ISU Communication "Guidance to the Racing Rules" and any subsequent update to it.

Relay Racing Rules

3.
 - a) Teams may consist of of the following maximum number of Competitors:

World Championships	5
World Junior Championships	5
European Championships	5
World Cup Competitions	see World Cup Communication
All other Competitions	see Announcement

 Mixed Team Relay:

ISU Championships	3 per gender
Olympic Winter Games	3 per gender
World Cup Competitions	4 per gender.

- b) All members of a Team shall be equally dressed. Teams which do not comply with this shall be excluded from participation in the respective race. For Competitions where Skaters from different nations form a team, a simple and easy identification system will be sufficient.
- c) During any Relay race in a competition, four Skaters shall compete. Entries of Teams with less than four Skaters shall not be accepted.
At the latest 10 minutes before the start of the respective Round of Relay race, the names of those competing must be submitted to the Competition Coordinators. In the case of a re-start or re-run of the Relay race, a substitution within the team is allowed.
- d) All Skaters of a Team must belong to one and the same ISU Member. At specified competitions, Teams may be composed by Skaters from different ISU Members with the approval of the ISU.
- e) The Referee shall decide when a touch has been completed in Relay racing and should observe all relaying for this particular purpose, with the assistance of the Assistant Referees.
- f) A Skater will be in the race and be responsible for the Team until that Skater is relayed by a Team member. Relaying will be by touch, that is to say a Skater will not be in the race until that Skater has been touched by, or has touched the Skater he is relieving.
- g) A Skater may be relayed at any time except during the last two laps. These laps must be skated by one Skater. That last exchange must be completed on the straight before the first block of the corner. A warning shot will be fired to indicate the start of the last three laps.
- h) In the case of a fall during the last two laps, the Skater may be relayed.
- i) A Skater from a Team can only come on the track to make an exchange. Skaters entering before an exchange and skaters exiting after an exchange are also subjected to the applicable racing rules.
- j) The inactive Skaters of each Team must stay out of the path of the racing Skaters and in an area that is clearly inside curves, marked by track marking blocks and a painted or virtual line between the last block and the first block of the curves. Only to make an exchange, a Skater may leave this area.
- k) Exchanges are to be made without interference to other Teams.
During exchanges, changing the lane (lateral moves) is not allowed and exchanges are to be made straight forward, directly in front of the Skater who is pushing, and the skates have to be kept out of blocking.
- l) Interference inside the track with Skaters coming in to take an exchange may also be considered an infringement.

Mixed Team Relay Racing Rules

- m) The Individual Racing Rules, paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and the Relay Racing Rules, shall apply to Mixed Team Relay Races, that means for all members of the Team, both participating and relayed Team members.
- n) Unless otherwise specified, Mixed Relay Teams consist of a minimum of two and a maximum of four Women and a minimum of two and a maximum of four Men.
- o) For each race any two of the four named Women and any two of the four named Men must take part in the race.
- p) Races will be over 2000 m (18 laps).
- q) The members of the Team have to relay following a fixed schedule: first, 4 segments of x 2,5 laps, then 4 segments of x 2 laps, and always in the following order of exchanges: Woman-Woman-Man-Man. The racing order per Gender is left to the Team.

- r) In case of a fall, only a Skater from the same gender can cover the Relay for the Team, and complete the segment. If the next segment in the schedule is for the same gender, that segment must be covered by one of the two Skaters of the relevant gender.
However, if there is a fall in the very last corner before a scheduled exchange to the other gender, a Skater from opposite gender can take the relay and keep on going.
- s) In exceptional cases when a Team cannot make an exchange because of actions from other Teams, the exchanges can be made half a lap later.
- t) In the last 2,5 laps of the race, if there is a fall any Team member can take the Relay.

Relay Infringements

- 4. a) The Individual Racing Rules, paragraphs 1 and 2 above, shall apply to Relay races, that is to say for all members of the Team, both active and inactive Team members.
- b) Breaches of the Relay Racing Rules are considered as follows:
 - RELAYING NON TOUCH: The relay has taken place without a touch;
 - RELAYING DURING THE LAST TWO LAPS: The last relay has not been clearly started in the straight before the first block of the final two laps.
 - In Mixed Team Relay: The fixed schedule, taking into account its exceptions as described in paragraph 3 above, has not been followed.

Team Racing Rules

- 5. a) A Team consists of a minimum of two Skaters.
- b) The finish position and time recorded by the last Skater of the Team finishing determines the result of the Team.
- c) The Skaters shall compete as a Team and may assist each other.
- d) A Skater may push a member of the same Team as long as this does not impede any Skater from another Team.

Team Racing Infringements

- 6. The Individual Racing Rules (paragraphs 1 and 2 above) shall apply to Team Racing Rules, unless otherwise specified.

Rule 296 Sanctions for Infringements of the Racing Rules and/or the ISU Code of Ethics

- 1. a) Only racing incidents that are not in line with the principles of the general racing rule, as specified in Rule 295, paragraph 2 a), may result in sanctions.
- b) The term "disqualification" as used in the applicable rule of the CER shall be understood to describe the various sanctions mentioned in this Rule including without limitation the following type of sanctions:
 - Penalty;
 - for an infringement of the Racing Rules.
 - Yellow Card;
 - for an unsafe, unsportsmanlike, harmful or hazardous offence;
 - for more than one infringement of the Racing Rule "Impeding" and/or "Kicking Out" independent of each other resulting in a penalty, made in one race;
 - for other actions explicitly so specified in these rules.
 - Red Card: a Red Card is imposed:
 - for an infringement of the Racing Rules which is deemed to be dangerous or grossly negligent;
 - in the case a Skater is shown two Yellow Cards in the same Event;

- for other actions explicitly so specified in these Rules;
 - for a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics, which happens in the period between the appearance of a Skater at the Heat Box In and leaving the Heat Box Out after a race;
 - for any action and behavior, either on or off ice during the competition period, i.e. the beginning and the end of a competition as established by the ruling body of the competition, and which action is considered by the Referee as a non-compliance with instructions of an official in charge, or a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics.
- c) If a contact/situation is created by the simultaneous actions of two Skaters or more, the effect of the contact /situation is minor and has no impact on the results of the race, i.e. the results of the race are determined on its merits, the Referee may decide the contact is caused by a Shared Responsibility resulting in no Penalty given to any of the Skaters or their Teams.
- d) The Skater/Relay Team who received a Penalty will be disqualified in the relevant race in which the infringement occurred, and will be excluded from participating in the next round of the distance/competition concerned. See Rule 295 for details on the final classifications of Skaters/Teams that receive a Penalty.
- e) In the ISU World Tours, a Cumulative Penalty System applies. If a Skater has accumulated 3 Sanctions (Penalty for Impeding or Kicking Out, YC or RC), during the Series, then in the next Event of the Series, the Skater cannot be entered in its highest ranked distance. If the Skater reaches 5 Sanctions, in the next Event of the Series, the Skater cannot be entered in its two (2) highest ranked distances. Following its 7th sanction, in the next Event of the Series, the Skater cannot be entered in any individual distances. Infringement in Relay Races do not count for the purposes of this article. A list of Sanctions accumulated for all Skaters during the season will be published in the Protocol after each Event of the Series. Sanction threshold consequences are only applicable on the next Event of the Series. The list will be reset to 0 at the end of the Series.
- f) The Skater/Relay Team who was been given a Yellow Card will be disqualified in the relevant race in which the infringement occurred and excluded from participating in the next round of the distance/competition concerned. The Skater/Relay Team will forfeit prior points/results accrued in all races over the distance/competition concerned and will be ranked following Rule 295. The right of the Skater to participate in other distances/competitions, or the results achieved in previous or next other distances/competitions are not affected.
- g) Yellow Cards received for a Team event are not cumulative with Yellow Cards received to Individual events and vice-versa.
- h) The Skater who received a Red Card either in an individual distance or a Relay will not be allowed anymore to participate in any race of the Event, both Individual and Relay. All results on the distance concerned are lost. The results of other individual distances which have been concluded with a Final are not affected.
- i) A Skater receiving a Red Card in a Relay will result in the Relay Team receiving a Red Card. The Relay Team who was given a Red Card will be disqualified in the relevant race and will not be ranked in the final Relay classification. The results of other Relay events of the Competition will not be affected.
- j) Any Official or other participant in an ISU activity witnessing a violation of the Code of Ethics during the competition period needs to verbally report to the Referee. The Referee shall file a written report with the Short Track Technical Committee concerning any Skater who is shown a Red Card. The Short Track Technical Committee shall forward this information to the Sports Technical Director who will inform the Council.
- k) The Short Track Technical Committee shall create a database of all Red Cards issued during a skating season.

- l) Irrespective of the Red Card decision of the Referee, any Skater falls under the disciplinary authority of the Disciplinary Commission (DC) at any given moment and is subject to a sanction imposed by the DC.
- m) If a Skater has accumulated two Red Cards within 12 months, that Skater shall be automatically suspended from participation in all ISU Events, the Olympic Winter Games, the Youth Olympic Winter Games, and International Competitions for at least two months or three applicable Competitions whichever is the longer period.
- n) The Referee's decision that: there was an infringement of the Racing Rules or a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics or decisions approving the announcement of the results showing that there was no infringement are final and no protests against such decisions are allowed (See Rule 123, paragraph 4.b).
- o) If, during a race, any irregularity that may affect the result does take place, the Referee may stop the race and order a re-start of the race. As a principle, this re-start shall take place immediately. In exceptional cases the Referee may postpone the re-start to a later point on the competition program.
If the distance has been completed the Referee may order a re-run of the race considering the rest time according to Rule 291, paragraph 8.l).
- p) If any of the Skaters/Relay Teams have been sanctioned under this Rule for conduct occurring before the race is stopped, such Skater(s), and the Skater's Relay Team (if the race is a Relay race), will not take part in the re-run;
- q) In the case of a re-start of a Relay race substitution within each team is allowed.
- r) Any Skater, for whom the race has been stopped (to preserve the Skater's well-being), will not be allowed to take part in the re-start. However, if the Skater could not continue due to clear and obvious technical reasons beyond the Skater's control, the Skater may take part in the re-start. The results of Skater(s) or Relay Teams excluded for this reason from a re-start will show 'Did not finish' (Record as DNF).
- s) Sanctions imposed by the Referee under this Rule are communicated and recorded at the end of each race. The recorded decision is the final decision and cannot be changed unless there is a recording, technical, data or communication error. The corrections have to be made before the next qualifying round. Any correction must be officially announced and documented.

Sanctions are announced at the end of each race before the announcement of the official results, to the Skater(s) / Team Coach or Team leader, and over the public address system for the benefit of the spectators, specifying where and how the Skater(s)/Relay Team concerned made an infringement and whether there is an advancement.

The Announcer must inform the spectators immediately of the decision(s) that has/have been taken. With approval of the Technical Committee the Referee may also announce the decision over the public address system.

If the public address system can be understood loud and clear at the Coaches Box, or the information is immediately available on a screen or any other communication device, there is no need for any On Ice Official to go to the Coaches Box to announce the decision(s).

In the case of a violation of the ISU Code of Ethics, either on or off the ice, within the competition period, the sanction may be announced also at a later stage and the consequences as indicated above will apply.

Sanctions for Coaches, Team leaders and Support staff

- 2. Coaches, Team leaders and Support staff are subject to the conditions of all applicable ISU Regulations and, in particular, the ISU Code of Ethics. Officials must be approached and addressed in a respectful manner. Failure to observe these Rules and/or misconduct as per above can result in the following sanctions:
Yellow Card: suspension from the Field of Play for the day;

Red Card: suspension from the Event/Competition with removal of the accreditation.

Rule 297 Classifications

Final classification of Skaters/Team in a Race

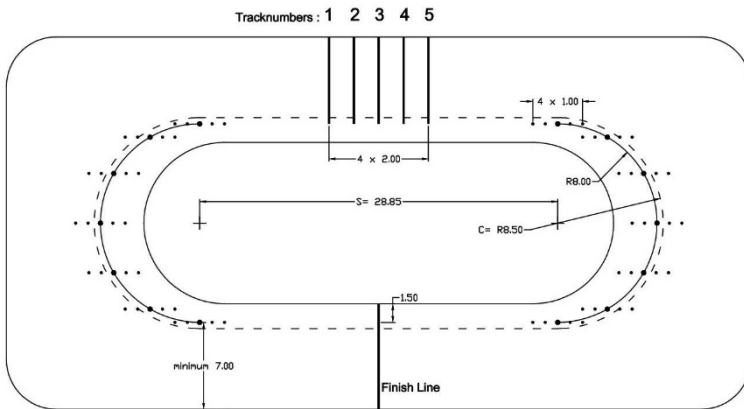
1. At the end of each race, the order of the Skaters will be as follows:
 - First all the Skaters/Relay Teams who finished the race in the order of finishing
 - Skaters/Relay Teams who Did Not Finish (DNF)
 - Skaters/Relay Teams who got a Penalty (PEN)
 - Skaters/Relay Teams who Did Not Start (DNS).

Points and classifications

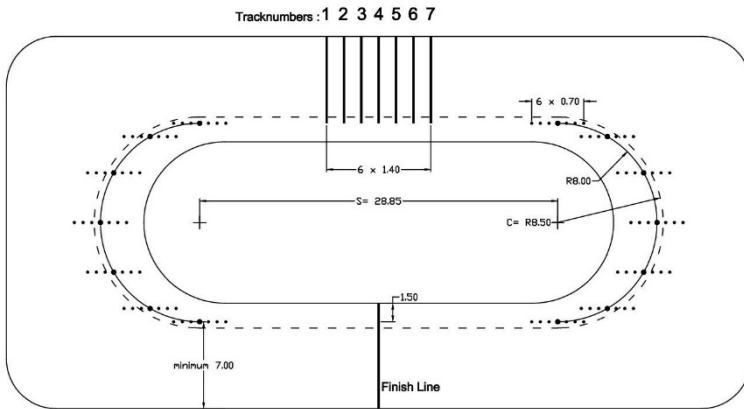
2. For each distance a classification will be made in which the participants are ranked:
 - a) on the results of the Final in accordance with paragraph 1 above, disregarding all results in previous qualifying rounds;
 - b) on the results of the Final B in accordance with paragraph 1 above, disregarding all results in previous qualifying rounds;
 - c) all other Skaters/Relay Teams not having qualified for the Final or Final B will be ranked following the Qualification Schedule, including Repechage races and Ranking Finals when applicable:
 - First all the Skaters/Relay Teams who finished the race, in the order of finishing and then ties would be broken as per subparagraph d) below;
 - Then the Skaters/Relay Teams without a finishing order will be listed in the following order (virtual rank within the block) and then ties would be broken as per subparagraph d) below;
 - All Skaters/Relay Teams who Did Not Finish (DNF);
 - All Skaters/Relay Teams who got a Penalty (PEN);
 - All Skaters/Relay Teams who Did Not Start (DNS).
 - d) In the case of a tie the Skaters/Relay Teams are ranked;
 - by finish-order within the subsequent previous Qualifying Rounds; following the Qualification Schedule where any direct qualification is ranked before any qualification by Repechage;
 - by best time skated in any race over the distance;
 - further ties will not be broken.
 - e) A Skater/Relay Team that has qualified for, or has been advanced to, the qualifying round but cannot start due to medical reasons, will be recorded as Did Not Start (DNS) for the purpose of determining the Distance Classification. Even if the Competition Coordinators made or re-made the make-up of the races without the Skater/Relay Team concerned the position in the Distance Classification will be considered as DNS within the respective qualifying round.
 - f) Skaters or Relay Teams who did not finish in the first qualifying round, will be ranked next with the same ranking.
 - g) Skaters or Relay Teams who received a penalty in the first qualifying round, will be ranked next with the same ranking.
 - h) Skaters or Relay Teams who received a Yellow Card in any round, will be ranked next.
 - i) Skaters or Relay Teams who received a Red Card or did not start in the first qualifying round, will not be ranked but listed as participants at the bottom of the Classification in the above order.
 - j) For any intermediate Distance Classifications:
 - in the case of equal times over the distance, a draw will take place to establish the order;

- in the case where there are no time(s) available, a draw will take place for the respective Skaters/Teams to determine their rank in comparison to the others with the same position (finish place).
- 3.
- a) For International Competitions with an overall award of prizes, Final points will be awarded in descending order following the distance classification. For example, In the Final and Final B, the points 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2, 1 may be awarded.
 - b) In the case of a tie, all Skaters involved in a tie will receive the points awarded for that finish position (e.g. tie on both Skaters will receive 21 points). If two Skaters are involved in a tie, the points for the following finish place will not be awarded, in the case of three Skaters involved, the following two finish places will not be awarded.
 - c) For the Final Classification (and any intermediate overall classification) the Skaters are ranked:
 - by total number of Final Points;
 - by combined ranking over all Distance Classifications;
 - by the highest ranking achieved in one of the distances and subsequent other best rankings;
 - by best time over the longest distance on the program.
 - d) Skaters or Relay Teams who on any distance, received a Red Card will not be ranked, but listed as participants at the bottom of the Classification in the above order.

Rules 298 & 299 are reserved.



Track 2, 3 and 4 to be used for semi-finals and finals over 500 meters.



Track 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 to be used for semi-finals and finals over 500 meters.

Tolerance for all measurements +/- 0.01 m

111.12 meters Track	
2 x S	57.71 meters
2 x C x pi	53.41 meters
One Lap	111.12 meters

Laps in different distances:	500 m	=	4½	laps
	1000 m	=	9	laps
	1500 m	=	13½	laps
	2000 m	=	18	laps
	3000 m	=	27	laps
	5000 m	=	45	laps