

ISU.ORG



Skate Canada International

Halifax 2024

**SKATE CANADA INTERNATIONAL
OCTOBER 25-27, 2024
HALIFAX, CANADA**

Media Information



**INTERNATIONAL
SKATING UNION**

2024-2025

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Skate Canada looks forward to hosting media attending Skate Canada International in Halifax, Canada. The event will be held at the Scotiabank Centre from October 25-27, 2024.

This information will assist you in planning your trip to Halifax and to apply for media accreditation to cover the event. Every effort will be made to ensure journalists have all the appropriate facilities necessary to work at the event.

The Press Centre will be open and operational from the first practice/training session on October 24, 2024 according to the following time schedule (it may be subject to changes and needs to be verified on-site):

Media Centre Hours

Date	Hours
Thursday, October 24	9:00 – 17:00
Friday, October 25	10:00 – 23:00
Saturday, October 26	7:00 – 23:00
Sunday, October 27	7:00 – 17:00

1. Media Accreditation

All media must apply for media accreditation through [Skate Canada's Media Accreditation Form](#).

Only professional journalists and photographers (print/web, TV/Radio), and to some extent some content creators and social media reporters, covering ISU Events for editorial or news purposes will be accredited.

1.1. Quotas

If space is limited the following quota will be enforced:

Type of Media	Number of people per media organization
Writing Press	Media Organization (newspaper, magazine, web, agencies, ISU Member Federations): 1 journalist
	Major Agency or Newspaper: 2 journalists
Photographer	Media Organization: 1 photographer Major Agency or Newspaper: 2 photographers For Figure Skating: limited to one rink side position, the other in an elevated position.
TV Non-Right Holder	Media Organization: 3 persons crew max. (e.g. one reporter, one camera person, one editor)
Radio Non-Right Holder	Media Organization: 1 reporter (max.)
Freelancer	Freelance journalist or photographer: 1 person Freelancers must provide written evidence that they are assigned to cover the ISU Event on behalf of a media organization. In case a freelancer is operating under its own account, they may be requested to submit additional written evidence (presentation letter, copy of past editorial pieces, etc).

1.2. Accreditation types and deadlines

The International Skating Union (ISU) and the Organizing Committee (OC) work diligently to ensure there will be ample coverage opportunities available to media outlets wishing to cover the ISU Events.

The type of media accreditation available are the following:

- **On-site** media accreditation (subject to capacity)

The deadlines to apply for media accreditations are as follows:

- **On-site** media accreditation requests: **October 10, 2024**

⚠ No late media accreditation applications will be accepted for on-site requests.

1.3. Restrictions to Media Non-Right Holders during ISU Events

Non-Right Holders media – print/web journalists, TV/Radio, photographers, content creators and social media reporters – who have not negotiated any special production rights – need to abide and agree to the following rules in the conduct of their editorial work during ISU events ([see Terms and Conditions here](#)).

1.3.1 *Restricted areas*

Filming in the below listed areas is strictly forbidden:

- Competitions / Field of play
- Training sessions (at the Practice or Main rinks)
- Warm-up zone
- Changing rooms
- Mixed Zone area
- From public seats at all times (even during ice resurfacing)

The transgression of any of these rules may result in the exclusion from ISU Events, removal of accreditation and legal actions.

1.3.2 *Authorized areas*

Non-Right Holders media are only allowed to produce video, audio-recorded material for editorial/news purposes in the following areas:

- In the Press Conference room
- Outside the venue

⚠ Special filming permissions, including permission to conduct interviews in the Mixed Zone, may be granted to Non-Rights Holders media on a limited and case-by-case basis. Requests must be made through a form ([available for download here](#)) and submitted to the ISU Media Team (media@isu.ch) at least one week prior to the start of the event.

1.4. TV and Radio Rights Holders Accreditation / Services

To book any broadcasting services or facilities please contact the Host Broadcaster:
Don Peppin: broadcast@skatecanada.ca.

1.5 Accreditation confirmation and pick-up

If the accreditation request is accepted, an email of confirmation will be issued. You will also be notified if your accreditation request is denied. **Note that the ISU and OC reserve the right to refuse accreditation requests with or without justification.**

Accreditation will be available to pick up at the media entrance of the building. Exact location and hours will be communicated closer to the event.

2 Visa Application

Media representatives requiring an official invitation letter in order to apply for a visa must contact the Organizing Committee at 2024sci@skatecanada.ca. Please note that an official invitation letter will only be provided to approved media representatives.

The Government of Canada requires that all Foreign Nationals carry a valid passport as the only universally accepted travel and identification document for the purposes of international travel. People who live in countries where a visa is needed to enter Canada must obtain one from a Canadian embassy abroad before coming to Canada.

Canada does not have a [visa office](#) in every country so it is important that delegates visit the website of the Canadian visa office responsible for processing their visa application. Information is available on the website on how to submit a visa application and the documentation required.

[Processing times for visa applications](#) vary depending on the visa office and the time of the year. Participants are encouraged to apply approximately 12-weeks in advance of their departure date to ensure they receive the visa in time.

- Starting July 31, 2018, the biometric requirement becomes mandatory for nationals of Europe, Middle East and Africa, and
- Starting December 31, 2018, the biometric requirement becomes mandatory for nationals of Asia, Asia Pacific and the Americas.

For additional information on whether you require a biometric, please refer to our [fast facts about biometrics](#).

Foreign Nationals must have valid travel documents to enter Canada. Document requirements vary depending on which country you are travelling from. For specific information on travel documents and to find out if you require a visa to enter Canada as a visitor, please refer to <http://www.cbsa.gc.ca/> and <http://www.cic.gc.ca/>.

Important Notice: Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is mandatory for visa-exempt Foreign Nationals travelling to Canada by air (not by land or sea). To avoid any issues at the airport, you should get your eTA as soon as you begin planning your trip to Canada. To find out if you need an eTA or to apply online, visit this [website](#).

3 Media Facilities at the venue

The Media Centre is located at the Scotiabank Centre on the event level beside the press conference and draw room and will provide a working area for media with fully equipped internet (wireless and hardline), power and a small catering station. This is also the same area where the press conferences will take place. Please note that no lockers or any specific areas for photographers will be planned.

The Press Centre will have seating for approximately 40 and there are approximately 60 seats reserved for press in the bowl.

3.1. Media Tribunes and TV Commentator positions

There will be no Media Tribunes in the stands, however there will be reserved media seating.

3.2. Mixed Zone & Press Conferences

3.2.1 Mixed Zone

The Mixed Zone provides an opportunity for media to interview athletes immediately after competition and will be located behind skater off.

The Mixed Zone area is split into six main sections and follows a pre-determined priority order:

1. Quick Quotes (made available on the ISU website)
2. TV / Radio Rights Holders (with pre-booked positions)
3. ISU Production/Social Media crew
4. TV / Radio Rights Holders with ENG positions
5. Non-Rights Holders (print/web, TV/Radio, social media without any production rights)

Athletes will go through the Mixed Zone on completion of every competition. Coaches may also be requested for interviews. The media operations team onsite will do its best to make sure the requested skaters go through the Mixed Zone for media interviews, however it is not mandatory for the athletes to give interviews.

⚠️ Priority will be given to medal ceremonies and TV Right Holders.

As the timing between the end of medal ceremonies and the start of press conferences is quite tight, note that medallists will go through the TV Right Holders' Mixed Zone for interviews and, if time permits, they could spend a limited time in the Non-Rights Holders area. If interviews in the Non-Rights holders area must be cut short, all questions should then be asked during the press conferences.

3.2.2 Press Conferences

Press conferences will feature the top-3 finishers after each competition. Press conferences for the women's and ice dance categories will be held following their respective victory ceremonies.

4. Media Digital Services

The ISU provides relevant and live media information through a number of digital channels:

ISU Website:

- [Homepage](#)
- [News section](#)
- [Media section](#) that includes the [OMAS accreditation portal](#), [Press Releases](#), [Media Guides](#), [ISU Photo Collection](#) as well as video libraries ([Ice Skating Channel](#), [Archives](#)).
- [ISU Newsletter](#)
- [Event webpage](#) with access to all competition information

ISU Photo Event Gallery

- Access information to the ISU photo galleries for editorial and non-commercial purposes will be made available on the Inside ISU Events App.
- When using a picture, the ISU must be credited as follows: ©**International Skating Union (ISU)** and must be tagged or mentioned in any social media post.

ISU Social Media Accounts:

- Facebook: [@ISUFigureSkating](#) / [@ISUSpeedSkating](#) / [@ISUShortTrackSpeedSkating](#)
- Instagram: [@ISUFigureSkating](#) / [@isuspeedskating](#)
- Youtube: [Skating ISU](#)
- X (Twitter): [@ISU_Figure](#) / [@ISU_Speed](#)
- Tik Tok: [@isuskating](#)
- Weibo: [weibo.com/isuofficial](#)
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-skating-union>

Inside ISU Event App:

- The Inside ISU Event App is the main source of information and means of communication for media attending ISU Events on-site or remotely (if available).
- It gathers all the key media-related information constantly updated live with push notifications alerts.
- The password to access the Media App of the relevant Event is provided via OMAS once an accreditation is approved.

The OC also offers media information relevant to the Event on the following digital channels:

- [Event webpage](#)
- Event Hashtags: #SCI24 #IPC24
- OC Photographer: Danielle Earl – photos@danielleearlphotography.com
- Social Media accounts:
 - Facebook: [Skate Canada / Patinage Canada](#)
 - Twitter: [@SkateCanada](#)
 - Instagram: [@skate_canada](#)
 - TikTok: [@skate_canada](#)

5. Media Accommodation

The Organizing Committee has designated one official media hotel. Every individual media person is responsible for booking their own accommodation and bearing any cancellation fees. The deadline for reservations is **Friday, September 27**.

5.1. Media Hotels

The Prince George Hotel Halifax

1725 Market Street

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3N9

[Halifax Hotels | The Prince George Hotel Halifax](#)

Includes:

- Free wireless standard internet
- Parking (fee of \$26+ taxes/day)
- Health and Fitness: Fitness Centre, pool, sauna
- Restaurants & shop

Distance from Airport to Hotel: Approximately 30-35 minutes (traffic dependent)

Distance from Hotel to Venue: 1 minute walk (100 meters)

5.2. Reservation Payment Conditions

Please use the [following link](#) to book rooms.

6. Transportation

No transportation will be provided due to the proximity of the official hotel and the venue.

7. Useful Information

Language

English is the predominant language of Halifax; however, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog, and Punjabi are also commonly spoken. English and French are the official languages in Canada, and most government services are available in these languages.

Financial Services and Banking Hours

Regular banking hours are Monday to Friday from 9:30 until 16:00 with extended hours including weekends at many locations. Some banks are open on Saturdays for a brief amount of time, but most are also closed on Sundays and holidays.

Major credit cards are honoured in most business establishments. Automated teller machines (ATMs) marked with a Plus or Interac symbol will accept automated banking cards from outside Canada. Banks charge a fee of approximately \$2 for international transactions. The visitors' bank sets the exchange rate.

For currency conversions refer to: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/exchange/daily-converter/>

Taxes

The Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) is a fifteen percent (15%) tax that is applied to most supplies of goods and services made in Canada. Most prices posted in stores do not include taxes. Visitors to Canada may be eligible for tax rebates. Rebate forms are available at the airport or Tourism Office. There is no rebate on consumable items such as meals, liquor, tobacco, transportation costs and gasoline.

Currency

The currency is the Canadian dollar (CAD). For denominations under five dollars, Canadians use coins, including what are affectionately known as the "Loonie" (one-dollar coin) and "Toonie" (two-dollar coin). Daily currency exchange rates appear in newspapers, are posted online, and are posted at banks and currency exchange businesses.

Tipping

While tipping is not mandatory in Canada, it is customary in many circumstances for good service, especially in sit-down restaurants, which offer table service. If you're happy with the service you receive, a 15-20% tip on the pre-tax bill is a standard expression of appreciation. It is also customary to tip bellhops, luggage handlers and taxi drivers at your discretion.

Electricity

Electricity sockets are 120V plug type A. Visitors with appliances of different voltages should bring adapters.

Tobacco and Alcohol

The legal drinking age in Nova Scotia is 19; a driver's license is considered a valid form of identification. You must be at least 19 years of age to purchase cigarettes. Smoking is banned in all public spaces and workspaces in Nova Scotia, including restaurants, bars and private clubs. The ban extends to outdoor public areas such as playgrounds, sport fields and spectator areas.

Time Zone

Atlantic Standard Time (AST) is 4 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Climate

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/en/city/ca/nova-scotia/halifax/current>

Emergency Services

The emergency number for all health, safety, police and crime emergencies is 9-1-1.

8. Competition Information

For Schedule, Entry Lists, Results and Rankings, visit the [Skate Canada Event Webpage](#) or the [ISU Event webpage](#).

For any additional questions or information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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