



ISU
SPEED SKATING
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
20 HEERENVEEN 26

MARCH 5-8, 2026
ANNOUNCEMENT
#SPEEDSKATING



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On behalf of KNSB, the Organizing Committee has the honor and pleasure to invite you to participate in the

ISU SPEED SKATING

WORLD SPRINT & ALLROUND CHAMPIONSHIPS[®] 2026

which will be held in Heerenveen, NED on March 5-8, 2026

PROGRAM

Wednesday, March 4, 2026	16:00	Team leaders Meeting, online
	13:30	Medical Meeting, Thialf (press centre)
	18:00	Opening Draw, online
Thursday, March 5, 2026	18:48	Official Ceremony
	19:00 – 22:10	500m Women Sprint (1) 500m Men Sprint (1) 1000m Women Sprint (1) 1000m Men Sprint (1)
Friday, March 6, 2026	19:00 – 22:24	500m Women Sprint (2) 500m Men Sprint (2) 1000m Women Sprint (2) 1000m Men Sprint (2) Awards Ceremony (Sprint)
Saturday, March 7, 2026	13:05 – 17:46	500m Women Allround 500m Men Allround 3000m Women Allround 5000m Men Allround
Sunday, March 8, 2026	13:30 – 17:46	1500m Women Allround 1500m Men Allround 5000m Women Allround 10 000m Men Allround Awards Ceremony (Allround)

* *Estimated ending time*

REGULATIONS

The ISU World Speed Skating Championships (Allround & Sprint combination) will be held in accordance with the 2024 Regulations of the International Skating Union (ISU) and relevant ISU Communications, in particular ISU Communication No. 2730.

Participation in the Championships is open to Skaters who belong to an ISU Member (Rule 130, paragraph 1) that has been allocated quota place(s) for the Championships, and who have met the qualification criteria according to Rule 208 and ISU Communication No. No. 2730.

TRACK

Thialf is an indoor artificially frozen ice rink with a standard track of 400 meters and inner and outer curves with radii of 26 and 30 meters respectively. The width of the inside training track is 4 meters. In accordance with Rule 228 a protective moveable padding system will be installed around the track.

TITLE AND AWARDS

The winners of the Championships are the Skaters with the lowest total of points after 4 distances have been completed (Rule 265, paragraph 2 and 268, paragraph 1).

The winners of the **Sprint Combination** will bear the title: "World Sprint Speed Skating Champion for 2026", and the winners of the **Allround Combination** will bear the title: "World Allround Speed Skating Champion for 2026" (Rule 133, paragraph a), and will each be awarded the ISU Championships "gold" medal. The Skaters placed second and third in the final classification of each combination after 4 distances will be awarded the ISU Championships "silver" and "bronze" medals, respectively.

Prize money will be awarded according to ISU Communication No. 2516, or any further update of this Communication.

ENTRIES

The entry quotas will be determined partly by the results from the World Speed Skating Championships (Allround & Sprint combination) 2024 and partly by results achieved during the ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions #1 to #5 held during the season 2026/26, in accordance with Rule 208, paragraphs 2.2.1, 2.3.1 and ISU Communication No. 2730. The actual entry quotas will be published by the ISU and communicated to the ISU Members concerned in due time before the deadline for final entries.

According to ISU Communication No. 2730 and Rule 208, paragraph 2.3.1, the following ISU Members have been pre-allocated entry quotas for the **Sprint Combination**:

ISU Member	Women	Men
Austria	1 competitor	-
Belgium	-	1 competitor
Canada	-	1 competitor
China	1 competitor	1 competitor
Estonia	-	1 competitor
Great Britain	1 competitor	-
Germany	1 competitor	2 competitors
Italy	-	1 competitor
Japan	2 competitors	1 competitor
Kazakhstan	1 competitor	-
Korea	2 competitors	2 competitors
Netherlands	2 competitors	2 competitors
Norway	-	2 competitors
Poland	2 competitors	1 competitor
USA	2 competitors	1 competitor
Total	15 competitors	16 competitors

** as hosting ISU Member*

Additional quota places up to the total of 28 quota places per gender (with a maximum of 3 competitors per ISU Member) will be allocated based on results at ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions #1 to #5 held during the season 2025/26. See ISU Communication No. 2730 for details.

According to ISU Communication No. 2730 and Rule 208, paragraph 2.2.1, the following ISU Members have been pre-allocated entry quotas for the **Allround Combination**:

ISU Member	Women	Men
Belgium	-	1 competitor
Canada	2 competitors	-
China	1 competitor	-
Italy	1 competitor	2 competitors
Japan	2 competitors	2 competitors
Korea	-	1 competitor
Netherlands	2 competitors	1 competitor
Norway	1 competitor	2 competitors
Switzerland	1 competitor	-
USA	1 competitor	1 competitor
Total	11 competitors	10 competitors

** as hosting ISU Member*

Additional quota places up to the total of 24 quota places per gender (with a maximum of 3 competitors per ISU Member) will be allocated based on results at ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions #1 to #5 held during the season 2025/26. See ISU Communication No. 2730 for details.

Entries can **only** be made using the ISU Online Entry System for Speed Skating Events available at www.isu.org, section Speed Skating or at <https://ssk-entries.isu.org/> and respecting the following deadlines:

Preliminary entries incl. Accreditation Request for Team Officials	February 4, 2026
Accommodation Request	February 11, 2026
Arrival & Departure / Transportation Requests	February 20, 2026
Final Entries	March 2nd, 2026 – 12.00 noon (local time)

Please note that for all persons entered by the ISU Members the procedures regarding the Declaration for Competitors and Officials (all team Officials requiring an accreditation) entering ISU Events (Rule 131) as outlined in ISU Communication 2731 need to be strictly observed.

For more details please refer to Rules 115, 131, 208 and ISU Communications No. 2731.

CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS AND CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 2526, all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the ISU Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another ISU Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

DRAWING

The drawings will be made in accordance with Rules 239 and 240, paragraph 1 to 4. For the last distance of the Allround Combination (5000m Women and 10000m Men) the number of Skaters to qualify will be 8 (Rule 240, paragraph 3.a).

ANTI-DOPING CONTROL

Anti-Doping tests will be carried out according to the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures, as given in the applicable ISU Communication No. 2742 (or any further update of these Communications).

LIABILITY

In accordance with the ISU General Regulations (Rule 119), the ISU, KNSB and the Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or loss of property or damage incurred in connection with this Championship. Each ISU Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage thereto.

DUTCH GAMBLING AUTHORITY

As of July 1, 2025, the Dutch Gambling Authority (Kansspelautoriteit) has implemented a ban on untargeted advertising by online gambling providers. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Sponsorship of sports clubs and events
- Displaying logos on sportswear, banners, and other promotional materials
- General advertising campaigns not specifically targeted to verified adult audiences

The primary objective of this measure is to protect vulnerable groups, particularly young people, from the risks associated with gambling addiction. The Kansspelautoriteit is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with these new regulations."

TRAINING TIMES

The speed skating track will be open for training for entered Competitors from Monday March 2, 2026. Trial starts will be organized on Wednesday March 4, 2026.

Only accredited Competitors, substitutes and team officials will be allowed to enter the ice-rink during the official training hours.

BOARD AND LODGING

The Organizing Committee will be responsible for expenses for board and lodging at the official hotel from lunch on Wednesday, March 4 until lunch on Monday, March 9, 2026 (Rule 137 paragraphs 10 and 14) for all Competitors participating in the Championships (not for the substitutes) and 1 Team leader or coach for each ISU Member. Expenses of other Skaters and officials (i.e. reserves, substitutes, coaches, other team staff members and accompanying persons) other than those mentioned above, and expenses before or after the period mentioned above, will be at their own expense.

Accommodation requests can only be made using the ISU Online Entry System for Speed Skating Events.

OFFICIAL HOTELS

The Organizing Committee will arrange hotel reservation for all Skaters and officials at the

Hotel I: Van der Valk Wolvega (15 min)*

Hotel II: Van der Valk Sneek (20 min)*

Hotel III: Van der Valk Leeuwarden (25 min)**

Hotel IIII: Van der Valk Emmeloord (30 min)*

*The Organizing Committee and Hotel Manager will divide the teams over the needed hotels

Hotel prices:

Single room for 1 person - €131,00 (excl. all meals VAT and tourist tax)
Double room for 2 persons - €131,00 (excl. all meals VAT and tourist tax)

Single room with full board (meals & drinks) for 1 person - €177,00 (excl. VAT and tourist tax)
Double room with full board (meals & drinks) for 2 persons - 259,00 (excl. VAT and tourist tax)

Cancellation policy:

- Travel dates, transportation and hotel request until **20 February 2026**
- Cancellation policy and final adjustments **2 March 2026**
- **Cancellation after February 23, 2026, until 24h before arrival: 25% of reservation value**
- **Cancellation after March 3, 2026: 75% of reservation value**
- **Cancellation on day of arrival or no show: 100% charge**

TRANSPORTATION

The Organizing Committee will provide transportation from Monday March 2, 2026, to Monday March 9, 2026 from and to the Schiphol Airport. Team officials who do not travel together with their team cannot be guaranteed this transportation service.

A shuttle bus service will be available between the official hotel and the ice-rink from Monday March 2, 2026, to Sunday March 8, 2026

The Organizing Committee must be informed via the ISU Online Entry System for Speed Skating Events about the date and time of arrival and departure of the competitors and officials as soon as possible, but at the latest by February 4, 2026.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

A visitor visa may be required for participants and team officials. Please contact the OC if you need an invitation letter for the visa. For the invitation letter please submit the following information:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Passport number
- Date of Birth

Please submit all this information to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible, in order to have the necessary visas completed in due time.

To facilitate immigration procedures all Event participants (Skaters, Team staff, Officials) need to present a personal invitation letter for the Event on arrival in The Netherlands. Personal information as specified above for Visa application must therefore be submitted to the OC not later than December 1st, 2025.

ACCREDITATIONS

Only the following number of Team Officials can receive an accreditation free of charge:

Type	Number of accreditations per Competition
Team Leader	1 accreditation
Coaches, medical & technical staff	1 competitor* - 1 accreditation 2 to 3 competitors - 2 accreditations 4 to 6 competitors - 3 accreditations 7 to 9 competitors - 4 accreditations 10 to 11 competitors - 5 accreditations 12 competitors - 6 accreditations
ISU Member Officials** (No access to athletes zone)	Up to maximum 3 accreditations

* Competitor = competing skater (substitutes excluded)

** President, Vice Presidents, CEO, General Secretary, Managers, etc.

The organizer is not obliged to provide services (accommodation, accredited entrance to the ice rink, transportation, etc.) for an excessive number of team officials or other accompanying persons from participating ISU Members. A fee of EUR 250 for each extra Team Officials/Federation Officials accreditation must be paid to the Organizing Committee.

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

All inquiries should be addressed to:

Phone: +31 6 27 61 31 07

Email: oc@houseofsports.nl

Contact person: Micky Meerpoel and Macey de Ruiter

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Media accreditation requests for ISU Championships must be submitted via the ISU Online Media Accreditation System <https://www.isu.org/media-centre/accreditations/media>

Information for the media will be available on the [ISU website](#) in due time.

For further information contact the OC Press Officer:

Phone: +316 51 13 06 59

Email: h.nieuwenburg@knsb.nl

Contact person: Hans Nieuwenburg

WEBSITE

Information concerning the competition will be available at the following website:

<https://www.schaatsen.nl/kalender/isu-wk-allround-sprint-2026/>

ISU “INSIDE EVENTS” MOBILE APPLICATION

Daily information, link to results and changes in schedules (race, training, transportation, etc.) will be communicated to the teams on the board of the Team Hotel as well as on the ISU “Inside Events” mobile application.

This mobile application makes the information delivery faster, contains all relevant information for participants, reduce paper needs and notify participants in case of any changes or urgencies through push notification possibilities.

The “Inside Events” app is available free of charge on Android and Apple systems and is compatible with both tablets and smartphones. It can be downloaded with the below QR codes or directly on the app stores.

Each ISU Event will have its own unique password that will be provided on site to participating Athletes, Officials, and Team Delegations.



QR Apple



QR Google