

TRAINING TIMES

The speed skating track will be open for training for entered Competitors from Monday, February 27, 2012. Trial starts will be organized on Thursday, March 1, 2012.

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

CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS & CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 1420, all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

LIABILITY

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

BOARD AND LODGING

In accordance with ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 11 g), the Organizing Committee will cover room and meal expenses at the official Hotel(s) for up to three (3) Skaters or, alternatively, for two (2) Skaters and one (1) team leader from each participating ISU Member (based on one double and one single room), beginning with dinner on the evening of Thursday March 1, 2012 and ending with breakfast on the morning of Monday March 5, 2012.

HOTEL RESERVATION / OFFICIAL HOTEL(S)

The Organizing Committee will make hotel reservation for the competitors in the following hotels:

- Hotel Golden Tulip Tjaarda at Oranjewoud, phone +31(0) 513 433533, fax +31(0) 513 433599, e-mail: info@tjaarda.nl
- Fletcher Hotel Heidehof at Heerenveen, phone +31(0) 513 630200, fax +31(0) 513 630201, email: info@hotelheidehof.nl
- Holland Inn Hotel at Wolvega, phone +31(0) 561 618847, fax +31(0) 561 618591, e-mail: hotelwolvega@gmail.com
- Hotel van der Valk at Wolvega, phone +31(0) 561 692818, fax +31(0) 561 692805, e-mail: info@wolvega.valk.nl
- Hajé Hotel at Heerenveen, phone +31(0) 513 618618, fax +31(0) 513 629100, e-mail: heerenveen@hajererestaurants.com
- Huis ten Wolde at Steenwijk, phone +31(0) 521 535400, e-mail: info@huizenwolde.nl,
- Hotel van der Valk at Sneek, phone +31(0) 515 481818, fax +31(0) 515 481808, e-mail: info@sneek.valk.com

Prices for single rooms between € 62,50 and € 140,00 and double rooms between € 125,00 and € 188,00 (See attachment for more information and hotel costs). Detailed information available from the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to limit the number of hotel rooms available to each team at the official hotel(s). 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. Names and functions of all team officials must be submitted together with the final entries for the competition, in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 11j.

TRANSPORTATION

There is a direct railway connection from Amsterdam International Airport Schiphol to Heerenveen. Arriving at Heerenveen railway station, please call telephone number +31 (0) 513 637738 for transportation to the hotel. On request bus transportation from Schiphol Airport to Heerenveen can be arranged. For further information on this, please address the Organizing Committee. A shuttle bus service will be available for transportation between hotels and the ice rink. The Organizing Committee would like to be informed about the time of arrival and departure (incl. flight details) of the competitors and team officials as soon as possible, but no later than Friday February 24, 2012.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE – ENTRIES AND INQUIRIES

All entries, hotel reservations and other inquiries should be addressed to the Organizing Committee or the KNSB at the addresses below. For Media accreditation, please contact the below address as soon as possible

Organizing Committee

P.O. Box 500
8440 AM HEERENVEEN
The Netherlands
Phone: +31(0) 513 637730
Telefax: +31(0) 513 682007
E-mail: oc.Thialf@knsb.nl

KNSB

P.O. Box 1120
3800 BC AMERSFOORT
The Netherlands
Phone: +31(0) 33 4892000
Telefax: +31(0) 33 4620823
E-mail: Bondsureau@knsb.nl

Media accreditation: N.S.P.

Verrijn Stuaartlaan 7
2288 EK RIJSWIJK
The Netherlands
Phone: +31(0) 70 41 57 898
Telefax: +31(0) 70 41 57 800
E-mail: info@nsp.nl

Results and other information from the competitions will be posted on following the websites:
<http://schaatsen.nl/wc-heerenveen>



Announcement

essent

Friday 2 to Sunday 4 March 2012 – Thialf Heerenveen
Men and Women all distances

Essent ISU World Cup Speed Skating Official Sponsors



On behalf of the KNSB, the Organizing Committee,
 consisting of members of the board of directors
 of the Royal Ice club Thialf at Heerenveen and representatives of the KNSB
 we have the honour and pleasure to invite you to a competition in the

ESSENT ISU WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING 2011/12

which will be held at the indoor ice-rink Thialf
 in Heerenveen, the Netherlands

on Friday, March 2, Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4, 2012.

The competition will be held under the 2010 ISU General Regulations, Special Regulations and Technical Rules for Speed Skating and ISU Communication No. 1689.

PROGRAM

Thursday, March 1:	16.30	Team leaders' Meeting, Ice Stadium Thialf
	18.00	Opening draw, Ice Stadium Thialf
Friday, March 2:	10.30 * Start Division B: 16.00 Division A:	500 (1 st) Ladies 500 (1 st) Men 5000 Ladies 1500 Men
Saturday, March 3:	09.30 * Start Division B: 13.15 Division A:	500 (2 nd) Ladies 500 (2 nd) Men 1500 Ladies 10000 Men
Sunday, March 4:	11.30 * Start Division B: 14.00 Division A:	1000 Ladies 1000 Men Mass Start Ladies Mass Start Men
	<u>Demonstration event:</u>	Team Sprint Ladies Team Sprint Men

** The above times for the B Division races are only indicative. The exact starting times for these races will be announced at the team leaders' meetings. For each distance, the races of Division A and the races of Division B are considered as two separate competitions with independent final classifications (list of results).*

TRACK

A standard speed skating track of 400 meters to the lap laid out at the Ice Stadium Thialf, an artificially frozen indoor skating rink in Heerenveen. The radii of the inner and outer competition lanes are 26 and 30 meters, respectively. The width of each lane of the competition track is 4 meters and there is an inside training lane with width of 4 meters.

ENTRIES

Entries for this competition will be restricted and must be made according to ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 4. Preliminary entries, giving the number of Competitors & substitutes and the number of coaches and other team staff, as

well as provisional names of the Competitors and team leader must be communicated at the latest by **Monday, February 13, 2012**.

Final entries including the names of the Competitors and available substitutes, as well as the names of the team leader, coaches and other team staff for whom an accreditation is required must reach the Organizing Committee by letter, fax or electronic mail at the latest by 12:00 noon (local time) on **Tuesday, February 28, 2012** (see also ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 4.3).

Please note that for all persons entered by the 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 No. 1628, need to be strictly observed.

For more details please refer to Rules 115, 131 and ISU Communication No. 1689 or any update of this Communications.

According to ISU Communication No. 1689, the entry quotas (maximum number of entries per distance, subject to the qualifying times criteria) for this competition are:

Ladies	500	1000	1500	3000 5000	Men	500	1000	1500	5000 10000
AUS	1	1	1	1	AUS	2	2	1	2
AUT	1	1	2	2	AUT	1	1	1	1
BEL	1	1	1	1	BEL	1	1	1	2
CAN	3	5	5	5	CAN	5	5	4	3
CHN	5	3	3	3	CHN	2	1	2	1
CZE	3	3	3	2	CZE	1	1	1	1
DEN	1	1	1	3	DEN	1	1	1	1
FIN	1	1	1	1	FIN	3	2	1	1
FRA	1	1	1	1	FRA	1	1	2	2
GER	4	5	5	5	GER	3	3	3	5
ITA	2	2	1	1	ITA	2	3	3	3
JPN	5	4	5	5	JPN	5	3	2	3
KAZ	2	2	1	1	KAZ	2	3	3	2
KOR	3	3	3	3	KOR	5	4	1	2
LAT	1	1	1	1	LAT	1	1	1	2
NED	5	5	5	5	NED	5	5	5	5
NOR	3	3	4	5	NOR	2	5	5	5
NZL	1	1	1	1	NZL	1	1	2	2
POL	1	2	3	3	POL	2	1	4	3
RUS	3	5	5	5	RUS	3	5	4	3
SUI	1	1	1	1	SUI	1	1	1	2
SWE	1	1	1	1	SWE	1	1	2	1
USA	4	3	3	3	USA	5	3	5	5

All other ISU Speed Skating Members may enter maximum 1 for each distance.

All entered Skaters (incl. substitutes) must have achieved applicable qualifying times for the respective distances according to the criteria given in Communication No. 1689, paragraph 4.1.

COMPETITION FORMAT & ENTRY QUOTAS FOR THE MASS START EVENTS

Mass Start races will be skated according to Rule 253, paragraph 4 b in the ISU Technical Rules for Speed Skating and ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 5.3, with the distances of 15 laps for Ladies and 20 laps for Men.

The maximum entry quota per ISU Member will be restricted to 3 Skaters per category.

GROUPING and DRAWING PROCEDURES

The grouping and drawing of pairs will be made according to ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraph 6.

PRIZES AND POINTS

For each distance World Cup points and prize money will be awarded according to ISU Communication No. 1689, paragraphs 7 and 9.

ANTI-DOPING

Anti-Doping tests will be carried out in accordance with the valid ISU Anti-Doping Code (ISU Communications Nos. 1520, 1650, 1651, 1693 and 1694 or any further update of these Communications).