



**SPEED
SKATING
CANADA**

MAIN DOCUMENT

2026 OLYMPIC SELECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Short Track Speed Skating

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1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

1.1. Goal

The purpose of this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures - Short Track ("**2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures**") document is to establish the criteria that Speed Skating Canada will use to nominate athletes and coaches to the Canadian Olympic Committee ("**COC**") for inclusion on the 2026 Canadian Olympic Team ("**2026 Olympic Team**").

1.2. Purpose

The purpose of this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document is to name the maximum number of athletes with medal potential on the 2026 Canadian Olympic Short Track Speed Skating Team in the individual distances and team relays.

More specifically, in this 2026 Olympic selection policy and procedures document, the "**Individual distances**" means 500 m, 1000 m and 1500 m.

1.3. Definitions

Terms not otherwise defined in this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document have the meanings indicated below:

<u>HPAC-ST</u>	The HPAC-ST is composed of the volunteer members of the High-Performance Advisory Council—Short Track and the Committee Chair, as pursuant to the HPAC-ST Terms of Reference.
<u>INP</u>	The 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures are Speed Skating Canada's Internal Nomination Procedure for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
<u>Head of IST</u>	A short track appointed staff member who is responsible for the multidisciplinary team of sport science, sport medicine, and sport performance professionals who provide support to the short track program.
<u>Olympic Team Leader</u>	A Short Track appointed SSC staff member who is responsible for all pre-Games, Games, and post-Games activities, acting as on-site team leader for the 2026 Olympic Short Track Team.
<u>Selection Event</u>	The Event at which athletes can be named to one or more teams.
<u>Team</u>	Includes athletes who have been nominated and have accepted their nomination for an Olympic Games event.

<u>Absolute Discretion</u>	Refers to the final and total power to act according to a person's personal judgment.
<u>Initial Ranking of the SOQC Racing Pool</u>	Will refer to the ranking obtained at the 2025 Canadian Short Track Championships and the addition of international performance points.
<u>Final Ranking of the SOQC Racing Pool</u>	Will refer to the ranking obtained at the 2025 Canadian Short Track Championships competition, the addition of international performance points and include the insertion of athletes who have obtained a Bye according to the procedure described in the criteria for the allocation of Byes for selection to the 2026 Olympic Team (see Appendix C).
<u>Distance</u>	Refers to 500 m, 1000 m or 1500 m.
<u>Distance Ranking</u>	Refers to the ranking obtained in a distance by adding the points from the best two of an athlete's three events in that distance. For example, an athlete with an event result of 1000 points in the 500 m (1), 5000 points in the 500 m (2) and 2500 points in the 500 m (3) will have a distance ranking in the 500 m that corresponds to the 7500 points obtained by adding the two best event results in the distance.
<u>Distance Result</u>	Will refer to the points obtained by a skater in a specific distance corresponding to his distance ranking.
<u>Distance Winner</u>	Will refer to a skater who is first in the ranking of a specific distance.
<u>Event</u>	Refers to a series of races in a specific distance. The Canadian Short Track Championships will feature three events for each distance, as follows: 500 m (1), 500 m (2) and 500 m (3) and the same for 1000 m and 1500 m. More specifically, an event will mean quarter finals, semi-finals and finals for a 500 m; quarter finals, semi-finals and finals for a 1000 m; and semi-finals and finals for a 1500 m at the Canadian Short Track Championships.
<u>Event Ranking</u>	Refers to the final ranking obtained in a distance event. For example, the event ranking of a skater who has obtained 8000 points in the 500 m (1) is 2.

<u>Event Result</u>	Refers to the final points of a series of races in a distance event. More specifically, the result of a 500 m event will refer to the total points obtained at the end of the quarter finals, semi-finals and finals; for the 1000 m, the quarter finals, semi-finals and finals; for the 1500 m, the semi-finals and finals at the Canadian Short Track Championships.
<u>2025 Canadian Championships final rankings</u>	Will refer to the ranking obtained at the end of the 2025 Canadian Short Track Championships based on the combination of the 6 best events out of 9.
<u>Olympic Team</u>	Will refer to athletes confirmed by the SSC Olympic Selection Committee - Short Track and the COC Selection Committee as nominated to represent Canada at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, following the completion of the Olympic Special Qualification and after quotas for team and individual entries are confirmed.
<u>SOQC</u>	Will refer to Special Olympic Qualifying Competitions (ISU World Tour)
<u>SOQC Racing Pool</u>	Refer to athletes selected by the SSC Olympic Selection Committee - Short Track to represent Canada at special Olympic qualifying competitions:

1.4. International Federation Criteria

This 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document has been written following the ISU [2026 Olympic Qualification System](#) as it is currently known and understood and based on the latest information available to Speed Skating Canada.

In the event of any discrepancy between the contents of this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document and the ISU Olympic Qualification System, the SPECIAL RULES AND TECHNICAL RULES FOR SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING or relevant ISU communications, the ISU Olympic Qualification System, Regulations and/or communications, as applicable, shall prevail.

In the event of changes by the ISU to the [2026 Olympic qualification system](#), Speed Skating Canada is bound by these changes and will inform members as soon as possible.

Any athlete nominated by Speed Skating Canada to the COC for selection to the 2026 Olympic Team must also qualify to compete at the Olympic Games under the ISU qualification system.

1.5. Team Size

Subject to any changes made by the ISU to the Olympic qualification system, the size of the 2026 Olympic team will be as indicated in the ISU Olympic qualification system.

1.6 Language

This 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document was originally written in French and has been translated into English. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French versions, the French version will be used to understand the intended wording of the provision(s) in question. Should such a situation arise, Speed Skating Canada will ensure that any discrepancy is corrected as soon as possible and will assist anyone affected in resolving the issue.

2. AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION

2.1. Olympic Selection Committee

Nominations to the 2026 Olympic Team will be the responsibility of the High Performance Director, Short Track ("**HPD**"), who is the Chair of the Olympic Selection Committee. The Olympic Selection Committee is an advisory committee that provides recommendations and advice to the HPD regarding the nomination of the 2026 Olympic Team but does not have the authority to nominate an athlete to the 2026 Olympic Team. The Olympic Selection Committee is made up of the members of the HPAC-ST (composed of the HPD and up to three elected volunteer advisory members).

As stated in the HPAC-ST's Terms of Reference, the HPAC-ST is an advisory committee that can provide recommendations and advice to Speed Skating Canada staff and the HPD. The HPD retains the ultimate decision-making authority and is responsible for the application of the 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures and the nomination of athletes to the 2026 Olympic Team. If a member of the Olympic Selection Committee is unavailable or unable to participate in nomination discussions, the other members of the Committee may appoint an appropriate replacement, who has no conflict of interest, if deemed necessary.

2.2. Decision-Making Authority

Speed Skating Canada's High Performance Director Short Track has the final authority and responsibility to make decisions under the 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures contained herein and to nominate athletes and coaches to the COC for selection to the 2026 Olympic Team without interference or influence from any person.

2.3 On-Site Decision-Making Authority

Once the 2026 Olympic Team has left Canada for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, including any training camps or preparatory competitions before the 2026 Olympic Winter Games, all Decision-Making Authority will rest with the Olympic Team Leader. Whenever possible, the Olympic Team Leader will make all decisions in consultation with the coach(es), the Head of Sport, and/or the Integrated Support Team (IST) leader.

2.4 Conflict of Interest

When advising the High Performance Director - Short Track as described in this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document, the Olympic Selection Committee shall apply the [Speed Skating Canada Conflict of Interest Policy](#) in the performance of its duties.

2.5 Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the SSC Olympic Selection Committee - Short Track. A member deemed to have a conflict of interest as per section 2.4 above shall not be counted towards a quorum for the purposes of voting on the matter(s) on which the member has a conflict of interest.

If there is no quorum for a vote on a particular matter, either because of a declared conflict of interest or because of the absence of one or more members of the committee, then a member or, if necessary, members of the Long Track High Performance Committee will be invited, one by one, to sit on the SSC Olympic Selection Committee - Short Track, in priority according to seniority on the committee, until a quorum is reached.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 2026 Olympic selection policy and procedures will be communicated in a separate document and published on the [Speed Skating Canada website](#).

As indicated herein, changes pursuant to Section 4 of the 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures will be communicated through the issuance of addenda specific to the changes made.

4. AMENDMENTS AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

4.1. Changes To This Document

Speed Skating Canada reserves the right to make changes to this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document that, at the sole discretion of the HPD, are necessary to ensure the nomination of athletes with the greatest potential to win a medal at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. Any changes to this document must be made prior to the start of the selection event that forms part of Speed Skating Canada's nomination process and must be communicated to all athletes potentially eligible for nomination to the 2026 Olympic Team by sending an alert to the athletes concerned in addition to posting any changes on Speed Skating Canada's [website](#).

All athletes and coaches are reminded of the importance of familiarizing themselves with the contents of this document and its appendices. Athletes requiring clarification of any points contained herein should consult the High-Performance Director - Short Track for further clarification and explanation of this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document.

After the start of the selection event that is part of Speed Skating Canada's nomination procedure, this clause will not be used to justify changes unless such changes (a) relate to an unforeseen circumstance or (b) are necessary because of a typographical error or lack of clarity in a definition or wording. The purpose of this section is to permit changes to this document that may become necessary because of a typographical error or lack of clarity in a definition or wording. Such changes must be justifiable in the circumstances. The purpose of such changes

must be to avoid disputes about the meaning of provisions in this document, rather than to permit changes to justify the selection of skaters different from those who would otherwise have been selected. In the event of changes to this document after the start of the selection event, Speed Skating Canada must inform the Canadian Olympic Committee, as well as all athletes concerned, of the changes and the reasons for them as soon as possible.

4.2. Unforeseen Circumstances

Speed Skating Canada's Internal Nomination Procedure (INP) is intended to be applied as written with the specific assumption that no athlete will be prevented from competing due to unforeseen or unexpected circumstances. However, there may be occasions when unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond the control of Speed Skating Canada do not allow the competition or nomination to proceed fairly or in the best interest of the priorities and general selection principles as outlined in these criteria, or do not allow the nomination procedure outlined in this document to be applied. In such circumstances, if the HPD determines that unexpected or unusual circumstances have arisen during the process of applying this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures, the HPD shall have the discretion to resolve the matter as it sees fit, considering such factors and circumstances as it deems relevant while bearing in mind the objective set out in section 1.2 above. In making such decisions, the HPD shall, time permitting, consult with the Olympic Selection Committee to obtain its opinion on the situation.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Speed Skating Canada that prevent the HPD from fairly implementing Speed Skating Canada's internal nomination procedure as written, Speed Skating Canada's Executive Director ("**ED**") (or in the absence of an ED, the Interim ED or such person as the Board of Directors shall appoint) shall have the sole, full and absolute discretion to resolve the matter as the ED sees fit, taking into account such factors and circumstances as it deems relevant.

Wherever possible, General Management will consult with the management team, coaches and/or the Olympic Short Track Selection Committee to determine whether circumstances warrant the competition or nomination to take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, general management will communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all concerned as soon as possible.

5. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION CRITERIA

The international federation regulations specific to the discipline of short-track speed skating and applicable for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games are available at: [INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION SPECIAL REGULATIONS SPEED SKATING and SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING 2024](#) as accepted by the 59th Ordinary Congress in June 2024. The official ISU communication that will determine the number of quota spots available for each distance will be communicated once announced by the International Federation. In the event of changes by the International Skating Union to the Olympic quota allocation system, Speed Skating Canada is bound by these changes and will inform all eligible skaters and coaches as soon as possible.

¹ In the event that ISU rules are updated, rendering the hyperlink provided invalid, SSC will update the applicable hyperlink in this 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures (Short Track) as soon as possible.

5.1. International Federation Regulations

The International Skating Union rules specific to the discipline of short track speed skating and applicable for the 2026 Olympic Winter Games will be available in the International Skating Union's [SPECIAL RULES AND TECHNICAL RULES FOR SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING](#) accepted by the [59th Ordinary Congress in June 2024](#).

In the event of changes by the International Skating Union to the [SPECIAL RULES AND TECHNICAL RULES FOR SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING](#) during the qualification period for the 2026 Olympic Games (see section 5.2 below), Speed Skating Canada will provide the updated [SPECIAL RULES AND TECHNICAL RULES FOR SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING](#) to all concerned and will amend, if necessary, these 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures.

6. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

6.1. Eligibility Conditions

To be eligible for nomination to the COC for selection to the Olympic team, an athlete must:

- A. Be a Canadian citizen (Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter);
- B. Be at least 17 years old on July 1, 2025
- C. Have a valid Canadian passport that will not expire before August 22, 2026;
- D. Meet all relevant ISU, COC and IOC eligibility requirements;
- E. Sign, submit, and comply with the Nomination Agreement (Supplementary Appendix B to Appendix 3), the COC Athlete Agreement, and the Organizing Committee (OCOG) Conditions of Participation form no later than January 15, 2026. If the athlete is under 18 years of age on the date of nomination, the parent or guardian must also sign these agreements;
- F. Be a member in good standing of Speed Skating Canada
 - i. Hold a valid Speed Skating Canada membership for 2025-2026
 - ii. Sign and abide by Speed Skating Canada's 2025-2026 Athlete Agreement
- G. Not be subject to any disciplinary sanction, including provisional suspension.

6.2. Doping Control Requirements

Athletes must meet the following doping control requirements to be eligible for nomination:

- A. Comply in all respects with the anti-doping rules of the ISU, the IOC, the Canadian Anti-Doping Program ("CADP"), and any other anti-doping organization having authority over them; and
- B. Not be under suspension for an anti-doping rule violation, including provisional suspension; and
- C. Be available for sample collection and have regularly provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information in accordance with [Speed Skating Canada](#), [ISU](#), and/or [CCES](#) guidelines.