

FIRST INFORMATION

1. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Organizing Committee

Accreditation, Transportation,
Accommodation, Inquiries
Ms. Evgenia Tkachenko
Cell phone, Viber, WhatsApp:
+375 29 355 3693
E-mail: event@proskating.by

Organizing ISU Member

Skating Union of Belarus
Pobeditelei ave., 111
220020, Minsk
Cell phone, Viber, WhatsApp:
+375 29 643 44 96
Mr. Alexei Khatylev
Tel.: +375 17 279 04 02
E-mail: info@skating.by

Media accreditation

Ms. Catherine Stefanovskaya
Cell phone, Viber, WhatsApp:
+375 33 383 88 48
E-mail: office@proskating.by

2. HOTELS

The deadline to submit the Accommodation request is by 12:00 noon (local time) on Monday, **March 12, 2018**.

The OC will require a reimbursement up to 80% of the costs of no-show room(s) if the cancellation of previously confirmed rooms arrives later than the deadline.

Participating ISU Members will have to bear expenses for accommodation for all participating Skaters and team officials.

Slavyanskaya Hotel

220020, Minsk, Narochanskaya, 6
Distance to the Speed Skating Stadium – 700 meters



Victorya Olimp Hotel

220020, Minsk, Pobeditelei ave.103
Distance to the Speed Skating Stadium – 900 meters



Hospitality Coordinator for the ISU Officials, Teams – Ms. Evgenia Tkachenko.

Cell phone, Viber, WhatsApp: +375 29 355 3693

E-mail: event@proskating.by

3. AIRPORT/RAILWAY STATION PICK-UP

A transportation service will be provided to all arriving and departing teams between Monday, March 12, 2018 and Monday, March 19, 2018. Transportation will be provided from and to the National Airport Minsk (<http://airport.by/en>) and from and to the Minsk Central Railway Station (<http://www.rw.by/en>). The price for transportation to and from the airport is **30 Euro** per person (both ways) and the price for transportation to and from the central railway station is **15 Euro** (both ways). A maximum of 45 minutes waiting time might be taken to await the arrival of other teams. In case of carrying large equipment (i.e. bikes, massage tables, etc.) corresponding

request should be made to the OC in advance to guarantee sufficient space. The Organizing Committee would like to be informed about the time of arrival (incl. flight details) of the competitors and team officials as soon as possible, but not later than **Thursday, March 8, 2018**. Departure confirmation forms are to be completed upon arrival.

4. CATERING

Meals in Buffet Style are available daily at the Minsk Arena venue and by additional request at the Victoria Olimp Hotel. It is possible to buy the meal tickets on site at the accreditation center. Please note, that OC can guarantee the quality and conditions for the meals at Minsk-Arena Sport Complex.

1. Lunch and Dinner at Minsk Arena:

Price: 20 Euro for each meal.

Request deadline: at least one day before the meal.

Transportation from Victoria Olimp Hotel will be provided. No transportation from Slavyanskaya Hotel. Walking Distance is 3 min.

Shuttle Bus Schedule

Victoria Olimp	Minsk Arena
11:55	12:05
12:25	12:35
12:55	13:05
13:25	13:35
13:55	14:05
16:55	17:05
17:25	17:35
17:55	18:05
18:25	18:35
18:55	19:05
19:25	19:35
19:55	20:05
20:25	20:35
20:55	21:05
21:25	21:35
	22:05

2. Lunch and Dinner at Victoria Olimp Hotel:

Price: 30 Euro for each meal

Request deadline: at least one day before the meal.

Meal hours both at the Minsk Arena and Victoria Olimp Hotel.

Lunch: 12:00-15:00

Dinner: 17:00-22:00

5. FINAL BANQUET AND PARTY

The Final Official Diner will be held at Main Minsk-Arena Complex on 18th March, 2018 starting at 21:00. Shuttle Buses will bring the Teams to the Main Arena from Victoria Olimp Hotel starting at 20:40

After the Official Dinner the OC will organize a Final Season Closing Party at the Main Arena starting at 23:00. No transportation will be provided from the Main Arena to the official hotels after the Party. Walking time: Main Arena – Victoria Olimp Hotel – 10 min.

Main Arena – Slavyanskaya Hotel – 3 min.

The Final Party is free for the ISU World Cup Teams and Officials. The entry fee for other people and Skating Fans is 20 Euro per person. The Party is in Club Style with live music and DJ's. Minsk Arena is the biggest Party place in Belarus!

6. ACCREDITATION

The official accreditation for Teams will be held at the at the Minsk Arena "VIP 3" entrance upon arrival.

Please send the pictures of Team members until **March 12, 2018** with the names of individuals via e-mail to event@proskating.by.

The number of free accreditations for the Teams is limited. All the extra accreditations (**50 Euro** each) must be paid by the participating ISU Members to the OC. All accreditation requests must be done through the ISU OES.

7. VENUE

MINSK-ARENA MULTIFUNCTIONAL COMPLEX



The Minsk-Arena is the most prestigious sports and cultural complex in the country that includes three main objects:

- the main arena for more than 15,000 spectators;
- a speed skating stadium for up to 3,000 spectators;
- a velodrome for 2,000 spectators.

The ultra-modern complex equipment of the Arena meets the highest professional standards and allows hosting any sports, cultural and entertainment events.

The main arena has already hosted the 2011 Rhythmic Gymnastics European Championships, the 2012 World Junior Figure Skating Championships, the 2014 Ice Hockey World Championship, the 2015 AMF Futsal World Cup, the 2015 Rhythmic Gymnastics European Championships etc.

Moreover, a lot of cultural events such as the Rammstein, Scorpions, Limp Bizkit, Depeche Mode, 30 Seconds To Mars concerts etc.



SPEED SKATING STADIUM

The forthcoming competitions will be held at the speed skating stadium on March, 17-18.

The speed skating stadium in Minsk is the first indoor skating area in Belarus with a 400-meter track. Its capacity is about 3000 people.

The internal radius of its turn is 26 m, the width of the double track is more than 9 m. The inner perimeter of the track is provided with ice bar 7 m at width for training. Outer perimeter has a 3-meter rumble strip. There are also two tracks for curling and two hockey pitches. The total area of ice at the stadium is about 10 thousand square meters. A half of it is occupied with a high-speed skating track.



The skating stadium is also equipped with unique facilities – rooms of mountain air where sportsmen can train under conditions of low atmospheric pressure and oxygen deficiency thus imitating the conditions of areas high above sea levels. There rooms have no analogues in the Republic of Belarus and they are unique and valuable due to their therapeutic properties.



The major international competitions held on the speed skating stadium ice are the International Short Track Competition – Evo Cup (October 2012), the Junior Grand Prix Figure Skating Championships (September 2013), the Junior World Cup Speed Skating Championships (November 2012, December 2014, November 2016),

the European Speed Skating Championships (January 2016), the World Cup Short Track Championships (February 2017) etc.

VELODROME



The velodrome has a 250-meter cycle track 7.5 meters at width. The central core of the cycle track is used for competitions and training process for 20 sports. There are also 2 gyms, a dance room, bike rental, a roller skating school, a medical center, VIP-service in the facility.

The velodrome has considerable experience in holding international events. The following competitions have been already held there: the 2009 UEC European Track Cycling

Championships, the 2013 UCI Track Cycling World Championships which is the second most prestigious cyclists' competition after the Olympic Games, the 2017-18 Tissot UCI Track Cycling World Cup.



8. MEDICAL SERVICES

FIRST AID ROOM, medical staff will be available during the competitions and trainings.

Nearest hospital service: 6th Minsk City Hospital, Uralskaya Street 5, Minsk. Tel. Reception (Therapy): +375 17 245-10-01; Reception (Trauma): +375 17 398-86-43.

9. ANTI DOPING

The Anti-Doping tests will be carried out in accordance with the ISU AntiDoping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures (Communication Nos. 1922 and 2100 or any further update of these Communications). The Team Leaders are responsible to present the doping called skaters. The OC will provide an interpreter for the selected skaters in case the language difficulties may arise.

10. INVOLVED OFFICIALS

ISU Representative: Mr. Roland Maillard

Representative of the Speed Skating Technical Committee: Mr. Øystein Haugen

ISU Event Coordinator: Ms. Daria Kamelkova

Referee Men: Mr. Hubert Kamml (GER)

Assistant Referee Men: Mr. Alexei Proshin (RUS)

Referee Ladies: Mr. Daniel Cabelduc (SWE)

Assistant Referee Ladies: Mr. Alexander Novakovich (BLR)

Starter Men: Mr. Jouko Vesterlund (FIN)

Starter Ladies: Mr. Roman Danilov (RUS)

11. COMPETITIONS, MEETINGS AND DRAWS SCHEDULE

Friday, 16 March:	16:00	Team leaders' Meeting, Minsk-Arena, Conference hall
	18:00	Opening draw, Minsk-Arena, Conference hall
Saturday, 17 March:	15:00	500m Ladies (1st)
		500m Men (1st)
		Team Pursuit Ladies
		Team Pursuit Men
		1000m Ladies
		1000m Men
		3000m Ladies
		5000m Men
Sunday, 18 March:	15:00	500m Ladies (2nd)
		500m Men (2nd)
		1500m Ladies
		1500m Men

Team Sprint Ladies
Team Sprint Men
Mass Start Ladies
Mass Start Men

12. VISA INFORMATION

Foreign citizens of **80 countries** can enter Belarus without any visa for **up to 5 days** (including dates of arrival and departure) and exit from the territory of Belarus only **through the State border checkpoint of the Republic of Belarus “Minsk National Airport”**. The list of the countries is available here: <http://mfa.gov.by/en/visa/>.

To enter the Republic of Belarus in the visa-free regime via the checkpoint “Minsk National Airport”, foreign nationals must have the following documents:

1. a valid ordinary **passport** or another substituting document for traveling abroad;
 2. **financial means**: at least 25 Euro (or equal amount in dollars or Belarusian rubles) for each day of stay;
 3. **medical insurance** with coverage for at least 10,000 Euros that covers the territory of Belarus.
- To obtain an entry visa, the following documents should be submitted to an entry visa issuing authority:
1. one copy of a duly completed **visa application form**;
 2. **one photograph**;
 3. **a foreign travel document**;
 4. **visa support documents**;
 5. **additional documents required** (by request of the consular officer);
 6. **medical insurance contract** concluded with Belgosstrakh or Beleximgarant or medical insurance contract concluded with any foreign insurance organization;
 7. **a confirmation of the consular fee paid**.

Upon receipt of copies of passports and completed visa information form for competitors, coaches and team officials, the Skating Union of Belarus will issue letters of invitation. This letter needs to be presented at the Embassy of Belarus in the respective country in order to issue the visas. Only those ISU Members who do not have Belarus Embassies in their countries will receive visas at Minsk International Airport by arrival. To facilitate the issuing of visa at the airport, please complete the Visa Application form, <http://mfa.gov.by/en/visa/info/visa-applications.html> in advance and provide a passport photograph.

In Belarus the medical insurance policy is obligatory. It is different from European medical insurance and is available to be purchased at the airport on arrival. The cost is up to 10 Euro.

If you have any questions concerning visa application procedures, please contact **Mikita Babitski**, e-mail: eldemersel@gmail.com

For those participants, who will have their visas issued at the airport, please inform the OC in advance.

13. GENERAL INFORMATION

<u>Currency</u>	Belarusian ruble
<u>Currency rates</u>	1 US Dollar – 2 Belarusian rubles 1 Euro – 2,4 Belarusian rubles
<u>Time</u>	GMT +3
<u>Climate in Minsk</u>	Average temperature in Minsk in March: 0°C
<u>Bank cards</u>	VISA and MasterCard
<u>Taxi</u>	Phone: 107, 135, 152, 155, 157, 7788, 7565, 7220
<u>Car rental</u>	International driver license will be required when renting.
<u>Electricity</u>	The electric system in Belarus is 220V. Please, notice that a two-pin plug system is used.
<u>Smoking</u>	Smoking is not permitted indoors in public buildings, transport and other places open to the public, restaurants and bars, except special smoking zones.

14. MINSK

Minsk is the capital of Belarus and the biggest city of the country with more than 2 million inhabitants. The first mention of the town of Minsk was in 1067, consequently it is older than many European cities like Moscow and Stockholm. The city was practically fully destroyed in the II World War and was rebuilt during the Soviet time. Nowadays Minsk is the cultural, educational, sports, political, scientific centre of the country. Its main sights and attractions include:

THE HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL

The history of the Cathedral dates back to 1633-1642. It is a valuable monument of late Baroque style of Old Minsk. Six columns divide the inner



room into three naves. The iconostasis has a number of marvelous icons including the Our Lady miracle-working icon that miraculously appeared on the Svisloch bank in 1500.

Address: Kirilla and Mefodiya Street, 3 (Nemiga)

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

It was opened in 1933. Nowadays there are more than 30 titles of dramatic works on the poster of the theatre, the most popular of them are Carmen, Eugene Onegin, Swan Lake, Rigoletto. All of them are well staged with rich decorations and costumes.

Address: Parizhsкая Kommuna Square, 1



THE TROITSKOE SUBURB

This historical and cultural part of Minsk survived after the destroying II World War. Here you may admire the Svisloch River, walk down the cobbled streets and enjoy a cup of hot tea or coffee in one of the little cafes. It is a great and lovely place to walk and relax in any season of the year.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

It is the most significant tourist attraction and the main information and cultural centre of the country, as well as one of the most important and controversial projects in the modern Belarus. A 72-meter high, 23-storey building in the shape of a diamond symbolizes material and spiritual values gathered by the humanity during thousands of years.

Address: Nezalezhnasti Avenue, 116



THE LEBYAZHY WATER PARK

It is one of the largest water parks in the CIS-countries and the fifth in size in Europe. **There are a** SPA center, park of water entertainments, water zone with pools, amusement center for children with a lot of labyrinths, 5D cinema, game campus, merry-go-rounds, electronic musicians attraction, fitness-center, gym, bars and fast food restaurants etc.

Address: Pobeditelei Avenue, 120

THE MUSEUM OF THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR

The museum in conjunction with the Minsk-Hero City obelisk is a single architectural ensemble. The main facade of the museum building is designed as symbolic victory salute rays. The museum consists of 4 blocks – the number of war years – and has 10 exhibition halls and the Victory Hall (located under a glass dome).

Address: Pobeditelei Avenue, 8



THE VICTORY SQUARE

The Victory Square opened in 1954 is one of the main monuments dedicated to the Great Patriotic War. The Victory monument stands out in its size rising to the sky at more than 35 meters height, and at the top of it one can observe a 3-meter replica of the Order of Victory. There is also the eternal fire that burns in any weather, and on holidays there is a guard of honor near it.

THE RED CHURCH

The Red Church is a temple-memorial of the beginning of the XX century that nowadays is one of the Minsk symbols. The official name of the church is the Sts. Simon and Helena Church. It is because the cathedral was built to commemorate the premature death of two young children, Simon and Helena Wojnilowicz, of a Belarusian aristocratic family. It is known as the Red Church because of its red brick walls.



MINSK CITY GATES

The symbolical "City's Gates" are two identical 11-storeyed towers erected on the corners of five-floor apartment houses. On one of the towers there is the biggest clock in the republic – the diameter of the clock-face is more than 3.5 m. Thus the building is called "The time of Minsk". The other is named "Coat of arms of Belarus". Eight sculptures symbolizing a worker, a collective farmer, an engineer and a soldier have been put back for 30-meter height – four sculptures per each tower.



15. HOW TO GET TO MINSK

ACCESS BY AIR

Minsk National Airport is the main air gateway of Belarus. It is situated 42 km away from the centre of Minsk and 33 km away from the city Ring Road. You can easily and quickly get to Minsk from the airport by:

- **PUBLIC TRANSPORT** – regular-route bus No.
- **SHUTTLE BUSES** – No. 1400-TK and 1430-TK
- **TAXI** – call 7788; 135; 152; 7778; 7565; 7220.
- **PERSONAL VEHICLES** – route M2 (Moscow highway) (there is a possibility to rent a car on site – call 7373).



ACCESS BY TRAIN

One of the most convenient ways to get to Minsk is travelling by train. The Minsk railway station is located in the city centre. Its address is Privokzalnaya Square, 3 and you can easily get to your hotel from there by public transport or by taxi. To get to the Speed Skating Stadium (the "Minsk-Arena" public transport stop) you should:

- take the **Bus** No.1, 119c;
- take the **shuttle buses** No. 1109; 1073; 1056.

ACCESS BY CAR

It is possible to travel to Belarus by car. The long-distance highway E30 connects Minsk with Europe. It is a toll road with a 1 USD charge for passenger vehicles. There are several Belarus border crossings and an extensive road network running across the country.



16. TRAININGS SCHEDULE