

ANNOUNCEMENT



EUROPEAN SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS®

January 22nd to 24th, 2016

SOCHI / RUSSIA



The International Skating Union, Russian Skating Union and the Organizing Committee have the honor and pleasure to invite you to the:



European Short Track Speed Skating Championships® 2016

January 22nd to 24th, 2016

**to be held at the “Iceberg” Skating Palace,
Sochi, the Russian Federation**

General Regulations

The ISU European Short Track Speed Skating Championships® 2016 will be conducted in accordance with the 2014 ISU Regulations and relevant Communications. Participation is open to all ISU Members. Entries must be made only through the respective ISU Members (Rule 131).

Distances

Individual	1500, 500, 1000, 3000 meters Ladies and Men
Relay	3000 meters Ladies, 5000 meters Men

Program

The below program is subject to change depending on the final entry of Skaters and agreement with host broadcaster*:

Thursday, January 21	08:00*	Official Training
	18:00	Opening Meeting
Friday, January 22	09:00*	Qualifying Rounds 1500, 500, 1000 meters Ladies & Men
Saturday, January 23	09:00*	Ranking Races 1500, 500 meters Ladies & Men
	13:30	Opening Ceremony
	14:02	Semi-Finals & Finals 1500 meters Ladies & Men
		Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals & Finals 500 meters Ladies & Men
		Semi-Finals 3000 meters Relay Ladies
		Semi-Finals 5000 meters Relay Men
Sunday, January 24		Awards Ceremony
	09:00*	Ranking Races 1000 meters Ladies & Men
	14:02	Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals & Finals 1000 meters Ladies & Men
		Super-Finals 3000 meters Ladies & Men
		Finals 3000 meters Relay Ladies
		Finals 5000 meters Relay Men
		Awards Ceremony

Track Conditions

The “Iceberg” Skating Palace has an artificially refrigerated indoor ice surface of 60 x 30 meters. Protective padding covers the boards in accordance with Rule 280, paragraph 5 and ISU Communication No. 1726. The

standard track will be laid out 111.12 meters to the lap.

Entries

a) Entries can only be made using the ISU Online Entry System for Short Track Speed Skating on www.isu.org, section Short Track Speed Skating.

b) Entries with the number of Competitors, substitutes, coaches & team leader and requirements of accommodation must be submitted by **Friday December 11, 2015** (Rule 295, paragraph 4).

ISU Members failing to comply in time with these requirements will receive no support from the Organizing Member for:

- Hotel booking;
- Travel arrangements between airport and hotel;
- Travel arrangements between hotel and ice rink;
- Preferred times for additional training sessions.

All these costs and any additional costs incurred will be for the full account of the ISU Members concerned.

c) Final Entries must reach the Organizing Committee using the Online Entry System not later than **Sunday January 17, 2016** (Rule 295, paragraph 4), and the following information must be communicated to the Organizing Committee:

- Names of the Competitors and substitutes per category with their International Registration Numbers;
- Names of the Competitors for each of the respective individual distances;
- Confirmation of participation in the Relay.

Final Entries that do not comply with these requirements are considered Post Entries. See Rule 115.

d) Competitors must be present in Sochi at the latest at 18:00 hours on Thursday, January 21 or the Organizing Committee must receive documented proof that the competitors are in transit and will arrive in due time for the Championships. Competitors who do not comply with these requirements will be excluded

e) 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 Nos. 1628 and 1797 or any update of this Communication.

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.

Individual Entries:

In accordance with Rule 285, paragraph 2 each ISU Member has the right to enter at least one (1) Competitor in each category.

In accordance with ISU Communication No. 1956 "Entries for ISU Championships", the following ISU Members may enter more than one (1) Competitor in total in the respective category. Each ISU Member may enter the substitutes corresponding with the number of entries.

<u>Ladies</u>		<u>Men</u>	
Austria	2 competitors	Belarus	2 competitors
Belarus	2 competitors	Belgium	2 competitors
Belgium	2 competitors	Bosnia/Herzegovina	2 competitors
Bulgaria	2 competitors	Bulgaria	2 competitors
Czech Republic	2 competitors	France	2 competitors
France	3 competitors	Germany	2 competitors
Germany	2 competitors	Great Britain	2 competitors
Great Britain	3 competitors	Hungary	3 competitors
Hungary	2 competitors	Israel	3 competitors
Italy	3 competitors	Italy	2 competitors
Latvia	2 competitors	Latvia	2 competitors
Lithuania	3 competitors	Netherlands	3 competitors
Netherlands	3 competitors	Poland	2 competitors
Poland	3 competitors	Russia	3 competitors
Russia	3 competitors	Sweden	2 competitors
Slovak Republic	2 competitors	Turkey	2 competitors
Sweden	2 competitors	Ukraine	2 competitors
Ukraine	2 competitors		

Relay Entries (*in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1956, paragraph II, b) ii*):

Ladies		Men	
Belarus	Italy	Belarus	Netherlands
Bulgaria	Netherlands	Belgium	Poland
Czech Republic	Poland	France	Russia
France	Russia	Great Britain	Turkey
Germany	Ukraine	Hungary	Ukraine
Hungary		Italy	

ISU Members entering a Relay Team can only enter a maximum of five (5) Competitors which will include all Competitors for both competitions: Individual and Relay.

In accordance with Rule 285, paragraph 2 b), only the twelve (12) highest ranked European ISU Members, based on a special Relay Classification over the 2 most recent World Cup Competitions held in Europe, can enter a Relay Team Ladies and/or Men in the respective category at the ISU European Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2016.

Special attention must be paid to Rule 286, paragraph 4 regarding the fact that the participation is known before the start of the second (2nd) World Cup Competition held in Europe prior to the next edition of the ISU European Short Track Speed Skating Championships.

Qualifying Times:

Entered Skaters (including substitutes) must have achieved applicable qualifying times over 500 meters, in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1956, paragraph II.d), 1.1, as follows:

	<u>Ladies</u>	<u>Men</u>
500 m	49,00	47,00

For a result to be a valid qualifying time, it must have been achieved in the period between July 1, 2015 and the final entry deadline specified in the paragraph "Entries" above.

Points and Classification

In accordance with Rule 295, paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Titles and Medals

The winners of the Championships (according to Rule 133) will bear the title:

European Short Track Speed Skating Champion for 2016
or
Lady European Short Track Speed Skating Champion for 2016

The European and Lady European Champions will receive the ISU gold medal. The skaters placed second and third will receive the ISU silver and bronze medals respectively.

The winning team of the ISU European Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2016 for the Relay competition will bear the title European Short Track Speed Skating Relay Champions or Ladies European Short Track Speed Skating Relay Champions for 2016 and will receive the ISU gold medal. The second and third placed relay teams will receive the ISU silver and bronze medals respectively.

Prize money will be awarded in accordance with ISU Communication No 1976, or any further update of this Communication.

Ice Training

All practice sessions will take place at the Competition venue. The Organizing Committee will arrange free ice training on Thursday, January 21, 2016 for all participating teams. Extra practices will be provided from Monday January 18, 2016. Each training session (50 mins) will be charged 150 US\$. If two or more teams agree to share one training session, both (all) of them can share the cost. Payment for additional practice ice time must be paid in US\$ or RUR to the Organizing Committee upon arrival. For practice ice time prior to the official practice, please inform the Organizing Committee using the attached form. Medical coverage will be provided for the official and additional practice sessions in accordance with Rule 140.

Anti-Doping

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 Communications (ISU Communications Nos. 1871, 1872, 1922 & 1970 or later updates).

Liability

In accordance with Rule 119 of the ISU General Regulations, the ISU, the Russian Skating Union and The Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property

damage incurred in connection with the ISU European Short Track Speed Skating Championships 2016. Each Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage thereto.

Accommodation and Meals

The Organizing Committee will provide accommodation and meals starting with lunch on Thursday January 21, 2016 until lunch on Monday January 25, 2016 (for those departing in the afternoon) for all participating Skaters, maximum five (5) Ladies and five (5) Men plus one Team leader from each ISU Member. All teams arriving before January 21, 2016 or leaving after Monday January 25, 2016 or bringing in more than the officially designated number of participants will be responsible for their own costs and are kindly requested to settle the amount due on site, at the applicable rate, upon arrival.

Methods of payment: Cash in RUR, EURO or Credit card;

All arrangements for accommodations must be made only through the Organizing Committee.

Official Hotels

The Organizing Committee will arrange hotel reservations for the participants at the following official hotel:

Hotel BOGATYR

Olimpiysky pr. 21, Adler region, Sochi

<http://sochipark.ru/>

Hotel requirements must be communicated to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible, but no later than **Friday December 18, 2015**.

The cost of a room and meal at the official hotel is as follows :

Single Room with full-board (per person, per night): **110 EURO**

Double Room with full-board (per person, per night): **95 EURO**

It's preferable to pay for accommodation via bank transfer before the Event or by cash/credit card (but NOT American Express) in OC office in the hotel before your check-in. Please inform the Organizing Committee accordingly before your arrival.

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to limit the number of hotel rooms available to each team at the official hotel. In case of last minute booking cancellation (24 hours before the check-in) first night charge penalty is applicable.

Transportation

The Organizing Committee will provide free transportation for all participants between Adler Airport / Sochi Train Station and the official hotels, from Monday, January 18 to Monday, January 25. Participants arriving and departing from other airport(s) or train/bus stations will be responsible for the transport costs. Expenses for team officials, who do not accompany their team members, are to be borne by themselves (price is about 40 US\$).

The Organizing Committee will also provide free transportation for all participants between the official hotel and The "Iceberg" Skating Palace during the competition days and the training periods, starting from Monday January 18, 2016.

The date, airline, flight number, expected time of arrival and the date and time of departure should be communicated to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible, but no later than **December 18, 2015**. Please include the amount of special equipment (e.g. bicycles, massage tables, etc.) that needs to be transported.

Medical Insurance

It is the sole responsibility of each ISU Member participating in an ISU Event (as defined in Rule 107), to provide medical insurance for their Skaters. Proof of such can be requested by the Organizing Committee.

Entry Visa Requirements

Should you need assistance to obtain Russian entry visa or require a specific letter of invitation, Please contact Organizing Committee if you need an invitation letter for the visa. It is therefore strictly recommended to submit to the Russian Skating Union as soon as possible, but not later than **December 18, 2015**, the attached visa application table together with a readable colour passport copy of good quality for each team member and team official in order to have the issuing of the necessary visa completed in due time.

According to the Law of the Russian Federation, the Russian Skating Union does not guarantee visa obtaining for team members and team officials if above-mentioned documents will be received later than **December 18, 2015**.

Please, note that since the period from December 29, 2015 till January 10, 2016 is a period of official public holidays in Russia, the governmental agencies will be closed and visa invitation will be issued in restricted mode.

Accreditation

Please, send to OC a colour picture for each team member for preliminary printing of the accreditation (*.jpg format, size 35 per 44 mm, white background).

Media Accreditation

Media accreditation requests for ISU Championships must be submitted via the ISU Online Media Accreditation System <http://www.wingsmedia.it/isu/>

Information for the media will be available on the ISU website in due time.

For further information contact the OC Press Officer:

Mr. Konstantin Shafranik

OC press officer & sport event manager

T el.: +7 495 725 46 76

Mob: +7 903 799 44 10

e-mail: konstantin@rus skating.ru

The Organizing Committee

All entries, hotel reservation and media accreditation requests, as well as other inquiries should be addressed as soon as possible to both addresses: :

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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OC sport event manager

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THE RUSSIAN SKATING UNION

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T el.: +7 495 725 46 76

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Web site

All information concerning the competition will be available at the following Event website:

www.rus skating.ru

Live results will be available at the following website:

<http://shorttrack.sportresult.com/>