



Helsinki Grand Prix 2018

Helsinki, Finland

November 2-4th, 2018

Media Information



Finnish Figure Skating Association looks forward to hosting media attending the Helsinki Grand Prix 2018 in Helsinki, Finland. The event will be held at the Helsinki Ice Hall from November 2-4, 2018.

This information will assist you in planning your trip to Helsinki and to apply for media accreditation to cover the event. Every effort will be made to ensure journalists have all the appropriate facilities necessary to work at the event.

The press centre and press tribune will be open and operational for the first practice/training session on Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 9 am.

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If you require further information or have any questions, please contact:

Mila Kajas-Virtanen, Press Officer, gphelsinki@stll.fi, +358 40 5305400.

Follow the Helsinki Grand Prix 2018

On the web: www.stll.fi/gp-2018

On Twitter: @skatingfinland #GPFigure #GPHelsinki #Skatingfinland

On Instagram: @skatingfinland #GPFigure #GPHelsinki #Skatingfinland

On Facebook: ISU Grand Prix Helsinki 2018

Media Accreditation

All media must apply for media accreditation through the Finnish Figure Skating Association online media accreditation system on www.stll.fi/gp-2018 under «Lehdistö/Press».

Accreditation will be granted to professional journalists and photographers only.

Writing press, photographers, non-right holding media and freelancers

- **Writing Press** newspaper, magazine, internet, agencies: maximum two professionals per organization
- **Photographer:** maximum one professional per organization (agencies and major newspapers: maximum two professionals)
- **Television non-right holder:** maximum three professionals per organization
- **Radio non-right holder:** maximum one professional per organization
- **Freelancer:** A freelance journalist or photographer is a full time professional editor or photographer, who is not employed by an agency or newspaper – a self-employed professional. A freelance editor or photographer must provide written evidence that he/she operates on behalf of a clearly identified media. A freelance editor or photographer operating under his/her own account will not be accepted.

The total number of accredited media representatives will be subject to capacity. The Organizing Committee (OC) and ISU reserve the right to refuse any accreditation should the number of applications exceed given space or if any requested information / documentation has not been provided in due time.

The deadline to apply for media accreditation is **October 15, 2018**. All media must provide the following documentation when applying for media accreditation and further information can be requested:

1. ID photo in .jpg.
2. *If not in possession of a professional media card, a comment must be added to the note box provided and a letter from your editor confirming your assignment must be uploaded to your application.*

Rights holding TV and radio

All right holding media must also apply for accreditation via online media accreditation www.stll.fi/gp-helsinki under «Lehdistö/Press». To book any broadcasting services or facilities, rights holders are invited to contact the Host Broadcaster: Joel Helenius, joel.helenius@videpe.fi, + 358 44 096 77 17.

Accreditation Confirmation

If the accreditation request is accepted, an email of confirmation will be issued. You will also be notified if your accreditation request is denied. Please note that OC reserve the right to refuse accreditation with or without justification.

Procedure to pick up accreditation

Accredited media will receive press accreditation badges from the entrance of the Press Center at the Helsinki Ice Hall. The guiding signs "Press Center" will be provided. You may be asked to present a copy of the email of confirmation to receive your accreditation badge.



Press Center opening times

Accredited media is welcome to use the Press Center facilities and/or pick up their accreditation badges during the following times

Thursday November 1st, 9 am – 5 pm

Friday November 2nd, 8 am – 11 pm

Saturday November 3rd, 6.30 am – 11.30 pm

Sunday November 4th, 8.30 am – 10 pm

Visa Application

Media representatives requiring an official invitation letter in order to apply for a visa must contact the Organizing Committee. Please note that an official invitation letter will only be provided to approved media representatives. Visa form is available on the Finnish Figure Skating Association website www.stll.fi/gp-2018 under «Lehdistö/Press».

Media Accommodation

Every individual media person is responsible for booking their own accommodation. There is no shuttle bus organized for the media during the event.

Location of the Helsinki Ice Hall

The arena is located in the Taka-Töölö area in Helsinki, 2,5 km from the Helsinki city centre. Taka-Töölö is a district with plenty of green space and sports facilities, including the Helsinki Olympic Stadium, near the Töölönlahti bay.

Helsinki Ice Hall is easily accessible with public transportation: From the city centre the most convenient is to take a tram 2, 4 or 10 from city center (stop number 0101 "Lasipalatsi") to Töölö (stop number 0641 "Kansaneläkelaitos") and just walk couple of minutes to the arena. Also several bus routes goes near the arena and there are 150 city bike stations in Helsinki. Travel time from the city center to the arena is approximately 15 minutes. For further information about public transportation, please visit <http://www.reittiopas.fi> Driving time from the airport to Helsinki Ice Hall is 20-35 minutes depending on the traffic conditions.

Telecommunications and IT-services

The Press Center will have a dedicated wireless network free of charge. An open WLAN will be available also in the press tribune. Please note that the free WLAN has a limited capacity and that transmission especially in the tribune area might be slow due to the big amount of users during the competition. Additional connectivity in press areas as well fixed hotspots for agency photographers can be provided for a fee. Should you require additional connectivity, please refer to the pricing information and order process described on our internet page www.stll.fi/gp-2018 under «Lehdistö/Press». Orders: tilaukset@datalatu.fi (refer to "GP Helsinki")

Useful Information

Arrival

The driving time from Helsinki-Vantaa Airport to Helsinki Ice Hall is around 20-35 minutes and to Sokos Hotel Presidentti around 30-45 minutes depending on the traffic conditions. All trains from the airport stop at Helsinki Railway Station.

Climate

November in Helsinki average high (°C) +2 average low (°C) -2.

Clothing

November is considered early winter in the City of Helsinki. Visitors and guests are advised to dress in layers so as to be prepared for all weather. Despite listed average temperatures, days can be cold and showers/snow are always possible. Most nightlife and dining places do not require formal attire.

Credit Cards

All major credit cards are accepted in the Finland. Most hotels, shops, restaurants and taxi accept VISA and Master Card. American Express, Diners Club and Discover may not be accepted in all places.

Taxes

Taxes are included in the price presented to customers/guests in shops, hotels, restaurants, etc. As of August, 2018, the general sales tax (VAT) is 24%.

Tipping

While tipping is not mandatory in Finland, it is customary in many circumstances for good service, especially in sit-down restaurants, which offer table service.

Electricity

Electrical sockets are 220 V plug type C. Visitors with appliances of different voltages should bring adapters.

Exchange Rate

As of August, 2018: EUR/USD 1.14 (subject to change)

ATM

ATM machines are readily available throughout the city of Helsinki. There is no ATM at Helsinki Ice Hall.

Grocery Store

There are several grocery stores around the city. K-market, S-market and Alepa are the names of the grocery stores.

Tap water

Finland's tap water is among the highest quality in the world and it is safe to drink.

Competition information and schedule

Updated list of entries, results and timetable

ISU: <https://www.isu.org/figure-skating/figure-skating-events/grand-prix-of-figure-skating>

OC: www.stll.fi/gp-helsinki

Thursday, November 1,

10.15-16.20 Official Practice

Friday, November 2,

Official Practice

15.00 Short Program - Pairs

16.45 Short Program - Ladies

18.47 Rhythm Dance - Ice Dance

Saturday, November 3,

Official Practice

12.45 Short Program - Men

14.37 Free Skating - Pairs

17.30 Free Skating - Ladies

19.40 Free Dance - Ice Dance

Sunday, November 4

Official Practice

14.00 Free Skating - Men

17.30 Exhibition Gala

For any additional questions or information, please do not hesitate to contact:

OC press officer: Mila Kajas-Virtanen + 358 40 530 54 00 / gphelsinki@stll.fi