



## Press release

18 March 2018

### Nuis and Bloemen take World Cups

Hein Otterspeer (NED) and Kjeld Nuis (NED) won the 500m and the 1000m at the World Cup final in Minsk, but Håvard Holmefjord Lorentzen (NOR) secured the Grand World Cup taking an unassailable lead in the ranking on Saturday.

Ted-Jan Bloemen seized the men's long distance World Cup coming fifth in the 5000m, with Sverre Lunde Pedersen (NOR) winning the distance. The Norwegian did win the Team Pursuit World Cup.

#### **Dutch sweep podium in 500m**

Otterspeer led a Dutch podium sweep in the men's 500m, clocking 35.06. Jan Smekens came second in 35.07 and Ronald Mulder third in 35.08. Lorentzen came fourth in 35.13. The Olympic Champion from Norway leads the 500m World Cup, with a 106 point gap over Mulder heading into the final race with another 150 points for the winner on Sunday.

#### **Nuis takes 1000m World Cup**

Nuis secured the 1000m World Cup. He won the distance in a head-to-head-battle with Lorentzen. The Olympic champion stopped the clock at 1:09.23 and the silver medalist from Pyeongchang set 1:09.45 to come third. Kai Verbij (NED) took second in 1:09.40. Lorentzen finished second in the World Cup and Verbij third.

#### **Pedersen finds consolation**

Bloemen successfully defended a 115 point lead over third-ranked Pedersen in the World Cup. The Canadian did not have to worry about second-ranked Sven Kramer (NED), who skipped the World Cup final. Pedersen found a little consolation after his devastating fall in the 10000m at the World Allround Championships last week, winning the 5000m in 6:22.15. Alexander Rumyantsev (RUS) came second in 6:23.81 and Marcel Bosker (NED) third in 6:24.12. Bloemen's fifth place in 6:26.38 was enough to retain top position and seize the long distance World Cup.

In the men's Team Pursuit only three teams took the ice in Minsk. Norway beat Italy to take gold in 3:43.88, securing the season's World Cup for their nation for the first time since the 2010-2011 season. Italy skated 3:49.15 to come second in both the day's race and the World Cup classification, while Japan clocked 3:51.84 to end up third in the race and the classification.

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Full [results and classifications](#). Follow the discussion on social media by using **#WCSpeedSkating** and **#SpeedSkating** and watch the live stream on the [ISU Skating Channel](#).

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**About ISU World Cup Speed Skating 2017/18 Series**

The ISU World Cup Speed Skating is a series of international Speed Skating competitions which takes place annually. The Series started in 1984 and usually consists of six or seven events including the ISU World Cup Speed Skating Final. Skaters can earn points at each competition, and the skater who has the most points on a given distance at the end of the series is the World Cup winner of that distance. Skaters also cumulate Grand World Cup points each time they compete in a distance. During the ISU World Cup Speed Skating Final, the Lady and the Man with the most Grand World Cup points is crowned the Grand World Cup winner.

The results on the individual distances in the World Cup ranking are the main qualifying method for the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships.

A number of World Cup titles are awarded every season, for Men: 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, combined 5000 m / 10000 m, Team Pursuit, Mass Start and Team Sprint. For Ladies 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m, the combined 3000 m / 5000 m, Team Pursuit, Mass Start and Team Sprint.