

November 18, 2021

Stavanger, Norway

## **Pedersen (NOR) back on home ice in Stavanger**

After an exciting start to the international speed skating season with the first World Cup in Tomaszów Mazowiecki (POL) last week, competition continues with the second World Cup in Stavanger this Friday. [Sverre Lunde Pedersen](#) (NOR) skipped the first World Cup, but will be back on the ice in front of his home crowd, after a horror bike crash last May.

### **Unlucky Pedersen**

Pedersen was brought to a hospital by helicopter after hitting a pothole and losing control over his bike during a training ride in Norway. The anchor of Norway's Olympic gold winning Team Pursuit squad in 2018 suffered a tear in his liver and several fractures.

Recovery would take months, but Pedersen is working hard to be ready and qualify for the Olympic Games in Beijing later this winter. The World Cup in Tomaszów Mazowiecki came too early, but the 29-year-old Norwegian will be present in Stavanger, skating the 10,000m at the Sørmarka Arena.

### **Strong Asian return**

While Pedersen was training on his bike in Gran Canaria, the complete international field first met in Poland last week. The Asian countries were back after having skipped last season's bubble events in Heerenveen due to corona, and they had a lot to show for themselves.

[Tingyu Gao](#) (CHN) seized his career first World Cup race in the men's 500m. [Tatsuya Shinhama](#) (JPN) took gold in the second 500m. [Min-Seok Kim](#) (KOR) and [Masahito Obayashi](#) (JPN) also won their career first World Cup gold medals in the 1500m and the men's Mass Start.

### **USA ladies start on high note**

In the ladies' competition [Miho Takagi](#) (JPN) was happy to be back with a 1500m gold and a 1000m silver, but [Erin Jackson's](#) (USA) two 500m gold medals were the most notable.

The 29-year-old former inline champion from Florida turned her attention to the ice in 2017, but had never won World Cup silverware yet. Last season she was absent due to a freak-accident while moving places, but this season seems to be her breakthrough-year.

Jackson managed to break the track record at the Lodowa Arena in Poland twice to win back-to-back gold in the 500m, beating Olympic 500m champion [Nao Kodaira](#) (JPN) along the way.

[Irene Schouten](#) (NED) also won two gold medals, beating the 3000m track record on Friday, and dominating the sprint in an exciting Mass Start race on Sunday.

### **One-offs**

The World Cup weekend in Stavanger has a short but intense program, featuring events that are only contested once this World Cup season.

The men's and ladies' Team Sprint will only be held in Norway this year. The last time this event was skated in international competition, was at the 2020 World Single Distance Championships in Salt Lake City, when the Netherlands won both the men's and the ladies' event.

The ladies' 5000m and the men's 10,000m are the other events that will only be on the World Cup schedule once this season, being part of the long distance World Cup, which features a ladies' 3000m and a men's 5000m in the other World Cup legs.

[Nils van der Poel](#) (SWE), who smashed the 10,000m world record last year at sea-level rink Thialf in Heerenveen and won last week's 5000m in Poland, clearly is the one to beat in the men's long distances this season.

In the ladies competition, world champion [Irene Schouten](#) (NED) is the clear favorite.

### **Schedule**

The ladies' 5000m is scheduled for Friday night, after a ladies' and men's 1000m. Saturday will feature a men's and ladies' 500m, the men's 10,000m and the Team Sprint for both genders. The Stavanger competition will conclude with the second 500m and the 1500m for both genders on Sunday.

ISU World Cup Speed Skating Standings:

[Standings 500m Women](#)  
[Standings 1000m Women](#)  
[Standings 1500m Women](#)  
[Standings 3000m Women](#)  
[Standings Mass Start Women](#)  
[Standings Team Pursuit Women](#)  
[Standings Team Sprint Women](#)

[Standings 500m Men](#)  
[Standings 1000m Men](#)  
[Standings 1500m Men](#)  
[Standings 5000m Men](#)  
[Standings Mass Start Men](#)  
[Standings Team Pursuit Men](#)  
[Standings Team Sprint Men](#)

The event entry quotas for the individual distances will be determined by the [Special Olympic Qualification Classification \(SOQC\)](#) based on results from the different ISU World Cup Speed Skating Competitions and the full details are available in [ISU Communication 2405](#).

For full entry lists and further information regarding the ISU World Cup Speed Skating Series please visit: [isu.org/speed-skating](http://isu.org/speed-skating). Results are [here](#) and you can follow the discussion on social media by using #SpeedSkating.

### **Where to Watch**

Viewers will be able to watch either via their national broadcaster / channel and for countries where there are no broadcasters, the ISU will offer a live stream on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#). You will find the full list in the [Where to Watch news here](#).

Subscribe to the [ISU Newsletter](#) to receive the latest information and the "[Where to Watch](#)" news. You can also subscribe to the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) to receive notifications when live streams start or new videos are published.

Highlights, clips, interviews, behind the scenes:

YouTube: [ISU Skating](#)

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Follow the conversation with #SpeedSkating.

For further information on ISU Speed Skating visit <https://www.isu.org/speed-skating>

**ISU World Cup Speed Skating Series 2021/22:**

[Tomaszów Mazowiecki \(POL\) – Nov 12 – 14, 2021](#)

[Stavanger \(NOR\) - Nov 19 - Nov 21, 2021](#)

[Salt Lake City \(USA\) - Dec 03 - Dec 05, 2021](#)

[Calgary \(CAN\) – Dec 10 - Dec 12, 2021](#)

[Final – Heerenveen \(NED\) – Mar 12 - Mar 13, 2022](#)

**About ISU World Cup Speed Skating 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. However during the Olympic season the Series consists of five Events.

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. The World Cup Competitions held from November to December serve as qualifying events for entry quotas at the ISU European, World Single Distances, World Sprint and World Allround Speed Skating Championships and during the Olympic season they are Olympic Qualifying Events. A number of World Cup titles are awarded every season; For Men: 500m, 1000m, 1500m, combined 5000m / 10,000m, Mass Start, Team Pursuit and Team Sprint. For Women 500m, 1000m, 1500m, the combined 3000m / 5000m, Mass Start, Team Pursuit and Team Sprint. For further information please visit [isu.org/WorldCupSpeedSkating](https://www.isu.org/WorldCupSpeedSkating).