



## News

Hello Everyone – summer is waning and the 2018-2019 Speed Skating Season is underway! The AASSA August update begins with some news:

Gilmore Junio of Calgary, Canadian National Elite Long Track member, received his "Brothers of the Wind" pin from Yves Hamelin, Director of the Olympic Oval, in July. The pin is awarded to athletes who set world records at the Oval. Gilmore and his Team Sprint teammates, Laurent Dubreuil and Vice DeHaitre earned the record last season.



- The Canmore Summer Camp in July was a great success thanks to efforts by many people. Mike Marshall ran the camp with the help of coaches Mike Ireland, Ryan Hickman, AJ Dimas-Lehndorf and other volunteers, while Brenda Howe ensured tasty and nutritious eating for the week with the assistance of Larry Howe, Norman McIntosh, Kristine Pederson, Thea Mitchell, Heather Wilz and many other parents. Thanks everyone! We would like to do this camp again next year if we can secure enough volunteers to help out; let us know if you're interested!
- Canmore is the location of another camp, the Labour Day Weekend Camp, next weekend - Sept. 1-3: a combined developmental on-ice and dryland camp open to all ages. Contact [communication@banffcanmorespeedskating.ca](mailto:communication@banffcanmorespeedskating.ca) as soon as possible if you are interested in a late registration opportunity.
- SSC is renewing its operations and there have been several leadership, coaching, staff and national team changes that are noted on the SSC web site ([click here](#)). An additional update is that Cathy Priestner-Allinger has stepped down as SSC President to pursue some professional opportunities. SSC's Interim President is SSC's elected Vice-President, Trevor Corey from New Brunswick.
- SSC is looking for a new member of the SSC High Performance Committee, Long Track – specifically - someone who has legal expertise. If you are interested in being nominated by AASSA or know someone who might add value to this role, please contact Nicole via [president@aassa.ca](mailto:president@aassa.ca).
- The Olympic Oval was closed briefly one day this week as they replaced a spare refrigeration chiller as part of routine maintenance. There was no danger to anyone at the Oval, but a precautionary closure did occur. Everything is running normally again.
- The Oval hosted the first short track Single Distance Series last weekend, and will host the first long track Time Trials this weekend, so we're officially underway for the 2018-2019 Speed Skating Competition Season in Alberta!

## Officials Clinics

We will provide updated information on the AASSA web site ([click here](#)) as it is available. For now, we have these officials courses planned:

1) Edmonton, September 15 & 16, 2018: Level 2 Meet Recorder / Coordinator and Meet Manager Refresher Course

- Hours: 8:30 to 4 each day (Sept. 15 / 16); host hotel to be confirmed
- Cost: \$100 for both days; \$75 for meet manager refresher only
- Registration available by August 31<sup>st</sup>

2) Red Deer, October 13 & 14, 2018: Level 2 Timer Clinic

- To be held in conjunction with the Alberta Short Track CWG Qualifier

3) Calgary, Level 1 Officials, date TBD



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## HPP

The Alberta Long Track High Performance Program is well underway. Mike Ireland is the lead coach this season, under the direction of and assistance from the AASSA Technical Director, Mike Marshall. HPP coaches and athletes participated in a variety of training activities over the summer, including cycling and hiking in the nearby mountain regions, and more recently, in Penticton (Apex Mountain: ... groan!?!...).

The HPP group along with the other Olympic Oval LT training teams are now back on oval ice and will be participating in Oval time trials over the next while in preparation for the season.

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## SSC's new membership system, MAS

The MAS system is open for clubs to use now. A hearty thank you CSSA's Tanveer Virani and Red Deer CLSSC's Alison Jeppeson who have been intrepid club rep voyageurs on the MAS trek this summer. The new system looks promising, but it is a custom system for SSC and has had glitches and will continue to be amended and improved as branches, clubs and members use it.

Kristine Pederson is Alberta's MAS project lead and key contact. All inquiries, requests for issues resolution or assistance should start with Kristine via [info@aassa.ca](mailto:info@aassa.ca). She is not an expert (yet!), but is the liaison for AASSA to SSC and the developers and has been in daily contact with them. Kristine is working directly with AASSA club-identified reps to move forward with the MAS project for 2018-2019 registrations. She is available to work one-on-one with clubs to get the club memberships set up in MAS.

Thank you also to AASSA's Secretary-Treasurer, Michelle Chabot, who is providing some MAS finance system leadership to the project as well.

So far, about half of Alberta Clubs have chosen to do online payments, and half are doing traditional payments. We will evaluate the system and its processes after the memberships are in the system, and your feedback on all areas is welcome at any time.

Please note that SSC is updating the MAS guides and tools almost daily and they are available to anyone [at this link](#)

Reminder: any adult (parent, guardian, caregiver) who is not registered as a skater and who volunteers with a club (helping with mats, at practices – on or off the ice, at meets, etc.) should be registered as an Associate Member with the Club, AASSA and SSC to be included in the club's, AASSA's and SSC's insurance strategy.



## 2018-2019 Season Highlights

Most of the Alberta Club meets have set their meet dates; a few communities are still waiting for arena confirmations; we'll update our online schedules and the eNews calendar if there are any changes to the current schedule on our web site. Both Edmonton (LT) and Medicine Hat (ST) will be hosting a combination weekend meet and camp this season.

Thank you to all the clubs for hosting and also for participating in other clubs' events! Take advantage of these events to promote speed skating in your communities, including inviting locals to come watch and proactively providing photos and results to local media as part of your ongoing club promotion and development efforts.

AASSA will also be taking advantage of events to continue to develop and upgrade our officials. This includes a timing clinic at the Alberta Short Track Qualification event to be held at the 2019 CWG venue at Red Deer College's Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre in October. Contact [officials@aassa.ca](mailto:officials@aassa.ca) for more information.

Grande Prairie's Peace Wapiti Club will be hosting the Canada West T2T Championships. We're very pleased to see Peace Wapiti host this important and fun short track development meet featuring their great facilities, welcoming environment and very skilled local organizing committee.

Due to Quebec's temporary speed skating oval closure while they build their new covered oval near Quebec City, Calgary will be hosting most of the national long track competitions this season, including the Canadian Single Distance Championships (September), 3 Canada Cups and the Canadian Junior Long Track Championships (early January).

Calgary's Olympic Oval will also be the host venue, run by the Olympic Oval, for the Canadian Junior Short Track championships (December) as well as a national Short Track Senior Selections event (March).

The Olympic Oval, on behalf of SSC will be managing an ISU Short Track World Cup November 2-4<sup>th</sup>. AASSA has committed to helping support this World Cup with minor officials, volunteers and fans! We would like to encourage as many Alberta Speed Skating Community members to help fill the necessary volunteer positions in addition to getting tickets sold – let's fill the stands! We might not see an ISU Short Track World Cup in Alberta for another few years, so take advantage of this great event. Details: <https://oval.ucalgary.ca/worldcup>

The Olympic Oval will also host the ISU World All-Around Speed Skating (Long Track) Championships March 2-3, 2019. The Organizing Committee Calgary will be managing this meet in conjunction with SSC and the Oval; their web site is: <http://www.speedsk8.ca/> We'll share more information about this Championship meet when more is available.

If you have any questions about competitions, please direct them to Mike Marshall, [technicaldirector@aassa.ca](mailto:technicaldirector@aassa.ca)

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## 2018-2019 Competition Schedule

- The AASSA Events Google Calendar is mobile-friendly; [click here](#)

- The upcoming schedule is also in table format on the web site; [click here](#)
- The AASSA Calendar and events schedule on the AASSA web site will be updated as changes occur.
- The SSC Competition Bulletins have not been posted yet; if you have questions about competitions, please contact either Mike Marshall ([technicaldirector@aassa.ca](mailto:technicaldirector@aassa.ca)).



### AASSA Contact Information:

- **President:** Nicole Cooney, [president@aassa.ca](mailto:president@aassa.ca)
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