

December 2017 eNews and Updates
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AB Speed Skating December eNews

Alberta Speed Skaters

World Cup and Olympics

Congratulations to Ted-Jan Bloeman, Gilmore Junio, Kaylin Irvine and Brianne Tutt who have been competing with great results at this fall's ISU World Cups and will be vying for Olympic spots in early January 2018. Gil Junio helped the Canadian men's team win the Team Sprint event, along with a new World Record in Calgary (below)! Ted-Jan Bloemen raced with Denny Morrison and Ben Donnelly in the Men's Pursuit to win gold and a new Canadian National Record in Salt Lake City; and Ted-Jan also replaced a decade-old record with his gold medal and a new 5,000m men's World Record at the Utah Olympic Oval this past weekend! It has been exciting and heartening to see all the Canadian team members doing so well this season.



Team Canada: Men's Sprint Gold and World Record, Calgary World Cup - Laurent Dubreill, Vincent De Haitre and Gilmore Junio

Jeremy Wotherspoon was in Calgary for the recent LT World Cup. He is coaching for Norway, so watch for Coach Jeremy at the Winter Olympics (hint: he was most recently spotted with a ginger-coloured beard!)

Long Track Canada Cup #1 and #2

Maddie Pearman had stellar results in Quebec at Canada Cup #1 last week, with team-mates Kaleb Muller, Josh Hathaway, Jeff Ross, Brooklyn McDougall, Connor Howe, Adrian Hannigan, Max Halyk, and Cassidy Peterson also making statements at this important national ranking event.

We'll see a full roster of Alberta skaters in Calgary for Canada Cup #2, Jan. 4th-6th. SSC has just posted registration forms for CC2 on the SSC web site.

Short Track:

- The Alberta club meets have been well-attended and there is lots of excitement as many of our young skaters compete for spots at the Alberta Winter Games and the Arctic Winter Games this season. We're moving outdoors for some LT meets this week!
- We are wishing athletes who will be competing at the Canadian Junior ST Championships good luck this week in Saguenay/Chicoutimi, Quebec (Dec. 15-17): Caitlyn Pelkey, Brendan Yamada, Matej Pederson, Mathias Bathe and Neithan Thomas. This is the largest Alberta team in recent memory to attend this limited competition (only 32 competitors in each of the male / female categories). Unfortunately, veteran Canadian Junior competitors, Abbey Young, Jackson Hunter and Hee Won Son are unable to compete at this year's championships.
- We have quite a few other strong Junior ST athletes and some of our Senior athletes travelling to Richmond, BC for Western Elite Circuit #2, Dec. 15-17, and we wish them great racing on the West Coast!

Alberta and Arctic Winter Games

- The Alberta Winter Games speed skating event will be short track racing and will take place Feb. 15th-18th, 2018. The Skater Roster is regionally-determined and will be confirmed in the next two weeks. Contact your club or your club rep to AASSA's SDC if you have questions.
- The Arctic Winter Games will be held March 18th-24th, 2018 in Fort Smith / Hay River, Northwest Territories. Click here for the [Arctic Winter Games technical package](#). Eligible northern athletes should indicate interest to their home clubs (mainly Peace Wapiti and Northern Lites).

2019 Canada Winter Games Athlete Selection

The AASSA SDC is working on criteria for determining athlete selection of LT and ST teams representing Alberta at the February 2019 Canada Winter Games in Red Deer. It will be a highly competitive exercise as we have deep pools of junior speed skaters, and athletes competing for LT spots may be one year older than usual for the 2019 CWG. Tentative plans include athlete selection at designated competitions (probably 2 for each discipline) between September and December 2018.

- [Click here for the CWG LT Technical Package](#)
- [Click here for the CWG ST Technical Package](#)
- Note: AASSA is planning a CWG-athlete-targetted training camp the same weekend as the AASSA AGM in Red Deer, May 26-27, 2018.
 - We also plan to have tours of both the CWG ST and the LT venues during this weekend so plan to attend!

The **Canmore Summer Camp** will be: Sunday July 8th to Friday July 13th in the Canmore/Banff area.



Hathaway, Connor
Howe, Brooklyn
McDougall and Max
Halyk (Brenda Howe,
photo)

Volunteers, Officials, Clubs and Coaches

Congratulations to our local clubs for the wonderful work you are doing with skaters, coaches, officials, and all the extra work that goes in to hosting meets and clinics. We hope you have a restful and enjoyable holiday time!

AASSA has conducted several officials' clinics and plans to offer more in early 2018; we will circulate information about additional clinics when the information is available.

Coaches - if you have a NCCP number, you can access Coach.ca resources, including:

- a free (in Dec.) Concussion e-learning series called "Making Headway" that includes a Speed Skating module: <https://www.coach.ca/-p153487>
- a "Coaching Athletes with a Disability" module <https://www.coach.ca/-p153487> (free for 2017, but there will be a \$17 charge starting Jan. 1st, 2018)
- AASSA is planning to offer 2 Coaching clinics in early 2017, one in Grande Prairie and one in either Edmonton or Calgary, but the dates are not yet firm. We would like to address many needs, which is difficult, and we appreciate your patience with this scheduling challenge.

AASSA and the Olympic Oval would like to thank all of the Alberta Volunteers who helped with the massive effort to host the World Cup in Calgary on behalf of SSC!

A special thanks to the Club Skaters (and their parents!) from the CSSA, Calgary Grizzlies and the Lethbridge SSA for volunteering to assist with the Medal and Flower Presentations at the World Cup in Calgary. Thank you also to Maggie Dekking, Marlinde Kraaijeveld (Ted-Jan Bloemen's wife), and parent-leaders Sandra Leuders, Samantha Reid and Caroline Debuc for shepherding these young skaters during long days and making this event very special. There will be two new World Cup volunteer opportunities (ST and LT) in the 2018-2019 season, so stay tuned!



Some of our Alberta Skaters volunteering at the World Cup in Calgary - left: Easton, Josh, Maya and Darby with Ted-Jan (Sandra Lueders, photo); right: Matt, Max, UCalgary Dino!, Mollie and Alexis (Marc Poulin, photo).

Membership Fees

Alberta Speed Skating collects both AASSA and SSC membership fees from the clubs; these fees are normally collected from skaters, parents and officials (Associate members) at club registration time.

AASSA has invoiced some clubs for these fees, and once clubs have full SSC MMS (membership system) records, we will invoice the others, hopefully before Christmas. If you have any questions, contact info@aassa.ca.

Upcoming Events Schedule

December 2017

- ST Western Elite Circuit (WEC) #2, Richmond, BC, Oval, Dec. 15-17
- ST Canadian Junior Championships / Junior 1, Saguenay, Quebec, Dec. 15-17
- LT Edmonton Outdoor Meet and Camp, Victoria Park Oval, Dec. 16-17
- LT Time Trials, Calgary Olympic Oval, Dec. 23 and Dec. 30

January 2018

- LT Canada Cup #2, the Canadian Single Distance Championships and Olympic Trials, Calgary Olympic Oval, Jan. 4-9
- ST Single Distance Series (SDS) #4, Calgary Olympic Oval, Jan. 7
- LT Alberta Long Track Meet, Calgary Olympic Oval, Jan. 12-14
- ST Canadian Senior Selections 1, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Jan. 19-21
- LT Jeremy Wotherspoon Open, at the NEW Red Deer Oval, Jan. 20-21; T2T, ISU Junior and CACLT Qualifier; this will be a CWG Test Event
- ST Peace River Northern Lites Ice Breaker Camp and Clinic, Jan. 27
- LT Time Trials, Calgary Olympic Oval, Jan. 27

February 2018

- LT Canada Cup #3 and the LT Junior Canadian Championships, Fort St. John, BC, Feb. 2-4
- ST WEC #3 / Winterfest, Calgary Olympic Oval, Feb. 2-4
- ST Lethbridge ST Meet, Feb. 3; all ages
- Winter Olympics, Korea, February 9-25
- LT Canadian Age-Class LT Championships, Quebec City, Feb. 10-11
- ST - Alberta Winter Games, Wood Buffalo (Fort McKay, near Fort McMurray), Feb. 15-18
- LT Silver Skate Festival, Edmonton's Hawrelak Park, Feb. 17-18

March 2018

- ST RUfast, Calgary Olympic Oval, March 3-4
- LT Oval Grand Prix, Calgary Olympic Oval, March 10-11
- LT Canada Cup #4 and Oval Finale, Calgary Olympic Oval, March 15-18
- ST Canada West T2T Championships, Abbotsford, BC, March 17-18
- ST Arctic Winter Games, Northwest Territories, March 17-24
- ST Canadian Junior ST Selections #2, Calgary Olympic Oval, March 22-25
- ST Canadian Senior ST Selections #2, Calgary Olympic Oval, March 23-25
- ST West Edmonton Mall Fun Meet

** May 26-27, 2018: AASSA AGM and CWG Dryland Camp, Red Deer - including tours of the Canada Winter Games speed skating venues

Meet results:

Olympic Oval: <http://oval.ucalgary.ca/competitions>

National Events and Rankings / SSC: <http://www.speedskating.ca/>

Alberta Speed Skating Club meet results will be posted on the Alberta Speed Skating web site as soon as possible after the events.



Ted-Jan Bloemen, Utah Olympic Oval, Dec. 10,2017 Photo: SSC

Suggestions and Feedback?

We always appreciate feedback and suggestions on style, content, timing, etc., for the web site, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, eNews, etc. Contact Kristine via communication@aassa.ca

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