

February 2018 is Busy eNews and Updates
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AB Speed Skating February 2018 is Busy! eNews

National Speed Skating Week is Feb. 17-24 - an opportunity to celebrate and promote our sport!

There is also a bit of a contest to be the most active Provincial Branch or Club on social media during National Speed Skating Week. Let's use the hashtag [#SpeedSkatingIsCanada](#) in our social media!

Other Updates:

- CBC has an Olympics "app" you can download on your devices for on-demand viewing.
- AASSA is offering a FUNd and Intro to Competition NCCP Coaching Clinic Feb. 23-25 in Calgary. Deadline to register is Monday, February 19th. Contact info@aassa.ca for more information.
- ESSA is running the speed skating events at the Silverskate Festival in Edmonton, February 10 and 11 at William Hawrelak Park on the pond. Volunteers are still welcome!
 - Sign up Online www.volunteersignup.org/33FTW
- The Calgary Olympic Oval is offering a Stage 1 Summer 2018 Elite Athlete Pathway Program from May to August, with 1 week or 1 / 2 / 3 month options for ST and LT. Deadline to apply is June 1st, 2018. Contact oval@ucalgary.ca for more information.
- AASSA has been assigned a fundraising Casino at the Calgary Elbow River Casino on August 19 and 20, 2018
 - This casino is a major revenue stream for AASSA and normally we are only assigned one casino every two years, but we have the opportunity to do this one only 18 months after our last event.
 - Casino revenue supports Alberta Provincial Team athlete subsidies and other AASSA initiatives, so it is important that we secure enough volunteers to run this casino. More information will be circulated soon, but for now, save the date!

Alberta Speed Skaters

Canadian Age Class Long Track Championships (CACLT)

Hosted by the Calgary Speed Skating Association, the Alberta Open Long Track event in January included over 200 participants and almost as many volunteers! This meet was the CACLT qualifier. The top two skaters in each category were offered the option to race at

CACLT in Quebec City on Feb. 10-11, and AASSA was allocated several additional spots, which we have filled.

A full list of participating Alberta athletes is on the CACLT Event notice on the AASSA web site. CACLT coaches will be Sam Pollock of Calgary and AJ Dimas-Lehndorf of Edmonton. Shawna Pearman from the Red Deer club will be the Team Manager and coach-mentor. We will post results and photos as we receive them. Have a great trip everyone and Go Alberta!

Alberta Winter Games

The 2018 Alberta Winter Games will be held in the Wood Buffalo Region (the area in and around Fort McMurray), February 16th-19th. The Speed Skating event at AWG will be short track speed skating and will be held in the community of Fort MacKay.

The meet will be managed by Alberta volunteers from across the province - THANK YOU to everyone who is contributing to this event! The residents of Fort MacKay are looking forward to learning more about speed skating and cheering on all our skaters!

Global Television will provide a live webcast of the whole Opening Ceremony on Feb. 16th, 6:45 to 8pm (MDT). [Click here for the Global TV link](#) and be sure to catch the excitement. Let all your friends and family know they can watch the Ceremonies from anywhere in Alberta.

[Click here to access the 2018 Alberta Winter Games web site](#) which includes a list of 2018 Games Participants, and past participants too!

Thank you Alberta Sport Connection for supporting dreams !

Canada Cup #3 and the Canadian Junior LT Championships

129 athletes raced at Canada Cup #3 and the Canadian Junior Long Track Championships in Fort St. John, BC, this past weekend, with great results for Alberta skaters, coaches, and others who train in Alberta.

Brooklyn McDougall of Calgary was very consistent and ended the weekend in #1 spot for the Junior Ladies, earning a second ticket to the World Junior Championships to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, in March. Connor Howe of Canmore also earned his second trip to World Juniors with his overall #3 spot, just ahead of team-mate Kaleb Muller who finished 4th overall. Kaleb recently moved to Calgary from southern Alberta and the Lethbridge Speed Skating Association, and has also been nominated to the World Juniors Long Track team as well!

Congratulations to Alberta High Performance Program Coaches, Mike Marshall and Mike Ireland, who helped these three and other athletes achieve great results in Fort St. John. Other top junior results came from Hee Won Son, Cassidy Peterson, Kayla McNeely, Jack Deibert, Frank Roth, Josh Hathaway, Max Halyk, and there were many PBs across the board.



Nominated members of Canada's World Jr. LT Team, from left to right: Brooklyn McDougall (AB), Tyson Langelaar (MB), Beatrice Lamarche (PQ), David Larue (PQ), Alexa Scott (MB), Connor Howe (AB), Gabrielle Jelonek (PQ), Kaleb Muller (AB).

On the Canada Cup #3 side of the event, Maddie Pearman of Ponoka / Red Deer Central Lions SSC continued her very consistent season by medalling in every event she raced at CC3. ESSA's Jeff Ross and Robert Winter also had some good results.

Full results for CC3 and the Junior Championships are available on the SSC web site ([click here](#)) and for some slightly different ways of displaying the results, see also speedskatingresults.com. Photos are available on the Fort St. John Elks Speed Skating Club Facebook page.

Short Track Senior Selections 1

ST Senior Selections 1 is a key ranking meet for all top short track competitors in Canada, except the World Cup / Olympic Team. Three Alberta athletes competed at this event in Sherbrooke in January, with very good results. Keil Hillis was 2nd in the 500m and finished a consistent 5th overall. Marika Nadal had some challenges, but concluded the weekend by winning the 3,000m B final and was 16th overall. Anneke Pederson's debut at this elite meet included a strong 500m C-final finish for 11th in that distance, and a solid 19th overall.

Saskatchewan's Keegan Christ, who moved from the Olympic Oval program to train in Montreal this season, also had a great weekend, finishing 3rd overall. Keegan's Dad, Bill Christ, was busy taking photographs in Sherbrooke, and will soon be doing the same at the Olympics in Korea. Keegan's sister Kali, who lives and trains in Calgary, will be racing for Canada in the Olympic long track event.

AASSA would like to acknowledge all the AB HPP, Club and Olympic Oval coaches, parents, officials, volunteers and sponsors who contribute to the success of these and many other athletes who come to Alberta to train and compete.

Short Track Western Elite Circuit

The ST Western Elite Circuit #3 / Winterfest (last in a 3-part series) was hosted by the Olympic Oval in Calgary this past weekend. There was great racing, including opportunities for some of our developing provincial skaters with valuable racing experience with some of Canada's best short track athletes, including 7 of the top 12-ranked Junior male skaters in Canada (who train at the Olympic Oval, and include Alberta's Brendan Yamada and Matej Pederson). Keil Hillis who was top overall senior male for the 3-meet-series. Marika Nadal was the overall top senior female champion for the WEC series, with CSSA coach, Alison Desmarais (Canadian NextGen athlete) the top junior female. Alberta's Celina Chabot and

Molly Young were 2nd and 3rd overall behind Alison.



AB Provincial Junior Development Team Member, Teneea Schoorlemmer of Rycroft, AB and the Peace Wapiti Speed Skating Club in Grande Prairie at WEC #3 in Calgary.

Full results for WEC #3 are on the Olympic Oval Competitions web page, <http://oval.ucalgary.ca/competitions>. There are great photos available for WEC #3 through: <https://vancouverpeedskating.smugmug.com/>. Revenue from photo sales with SmugMug go to equipment replacement at the Vancouver club.

Winter Olympics, Korea, Feb. 9-25, 2018

Alberta Long Track Speed Skaters at the Olympics include Kaylin Irvine, Brianne Tutt, Gilmore Junio and Ted-Jan Bloemen. You will also recognize most of the other long track and short track skaters as well from seeing them at the Oval or in the media.

Additionally, Cheyenne Goh of Edmonton is the first Winter Olympian representing Singapore and she will compete in the Ladies Short Track 1500m event.

Gregg Planert of the Olympic Oval is coaching Alexandra Ianculescu (racing for Romania) out of the Olympic Oval. This pair received a late, but welcomed invitation to compete in the 500m long track event at the Olympics.

Jeremy Wotherspoon will be coaching some of the Norwegian athletes at the Olympics, and you should look for Xiuli Wang in the broadcasts; Xiuli is now the head coach of the Chinese Long Track Team (who have been training extensively in Calgary since last spring). Xiuli's son, Yankun Zhao, trains with the Calgary Grizzlies and will be representing Alberta at CACLT this week in Quebec. Calgary's Marcel Lacroix is on leave from his Olympic Oval job to guide the Canadian long track team at the Olympics, so you will see him and other Canadian coaches on the back street of the race coverage too! Zachary Lacroix represented Alberta at last weekend's Canadian Junior LT event.

- **Remember: #SpeedSkatingIsCanada**
- Opening Ceremony: Feb. 9, 3:30am MDT
- For CBC coverage details: <https://olympics.cbc.ca/>
 - CBC Kids Olympic coverage: <http://www.cbc.ca/cbckidsolympics/>
- [Click here for the full Olympic Speed Skating \(Long Track\) Schedule](#)
- [Click here for the full Olympic Short Track Schedule](#)
- Team Canada information: <https://olympic.ca/>

February 2018

- Winter Olympics!! Korea, February 9-25
- LT Canadian Age-Class Championships, Quebec City, Feb. 10-11
- ST - Alberta Winter Games, Wood Buffalo (Fort MacKay, 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

** June 1, 2018 is the deadline to apply for the Olympic Oval Summer Drop In Program

** The Canmore Summer Camp will be: Sunday, July 8th to Friday, July 13th

** August 19-20, 2018: AASSA Casino in Calgary - pencil a volunteer shift in now; more info soon

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.

Go Canada!

- **Please use SSC's #speedskatingiscanada in your social media posts!**

Photo: Flag raising ceremony; Canadian Olympic Committee

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