

December 16, 2016 eNews and Updates  
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## AB Speed Skating Dec2016 eNews & Updates

Here are some news highlights. Click on [underlined text](#) to access web links.

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### Updates

Thanks to everyone who has signed up for the [Dec. 26/27th Casinos](#) so far! This is the biggest fundraiser for our association and we will not have another casino opportunity for 1.5 to 2 years. Funds raised for AB Speed Skating through this volunteer casino work will support our grassroots programming throughout the province. We are still in need of 10-11 volunteers for the late shifts, and we will subsidize out-of-town volunteer expenses to help out in Calgary. To sign up: <https://www.volunteersignup.org/PED43>. Thanks again!!

The [Alberta 2017 Long Track Camp](#) will be held at the beautiful Victoria Park Oval in Edmonton on Jan. 22nd, 2017, the day after ESSA's one-day LT meet on Jan. 21st. This is a great opportunity for T2T and Junior skaters (and coaches) to tune-up for the Canadian Jr. Championships at the end of January, and for the CACLT Championships to be held in Edmonton in early February. Click [HERE to register](#).



**Up to Speed with the ST National Team:** check out the new, short training videos <http://www.speedskating.ca/resources/technical-videos>.

Speed Skating Canada recently announced changes to the [Canadian \(LT\) Ranking](#)

**System**, using "blended" results from a variety of sanctioned events. This pertains mainly to athletes competing for the top junior and senior spots. If you have any questions about the new ranking system, contact Mike Marshall, [technicaldirector@aassa.ca](mailto:technicaldirector@aassa.ca).

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## Spotlight on Clubs

Thanks everyone for helping us test-drive the MMS system's registration and reporting features and attending to invoices in a timely manner!

### **National Skating Day: January 21, 2017**

ParticipACTION recently announced that January 21, 2017, will be called the National Skating Day as part of their 150 Play List to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday by inviting all Canadians to give back their time and energy through participation in up to 150 different activities throughout the year.

SSC is inviting all Clubs/Branches across the country to celebrate this National Skating Day by organizing events in their home town to promote our sport.

Get one of the 10 grants of \$400:

If you plan to organize an event on January 21, 2017 (public skating, open house, etc.), please let us know by January 10, 2017. Thanks to financial support from ParticipACTION and the Government of Canada, we will give away 10 (ten) grants of \$400 each to help you to promote the sport that day in your community. Among all the Clubs who will organize an event, we will also do a draw for a skating visit by a National Team member or Olympian to your Club for a weekend all costs covered (date to be confirmed with the winning Club).

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Godbout at [pgodbout@speedskating.ca](mailto:pgodbout@speedskating.ca).

## Spotlight on Alberta Speed Skaters

There have been lots of fun and successful meets so far in Alberta this season - congrats to all the skaters, coaches and volunteers! [Short track Personal Bests lists](#) are available on the AB Speed Skating web site and will be updated regularly. [Upcoming meets](#) are noted below in the eNews, and a comprehensive list of meets and results are on our web site as well.



Mike Marshall recently commented that the Alberta short track program is the strongest he's seen since starting with AASSA. The recent number of AB skaters who qualified or nearly qualified for the limited number of combined [Senior / Junior National Qualifier](#) spots in Quebec in November is a testament to that strength (see photo, Victoria Goplen in her first year of Jr. eligibility, at NQ). Primarily from that competition, only 32 Canadian Jr. skaters each for mens and ladies are eligible to compete this weekend in Calgary at the [Canadian Junior ST Championships](#). Congrats and best of luck this weekend to Hee Won, Abbey, Brendan, Paul and Jackson! Come out to cheer if you can or check out the web streaming: [www.youtube.com/TheOlympicOval](http://www.youtube.com/TheOlympicOval). The Canadian Sr. ST Championships will be in Montreal in mid-January.

National-level long track skating is also well-underway, including [Canada Cup 1](#) in Quebec, with some very good results from AB skaters (see [speedskatingresults.com](http://speedskatingresults.com)). Canada Cup 2 and the Canadian Single Distance Championships will be in Calgary in early January, followed by the Canadian Jr. LT Championships / Canada Cup 3 in Saskatoon at the end of January.

Contact Mike Marshall, Technical Director, if you have any questions or suggestions: [technicaldirector@aassa.ca](mailto:technicaldirector@aassa.ca).

## Spotlight on Officials and Volunteers

Fort St. John, BC (long track):

- Level 1 Officials Clinic, Jan. 13th, 2017
- Level 2 Timing and Place Judge Clinic, Jan. 14th
- Electronic Timing Clinic, Jan. 15th

AB Speed Skating meet information and results are available on our web site [at this link](#) and the Olympic Oval-managed events schedule is [at this link](#).

**(Selected) Upcoming Meets and Events in Alberta:**

- Canadian Junior Short Track Championships, Calgary, Dec. 16-18th

- AB Speed Skating major fundraising event: Casino, Calgary, Dec. 26-27th
- Alberta 2017 Long Track Camp, Edmonton, Jan. 22nd

#### January-February, 2017:

- Canadian Single Distance LT Championships / Canada Cup #2, Calgary, Jan. 3-6th
- Alberta Open Long Track, Calgary, Jan. 13-15th
- Edmonton Long Track Meet, Jan. 21st / AB LT Camp, Jan. 22nd
  - \*\* NOTE Change in Date from the initially scheduled Jan. 6-8 weekend
- Red Deer Long Track Meet, Jan. 28-29th
- Canadian Age Class LT Championships, Edmonton, Feb. 4-5th
- Winter Classic (LT), Calgary, Feb. 10-12th
- Western Elite Circuit (WEC) ST #3 (Winterfest), Calgary, Feb. 16-19th
- ISU World (LT) Sprint Championships, Calgary, Feb. 25-26th

#### Also involving AB skaters:

- Western Elite Circuit (WEC) ST #2, Richmond, BC, Jan. 13-15th; deadline to register is Jan. 3rd - targetting developing T2T, Junior and Neo-SR skaters
- Canadian Senior ST Championships, Montreal, PQ, Jan. 13-15th
- Fort St. John, BC, LT Fun Meet, Jan. 14th
- Canadian Junior Long Track Championships / Canada Cup #3, Saskatoon, SK, Jan. 27-29th

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