

February 13, 2017 eNews and Updates
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AB Speed Skating Feb2017 eNews & Updates

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

Updates

SSC has been making some changes that include former AB Speed Skating President Blair Carbert being appointed Speed Skating Canada's interim President to SSC's AGM in June 2017, while Susan Auch has taken on the role of interim Chief Executive Officer to June 2018 to see the program through the Olympics. If you are interested in regular SSC updates, you may want to subscribe to the SSC eNews (<http://www.speedskating.ca/bulletin>).

CHANGE in AB Speed Skating AGM dates: the AB Speed Skating Annual General Meeting will be held in Calgary, the [May 6-7th weekend](#) at the University of Calgary. We will offer a training camp at this location for skaters during this weekend as well. Accommodations will be based at the Hotel Alma; more details to follow.

The Olympic Oval is hosting the ISU World Sprint Speed Skating (LT) Championships on Feb. 25-26th. Come cheer on Team Canada including our AB national team sprint reps, and support For the Love of Speed Skating while at the event. More information: <http://www.speedsk8.ca/>

We would like to extend hearty congratulations to Alberta Provincial Team members, [Brooklyn McDougall and Connor Howe](#) for earning **Team Canada** spots representing our country at the World Junior Speed Skating (LT) Championships this week in Helsinki, Finland! <http://www.speedskating.ca/events/isu-world-junior-long-track-championships>

Brooklyn (centre of photo) is from Calgary and trains with Mike Marshall and Brock Miron in the AB Speed Skating High Performance LT program. Connor is from Canmore and trains with the Oval Stage 2 Elite Pathway Program and coach Jeff Kitura, who is also in Finland as a Team Canada coach. We are tracking Brooklyn and Connor in Finland through AB Speed Skating's social media and web site channels this week and we have already posted perspectives on World Juniors from veterans Maddison Pearman and Alex Ruel-Garvey; see the AB Speed Skating web site home page! Racing will take place Feb. 17-19th. Go Brooklyn, Connor and the rest of Team Canada!
#WJSpeed @wjsc2017



Spotlight on Clubs

Congratulations to the Edmonton club who hosted their first long track meet in several decades in mid-January to prepare for the very successful Canadian Age-Class LT Championships held at Victoria Park Oval on Feb. 4-5th! Thank you to the many volunteers from ESSA and beyond who helped make these events successful and enjoyable for all the skaters. ESSA also hosted the CBC Edmonton Morning TV crew (very early in the morning!) this week, as part of Edmonton's winter festival activities - another great promotional event.



We would also like to acknowledge a few other oval long track milestones. The Red Deer club held their last LT meet at the city-centre oval in January. Plans are underway to open the new LT oval next season at Great Chief Park in preparation for the 2019

Canada Winter Games. Also representing a large, collaborative community effort to make outdoor skating more comfortable for users, Lloydminster's Border Blades just celebrated the opening of their new *Speedy Den* and took advantage of the event to show off and leverage local news coverage in promoting speed skating in the city.

Northern Lights SSC (Peace River) will also be taking full advantage of outdoor ice fun when they host the *Skate the Lake* (Lac Cardinal) speed skating competition (<http://bit.ly/2kkqAFB>) in conjunction with the AB Pond Hockey Championships.

While outdoor skating is very Canadian and lots of fun, Red Deer skaters also recently enjoyed some fun indoor long track skating in Calgary, as this RDLSSC club video demonstrates: goo.gl/YG8hvF.

Spotlight on Alberta Speed Skaters

Alberta long track skaters took advantage of mild weather and fast ice in Saskatoon to earn many personal bests and top rankings at Canada Cup 3 and the Canadian Junior LT Championships on Jan. 27-29th. Hee Won Son, Brooklyn McDougall, Maddison Pearman and Connor Howe each had several top 5 race results over the weekend. Brooklyn and Connor also earned their Team Canada World Jr Championships spots through this meet.

On Feb. 4-5th, 43 Alberta skaters competed at the Canadian Age Class Long Track Championships in Edmonton. AB skaters Briar Hucaluk, and Stefanie Spicer took the top two spots in the Ladies Open category, while Kees Koemen earned third overall in the Men's Open division. CSSA club-mates Annika Johnston and Sarah Feschuk along with ESSA's Victoria Goplen each finished 2nd overall in their respective female T2T-11, T2T-12 and T2T-14 categories. CSSA's Josua Myburgh also earned 2nd overall for the T2T-13 male category while club-mate Yankun Zhao and ESSA's Hobbes Holzer each placed 3rd overall in the male T2T-12 and T2T-14 categories. Congratulations to all the Alberta skaters for their very good results; we hope you enjoyed ESSA's efforts to host this national meet!

National meet results including CACLT, Canada Cups, Jr Championships, etc., are posted on the SSC web site: <http://www.speedskating.ca/events/national-competitions> while many AB meet results are available on our web site at: <http://www.albertaspeedskating.ca/>. Results for other olympic-style long-track events such as last weekend's Winter Classic at the Olympic Oval are available at <http://www.speedskatingresults.com>.

National Team Notes:

- CBC posted a very good article about Ted-Jan Bloemen putting the world on notice *the Canadian Way*: <https://t.co/YbZG1iYBaq>.
- Team Canada at the ISU World Single LT Championships in Germany included AB skaters, Ted-Jan Bloemen, Kaylin Irvine and Brianne Tutt; Ted-Jan won his first World Cup Gold Medal in the 5,000m on Jan. 28th at this competition.
- Sasha Fathoullin is back on the ice training in Montreal with the National Short Track Team after taking some time off; Sasha gave an honest and poignant interview describing his decisions to step away from the ice for awhile, reminding all of us about the importance of holistic health: <http://passionpvss.blogspot.ca/2017/01/looking-for-answers-discussion-with.html>
- The series of five informative "Up to Speed with the National Team" short track technical videos are available on SSC's web site: <http://www.speedskating.ca/resources/technical-videos>

Also, ESSA's Cheyenne Goh will be competing in ST at the Asian Winter Games in Japan from February 19-26th. Go Cheyenne!

Contact Mike Marshall, Technical Director, if you have any questions or suggestions: technicaldirector@aassa.ca.

Spotlight on Officials and Volunteers

Thank you to all speed skating supporters who have shared their photos this season! Our Facebook page features many of these photos and includes links to photo collections. Stephen Maunder's photos include the CACLT Championships in Edmonton, as well as other provincial events and he graciously shares them with our community: https://www.flickr.com/photos/stephen_maunder/ . This photo is by Stephen Maunder and shows ESSA's Camden Chabot prepping things at Victoria Park Oval for CACLT. If you would like further information, or you have comments or questions about skating photos, please contact us through info@aassa.ca.



We still have some meets to finish off the season; please consider helping out if you can. The Oval will be hosting the third Western Elite Circuit #3 / Winterfest this weekend, and the Calgary SSA will be hosting RU Fast March 4-5th, and both short-track meets require a lot of volunteer help to run.

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:](#)

[February 2017:](#)

- Western Elite Circuit (WEC) ST #3 (Winterfest), Calgary, Feb. 16-19th
- Foothills Speed Skating Marathon, Sylvan Lake, Feb. 17-18th
- Silver Skate Festival and Marathon, Edmonton, Feb. 19-20th
- ISU World (LT) Sprint Championships, Calgary, Feb. 25-26th, including the "For the Love of Speed Skating" fundraiser involving AB skaters

[March 2017:](#)

- Peace River "Skate the Lake" event, March 4th
- RuFast ST Meet, Calgary, March 4-5th
- Olympic Oval Grand Prix LT meet, Calgary, March 11-12th

- Olympic Oval LT Finale / Canada Cup #4, March 16-19th
- West Edmonton Mall ST Fun Meet, March 25th

Also involving AB skaters:

- Canadian Senior Open Short Track Selection, *adjusted location* to Montreal, March 9-12th
- Masters' International All-Around Games, Fort St. John, BC, March 10-12, 2016
- Canadian Jr. ST Selections #2, Trois Rivieres, PQ, March 16-19th
- Canada West T2T ST Championships, Saskatoon, March 18-19th

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