

Communication No. 2822

ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27, including International Competitions for "Neo-seniors"

1. General Conditions

- a) The Junior World Cup series is an ISU Event. Relevant parts of the ISU Regulations apply, in particular the Competition and Event Regulations (CER) (notably Articles 1.3, 10.1.1, 11, 13 and 16.4). The Speed Skating Sports Rules, Rule 224, paragraph 1 b) and 1 c) regarding national team uniforms will apply with the adjustments mentioned in 2c) below.
- b) As per Article 1.3 of the CER, the national (domestic) TV rights and marketing/advertising rights for each International Competition in the ISU Junior World Cup 2026/27 remain with the organizing (Hosting) ISU Member. Before concluding any commercial agreements, the organizers should nevertheless consult the ISU Director General to prevent conflicts with ISU contracts. The international TV rights belong to the ISU.
- c) Each Competition of the ISU Junior World Cup 2026/27 will include races for Juniors (as defined in CER article 9.2 and paragraph 2d) below) and for "Neo-Seniors" (as defined in paragraph 2.e below), in two separate divisions with a separate list of results and rankings. Both divisions, to be named "Juniors" and "Neo-Seniors", are considered to be part of the same ISU Event, and are governed by the same rules and regulations, if not otherwise specified in this Communication.
- d) An ISU Memorandum specifying obligations and guidelines for the organization of the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27 will be available to the hosting ISU Members and the Organizing Committees.
- e) For each Competition in the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27 the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee assigns a Representative, who shall observe that the competitions are conducted in accordance with this Communication, the CER, Sport Rules and ISU Memorandum.
- f) In this Communication, the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27 is sometimes referred to with the shorter term "ISU Junior World Cup" and the abbreviation "JWC". The terms "Juniors" and "Neo-Seniors" will refer to the races and rankings of the two respective divisions.
- g) The ISU will be conducting tests on alternative warm-up solutions prior races, details on days and categories concerned will be communicated in the respective Event Announcements or special circular letter from Technical Committee.

2. Competition Rules

- a) The ISU Junior World Cup consists of a series of Competitions for the following distances/competitions:

Women, individual: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 3000m, Elimination Mass Start and Short Mass Start races;

Women, teams: Team Pursuit (6 laps) and Team Sprint (3 laps);

Men, individual: 100, 500, 1000, 1500, 3000m, Elimination Mass Start and Short Mass Start races;

Men, teams: Team Pursuit (8 laps) and Team Sprint (3 laps);

Mixed Relay, teams: Relay (6 laps).

- b) The ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27 ranking for each distance/competition is determined by the accumulated points for each Skater or national team (one classification for all Team competitions) over the season.
- c) The competitions are open to all ISU Speed Skating Members, subject to entry quotas and required qualifying times. Participating competitors need to wear racing uniforms clearly identifying the ISU Member concerned. For AIN Skaters, ISU Communication No. 2804, paragraph 1.1. applies.
- d) As per ISU Rule 108, participation in the **Juniors division** is open to:
 - **Juniors U19 and U17** born in the period 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2011
- e) Participation in the **Neo-Seniors division** is open to:
 - **Skaters** born in the period 1 July 2003 – 30 June 2007
- f) In each division the Competitors who currently have the highest rank on the distance concerned will skate in the last pair of the distance; the Competitors currently ranked 3rd and 4th will skate in the second to last pair, etc. The same principle applies for the Team competitions.
- g) For Mass Start the position at the start for JWC-1 will be determined by lot and for JWC-3 it will be organized according to the current ranking of the division.
- h) For the Short Mass Start at JWC-2 the results from the top 36 in the 1500m in JWC 1 are qualified.
- i) For the Short Mass Start there will be a maximum of 6 heats with maximum 6 skaters in each heat. The heats are made using the same system as for MR. The winner of each heat goes to the final.
- j) Prize money as determined by the ISU and a special trophy for the winner and diplomas for 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded for the overall classification of each distance/competition for the Juniors division of the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27. A special trophy for the winner and diplomas for 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded for the overall classification of each distance/competition of the Neo-Seniors division.

3. ISU Junior World Cup Competitions 2026/27

JWC#	Dates	Place	Program
1	28.11 – 29.11. 2026	Quebec, CAN	Day 1: 1000, 3000, Team Pursuit Day 2: SF MS*, 500, 1500, MS Finals
2	05 – 06.12.2026	Quebec, CAN	Day 1: 100, 1000, 3000, Mixed Relay Day 2: SF SMS*, 500, 1500, SMS Finals
3	06 – 07.02.2027	Baselga di Piné, ITA	Day 1: 1000, 3000, Team Sprint Day 2: SF MS*, 500, 1500, 100m, MS Finals

*SF MS – Semifinals Elimination Mass Start, *SF SMS – Semifinals Short Mass Start

4. Entry Rules

4.1. Entries of Competitors

ISU Members must submit their entries using the *ISU Online Registration System (ORS)* at <https://ors.isu.swisstiming.com>. The entries must indicate the distance(s) to be skated by each entered Competitor, including maximum one substitute per event, and for team competitions. An entered Competitor may be replaced by an entered substitute not later than at the Team leaders' meeting preceding the draw for the distance for Day 1 or according to paragraph 6.1.d) below for Day 2. No substitutions will be accepted at the draw meeting providing such meeting is held. See also paragraph 6.1.

Replacement of a Competitor by an entered substitute *after the draw* may be **exceptionally** accepted, but only if the Referee has been duly informed **at least two hours before the start of the distance**. See also 6.3.e) below.

4.2. Entry Quotas

- a) Counting both divisions Juniors and Neo-seniors an ISU Member¹ may enter a maximum of:
 - 20 Competitors (10 Women, 10 Men) for JWC-1 and JWC-2.
 - 16 Competitors (8 Women, 8 Men) for JWC-3 (JWC "Final").
 - 1 team for each team competition (Team Sprint and Team Pursuit) per gender in each division. Up to two (2) Junior Skaters may take part in a team competition in the Neo-Seniors division, but not vice versa.
 - 1 team for Mixed Relay in each division (1 Junior skater may take part in Mixed Relay in the Neo-Senior division, but not vice versa).
- b) For the JWC-3 "Final" an ISU Member¹ may only enter:
 - Junior Skaters who have scored JWC points in the Juniors division during the season 2026/27.
 - Junior Skaters who have been entered (in preliminary or final entry) for the ISU Junior World Championships 2027 and achieved qualifying times mentioned below.
 - Neo-senior Skaters according to paragraph 4.2.a) and 4.3.
- c) The maximum number of Competitors/Teams from each ISU Member per Event is listed in the table below.

Summary Table of Entry Quotas for an ISU Member per Division/Category/Distance/Competition

Division		500m, 1000m	1500m, 3000m	Elimination Mass Start	Short Mass Start	Team competitions
Juniors	Women	4 (4/3*)	3	2	3	1 team
	Men	4 (4/3*)	3	2	3	1 team
Neo-seniors	Women	4 (4/3*)	3	2	3	1 team
	Men	4 (4/3*)	3	2	3	1 team

* Quota for JWC-3 Final: 4 entry quotas allowed in the 500m, 3 in the 1000m.

¹ For Skating Union of Belarus and Russian Skating Union, and skaters from Belarus and Russia, please refer to ISU Communication No. 2804.

4.3. Qualifying Times

Entered Skaters must have achieved applicable qualifying times for the respective distances:

	Juniors				Neo-Seniors			
	500	1000	1500	3000	500	1000	1500	3000
Women	45,00	1.30,00	2.20,00	5.00,00	42,50	1.25,00	2.12,00	4.45,00
Men	41,00	1.22,00	2.07,00	4.25,00	38,50	1.16,00	1.58,00	4.05,00
For Elimination Mass Start and Team Events : any of the above distance Qualifying times apply.								
Only for Team Events : for maximum one Skater per ISU Member, the following Qualifying times may apply:							1000m	
					Women		1.33,00	
					Men		1.25,00	

For a result to be valid as a qualifying time, it must have been achieved in the period between July 1, 2025, and the entry deadline for the ISU Junior World Cup Competition concerned. Documentation (specifying date and venue of the competition) of the achieved time must be available.

5. Competition Formats and Rules

5.1. Individual Distances

- For each individual distance, all Skaters entered for the same age category compete together.
- Quartet starts should be used for the 3000m. Quartets may be used for the 1000m and 1500m.

5.2. Elimination Mass Start

- Distance is set to 12 laps for Women and Men, in both age categories.
- For Elimination race format, see the valid ISU Communication 2821 "Mass Start and Team Races at ISU Speed Skating Events – Safety Measures, Promotion Initiatives and Race Organization".
- The warm-up lane is considered as part of the racing track (if not otherwise decided by the Referee and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative).
- Mass Start races will be organized based on ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating Rules 243, paragraph 4, 257 and 265, paragraphs 6.1 and 6.4 and details given in ISU Communication 2821 "Mass Start and Team Races at ISU Speed Skating Events – Safety Measures, Promotion Initiatives and Race Organization".
- Maximum quota for each ISU Member: 2 Competitors per gender in each age category.
- The Elimination Mass Start may be organized with semi-finals.
- The table below shows the number of Competitors in each semi-final and final.

Number of entries for the Elimination Mass Start	Up to 20	>20
Number of Competitors in each Semi-Final of the Elimination Mass Start	-	Up to 20
Number of Competitors in the Final of the Elimination Mass Start	all	16

- The maximum number of Competitors in the competition will be 40. In case of more than 40 entries, entry quotas will be allocated to ISU Members (with a

maximum quota of 2 Competitors each) based on the 1500m seasonal best time of Skaters from the respective ISU Members.

- At first all ISU Members will be allocated 1 quota place.
 - Then a second quota place will be allocated to ISU Members according to the rankings in the 1500m of the second-best Skater from the ISU Member.
 - After all 40 places have been allocated to ISU Members a reserve list of 3 Skaters will be made available.
- i) For the age category "Neo-Seniors" in the JWC "Final" (JWC-3) quota places will be based on the current JWC ranking, within a maximum entry quota of 2 Skaters per Member.

5.3. Short Mass Start

- a) Distances are 3 laps for Women and Men, in both age categories.
- b) For the Short Mass Start Race format, see the valid ISU Communication 2821 "Mass Start and Team Races at ISU Speed Skating Events – Safety Measures, Promotion Initiatives and Race Organization".
- c) The warm-up lane is considered as part of the racing track (if not otherwise decided by the Referee and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative).
- d) Maximum quota for each ISU Member: 3 Competitors per gender in each age category.
- e) Maximum 36 Skaters are eligible to compete based on the results of the 1500m.
- f) The Short Mass Start may be organized with semi-finals.
- g) No World Cup points will be awarded for the Short Mass Start.

5.4. 100 Meters Competition

- a) The number of Skaters will be maximum 9 based on the 100m split time from the 500m race in JWC 1.
- b) There will be 3 semi-finals with 3 Skaters in each race. The warm-up lane will be used.
- c) The snake system will be used to determine the placement of the Skaters in the semi-finals based on the 100m from the 500m race. In case of a tie, criteria g) below will be used.
- d) The position of the Skaters in each semi-final will be determined by their 100m time from the 500m race. The fastest Skater has the middle position (inner lane), the second fastest Skater has the inner most lane (warm-up lane) and the third fastest Skater has the outer lane.
- e) The winner of each semi-final goes to the final. The same process for determining the position of the Skaters for the start will be based on the time from the semi-finals.
- f) If two or more winners of semi-finals have obtained the same time, tie will be resolved by their 100m time from the 500m race.
- g) If not possible to resolve tie with criteria f), then it is done by lot/draw.

5.5. Team Competitions

- a) Team Sprint competitions will consist of national teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 3 laps for Women and Men.

- b) Team Pursuit competitions will consist of national teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 6 laps for Women and 8 laps for Men.
- c) Mixed Relay will consist of national teams of 2 Skaters (One Woman and One Man). Distances are 6 laps: 3 laps for Women and 3 laps for Men skated in accordance with Rule 256, paragraph 3.1.
- d) Team competitions will be organized based on ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating 256 and 265, paragraphs 5 and 7, and details given in ISU Communication No. 2821, or later updates of this Communication.
- e) The deadline for entry of names of the Skaters that may compete in the Team (possibly more than 3 names) will be announced by the Referee at the Team leaders' meeting the day before the Team competition. A maximum of 2 Junior Skaters can be entered on a Neo-Senior team for Team Pursuit and Team Sprint. A maximum of 1 Junior Skater can be entered on a Neo-Senior team for the Mixed Relay.
- f) The final composition of the team shall be declared by the Team leader not later than 60 minutes before the start of the Team competition concerned.
- g) In each Team event, the starting order of the entered Teams will be decided by an open draw (no seeding of the Teams).

5.6. Demonstration Events

Subject to the consent of the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee, the organizer of an ISU Junior World Cup Competition may add demonstration events to the program. Entry rules and conditions for demonstration events should be included in the announcement.

6. Drawing, Composition of Pairs and Start Lists

6.1. Draw Meeting and Team Leaders' Meeting

- a) A Team Leaders' meeting may take place before the first day of the Competition (in person or online), with the purpose to confirm the final entries and to present race schedules and other logistical information.
- b) Each participating ISU Member is obliged to attend the Team leaders' meeting, but participation is restricted to one person (the officially entered Team leader or another person authorized by the Team leader) unless another person is requested for translation purposes.
- c) Before the first day of a Competition, there may be a draw meeting to announce the start lists.
- d) For the second day the start lists will be determined by the Referee based on the confirmed final entries and the rules given below. Changes to final entries must be confirmed by submitting the required forms at the latest 15 minutes after the final race of Day 1.

6.2. Drawing at the First Competition for the Event

- a) Individual distances (both divisions): Arrangement of the pairs shall be made according to Sports Rules Speed Skating 243, paragraph 1) based on the ranking of seasonal best times. Highest ranked Competitors shall be placed in the last pair.
- b) Elimination Mass Start: The position of Competitors at the start line is determined by an open draw.
- c) Team events: See paragraph 5.3.g) above.

6.3. Pairing and Drawing at the Following Competitions

- a) Competitors in each age category shall be paired or, for the Elimination Mass Start, lined up at the start according to their ISU Junior World Cup, as follows:
 - Competitors with JWC points will be ranked first, according to their current rank.
 - Competitors without JWC points will be ranked thereafter, according to their best achieved JWC result (time) 2026/27. For the Elimination Mass Start this further ranking will be determined by lot.
 - Competitors without results from JWC Competitions 2026/27 will be ranked thereafter, according to their seasonal best time for the distance concerned. For the Elimination Mass Start this further ranking will be determined by lot.
 - The starting order shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors, so that the Competitors with the lowest rank start in the first pair, etc. The better ranked Competitor in a pair shall start in the inner lane.
- b) In the case of an odd number of Competitors, the first pair shall consist of a single Skater.
- c) In quartet starts the four Competitors with the best JWC ranking shall form the last quartet, and only the first quartet may be incomplete.
- d) In case of withdrawals after the draw meeting, pairs shall be rearranged according to ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating 245, paragraphs 1-3.

7. ISU Junior World Cup Ranking System

7.1. Competitions Counting

All competitions count for the JWC rankings for the respective distances/competitions in each division. For the Team competitions (Mixed Relay, Team Sprint and Team Pursuit) the results are combined into one ISU Junior World Cup team competition ranking.

7.2. Awarding of ISU Junior World Cup Points (in each division)

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Points	60	54	48	43	40	38	36	34	32	31	30	29
Rank	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Points	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17
Rank	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Points	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
Rank	37	38	39	40								
Points	4	3	2	1								

* Points for Mixed Relay will be equally given towards Men and Women Teams final rankings.

** Place 1-2-3 in each Elimination Mass Start Semi-Final will be awarded with extra 8-5-3 points respectively.

Points for Mass Start will be distributed based on Final results classification, according to Rule 265, paragraph 6.3 d).

7.3. Points for Tied Ranks

If two or more Skaters (or teams) have obtained the same rank in an event, each Skater (or team) will receive the full points scored for this tied rank.

7.4. ISU Junior World Cup Ranking Rules

The JWC rankings for each event (distance) is determined by the number of points the Skaters (or Teams) accumulate during the season. In the final JWC rankings, as well as in the intermediate ranking during the season, a tie between Skaters/Teams with the same total of JWC points will be resolved according to the following criteria (in order of priority) for determining the better ranked Skater/Team:

- a) The Skater/Team with the higher number of Junior World Cup victories.
- b) The Skater/Team with the highest score of points in any single competition (race).
- c) The Skater/Team with the next higher score of points in any single competition (race).
- d) For Mass Start the Skater with the highest score of points from the (next) previous race.
- e) The Skater/Team with the best time achieved in the Junior World Cup for the distance/competition concerned.
- f) If not possible to determine with criteria a)-e) above, then it is done by lot/draw.

8. Prizes

8.1. Prize Money

Prize Money will be awarded only based on the Final Junior World Cup ranking after all the Junior World Cup Competitions of the season have been concluded. The Prize Money amounts are published in ISU Communication 2820.

8.2. Other Prizes

For each division (Junior and Neo-Senior) a special trophy for the winner and diplomas for the 2nd and 3rd place in each distance/team competitions will be presented by the ISU based on the final ISU Junior World Cup ranking for the season 2026/27.

9. Cancellations

9.1. Cancellation of a Competition

If an organizing ISU Member considers it impossible to hold the ISU Junior World Cup Competition it has been allotted according to the schedule given in paragraph 3, it must urgently give the reasons in writing to the ISU Office to permit the ISU to authorize the cancellation. If circumstances during a Competition would make it impossible to complete the scheduled race(s), the Referee in consultation with the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative is authorized to cancel distances or races. The ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee decides if cancelled distances or races shall be re-scheduled for another date and/or another venue.

9.2. Cancellation of Status as an ISU Junior World Cup Competition

For each division (Junior and Neo-Senior), a Competition will retain its status as an ISU Junior World Cup Competition only if at least five ISU Members are represented with

Competitors. JWC points will only be awarded for distances/team competitions with Competitors/teams from at least three ISU Members.

10. Distribution of Results

The organizer of a Competition must immediately send complete results of the races (ranking lists with finishing times and results by pairs) by email to the below-mentioned address.

The organizer should ensure that results are posted continuously during the Competition at an announced Internet website. The official protocol of results, in appropriate digital format, must be sent without delay to the ISU Office in Lausanne.

11. Travel Contribution

Applies only for ISU Members incurring a travel duration, for the longest part of the connections, to the Event, of a minimum of 9 hours by airplane.

ISU Members (meeting the above requirement) travelling to Speed Skating Junior World Cup Competitions 1 and/or 2 may request a travel contribution of up to **USD 700** per Skater, subject to the conditions below. The contribution will be transferred to the ISU Member concerned by the end of the season.

General requirements for request:

- a) The actual contribution may depend on the total number of requests received.
- b) The ISU Member concerned must bring a Coach/Team leader at their own cost.
- c) The support is limited to a maximum of 5 competitors per gender per ISU Member for the Speed Skating Junior World Cup series.

To request this contribution, the official application form at Appendix A must be sent within 15 days following the completion of the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup Competition/s concerned, along with the corresponding invoice on the ISU Member letterhead, to: eszter.borsodi@isu.org and mercedes.baltar@isu.org.

12. ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup Coordination

Any questions concerning rules and conditions given in this Communication or concerning the organization of the ISU Speed Skating Junior World Cup 2026/27 should be addressed to:

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September 1, 2026

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