

Communication No. 2823

ISU Speed Skating World Cup 2026/27

1. General Conditions

- The ISU Speed Skating World Cup 2026/27 will be organized as a series of International Competitions subject to regulations given in this ISU Communication. The World Cup series is an ISU Event. Relevant parts of the ISU General Regulations apply, in particular the Competition and Event Regulations (CER) (notably Articles 1.3, 10.1.1, 11, 13 and 16.4).
- As per Article 1.3 of the CER the International TV rights and advertising rights for the ISU Speed Skating World Cup 2026/27 belong to the ISU. Organizers of Competitions are obliged to respect commercial and TV contracts entered into by the ISU. Before concluding any commercial agreements, the organizers should consult the ISU Director General in order to prevent competition conflicts with ISU contracts.
- An ISU Memorandum, specifying contractual obligations and guidelines for the organization of ISU Speed Skating World Cup Competitions, will be made available to organizing ISU Members and Organizing Committees.
- For each World Cup Competition, the ISU assigns an ISU Representative and an ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative, who shall observe that the competitions are conducted in accordance with this Communication, the CER, Sport Rules and ISU Memorandum.

2. ISU Speed Skating World Cup Competitions 2026/27

2.1. Competition Calendar and Distribution of Distances/Races

If not otherwise decided, distances in Division A will be skated according to the following programs and order of distances:

WC	Place	Date	Program
1	Beijing, CHN	13 November 2026, Fri 14 November 2026, Sat 15 November 2026, Sun	3000-W, 5000-M, 1000-W, 1000-M 500-W, 500-M, 1500-W, 1500-M TP-W, TP-M, 500-W, 500-M, MS-W, MS-M
2	Obihiro, JPN	20 November 2026, Fri 21 November 2026, Sat 22 November 2026, Sun	1000-W, 1000-M, 3000-W, 5000-M 500-W, 500-M, 1500-W, 1500-M TP-W, TP-M, 500-W, 500-M, MR-SF, MR-F
3	Heerenveen, NED	04 December 2026, Fri 05 December 2026, Sat 06 December 2026, Sun	5000-W, 1500-M, 1000-W 10 000-M, 1500-W, 1000-M 500-W, 500-M, MS-W, MS-M, MR-SF, MR-F
4	Stavanger, NOR	11 December 2026, Fri 12 December 2026, Sat 13 December 2026, Sun	500-W, 500-M, 1500-W, 1500-M 1000-W, 1000-M, 3000-W, 5000-M 500-W, 500-M, MS-W, MS-M, TS-W, TS-M
5	Salt Lake City, USA	29 January 2027, Fri 30 January 2027, Sat 31 January 2027, Sun	500-W, 500-M, 1500-W, 1500-M 3000-W, 5000-M, 1000-W, 1000-M TS-W, TS-M, MS-W, MS-M, MR-SF, MR-F
6	Calgary, CAN	05 February 2027, Fri 06 February 2027, Sat 07 February 2027, Sun	1000-W, 1000-M, 3000-W, 5000-M 500-W, 500-M, 1500-W, 1500-M TP-W, TP-M, TS-W, TS-M, MS-W, MS-M

W – Women, M – Men, MS – Mass Start, TP – Team Pursuit, TS – Team Sprint,
 MR – Mixed Relay, MR-SF is Semi-final, MR-F is Final

2.2. ISU World Cup Competitions serving as Qualifying events for the ISU Speed Skating Championships 2027

2.2.1. World Cups N°1 to N°4 are Qualifying Events for:

- the ISU Speed Skating European Championships 2027 (Allround and Sprint Combinations).

2.2.2. World Cups N°1 to N°6 are qualifying events for:

- the ISU Speed Skating World Championships 2027 (Single Distances and Team Competitions).

The qualification process for the above-mentioned ISU Championships 2027 is described in Rule 208, with details given in the ISU Communication 2824.

3. Competition Rules

- a) The ISU World Cup Speed Skating is organized in the following competition categories for the season 2026/27:

Women, individual competitions: 500, 1000, 1500, 3000/5000m, Mass Start,

Women, team competitions: Team Pursuit (6 laps), Team Sprint (3 laps) and Mixed Relay (6 laps)

Men, individual competitions: 500, 1000, 1500, 5000/10000m, Mass Start,

Men, Team competitions: Team Pursuit (8 laps), Team Sprint (3 laps) and Mixed Relay (6 laps)

- b) The World Cup ranking for each competition category is determined by the accumulated World Cup points for each Skater or national team (for the Team competitions) over the season.
- c) Individual competitions are organized in a format where Skaters compete in two divisions, A and B. The Skaters with the currently best World Cup ranking (including promoted Skaters or Skaters with Wild or Gold card) in the category compete in Division A. The other Skaters compete in Division B. Each competition day has a core session of Division A races for all the events skated that day. The Division B events will most likely be competed on the same day as the World Cup events but could also be competed on another day before or after the World Cup events.
- d) Entry quotas for ISU Speed Skating Members are based on the World Cup rankings 2025/26.
- e) Prize money, as determined by the ISU, will be awarded for each Competition and for the final World Cup ranking in each competition category.

3.1. Entry Rules

3.1.1. Entries of Competitors

ISU Members must submit their entries using the ISU online entry system (ORS): <https://ors.isu.swisstiming.com/account/login>. The entries must indicate the distance(s) to be skated by each entered Competitor, including maximum one substitute per distance, and entries 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 or at a specifically announced deadline. Replacement of a Competitor by an entered substitute *after the draw* may be **exceptionally** accepted, but only if the Referee has been informed **at least two hours** before the start of the first race of Division A or Division B of the distance.

3.1.2. Qualifying Times

Entered Skaters must have achieved qualifying times for the respective distances, as follows:

	500m	1000m	1500m	3000m	5000m	10 000m
Women	40,00	1.20,00	2.02,00	4.22,00	4.22,00 at 3000m	----
Men	36,20	1.12,00	1.50,50	----	6.42,00	6.42,00 at 5000m

For Mass Start and Team Events: any of the above distance Qualifying times apply.

For maximum one Skater per ISU Member for any of the Team Events, the following Qualifying times may apply:

	1000m	1500m
Women	1.23,00	2.10,00
Men	1.14,00	1.55,00

- For a result to be a valid qualifying time, it must have been achieved in the period between *July 1, 2025*, and the entry deadline for the ISU World Cup Competition concerned. Qualifying times will be verified using the ISU online entry system (ORS). Documentation (specifying date and venue of the competition) of the achieved time may be requested.
- For the Qualification World Cups (WC-1 to WC-4), a Skater having achieved the qualifying time for only one of the two distances counting in the qualification of quota places for the ISU European Championships (for the Allround combination: 1500 and 3000m for Women, 1500 and 5000m for Men; for the Sprint combination: 500 and 1000m Women and Men), may be entered also for the other distance. However, in each World Cup Competition an ISU Member may enter for each category (Allround and Sprint) maximum one such Skater (per gender) without the required qualifying time for the other distance counting for the quota qualification.

3.1.3. Entry Quotas for World Cups

- Entry quotas for individual competitions are based on the final World Cup rankings 2025/26 for the respective competition categories, with a maximum entry quota of 5 for each individual competition and determined as follows:

Number of Skaters in Top 30 in season 2025/26	None (0)	1	2	3-4	5 or more
Entry quotas for the distance in season 2026/27	1	2	3	4	5

- For the Mass Start competition, each ISU Member will be eligible for the maximum entry quota of two (2) (subject to qualifying times).
- For the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint competitions, an ISU Member may enter only one team per gender (Women and Men). For the Mixed Relay an ISU Member may enter only one team consisting of one Woman and one Man.
- The organizing ISU Member of an ISU World Cup Competition will be granted maximum entry quotas for all distances at the Competition.
- Summary table of entry quotas for ISU World Cup Competitions 2026/27 based on the top 30 from the 2025/26 season with a maximum quota of 5 per ISU Member:

#	ISU Member	WOMEN				ISU Member	MEN				ISU Member
		500	1000	1500	3000 / 5000		500	1000	1500	5000 / 10000	
1	AUT	1	1	1	2	AUT	1	2	3	2	AUT
2	AIN1*	1	1	1	2	AIN1*	1	1	1	1	AIN1*
3	BEL	1	3	2	2	BEL	1	2	1	2	BEL
4	CAN	4	3	4	4	CAN	4	4	3	2	CAN
5	CHN	4	3	5	4	CHN	4	3	4	3	CHN
6	CZE	1	2	2	2	CZE	1	1	2	2	CZE
7	DEN	2	2	2	1	DEN	1	1	1	2	DEN
8	ESP	1	1	1	1	ESP	2	2	1	1	ESP
9	EST	1	1	1	1	EST	2	2	1	1	EST
10	FRA	1	1	1	2	FRA	1	1	2	3	FRA
11	GBR	1	2	1	1	GBR	1	1	1	1	GBR
12	GER	2	3	2	4	GER	1	4	4	4	GER
13	HUN	1	1	1	1	HUN	1	2	2	1	HUN
14	ITA	2	1	2	3	ITA	1	2	2	5	ITA
15	JPN	4	4	4	2	JPN	4	3	4	1	JPN
16	KAZ	2	4	3	2	KAZ	2	1	1	1	KAZ
17	KOR	4	3	1	2	KOR	4	1	1	1	KOR
18	NED	5	5	5	5	NED	5	5	5	5	NED
19	NOR	2	1	2	2	NOR	2	2	4	4	NOR
20	POL	4	4	3	1	POL	4	4	2	2	POL
21	AIN2*	1	1	2	2	AIN2*	1	1	1	1	AIN2*
22	SUI	1	2	2	2	SUI	1	1	1	2	SUI
23	TPE	2	1	1	1	TPE	1	1	1	1	TPE
24	USA	3	3	3	2	USA	4	4	4	3	USA

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

- f) ISU Speed Skating Members not listed in the table above, may enter a maximum of 1 Skater for each distance.

4. Competition Formats

4.1. Competition format for Individual Competitions

4.1.1. Competitions are Skated in Separate Divisions

For each Event the entered Skaters compete in two separate divisions with the currently best ranked Skaters competing in Division A, the remaining Skaters in Division B. The number of Skaters and Team Pursuit Teams (Women and Men), are indicated in paragraph 4.1.2 below.

4.1.2. Number of Competitors/Teams in Division A

- For 500, 1000 and 1500m, Women and Men: 20 Skaters.
- For 3000m Women and 5000m Men: 16 Skaters.
- For 5000m Women and 10000m Men: 12 Skaters.
- For Mass Start, Women and Men:

- i. The maximum number of Competitors in the competition will be 44. In case of more than 44 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. First, all ISU Members will be allocated 1 quota place. Then a second quota place will be allocated to ISU Members based on the rankings in the 1500m of the second-best Skater from the ISU Member. Once 44 places have been allocated to ISU Members a reserve list of 3 Skaters will be made available.
- ii. If 24 or less Skaters have been confirmed before the start list has been issued, all Skaters will compete in Division A, or
- iii. If 25-32 Skaters have been confirmed before the start list has been issued, 16 Competitors will initially be selected for Division A, or
- iv. If more than 32 Skaters have been confirmed before the start list has been issued, 20 Competitors will initially be selected for Division A.
- e) For *Team Pursuit and Team Sprint, Women and Men*: Division A shall consist of 8 Teams, remaining Teams will compete in Division B.
- f) For Mixed Relay all teams will compete in the Division A.

In the case of many late withdrawals for a distance (event), the ISU Technical Committee Representative and the ISU Representative may exceptionally determine a different number of participants in Division A than specified above (and summarized in the table below), based on the approved Time schedule for the World Cup Competition.

Summary Table Regarding Number of Competitors for Division A:

Number of Entries	Number of Competitors in Division A (WC № 1-6)			
	Up to 20	Up to 24	25-32	>32
500 / 1000 / 1500	all	20	20	20
3000W / 5000M	16	16	16	16
5000W / 10000M	12	12	12	12
Mixed Relay	all	all	all	all
Mass Start	all	all	16	20
Number of Entries	Up to 8	Up to 10	>10	-
Team Pursuit	all	8	8	-
Team Sprint	all	8	8	-

4.1.3. Selection of Skaters/Teams for Division A (for Mass Start see 4.1.2 d) above

- a) In the *first Competition* the 2025/26 World Cup ranking determines the number of quota places for the ISU Member in Division A for the competition category concerned (subject to the entry quotas listed in paragraph 3.1.3, and the maximum of 2 Skaters from the same ISU Member for Mass Start).
ISU Members will be able to select their skater(s) for their quota places in Division A, given that the skater has reached the qualifying time for the distance concerned. For the individual distances (except for Mass Start) the selected skaters must meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Top 30 for 500/1000/1500m or top 20 for 3000/5000m in World Cup ranking 2025/26.
 - Top 30 for 500/1000/1500m or top 20 for 3000/5000m in seasonal best time ranking 2026/27.

If an ISU Member does not fulfill the criteria above for their selected Skater(s) for Division A, the ISU Member will lose their quota place(s) in Division A for the distance concerned, and the quota place(s) will be transferred to another ISU Member in accordance with the 2025/26 World Cup ranking.

- b) In *all other Competitions* (also for the first competition over 5000m Women and 10000m Men, subject to meeting the qualifying time in paragraph 3.1.2.a), the selection for Division A shall be based on the current World Cup ranking of the entered Skaters. When 500m is skated with two races in the same World Cup Competition, each race is considered a separate competition regarding the selection of Skaters for Division A.
- c) However, the following entered Skaters/Teams shall compete in Division A. This rule does not apply for the first World Cup (WC-1):
 - Competitors placed among the 6 best (ties included) and Teams placed among the 3 best (ties included) in Division A in the preceding Competition.
 - Competitors ranked among the top 6 (ties included) and Teams ranked among the 3 best (ties included) in the current overall World Cup ranking.
 - The winner of Division B from the preceding Competition in the 5000m Women and 10000m Men.
 - Competitors who finished among the 3 best (ties included) in Division B from the preceding Competition when Division A will consist of more than 12 Skaters.
 - The winning Team Pursuit Team from Division B in the preceding Competition.
 - The winning Team Sprint Team from Division B in the preceding Competition.
- d) Competitor/Team with a "Wild Card":
 - A "Wild Card" for Division A must be used only the first time the Skater/Team competes in the competition (category) concerned in the World Cup 2026/27, but cannot be used in the first World Cup of the season, except for Team events.
 - If a Skater/Team withdraws after the starting lists have been published, that Skater/Team will be eligible to use the Wild Card in a subsequent competition if the Skater/Team did not compete with a final result.
 - A "Wild Card" will be granted to a Skater placed among the top 8 in the final World Cup ranking 2025/26, or among the top 6 in the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.
 - A "Wild Card" will be granted to a Team Pursuit, Team Sprint and Mixed Relay team placed among the 3 best in the final World Cup ranking 2025/26, or Olympic Winter Games 2026 for Team Pursuit, or World Championships 2025 for Team Sprint.
- e) Competitor/Team with a "Gold Card":
 - A "Gold Card" for Division A can be used one time at any competition (category) concerned in the World Cup 2026/27, but after the "Wild Card" has been used or the Skater/Team has already taken part in the distance concerned.
 - A "Gold Card" will be granted to a Skater or Team placed number 1 (Gold) in the final World Cup ranking 2025/26, or the 2026 Olympic Winter Games. The 2025 World Championships (single distances and team competitions) are used for Team Sprint.

4.1.4. Scheduling of Division A Races

- a) For each day of an ISU World Cup Competition the races of Division A for all events shall be scheduled as one block of races. The starting time for the block of Division A races shall be stated in the announcement.

- b) Quartet starts shall not be used in Division A.

4.1.5. Scheduling of Division B Races

- a) The races of Division B should be skated on the same day as the races of Division A for the competition concerned, before or after the Division A block. The Mass Start Division B may be skated on a different day than the Mass Start Division A. The time schedule for the races of Division B shall be announced at the Team Leaders' meeting.
- b) Quartet starts can be used for Division B.

4.2. Competition Format for Team Competitions

4.2.1. Team Pursuit Races

Team Pursuit races will be organized based on ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating Rule 256, paragraph 1, with National teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 6 laps for Women and 8 laps for Men, and the race format is with two teams starting simultaneously on each side of the track.

4.2.2. Team Sprint Races

Team Sprint races will be organized based on ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating Rule 256, paragraph 2, with National teams of 3 Skaters. Distances are 3 laps for Women and 3 laps for Men, and the race format is with two teams starting simultaneously on each side of the track.

4.2.3. Mixed Relay

Mixed Relay races for National teams of 2 Skaters (one woman, one man) will be organized based on ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating Rule 256, paragraph 3.4 Competition format C for relay races: Maximum 4 Teams compete in the same heat. All 4 Teams will start at the 500m starting line and finish at the main finishing line at the end of the straight. The distance for each leg shall be either 400m or 800m. The exchange zone will have a length of 100m starting at the 500m start line, ending at the 500m/main finishing line. The start of the acceleration zone, where the Skaters can enter the racing lanes, will be at the apex (middle) of the curve before the finishing straight and should be marked with orange cone(s). Relaying will take place when the Skater completing a leg has touched/pushed/released the Skater who is about to start the next leg. The Skater is allowed to touch the Skater to be relayed before the exchange zone, but the actual relaying must occur in the exchange zone. A team relaying outside the exchange zone will be disqualified. Exchanges are to be made without interference to other Teams. During exchanges, changing the lane is not allowed. See the valid ISU Communication 2821 "Mass Start and Team Races at ISU Speed Skating Events – Safety Measures, Promotion Initiatives and Race Organization".

4.2.4. General Rules for the Team Competitions

- a) The Competitors must wear National Team racing uniforms of the ISU Member concerned, as approved by the ISU. All Skaters belonging to the same National Team (entered by the same ISU Member) must wear identical racing uniforms. For AIN skaters, ISU Communication No. 2804, paragraph 1.1. applies.
- b) The deadline for entry of names of the Skaters that may compete in the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint teams (up to 4 names) will be announced by the Referee during the Team Leaders' meeting. For the Mixed Relay team (up to 4 names

consisting of 2 Women and 2 Men) will be announced by the Referee during the Team Leaders' meeting.

- c) The final composition of the team (3 for Team Pursuit, 3 for Team Sprint and 2 for Mixed Relay) shall be declared by the Team Leader and submitted to the Competition Coordinator not later than 60 minutes before the start of the Team competition(s) concerned.
- d) For the first ISU World Cup Competition of the season the Team Pursuit, Team Sprint and Mixed Relay teams shall be seeded according to the final 2025/26 World Cup Team competition ranking. For the following Competitions the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint teams shall be seeded according to the current World Cup Team competition ranking. For Mixed Relay see 5.3.a) below.
- e) Depending on the number of entries, higher ranked teams for Team Pursuit and Team Sprint will be selected for Division A (see 4.1.2. e). The sequence of races of the Team Pursuit and Team Sprint are determined by seeding or ranking of the teams, with the two best ranked teams competing in the last race in Division A. However, the winning Team of Division B from the preceding World Cup Competition shall be placed in Division A (see paragraph 4.1.3.c) above). Mixed Relay races will only be competed in Division A.

4.2.5. Safety Measures

Details on the safety measures of the Mass Start and Team competitions are provided in ISU Communication No. 2821 or any further updates.

4.3. Organization of Team Competitions

Team competitions will be organized based on the relevant ISU Sports Rules Speed Skating and the valid ISU Communication 2821 "Mass Start and Team Races at ISU Speed Skating Events – Safety Measures, Promotion Initiatives and Race Organization", and/or other documents issued by the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee.

5. Pairing, Drawing and Start Lists

5.1. Team Leaders' Meeting and Drawing

- a) A Team Leaders' meeting may take place before the first day of the Competition, with the purpose of confirming the final entries and presenting race schedules and other logistical information. On subsequent days the Team leaders' meeting will be replaced by a procedure where Team leaders submit information by a given deadline on final entries for the following day. Start lists will be distributed to the Team leaders online.
- b) On subsequent days the start lists for the following day will be determined by the Referee based on the entries confirmed at the Team leaders' meeting or procedure as indicated above in paragraph 5.1.a) and the rules given below in paragraph 5.2.
- c) 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.

5.2. Pairing and Start Lists at the First ISU World Cup Competition for Individual Distances

- a) Before noon (12:00) on the day of the *Team Leaders' meeting* for the Competition, the Team leaders must confirm to the Competition Coordinator their entered

Competitors, for all distances to be skated in the Competition. The Referee then places the entered Competitors, based on their seasonal best time (for Mass Start based on the 2025/26 World Cup ranking), in accordance with the ranking positions of Skaters from the respective ISU Members in the final World Cup ranking 2025/26 in the distance concerned, respecting the entry quotas specified in paragraph 3.1.3 above. However, the Referee will take into account the right of ISU Members to select their Skaters for Division A in accordance with paragraph 4.1.3. above.

- b) For the short distances (500, 1000 and 1500m), Division A shall consist of the Competitors placed in the top 20; for the long distances (3000/5000m) it shall consist of the Competitors placed in the top 16. Division B shall consist of the remaining Competitors.
- c) For Mass Start the number of Competitors in Division A will depend on the number of entries, as specified in paragraph 4.1.2 d) above. The initial selection of Competitors for Division A will then be done in the same way as described above for individual distances. Division B shall consist of the remaining Competitors.
- d) In each division, Competitors will be ranked according to their seasonal best time, except for Mass Start where Competitors will be ranked according to the final World Cup ranking 2025/26. The starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors so that the Competitors with the lowest ranks will start in the first pair, and so on. The better ranked Competitor in a pair shall start in the inner lane. However, the last 3 pairs (top 6 ranked Competitors) in Division A are to be drawn by lot. In the case of an odd number of Competitors, the first pair will consist of a single Skater.

5.3. Pairing and Start Lists After the First ISU World Cup Competition

- a) Competitors, both in Division A and in Division B, shall be paired according to their individual World Cup rank. An extended World Cup ranking is established by ranking Competitors with no World Cup points according to their best achieved time in World Cup races during the season 2026/27. Competitors with no results from World Cup races held during the season shall be ranked thereafter, based on their seasonal best time. The starting order of the pairs shall be opposite to the ranking order of the Competitors so that the Competitors with the lowest ranks will start in the first pair, and so on. The better ranked Competitor in a pair shall start in the inner lane. However, the last 3 pairs (top 6 ranked Competitors) in Division A are to be drawn by lot.

The better ranked Team Pursuit and Team Sprint team in a pair shall start in the finishing straight. The Team Pursuit and Team Sprint teams from the four best ranked ISU Members shall be drawn to form the two last races.

For Mixed Relay, the composition of the races shall be made by placing the Teams in the races based on the current ranking list, i.e. the number one ranked Team will be placed in the last race, the number two ranked Team will be placed in the second to last race etc., filling the races from the last race to the first race in the first instance. The second row, i.e. the second Team in each race, will be filled from the first race to the last race. The next rows will be filled alternating from the last race to the first race, and from the first race to the last race until all Teams have been placed as follows:

An example with 16 Teams competing:

Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
Team 8	Team 7	Team 6	Team 5
Team 9	Team 10	Team 11	Team 12
Team 16	Team 15	Team 14	Team 13

An example with 15 Teams competing:

Race 4	Race 3	Race 2	Race 1
Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4
Team 8	Team 7	Team 6	Team 5
Team 9	Team 10	Team 11	Team 12
Team 15	Team 14	Team 13	

The heat with the highest ranked team shall always consist of 4 teams and skated in the last heat (pair). Teams entered without World Cup points or time (have not competed in the World Cup during the current season) will be drawn by lot to determine their starting position.

- b) The above procedure applies also for the first (and only) competition in 5000m Women and 10000m Men, with the drawing based on the current extended World Cup ranking in the long distances, subject to meeting the qualifying time in paragraph 3.1.2).
- c) For Mass Start the selection of Skaters for Division A will be made according to paragraph 4.1.2 d). For the starting order (line up at start), see paragraph 5.6 below.

5.4. Rearrangement of Races

- a) In case of withdrawals after the draw without a substitute, rearrangements of pairs will be done according to Rule 245, paragraph 1. If the non-medical withdrawal is submitted within 60' of the start of the applicable distance, the Skater will not be eligible to compete in any other distance on the same day.
- b) After rearrangement in Division A as described in Rule 245, paragraph 1, the best ranked Competitor(s) from Division B will be promoted to Division A and be placed in the vacant spot(s) before rearrangement in Division B.
- c) In any case, if a Substitute(s) is entered, the substitute can only be placed in the vacant spot open in Division B according to Rule 245, paragraph 2.
- d) Rule 245, paragraph 3, must be respected.

5.5. Composition of Quartets

In the case of quartet starts, the four Competitors with the best World Cup ranking shall form the last quartet, and only the first quartet may be incomplete.

5.6. Mass Start Starting Order

5.6.1. The First ISU World Cup Competition of the Season

In each division the seeding of the entered Skaters will be determined by the final World Cup ranking 2025/26 and this will determine the starting order (lineup). Skaters not ranked by the final World Cup ranking 2025/26 will be ranked according to their best seasonal best time for the 1500m. However, Skaters promoted from Division B will be seeded last in the Division A race.

5.6.2. After the First ISU World Cup Competition

The current World Cup ranking of the entered Skaters will determine the starting order. Skaters without World Cup points will be ranked according to their seasonal best time over 1500m. However, Skaters promoted from Division B will be seeded last in the Division A World Cup race.

5.7. Team Competitions

The composition and sequence of races will be determined according to paragraph 4.2.4 above.

6. Points and Ranking System for World Cup Rankings

6.1. General rules

To be awarded World Cup points, an athlete/team must complete the race and do more than simply take the start. Competitors who fail to exhibit competitive intent and performance during the race and finish the race with a time greater than 110% of the winner, shall be disqualified from the points allocation, regardless of their finishing position. Force majeure circumstances shall be taken into consideration when skaters fail to complete the race in the usual manner due to falls, errors at crossings, missed steps, or other such incidents.

6.2. Points Scoring Table

Based on the results of Division A and Division B, World Cup points are awarded according to the points table below.

Place		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Distance		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
500	Division A	60	54	48	43	40	38	36	34	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
	Division B	20*	19*	18*	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
1000, 1500	Division A	90	81	72	65	60	57	54	51	48	47	45	44	42	41	39	38	36	35	33	32
	Division B	33*	31*	29*	27	25	23	21	19	17	15	15	13	11	9	7	5	4	3	2	1
3000 W, 5000 M	Division A	90	81	72	65	60	57	54	51	48	47	45	44	42	41	39	38	37*	35*	33*	31
	Division B	29	27	25	23	21	19	17	15	13	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
5000 W 10000 M	Division A	90	81	72	65	60	57	54	51	48	47	45	44	43*	41*	39*	37	35	33	31	29
	Division B	27	25	23	21	19	17	15	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
MS**	***	108	97	86	77	72	68	65	61	58	56	54	52	50	49	47	45	43	41	40	38
		37	35	33	31	29	27	25	23	21	19	17	15	13	11	9	7	5	3	2	1
Team Races (TS,TP)	Division A	60	54	48	43	40	38	36	34												
	Division B	32*	31*	30*	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	18	16	14	13	11	9	8
Mixed Relay	Division A	60	54	48	43	40	38	36	34	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
Distance		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Place		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40

* Place 1-2-3 in the Division B will be awarded with extra 8-5-3 points respectively.

** In Mass start, places 1, 2 and 3 in Division B will earn promotion to Division A in the next World Cup Competition.

*** In the Mass Start Division B, points shall be awarded based on the number of skaters in Division A. For instance, if Division A is scheduled to have 20 competitors, the Division B winner will be awarded 37 points + 8 bonus points, and so forth.

The different points' scale per distance relates to the number of times each distance is skated during the season.

In the situation when Division B is cancelled and more than 20/16/12 Skaters (or more than 6 Teams) are in Division A, points for the additional Skaters (Teams) will be awarded according to the respective Division B points chart.

6.3. Points for Tied Ranks

If two or more Skaters (or Teams) have obtained the same rank in the classification, each Skater (or Team) will receive the full points for this tied rank.

7. ISU Speed Skating World Cup Ranking and World Ranking Rules

7.1. World Cup Ranking for Each Competition Category

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

- The Skater/Team with the higher number of World Cup victories.
- The Skater/Team with the highest score of points in any single competition (race).
- The Skater/Team with the next higher score of points in any single competition (race).
- The Skater/Team with the highest score of points from the last race.
- The Skater/Team with the best time achieved in the World Cup for the distance/competition concerned (except 3000m/5000m Women and 5000m/10 000m Men).
- If there is a tie in time ranking the Skater with the highest World Cup points will be ranked higher.
- If there is, still a tie after a) through f) have been applied above, then the ranking will be determined by lot/draw.

7.2. World Ranking

The World Ranking will be determined by the number of points a Skater accumulates during the 2026/27 season in the following Events:

- World Cup competitions N°1 to N°6:
 - o World Cup points earned by a Skater in **all** individual distances, as specified in Points scoring table 6.2. above;
- World Championships Single Distances:
 - o World Championships points earned by a Skater in **all** individual distances based on the results, as specified in Points scoring table below.

Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
500, 1000, 1500, MS	200	180	160	140	130	120	110	100	90	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10
3000 W, 5000 M	200	180	160	140	130	120	110	100	90	80	75	70	65	60	55	50	45	40	35	30				
5000 W, 10000 M	200	180	160	140	130	120	110	100	90	80	75	70												

8. Awards

8.1. Prizes

For each distance (category) prize money will be awarded for each individual competition and for the final classification at the end of the season. The Prize Money amounts are published in ISU Communication 2820.

8.2. Award/Podium Ceremonies at each World Cup Competition

Attending award/podium ceremonies for top 3 Skaters/Teams in Division A is mandatory at every Competition. Any Skater/Team failing to attend the award/podium ceremony will not earn any Prize Money for the event concerned.

8.3. Award/Podium Ceremonies for Season Overall World Cup Ranking

Attending award ceremonies for the top 3 Skaters/Teams in each distance/event for the Season Overall World Cup Ranking is mandatory. Failure to attend the ceremony will be considered as a breach of the ISU Code of Ethics and will lead to disciplinary proceedings.

9. Cancellation of Competitions

If an organizing ISU Member considers it impossible to hold the ISU World Cup Competition it has been allotted according to the schedule given in paragraph 2 above, it must urgently give the reasons in writing to the ISU Secretariat to authorize the cancellation. If circumstances during a Competition would make it impossible to complete some scheduled races, the Referee in consultation with the ISU Representative and the ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee Representative are authorized to cancel distances or races. The ISU Speed Skating Technical Committee decides if cancelled distances or races shall be rescheduled for another date and/or another venue.

10. ISU Speed Skating World Cup Coordination

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

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September 1, 2026

Jae Youl Kim, President

Colin Smith, Director General