

LIABILITY

In accordance with Rule 119 of the ISU General Regulations, the ISU, the KNSB and the Organizing Committee assume no responsibility with respect to bodily or personal injury or property loss or damage incurred in connection with these Championships. Each Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage thereto.

BOARD AND LODGING

The Organizing Committee will cover room and meal expenses at the official Hotel(s) for the competitors and for one team leader from each participating Member, beginning with the dinner on the evening of Friday, January 20, 2006 and ending with lunch on January 23, 2006, if the participants have to leave in the afternoon (Rule 137, paragraph 10 f, 14). (See further information, including hotel costs in separate attachment).

HOTEL RESERVATION/OFFICIAL HOTEL(S)

The Organizing Committee will make hotel-reservation for the competitors in 3 hotels:

- Van der Valk Hotel at Wolvega, Phone +31 (0)561 692800, fax +31 (0)561 692805
e-mail: hfm@wolvega.valk.com
- Hotel Tjaarda at Oranjewoud Phone. +31 (0)513 433533, fax +31(0) 513 433599,
e-mail: info@tjaarda.nl
- Best Western Hotel "De Heidehof" at Heerenveen Phone +31 513 (0)630200, fax. +31(0) 513 630201
e-mail: deheidehof@bestwestern.nl

TRANSPORTATION

There is a direct railway connection from Amsterdam International Airport Schiphol to Heerenveen. Arriving at Heerenveen railway-station please call telephone number +31 (0)513 622292 for transportation to the hotel. On request bus transportation from Schiphol Airport to Heerenveen can be arranged. For further information on this, please address the Organizing Committee. A shuttle bus service will be available for transportation between hotels and the ice rink.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

All entries, hotel reservations and other inquiries should be addressed to the Organizing Committee or to KNSB, at the addresses below. For media accreditations please address N.S.P as soon as possible.

Organizing Committee

P.O. Box 500
8440 AM Heerenveen
The Netherlands
Phone +31 (0) 513 637730
Fax +31 (0) 513 682007
E-mail: OC.Thialf@knsb.nl

KNSB

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3800 BC Amersfoort
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Phone +31 (0) 33 489 20 00
Fax +31 (0) 33 462 08 23
E-mail : Bondsureau@KNSB.nl

Media accreditation N.S.P.

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2288 BA Rijswijk
The Netherlands
Phone +31 (0) 70 41 57 898
Fax +31 (0) 70 41 57 800
E-mail : marina@nsp.nl

Results and other information from the competitions will be posted on the websites:
www.wks2006.org and www.knsb.nl



ANNOUNCEMENT



World Sprint Speed Skating Championships[®] 2006

ICE STADIUM THIALF
HEERENVEEN, THE NETHERLANDS

January 21 and 22, 2006



On behalf of the KNSB,
The Organizing Committee, consisting of members
of the board of directors
of the Royal Ice club Thialf at Heerenveen
has the honour and pleasure to invite you to take part in the

ISU WORLD SPRINT SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS[®] 2006

to be held at the indoor ice-rink Thialf in Heerenveen, the Netherlands

on January 21 and 22, 2006

PROGRAM

Friday, January 20, 2006:	16.00	Team leaders' Meeting
	18.00	Opening draw at Sportstad Heerenveen
Saturday, January 21, 2006:	13.00	500 meters Ladies
		500 meters Men
		1000 meters Ladies
		1000 meters Men
		Drawing for Sunday's distances
Sunday, January 22, 2006:	13.00	500 meters Ladies
		500 meters Men
		1000 meters Ladies
		1000 meters Men

REGULATIONS

THE ISU WORLD SPRINT SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2006 will be held in accordance with the 2004 Regulations of the International Skating Union and relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the World Sprint Championships is open to skaters who belong to an ISU Member (Rule 130, paragraph 1) and who have met the qualification criteria according to Rule 220 and ISU Communication No 1353

TITLES AND PRIZES

The winners are the skaters with the lowest total of points after 4 distances have been completed (rule 260, paragraph 2). The winners will bear the title "Lady World Sprint Speed Skating Champion for 2006" and "World Sprint Speed Skating Champion for 2006", respectively, and will each be awarded the ISU Championship gold medal. The competitors placed second and third in the final classification after 4 distances will be awarded the ISU silver, respectively bronze, Championship medals.

The winner of each distance will be awarded the small ISU gold medal. The second and third will be awarded the same medal in silver and bronze respectively. The prizes of honour, as well as the prize money, will be issued in accordance with the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No 1286.

TRACK

A standard speed skating track of 400 meters to the lap laid out at the Ice Stadium "Thialf", an artificially frozen indoor skating rink at Heerenveen. The radii of the inner and outer competition lanes are 26 and 30 meters, respectively. The width of each lane of the competition track is 4 meters and there is an inside training lane with width of 4 meters.

ENTRIES

According to ISU Rule 220, paragraph 6, each ISU Member has the right to enter two competitors for ladies and two for men, subject to achieved qualifying times as defined in ISU Communication No 1353

According to ISU Communication No 1346, the following ISU Members have the right to enter more than two competitors, in accordance with rule 220, paragraph 6.

Ladies

Belarus	3 competitors
Canada	4 competitors
China	4 competitors
Germany	4 competitors
Italy	3 competitors
Japan	4 competitors
Netherlands	4 competitors
Republic of Korea	3 competitors
USA	4 competitors

Men

Canada	3 competitors
China	4 competitors
Finland	4 competitors
Japan	4 competitors
Netherlands	4 competitors
Norway	3 competitors
Republic of Korea	3 competitors
Russia	3 competitors
USA	4 competitors

Each country may enter substitutes corresponding with the number of ordinary entries.

- *Preliminary entries, giving the number of competitors, substitutes and team officials (with provisional names), must be communicated by January 3, 2006.*

- *Final entries, with the names of the competitors and substitutes as well as names of team officials, must be communicated **at the latest** by January 18, 2006.*

Post entries are not allowed.

Team officials may not be entered after the final entry deadline.

For all entries official ISU entry forms shall be used.

CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS AND CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No.1117, all skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

DOPING CONTROL

Anti-Doping tests will be carried out in accordance with the valid ISU Anti-Doping Code. (ISU Communication Nos. 1280 and 1281 or any further update of these Communications).

DRAWING

The drawing will be made according to Rules 223 and 226. For grouping and drawing of pairs Rule 224, paragraphs 1 and 2 apply.

TRAINING TIMES

The speed skating track will be open for training for entered competitors from Tuesday, January 17, 2006. Trial starts will be organized on Friday, January 20, 2006.

Only accredited competitors, substitutes and team officials will be allowed to enter the ice rink during the official training hours.