

Summary of 2010 SSC AGM Activities and Decisions

Overview

The following document is intended to provide a summary of major decisions taken at Speed Skating Canada's 2010 AGM and serve as a resource for Speed Skating Canada members to prepare for the 2010-2011 season and communicate decisions made to members who were not able to attend the 2010 AGM. It captures the major highlights of workshops as well as decisions of the AGM. It is not a comprehensive AGM report.

Procedures and Regulations

SSC adopted a new set of procedures and regulations which have improved the flow and readability of the regulations as well as incorporating LTPAD language and a new regulatory framework for principle based decision making based on many of the recommendations of *Racing on Skates* for which new program initiatives have been undertaken.

The new Procedures and Regulations are presented in 5 primary sections:

- Section A – Governance
- Section B – Competition and Events System Regulations
- Section C – Racing Rules
- Section D – Safe and Welcoming Environment
- Section E – Records

The regulations are now being formatted and translated for final distribution in both electronic and print formats in late August or early September. The working document as approved by the 2010 AGM is available at on-line on the AGM 2010 page or by clicking the following link:

http://www.speedskating.ca/client/cmsUploads/speed_skating/File/agm/2010/2010-2011sscProceduresAndRegulations_Final.pdf

If there are any questions, concerns or you wish to identify an error or omission in this document please contact Douglas Duncan, Project Manager by email at: dduncan@speedskating.ca

Major procedure and regulation changes include:

Section A – Governance

- Increased transparency in the sharing and circulation of minutes and board reports (A3-104)
- Requirement for Branch boards to formally approve the nomination procedure for regional representatives to SSC Standing Committees and authority granted to SSC Board to appoint members to standing committees when positions are left vacant by their branches for more than two (2) months. (A6-303 & A6-304)

Section B – Competition and Events Regulations

- SSC has adopted new age category regulations based on the LTPAD Stages of Development, specifically using the stages of development for the FUNdamentals & Learning to Train stages of

development with ability groupings within the age categories and adoption 1 year age categories with 2 critical birthdates (B1)

- New developmentally appropriate distances have been adopted for racing as well as incorporating formal definitions that will recognise skills events and time based races as official events as part of SSC Sanctioned Events (B2)
- New sanction definitions reflective of types of events have been adopted along with a new process for applying sanctions. (B4)

Section C – Racing Rules

- Recognition of the 100m Oval Track for skaters up to and including the Training to Train Stage of Development. Smaller tracks for developmental competitions have also been formally recognised. (C2-203) The 100m Oval Track will be used for the Eastern and Western Canadian Training to Train Short Track Championships and is recommended for all skaters prior to the Learning to Compete stage of development.

The CAD drawing for the tracks will be posted as they are completed on 2010 SSC AGM page of the SSC website and subsequently available as part of the Red Book. The 100m Oval Track diagram with 85m and 60m training track for 26mx60m (NHL size) ice has been completed and is available for download. This diagram contains all of the necessary measurements to lay out a 100m track on any size of ice surface. Use the following link to download this diagram:

http://www.speedskating.ca/client/cmsUploads/speed_skating/File/agm/2010/AppendixC3-3.pdf

Section D – Safe and Welcoming Environment

- All skaters will be required to wear protective eyewear
- All skaters participating in SSC Short Track Championships will be required to wear cut resistant clothing meeting the ISU minimum standard or higher. Review by the safety committee is planned with the expectation that a higher standard will be established starting in 2011-2012
- Short Track Equipment will now be required for all long track Mass Start Competitions
- On-ice officials will be required to wear helmets

Section E – Records

- SSC Records will only be maintained commencing with athletes in Learning to Compete stage of development (Junior B and older)

SSC Championships

For 2011 SSC has eliminated the Canadian Age Class Short Track Championships, replacing it with a new Regional Training to Train Championships for girls aged 11 to 14 and boys aged 12 to 15 along with a Canadian Short Track Championships which will see the best skaters in Canada aged 15 and up race in an age class championship at the same time as the National Selections #3. The Canadian Age Class Long Track Championships has also been modified to feature a hybrid event combining both Mass Start and Olympic Style.

Exciting elements of these new events include the introduction of a 10 minute, 2 person relay as part of the Training to Train Championship and 3000m points races as part of the Canadian Short Track Championship events.

Highlights of the presentation made by Competitions Development Committee Chair, Nancy Goplen at the AGM can be viewed on-line in two parts. Special thanks to SASSA for having recorded this presentation.

- Part 1: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SMjomqJ25ak>
- Part 2: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gclVDWRoFNw>

A draft bulletin detailing the formats eligibility criteria for all of the new events will be issued later in July with the final version to be released in late August. The competitions bulletin will include all criteria pertaining to participant eligibility as well as details relating to the race format and the overall organisation of the event.

The Training to Train Short Track Championships is scheduled to take place on March 26 & 27, 2011. The Western Championship will be held in Kelowna. The location of the Eastern Championships remains to be confirmed, groups interested in hosting this event should contact Sport Development Director Dawn Currie as soon as possible at dcurrie@speedskating.ca

The long track Training to Train Championships will be held in Winnipeg on February 5 & 6, 2011 while the new Canadian Short Track Championships will take place in Montreal on March 17-20, 2011.

To view the full calendar of events please go to: http://www.speedskating.ca/National_Calendar.cfm

Fees

As part of the modification to SSC's Procedures and Regulations and the creation of new SSC Championships a number of modifications have been made to SSC's competition related fees structure, specifically:

- SSC will no longer charge any fees for receiving an SSC Sanction
- Organisers of SSC Championships will no longer be charged for medals, unless unissued medals are not returned to the SSC office
- The entry fees for SSC Championships and Selection events have been increased as follows to reflect the rising cost to organisers in hosting events:
 - Training to Train Championships – Short Track & Long Track \$75.00
 - Long Track SSC Championships & Selection Events \$75.00
 - Short Track SSC Championships & Selection Events \$100.00

There are no changes to SSC membership fees for 2010-2011.

Safety

Many of the discussions at the 2010 AGM were focused on matters pertaining to skater safety and ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all participants. The findings of SSC's Incident Review Committee were presented, as well as updates with regards to recent developments with regards to the design of new blocks and new standards for protective padding.

These presentations and supporting documentation are available online on the 2010 AGM page: <http://www.speedskating.ca/AGM2010.cfm>

With regards to the padding standards and guidelines presentation, the guidelines presented are draft documents, with members of Speed Skating Canada being invited to provide feedback until August 27, 2010. Following this consultation period SSC intends to provide a revised set of guideline to be published in mid to late September and tested throughout the 2010-2011 with a new set a of standards may be formally presented for adoption at the 2011 AGM. All questions and feedback should be sent to Sean Maw by email at seanmaw@shaw.ca

In addition to these presentations, the SSC Board of Directors announced the creation of an Ad-Hoc safety committee whose specific mandate will be to oversee the review of existing safety standards and the development of new standards pertaining to the protection equipment for skaters as well as the presence of emergency medical services in both the training and competition settings.

Membership Cards

SSC will return to issuing membership cards during the 2010-2011 season with the first cards scheduled to be mailed out in November 2010, a second mail out will occur in February 2010. Members registering after the 2nd mail out will only receive a card if they renew their membership for the following season. Cards will be mailed directly to each individual member by SSC.

Club Excellence

AGM delegates were provided an opportunity to participate in a condensed club excellence workshop to get a flavour for the program. If you want to share information about the program and access additional resources that were discussed during the workshop you are encouraged to visit the Club Excellence website at: www.clubexcellence.ca

Feedback following the session has been very positive with many people expressing an interest in having workshops occur in their region. This is a definitive possibility and there will be several opportunities over the coming year.

- Project Manager Andrew Moss who facilitated the AGM session will be presenting to PSOs to gain support for the program and discuss provincial roll-out. Branches are encouraged to attend. Dates will be communicated as they become available. The first three are scheduled as follows:
 - **Regina, SK** – Regina Inn & Conference Centre, Monday **August 30th, 9am to 11am**
 - **Winnipeg, MB** - Delta Hotel, Tuesday **August 31st, 9am to 11am**
 - **Toronto, ON** – Ontario Sport Alliance, **September 2nd – time TBC**

- Workshop opportunities are also planned in each province and territory as interest for the program and delivery capacity grows. If you are interested in hosting a workshop in your region you are encouraged to contact SSC Project Manager Douglas Duncan at dduncan@speedskating.ca or Club Excellence Project Coordinator Tracey Bradley at tracy@clubexcellence.com. It is important to keep in mind when requesting a workshop that they are required to be held with participants from several sports at one time.
- The Club Excellence Program will also be looking to train facilitators over the coming year. The next opportunity to participate in a Facilitator Training Session will be August 25th, 2010. Application information can be found online at: <http://www.clubexcellence.com/2010/07/club-excellence-learning-facilitator-training-in-ottawa-2/?lang=en>
Applications must be submitted no later than August 2, 2010.

Canadian Sport for Life Conference

Discussions during the Branch Presidents/SSC Board, Staff & Committee Chair meeting identified the 2011 Canadian Sport for Life Conference as a good opportunity for Branches to come together as was done last November to both provide updates on LTPAD implementation initiatives undertaken and plan for next steps. The 2011 conference is scheduled for January 19th and 20th at the Crown Plaza in Ottawa. If held, the SSC joint meeting would take place on January 21st, 2010. The Canadian Sport for Life Conference is one of the best sport conferences and professional development opportunities in Canada with presentations by leading researchers and the Canadian Sport for Life Expert group as well as sharing of best practices from many other sports. Presentations from the 2010 edition are available online at: <http://www.canadiansportforlife.ca/default.aspx?PageID=1189&LangID=en>

The joint meeting would be intended for Branch Presidents, Technical Directors and Provincial coaches and other individuals leading LTPAD implementation within your organisation. In order to facilitate planning, we would ask that Branches indicate their interest in attending along with a list of names of individuals likely to attend to Douglas Duncan, Project Manager no later than September 7, 2010 by email at dduncan@speedskating.ca.

This will allow time to confirm the hosting of Branch/SSC joint meeting and develop an appropriate agenda. Suggestions for agenda items, as well as good ideas that you would be interested in sharing as part of this meeting are welcome.

Decisions of the ISU Congress

Gregg Planert presented a summary of the major decisions from the 2010 ISU Congress in Barcelona. Specifically the following changes were notes:

Long Track

- For distances of 1000m and shorter and all quartet races, only one coach per skater will be allowed in the coaches' box.
- While racing is occurring, coaches will no longer be allowed to accompany a skater in the warm-up lane.

- All Junior skaters entered in the AR portion of the Junior Worlds will now be entered in the final distance
- Crossing the lines on the finishing straight. If a Skater has one full skate outside the designated competition lane on the finishing straight, thus completely crossing the line to the other lane or the warm-up lane, the Skater will be disqualified, except for situations described below.
 - If a Skater cannot keep within the inner lane in the curve or when entering the finishing straight and therefore crosses the line to the outer lane, the Skater must immediately return to the inner lane. If the Skater does not immediately return to the inner lane, this will result in a disqualification even if there is no interference with the Skater in the outer lane.
- Deliberately kicking out of a skate (so that the skate is losing entirely its contact with the ice) at the finishing line or throwing the body across the finishing line is forbidden, and will lead to a disqualification.

Short Track

- As of the 2011/2012 season the World Team Championships will no longer be held

LTPAD Educational Video

At the conclusion of the Strategic Planning Workshop a teaser video of the LTPAD educational video currently in development was shown. It is currently available on-line on a new videos page of the SSC website. Please note that due to footage rights, access is restricted to SSC members by accessing the SSC Member's Area. Other videos presented at the AGM will be uploaded here in the coming weeks.

If you do not have username and password, one can be obtained by using the Request/Forgotten Username and Password link on the login page or by contacting Ashley Scott at the SSC Office by email at ssc@speedskating.ca. Please note for the Request/Forgotten password function to work your email address must correspond to the address entered in the SSC Membership Database.

If you would like to use this video as part of educational initiatives or as introductory piece to LTPAD information session copies or provide feedback prior to entering final production please contact Douglas Duncan, Project Manager at dduncan@speedskating.ca.