



**SPEED
SKATING
CANADA**

2020-21 DOMESTIC COMPETITION CONTINGENCY PLAN

DRAFT

August 13, 2020

Purpose

Due to the current COVID-19 global pandemic, the potential for an impacted speed skating season is apparent. It is imperative that the health and safety of our speed skating membership and our communities at large are prioritized in all decision making.

This document serves to outline the various factors that will be considered by Speed Skating Canada (SSC) when taking decisions regarding the 2020-21 domestic competition calendar and to provide an indication of different scenarios that may materialize for the upcoming season.

Considerations

When determining whether it is safe, financially viable and in the best interests of our community to proceed with domestic competitions for the 2020-21 season, the following factors will be considered. Additional factors may also contribute to the decision as necessary.

Participants

- Are athletes at the national and provincial level back to training – both on-ice and dry-land?
- Are there provinces who cannot attend the competition due to travel or other restrictions?
- Will entry criteria for the competition need to be changed if it proceeds?

Venue

- Is the hosting venue open?
- What is the capacity of the venue due to COVID-19 restrictions?
- Does the venue have safety measures in place to ensure proper sanitization, physical distancing, etc.
- What is the cancellation date required by the venue?

Travel

- Are there domestic travel restrictions or interprovincial quarantine requirements?
- Are travel costs substantially increased?
- Can participants who travel to a competition access accommodations and meals safely and with a sufficient availability?

Health Guidelines

- Are sporting events currently allowed in the host city/province?
- How many participants are allowed indoors at one time in the host city/province?
- Is it possible to secure the necessary material (masks, hand sanitizer, etc.) to maximize safety at the competition?
- Does the local medical authority have a protocol in place for response to any suspected COVID-19 cases?

COVID-19 Cases

- Is the host city/province a current “hot spot” for COVID-19?
- Are cases across Canada generally increasing or decreasing?



Other

- What stance has the ISU taken regarding the hosting of international events?
- What can we learn from other professional and amateur sports regarding their approaches to competition?
- Are there an adequate number of officials and volunteers available for the event?
- What would the financial consequence be for late cancellation of the event?

Competition Blocks

The cancellation of events will be considered in a series of three “blocks”, each encompassing two months of the speed skating season. This method allows for competition hosts to adequately prepare while minimizing sunk costs and provides participating athletes with sufficient notice to alter travel arrangements if necessary.

An initial decision regarding the cancellation of each block will be determined at the beginning of the month prior to the block in question. If, after this date, any of the above factors change significantly so as to render the hosting of competitions unsafe, cancellations may occur later than the indicated deadline.

Block 1

- Includes competitions in October and November
- Cancellation Deadline: September 1, 2020

Block 2

- Includes competitions in December and January
- Cancellation Deadline: November 1, 2020

Block 3

- Includes competitions in February and March
- Cancellation Deadline: January 1, 2021

Scenarios

Based on the competition blocks, a set of scenarios has been developed to indicate changes to the season schedule that may be necessary following the cancellation of domestic and/or international events. In developing these scenarios, the following priorities were considered:

- Maintain as much schedule consistency as possible for hosts and athletes
- Ensure all Canadian Championships and national selection events take place
- Minimize additional travel required for displaced events
- Provide a high number of safe competition opportunities for our athletes

The scenarios in Appendices A through C account for the cancellation of various domestic competition blocks, as well as the potential cancellation of international events.



Procedures

The health and safety of our athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers is our biggest priority, therefore the decision to cancel or postpone events will be made in coordination with Health Canada, provincial health authority and local health authority guidelines.

In order to ensure proper consideration of all factors when making cancellation decisions, members of SSC's high performance, sport development and event teams will collaborate in these efforts. Consultation with event hosts in the affected block will also take place before a final cancellation decision is made.

Change in Competition Location

Many factors are taken into consideration in the selection of competition hosts. These factors include, but are not limited to, the desire to use competitions as a sport development opportunity, the parity of competitions hosted in eastern and western Canada, and the submission of hosting bids.

However, for the 2020-2021 domestic season, a change in competition location may be a necessary alternative to cancellation, due to the current circumstances in a given host's province and/or city. This option will be examined by our decision-making group.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Scenario A: No Domestic Cancellations

IF... international competition proceeds as scheduled

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020	Canadian ST Champs	Canadian LT Champs
November 2020	ST Canada Cup 1	
December 2020	Junior ST Champs Canadian Invitational	LT Canada Cup 1
January 2021	ST Canada Cup 2	Junior LT Champs LT Canada Cup 2 LT Canada Cup 3
February 2021		Youth LT Champs
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	LT Canada Cup 4

IF... international competition is cancelled until at least January 2021

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020	Canadian ST Champs	
November 2020	ST Canada Cup 1	LT Canada Cup 1
December 2020	Junior ST Champs Canadian Invitational	LT Canada Cup 2 Canadian LT Champs
January 2021	ST Canada Cup 2	Junior LT Champs LT Canada Cup 3
February 2021		Youth LT Champs
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	LT Canada Cup 4

APPENDIX B

Scenario B: Cancellation of Block 1

IF... international competition proceeds as scheduled

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020	Canadian ST Champs*	Canadian LT Champs*
November 2020		
December 2020	Junior ST Champs ST Canada Cup 1	LT Canada Cup 1
January 2021		Junior LT Champs LT Canada Cup 2 LT Canada Cup 3
February 2021	ST Canada Cup 2	Youth LT Champs
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	LT Canada Cup 4

**Selection events for international competitions maintained within a cancelled block if necessary, but with limited participation.*

IF... international competition is cancelled until at least January 2021

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020		
November 2020		
December 2020	Junior ST Champs ST Canada Cup 1	LT Canada Cup 1 Canadian LT Champs
January 2021	Canadian ST Champs	Junior LT Champs LT Canada Cup 2
February 2021	ST Canada Cup 2	Youth LT Champs
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	LT Canada Cup 3 LT Canada Cup 4

APPENDIX C

Scenario C: Cancellation of Blocks 1 + 2

IF... international competition restarts as of January 2021

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020		
November 2020		
December 2020		
January 2021	Canadian ST Champs* Junior ST Champs*	Canadian LT Champs* Junior LT Champs*
February 2021		Youth LT Champs LT Canada Cup 1
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	LT Canada Cup 2 LT Canada Cup 3

**Selection events for international competitions maintained within a cancelled block if necessary, but with limited participation.*

IF... international competition is cancelled for the full 2020-21 season

	Short Track	Long Track
October 2020		
November 2020		
December 2020		
January 2021		
February 2021	Canadian ST Champs Junior ST Champs	Youth LT Champs LT Canada Cup 1 LT Canada Cup 2
March 2021	ST Canada Cup Final ST Canada Cup Junior Final Youth ST Champs (2)	Canadian LT Champs Junior LT Champs LT Canada Cup 3