

**UNITED STATES SPEEDSKATING
SELECTION PROCEDURE PRELIMINARY NOTICE
2026 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES
SHORT TRACK SPEEDSKATING
APRIL 9, 2024**

**TO: US SPEEDSKATING MEMBERSHIP
USOPC WINTER SPORT PERFORMANCE TEAM**

FROM: SHORT TRACK TASK FORCE, US SPEEDSKATING

**RE: PRELIMINARY NOTICE REGARDING ATHLETE SELECTION TO THE 2026
WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES**

Dear US Speedskating Athletes,

To provide as much information in a timely fashion, US Speedskating is releasing the Selection Procedure Preliminary Notice – 2026 Winter Olympic Games.

Please see the details below outlining the anticipated athlete nomination methods for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games. Short Track Speedskating events from the 2024-25 season will be used for entry prequalification as well as to determine seeding for the first round of races in each distance at the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships.

- i. US Speedskating Short Track Rules and Regulations for the 2024-25 season which identify the race format of the domestic events will be made available no later than September 1, 2024: <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Athletes/Rules-and-Regulations/Short-Track>
- ii. The 2026 Olympic Short Track Athlete Selection Procedures will define the nomination process to the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team and will be made available no later than March 1, 2025 at <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Athletes/Rules-and-Regulations/Short-Track>.
- iii. The ISU Qualification system (SOQC) will define how starting spots are earned by USA for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games is posted on the ISU website: <https://www.isu.org/speedskating/events/olympic-winter-games/ssk-milano-cortina-2026>

Additionally, results from the 2024-2025 ISU World Cups and 2025 World Championships may be used to determine Medal Contender and Relay Specialist Selection for the 2025 ISU Fall World Cup Team.

Results from the 2024-2025 ISU World Cups, 2025 World Championships, and the 2025 ISU Fall World Cups may be used for Medal Contender and Relay Specialist Selection for the 2026 U.S Short Track Olympic Team.

2024-25 US Speedskating Selection Events for prequalification into the 2025 U.S. Championships

September 2024	2024 Short Track U.S. Championships
January 2025	2025 Winter World Cup Team Qualifier

The confirmed dates and locations of the 2024 Short Track U.S. Championships and the Winter World Cup Team Qualifier will be determined no less than 60 days in advance and will be posted on the USS event website. <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Events>.

Upon conclusion of the 2024-2025 season, the sixteen athletes per gender with the highest National Overall Classification will be granted prequalification status into the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships provided they meet eligibility requirements by the entry deadline for the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships.

Skaters who are prequalified must still register by the entry deadline for the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships to show acceptance of their prequalified spot. Late entries for prequalified skaters will not be accepted.

2025 Short Track U.S. Championships: Entry Format

There will be a maximum twenty entries (start positions) available per gender for the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships. The 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships have tentatively been set for September 2025 in Salt Lake City, UT. The confirmed date and location of the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships will be determined no less than 60 days in advance and will be posted on the USS event website. <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Events>

To participate in the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships, athletes must:

- be a citizen of the United States;
- be eligible to represent the United States at the Winter Olympic Games by the registration deadline of the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships; and
- meet the age requirements as defined in the ISU Constitution and General Regulations (<http://www.isu.org/en/about-isu/isu-statutes-constitution-and-regulations>)

2025 Short Track U.S. Championships Time Trial Skate-in: Final qualification process

The final four spots per gender to gain entry into the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships will be determined based on a Time Trial skate-in which will be held on the day before the start of 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships (Date tbc). The sixteen prequalified skaters per gender from the 2024-2025 National Overall Classification will not skate the Time Trial skate-in.

Any athlete who skates a 1000m equal to or faster than 1:38.00 (women) and 1:30.00 (men) or a 500m equal to or faster than 48.50 (women) and 46.00 (men) at any ISU or US Speedskating sanctioned competition between July 1, 2023 – and the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships registration deadline will be eligible to compete in the Time Trial skate-in. A list of ISU and US Speedskating sanctioned competitions will be posted at: www.usspeedskating.org.

Skaters who are eligible to skate the Time Trial skate-in must register by the entry deadline for the 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships.

Medal Contender and Relay Specialist Selection

Results from the 2024-2025 ISU World Cups and 2025 World Championships may be used to determine Medal Contender and Relay Specialist Selection for the 2025 ISU Fall World Cup Team.

Results from the 2024-2025 ISU World Cups, 2025 World Championships, and the 2025 ISU Fall World Cups may be used for Medal Contender and Relay Specialist Selection for the 2026 U.S Short Track Olympic Team.

US Speedskating acknowledges that this preliminary notice is not a substitute for the complete Athlete Selection Procedures for the 2024 Short Track U.S. Championships, 2025 Winter World Cup Team Qualifier, 2025 Short Track U.S. Championships or the 2026 Olympic Games. This preliminary information is provided to assist athletes with their competition planning and is subject to change upon approval of the final Athlete Selection Procedures for each event. All approved athlete selection procedures will be posted on <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Athletes/Rules-and-Regulations/Short-Track>

The 2026 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures will be put through the USOPC’s approval process and posted as soon as possible and no later than March 1, 2025.

If you have any questions, please address them to Andréa Do-Duc at: adoduc@usspeedskating.org

NGB SIGNATURE:  _____

NGB ATHLETE REP: Keith Carroll  _____