

**UNITED STATES SPEEDSKATING
SELECTION PROCEDURE PRELIMINARY NOTICE
2026 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES
LONG TRACK SPEEDSKATING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 revision #1**

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

FROM: LT OLYMPIC 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.

- 1) The 2026 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures for Long Track will define the nomination process to the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team and will be made available no later than April 1, 2025 at <https://www.usspeedskating.org/athletes/rules-and-regulations/long-track>
- 2) The ISU Qualification system (SOQC) defining how starting spots are earned by US Speedskating for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games is posted on the ISU website: <https://www.isu.org/speed-skating/events/olympic-winter-games/ssk-milano-cortina-2026>
- 3) Qualification to the ISU World Speed Single Distance Championships may be found here: <https://www.usspeedskating.org/athletes/rules-and-regulations/long-track>

Qualification for the 2026 Winter Olympic Games will use the following events:

DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION/EVENT NAME
March 13-16, 2025	ISU World Speed Skating Single Distances Championships
TBD~ Anticipated October 2025	USS Long Track Championships / Fall World Cup Qualifier – Salt Lake City, U.S.A.
November 14-16, 2025	ISU World Cup #1 Speed Skating – Salt Lake City, U.S.A.
November 21-23, 2025	ISU World Cup #2 Speed Skating – Calgary, Canada
December 5-7, 2025	ISU World Cup #3 Speed Skating – Heerenveen, Netherlands
December 12-14, 2025	ISU World Cup #4 Speed Skating – Hamar, Norway
January 2-5, 2026	U.S. Olympic Team Trials Long Track Speed Skating – Milwaukee, U.S.A.

The confirmed dates of the 2025 USS Long Track Championships / Fall World Cup Qualifier will be determined a minimum of sixty (60) days in advance of the event and will be posted on the USS event website. <https://www.teamusa.org/US-Speedskating/Events>.

Qualification Process prior to the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials

If USS has earned more than one (1) quota in each distance, one position in each distance must remain open for nomination through the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials. However, in a distance where Team USA only has one starting position, this position will be awarded to the athlete that has achieved the criteria below, and consequently an open position will not be available at the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials. If USS has earned one (1) or more quota in a distance in which no athlete has achieved the criteria below, the nomination will be awarded through results at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials.

- 1) Athlete(s) that medal (top 3) at the 2025 ISU World Single Distances Championships in an individual distance (500m/1000m/1500m/3000m (Women)/5000m/10000 (Men)/Mass Start) and place in the top 5 at two of the 2025 Fall World Cups 1-4, in the same distance they medaled in, will be nominated to the 2026 U.S. Olympic Long Track Speed Skating Team if all other eligibility requirements from the International Olympic Committee, International Skating Union, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, and US Speedskating are met.
- 2) If multiple athletes achieve the standards above and a tiebreaker is necessary, the nomination will go to the athlete with the best result, in the specific distance contended for, from the 2025 ISU World Single Distance Championships.
- 3) All nominated athletes will still be subject to the reduction process that will be outlined in the 2026 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures.
- 4) All nominated athletes may be required to participate in the event they were nominated in at the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials.

Qualification Process for the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials

Athletes who achieve one or more of the time standards listed below at a USS sanctioned event shall be eligible to compete in that distance at the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials (see [USS 2024-2025 Long Track Regulations](#) for a list of USS Sanctioned competitions). Time standards must be achieved between January 1, 2025 and the entry deadline for the 2026 U.S. Olympic Team Trials.

TIME STANDARDS TABLE

Distance	Ladies	Men
500m	42.00	39.00
1000m	1:24.00	1:17.00
1500m	2:10.00	1:57.00
3000m	4:30.00	X
5000m	X	7:02.00

US Speedskating acknowledges that this preliminary notice is not a substitute for the complete 2026 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures. 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.usspeedskating.org/athletes/rules-and-regulations/long-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 April 1, 2025.

If you have any questions, please address them to:

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