

2025 USS CONGRESS PROPOSAL SUMMARY

	REVIEW WORKGROUP:	PROPOSED BY:	PROPOSAL:	RATIONALE:	FINANCIAL IMPACT:	SUPPORTERS/ADDITIONAL INFO:
1	Long Track	Carl Platt	I suggest eliminating this method of submitting ideas. Instead, I propose adding an email address for the person responsible for each area on the website, allowing ideas to be submitted directly via email.	Needing to use this form is similar to when companies make it impossible to cancel a subscription once you have subscribed. It is just an additional step that makes the process more complicated, and not all issues can be effectively discussed through this forum. For example, you can't report instances of rule violations here because it's not considered a proposal and doesn't fit neatly into these categories. Additionally, some proposals will require more words than the current form provides space for.	None	
2	Long Track	Carl Platt	A rule should be made for the mass start that states: "If a skater does not compete in the first mass start of the event then they are not permitted to skate in the second mass start of that event."	Implementing this rule would create a fair environment for the second mass start race. When it comes to team selection, having additional athletes in the race will affect the results of team selection. Without skating the first mass start, a fresh skater will have the unfair advantage of being less tired. Additionally, anyone who is only competing in the second mass start is not doing it to get the spot themselves.	None	Many people I have spoken to feel this would be fair
3	Long Track	Carl Platt	"If a quota spot will be left open in any category and if any of the next 1 eligible skaters are willing to self fund to fill the quota and has the applicable ISU time standards to skate, they will be permitted to self fund." For Senior World Cups a time standard between A and B could also be added.	US Speedskating needs to change their approach to quota spots. If the USA has earned a quota spot and an athlete wants to self fund, that quota spot should be filled. Giving the athlete this experience leads to their development and growth without financially affecting US Speedskating.	None it would all fall on the skater	Everyone in the sports want to see the sport grow
4	Long Track	Tom Miller	Add a class for Senior B skaters to the AmCup Series.	We are seeing in the east an increase of skaters ages 25 to 29 who are excelling in Long Track but not at the level of a National Senior Skater. They are as competitive or even more competitive than some of the top masters skating in AmCup and should have the opportunity to compete with reasonable and sensible time structures.	None	Mike Miller, Dan Weinstein
5	Long Track	Steven Penland	I propose that each race in AmCup racing series be assigned points that are totaled at the end of the season for the determination of final standings.	This past season two mass start races were scheduled at each AmCup event but only the first was assigned AmCup points leading to numerous withdrawals from the second mass start and cancellation of the second race. If a second race is deemed not important enough to warrant AmCup points then do not schedule it, however, if the intent is to determine who is capable of skating two mass starts then points need to be awarded for both races. Additionally, not awarding points for the Junior skaters in AmCup 1 mass start because some skaters might try to make the senior team ignores the fact that you are punishing those (the majority of junior skaters) that chose not to skate the senior mass start. This elitism is not how you encourage development of younger skaters.	None	Nearly every Junior skater that skated in the AmCup mass starts this past season. The common thread was, "why are we skating two mass starts if they are not giving points?"
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6	Events	Aidan Liu	Incorporating Voluntary School Recognition in Regional Competitions For regional competitions, include an OPTIONAL field in the registration system for each participant's school name, whether it is a virtual or in-person elementary, middle, high school, or college. In the competition clerk system and during award ceremonies, display the school name alongside individual skater achievements for those who voluntarily provided it. Additionally, introduce a "School Ranking" award, similar to the USS club ranking used in some regional competitions, to recognize schools based on the combined results of their student-athletes.	This proposal is designed to strengthen the connection between speedskaters and their educational communities. Recognizing schools at award ceremonies and in event materials allows skaters to share their competitive success with their school community, helping raise awareness of the sport. Increased school visibility can foster school pride, encourage peer interest, generate broader support for speedskating programs, and ultimately contribute to membership growth at both the club and national levels.	There is no significant direct cost to implement this proposal, as it requires only minor updates to the registration system and small adjustments to award ceremony logistics, such as the addition of a school trophy or certificate. The expected return includes heightened visibility of speedskating in the school system, stronger community ties, and potential growth in athlete membership and school-level engagement.	Adults: Carolyn Spiewak, Hongyang Wang, Aaron Liu, Sandeep Uke, Yiruo Cui, Yuanhua Shi, Weiwei Jiang, Iris yao, Magdalena Wrobel, Eric Montes, Lili Cui, Hao Li, Hairong Sang, Winny Chen, Ya Zhuo, Guangyi Chen, Anuradha Rathore, Rahul Singh, Patrick Chan, Ling Li, Jie Li, Cui Liu, Yisan Wu, Jen Chieh Wu, Min Lin, Shelby Hu, Paul Grover, Anjing Grover, Erna Yan, Haolin Wu, Sachiko Endo, Rong Xu, Ming Gao. Skaters (Minors): Matzel Montes, Iax Montes, Frida Montes, Amber Li, Winston Chen, William Chen, Daniel Chen, Olivia Chen, Emma Chen, Arjun Singh, Vincent Chan, Vanessa Chen, Lari Li, Brian Li, Aaron Li, Jimmy Wu, Justin Wu, Kelly Grover, Maggie Wu.
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7	Short Track	Tom Miller	We need to look at another way or options for skaters to qualify for Age Class Nationals. We now have the ability to track everyone's times and come up with a monthly class ranking. Let's take a look at our top ranked skater and then add qualification spots from there. So maybe say 16 skaters ranked for that year are qualified for age class nationals. If the fear is safety and slower skaters we can also take a look at the top rank and add 8 or 10seconds as the qualifying time. There we skaters who skated in Heartland Series who were competitive but also unable to make the 500m sprint time USS uses for Age Class Nationals.	Skaters who qualify for higher level competitions are being left out because we are stuck on using 500m as a base distance and also still a percentage of age class world record time. We do not have the numbers to justify this type of thinking anymore and need to make it more sensible for what the competition really is. Is there a way we can bring in more of the NEST and Heartland Series skaters. Is there a way to possibly make the ACN more of a Age Class Festival.	None	Julie Gehring, Cherise Wilkins, Elena Sklutovsky