

SHORT TRACK TECHNICAL BULLETIN 2015-2016 SEASON



— ONTARIO — SPEED SKATING — ASSOCIATION —

2015-2016 COMPETITION CRITERIA

AND

CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

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PREAMBLE

The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide information concerning the format of Ontario-based competitions, competition regulations that define the running of competitions, and the eligibility of skaters for those competitions. The statements made in this Technical Bulletin remain in effect unless they are superseded in a later Bulletin.

The Technical Bulletin will be posted on OSSA's website at www.ontariospeedskating.ca/technical-bulletins/

The order of precedence for speed skating rules for events sanctioned by OSSA is:

- This Technical Bulletin (2015-2016 OSSA Technical Bulletin)
- SSC Rule Book
- ISU Rule Book

PARTICIPANTS, COACHES, CLUB OFFICIALS, AND PARENTS ARE REMINDED THAT A RULING BY THE CHIEF REFEREE AT ANY EVENT IS FINAL AND IS ONLY SUBJECT TO PROTEST/ APPEAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCESS SET OUT IN THE INFORMATION MANUAL. OSSA'S CODE OF CONDUCT APPLIES IN ALL DEALINGS WITH MEET COMPETITION OFFICIALS.

Questions about the content of this Technical Bulletin may be directed to Sarah Leslie, Sport Manager, at sportmanager@ontariospeedskating.ca or 844-677-6772 ext.102.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ontario Speed Skating Association maintains a leadership position in Canada by continued service to members, athletes and new skater development through its training, coaching, officiating programs and competitions in the province of Ontario. We are committed to the development of speed skating at a recreational and competitive level and promoting the sport as a lifetime activity.

PROVINCIAL REGISTRAR

To better facilitate the registration process for Regional and Provincial Series meets, OSSA has created the position of Provincial Registrar. This position will be held by Cindy Van Lierop during the 2015-2016 season (registrar@ontariospeedskating.ca). Host clubs will be contacted by the Provincial Registrar in advance of their meets. All entries will be confirmed by email upon receipt.

HELMET COVER POLICY

The Ontario Speed Skating Association (OSSA) has made helmet covers available for purchase. These covers are the only covers that are permitted for use at OSSA sanctioned events. The following rules govern the use of OSSA helmet covers:

1. Helmet covers can be purchased from your home club or directly from the OSSA office. The number you are assigned will be your personal number for the entirety of your racing career. Helmet covers may not be transferred.
2. Once a skater has purchased a cover, the assigned number may not be used for another skater unless the first skater leaves the sport. At that time the cover can be reassigned to another skater of the same club, retired, or returned to OSSA. In all cases OSSA must be notified of the change in writing.
3. If a skater loses their helmet cover (other than at a time during a meet) they must notify their club who can advise OSSA that the number has been lost. The skater can then purchase a new number from their club. If a skater realizes after a meet entry deadline, but prior to arriving at a meet, that they have lost their helmet cover they can be issued a new cover by their club without being fined for the change provided that the meet coordinator receives notification of the number change a minimum of 48 hours prior to the coaches meeting for that race. The club must also ensure OSSA is notified that the number has been lost.
4. Skaters who do not have a helmet cover are not permitted to participate in sanctioned events.
5. If skaters only skate once, they can 'rent' a cover for the weekend from their club or the meet organizers. A rental must be organized prior to the entry deadline of the meet so that the rented cover number can be included on the skater's entry form. The rental fee for a cover is \$15 which is a deposit that is returned when the helmet cover is received back undamaged.
6. If a skater arrives at a meet and realizes they have forgotten their helmet cover, the organizers or their club can issue them a new helmet cover for the meet.
7. Sharing of helmet covers is not permitted during a meet.
8. A skater's helmet cover number should be noted on any OSSA meet entry form submitted when registering for a race.

OSSA SHORT TRACK RANKING LIST FORMAT AND PROCEDURES

The OSSA Short Track Ranking List is maintained by the OSSA Technical Committee and is updated immediately following the completion of any OSSA sanctioned event and at other times as necessary to update information that may not be correct or to include times from meets skated outside of Ontario.

A skater's racing class shall be determined by his/her age on June 30th prior to the competition.

All Ontario skaters will start the 2015-2016 season with their Personal Best times from the 2014-2015 season. These times are necessary for sorting skaters into their assigned Racing Series. Once the season is underway, only current season (2015-2016) times will be maintained on the OSSA Short Track Ranking List and will be used for sorting skaters into Divisions at each meet where necessary.

In order for a time to be eligible to be included on the OSSA Short Track Ranking List, the race must have been skated at a meet sanctioned by one of the following organizations:

- Speed Skating Canada
- Ontario Speed Skating Association
- Any other Provincial Branch as recognized by Speed Skating Canada
- US Speedskating at an American Cup event

For a 100.0m race time to be eligible for ranking and seeding, the race must have been skated on a surveyed 100.0m track and be of a distance recognized by OSSA. The recognized distances are:

- 100m
- 200m
- 300m
- 400m
- 800m
- 1500m

For a 111.12m race time to be eligible for ranking and seeding, the race must have been skated on a surveyed 111.12m track and be of a distance recognized by OSSA. The recognized distances are:

- 500m
- 777m
- 1000m
- 1500m

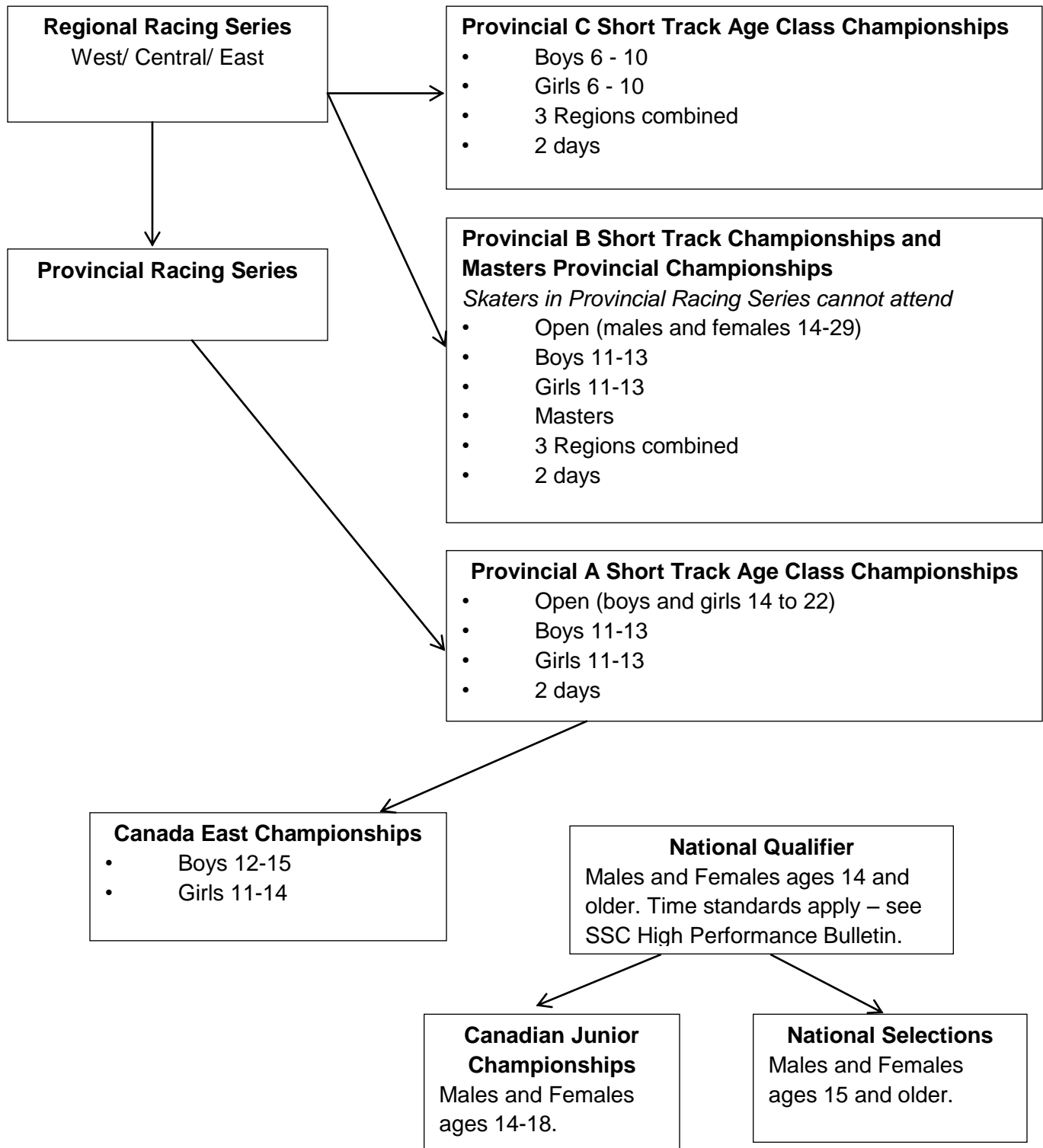
With the exception of SSC Championship and/or National Trials events, skaters requesting to have a race result included for a race skated outside of Ontario must provide a copy of the meet registration form indicating that the meet is appropriately sanctioned, as noted above, and that the track skated was surveyed for the appropriate distance. The skater must also include a copy of the meet protocol page showing the name and date of the competition, the race distance and the time skated. It is the responsibility of the skater - with the assistance of their coach - to provide the requisite information to the OSSA Technical Committee. The Technical Committee is under no obligation to seek out-of-province racing information and will not include any race result on the ranking list in the absence of all requisite information.

The OSSA Technical Committee reserves the right to review the eligibility of all out-of-province meets prior to any results from that meet being included on the ranking list. This is to ensure that the meet eligibility requirements have been met.

The Ranking List will note which skaters have qualified for the Provincial vs. Regional Series.

ONTARIO SHORT TRACK COMPETITION FLOW CHART

*Note: the 2016 Provincial B and Masters Short Track Championships will be hosted at the same venue as the Provincial C Short Track Championships. Event details will be posted in a separate bulletin at a later date.



MINI MEETS

Mini meets shall consist of a combination of traditional racing (counter-clockwise on a track), non-traditional racing, and skill events for new racers and inexperienced skaters. Mini meets are considered a developmental format and are not to be considered as a competitive event. Clubs are open to format the mini meet in order to provide the most meaningful experience for all participants. Coaches and more experienced skaters may help on the ice and help train parent volunteers as officials.

- Half Day or 1 Day meets
- Olympic size or NHL size ice pad
- Both 100.0m and 111.12m tracks can be used
- Open to all skaters
- No minimum standard for officials.

The choice of events and the sequence is left to the discretion of the host club, in order to accommodate each club's unique hosting situation (i.e. venue, amount of ice time etc.).

Mini meets are participatory in nature. Results from a mini meet are therefore not considered for the OSSA Short Track Ranking List. Times from a mini meet can be used as entry times for a skater's first Regional meet.

Racing Formats

Clubs are encouraged to develop racing formats that suit the development of their skaters.

COMMON COMPETITION PROCEDURES

Coaching Certification Requirements

All Meets:

- There is no limitation to the number of coaches or club officials who may attend a Regional Series meet and participate in the coaching and management of skaters for the event.
- There is a limit of 2 club coaches permitted in the coaching box and they must be registered with OSSA. They must also wear their OSSA designated name tag if such is provided.
- The club coach(es) who will be attending the meet must be identified on the club registration form.

Provincial Series Meets:

Coaches in the box must have Intro to Competition Coach – In Training as a minimum and will only be allowed to maintain In Training status for one year. To remain in the box for the following season, the coach must have completed their training and be Intro to Competition Coach – Certified.

Registration and Coaches Meeting

Check in will take place prior to the warm up on the first day of competition. The coaches and officials meeting will take place before the start of competition. Location and time shall be listed on the meet announcement form.

All Ontario Speed Skating Association competitions will have no refunds after the close of entries. No exceptions including medical circumstances.

Equipment

Speed Skating Canada equipment requirements (Regulation D3-100) will be in effect for all OSSA sanctioned events. Reference may be made to <http://www.speedskating.ca/resources/safety/protective-equipment/short-track-protective-equipment>, or the above-noted regulation in the Red Book.

All Ontario skaters shall wear either a club skin-suit of their registered Ontario club, or an unmarked skin suit (ie. no club or training centre name on it) at all Provincial Series competitions and the Provincial A Championships.

Timing

Regional Series Meets

Manual timing will be in effect unless electronic timing can be secured. When using manual timing, 0.2 seconds shall be added to manually captured times in accordance with ISU rules.

Provincial Series Meets:

Electronic timing will be provided at all Provincial Series Meets and the Provincial A Age Class Championships. Manual timing will be in effect as a back-up to the electronic timing. When using manual timing, 0.2 seconds shall be added to manually captured times in accordance with ISU rules.

Officials

The Chief Referee and Chief Starter for meets will be assigned by the Officials Development Committee. Efforts will be made to select these officials from nearby. Support officials should come from the host club

where possible. Officials from further away may be assigned to certain meets for development purposes. Reference the O SSA Hosting Manual for further details.

REGIONAL RACING SERIES

Description:

- There are three different regions – West, Central, and East
- Skaters from the host region have priority in registration.
- Both 100.0m and 111.12m tracks need to be marked on the ice surface.
- Sanctions must be obtained from OSSA in respect of every Regional Series competition.
- Ice time is needed from 7am to 6pm (includes set up and tear down time).
- Officials requirements are as follows:
 - Chief Referee, Chief Starter, Chief Timer and Chief Judge should be Level 2, but could also be Level 1, if supervised by an official of a higher level for upgrade evaluations.
 - Championship Meets: Chief Referee, Chief Starter, Chief Timer, and Chief Judge should be Level 2, but could also be Level 1, if supervised by an official of a higher level for upgrade evaluations, and if the Level 1 has officiated at least 2 meets.
- Level 3 crash mat protection is required for Regional meets. See SSC guidelines at www.speedskating.ca/resources/safety/crash-protection/short-track-crash-protection and Appendix D3 at www.speedskating.ca/appendices
- Skaters at Regional Series competitions may not set records as they race with other age and gender groups.
- Skaters in the Regional Racing Series will have access to multiple regular season meets and the season-end Provincial C Short Track Championships or the Provincial B & Masters Short Track Championships (depending on age). All 3 regions are invited to attend these competitions.

Qualification and Registration:

- Any competitive member who participates in an OSSA sanctioned competition that is not classified as a Provincial Series skater will be considered a Regional Series skater.
- See meet announcement for registration information. Skaters from the host region who have properly registered will have priority in registering for a Regional Series meet ahead of skaters from other regions. For out of region meet participation, skaters who have registered before the registration deadline will be added to a waitlist.
- If a one-day Regional Series competition has fewer than 120 registrations from the host region (including all skaters from the Flex region) once registration has closed, the Provincial Registrar will then add waitlisted skaters from outside the region based on proximity to the host club. For greater certainty, the Provincial Registrar shall add all the registered skaters of the closest club or clubs until registrations have reached at least 120 skaters, at which point, there shall be no further skaters added to the competition. **NEW!** For the 2015-2016 season in an effort to support the viability of meets in the East: if ALL the Regional skaters (from East, Central, West, and Flex) who applied to race at an Eastern Regional meet have been accommodated and space still remains, Provincial Series skaters may be granted a space at the meet. Provincial Series skaters would need to have registered and be waitlisted as per the regular registration procedures.
- A maximum of 150 skaters from the host region will be accepted into each 1-day meet. There is no cap on registration for Championship meets.
- Cradle classes may be run at the discretion of the host club.
- Race opportunities for Special Olympic skaters may be offered at any Regional Series meet at the discretion of the host club. Any club with Special Olympic skaters wanting to race, shall contact the host

club at least 5 weeks in advance to establish registration numbers and distances (111m track only). A minimum of 3 skaters is required to run Special Olympic races. Registrations from a maximum of 16 Special Olympic skaters will be accepted. Host clubs, in consultation with the Chief Referee, will determine the racing agenda.

- Any Special Olympic skaters who are registered members of OSSA are able to participate in the regularly scheduled race offerings for their ages at a Regional meet. In such a case, the skater need only register for the meet by the deadline.
- Out-of-province skaters may attend a Regional meet. Out-of-province skaters will be seeded as follows:
 - Open: on the basis of 500m time
 - Group 2: on the basis of 400m time, or if the skater does not have 100m track times, on the basis of the skater's 500m time. If 500m time is used, the skater will be placed near Ontario skaters with similar 500m times, at the discretion of the recorder who sets up the meet.
 - Group 3: on the basis of 400m time, or if the skater does not have 100m track times, on the basis of the skater's 500m time. If 500m time is used, the skater will be placed near Ontario skaters judged by the meet recorder to be of a similar speed, working on the assumption that a 48s 400m (100m track) is roughly equal to a 60s 500m (111.12m track).

Regional Series Points Awards

Certificates will be given to the five skaters in each region who receive the greatest amount of cumulative points from all Regional Series Meets within their own region in Group 3, in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix C. These certificates will be presented at the Provincial C Championships awards ceremony.

Provincial C Short Track Championships

Details about the 2016 Championships will be posted in a separate bulletin at a later date.

Provincial B and Masters Short Track Championships

Details about the 2016 Championships will be posted in a separate bulletin at a later date.

Racing Groups and Distances for Regional Series Meets

3 Racing Groups	Distances for 1 day Regional Meet		
Group 1 Competitive for Life Ages 14 years and older Mixed gender racing 111.12m track	*777m x 2 500m x 2 Super 1500m *the meet organizers may choose to do 1000m rather than 777m, time permitting		
Group 2 Train to Train Girls 11-13 years Boys 11-13 years Mixed gender racing Both tracks	400m x 2 (100m track) 500m x 2 (111.12m track) Super 1500m (100m track)		
Group 3 Learn to Train Girls 6 - 10 years Boys 6 - 10 years Mixed gender racing 100.0m track	Fastest group: 200m x 2 400m x 2 Super 800m	Next fastest group: 200m x2 400m x2 Super 500m	All other group(s): 200m x2 400m x2 Super 300m

Note: time permitting, other events, including relays, may be added at the discretion of the meet coordinator.

Regional designation of clubs for Regional Racing Series

East Region:

Gloucester Ottawa Lakefield St. Lawrence Portland
Kingston Kawartha Quinte

Central Region:

Barrie King Newmarket Markham Toronto
Clarington Durham Brampton

Western Region:

Hamilton Milton London Oakville Cambridge
Kitchener-Waterloo Niagara Golden Horseshoe

Flex Region: *Can register skaters in any region

Sudbury Sault Ste. Marie Thunder Bay

Note:

- The Regional Series seed times will be: Group 1 (500m on a 111.12m track), Groups 2 and 3 (400m on a 100.0m track)
- A separate group for Masters skaters may be made at the discretion of the Meet Coordinator if there are sufficient registrations for a given Regional Series Meet.

Racing Format

- 1 All points ability format.

All Points: Format in which all skaters advance to finals and therefore accumulate points.

Ability: Competition in which seeding is primarily on ability. Seed times prevail for seeding purposes, over sex and age within the three distinctive groups outlined above.

- 2 At all Ability competitions, category names will be standardized by using the alphabetic call designations as follows: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo, Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel, India, Juliet, Kilo, Lima, Mike, November, Oscar, Papa, Quebec, Romeo, Sierra, Tango, Uniform, Victor, Whiskey, X-ray, Yankee, Zulu. The top ability grouping must be designated as Alpha and then proceed down.
- 3 The groups may be skated in the opposite order starting with the lowest group and finishing with the top group, the Alphas, at the discretion of the Provincial Registrar and the Chief Referee.
- 4 The Provincial Registrar and Chief Recorder shall establish, to the extent possible, racing divisions of 16 skaters. In any case, the maximum size of a division shall be 16. For Group 1, the group sizes may differ based on the age group and ability of the registered skaters.

Racing Points and Results

See Appendix B. Medals will be awarded to the top 3 finishers in each Division based on the cumulative points earned during the Finals of each distance. See Appendix C for an explanation of the Regional Series Points Award.

PROVINCIAL RACING SERIES

Description:

- Province-wide 2 Day meets
- Requires Olympic size ice pad (30 x 60 meters)
- Both 100.0m and 111.12m tracks must be marked on the ice surface and certified as correct
- Skaters in the Provincial Racing Series will have multiple regular season meets and the season-end Provincial A Short Track Championships where Team Ontario is selected for the Canada East Short Track Championships.
- Sanctions must be obtained from OSSA and SSC.
- Ice time requirements Day 1: 6:30am – 6:00pm and Day 2: 6:30am – 6:00pm (includes set up and tear down)
- Officials requirements are as follows:
 - Chief Referee and Starter should be Level 3, but could also be Level 2, if supervised by an official of a higher level for upgrade purposes.
 - Chief Timer and Judge should be Level 3, but could also be Level 2, if the official has been a Chief for at least 2 Regional meets and has taken the Level 2 clinic.
 - Championship Meets: Chief Referee, Starter, Timer, and Judge should be Level 3, but could also be Level 2, if supervised by an official of a higher level for upgrade evaluations.
- Provincial Series meets and the Provincial A Championships are classified as Two Day meets (refer to pricing chart in information manual).
- Level 3 crash mat protection is required for Provincial Series meets. See SSC guidelines at <http://www.speedskating.ca/resources/safety/crash-protection/short-track-crash-protection> and Appendix D3 at <http://www.speedskating.ca/appendices>.

Qualification for Provincial Series:

- At the start of the 2015-16 racing season, there will be a minimum of 147 skaters invited to race in the Provincial Racing Series. After December 15th there will be a minimum of 167 skaters invited to race in the Provincial Racing Series.
- Skaters will be selected on the basis of their position on the OSSA Short Track Ranking List at the start of the 2015-2016 racing season, which list is based on the year-end 2014-2015 Ranking List. The number of skaters who are invited in each age 11-14 year old age class is based on the relative depth of such class. Please see Appendix D for further explanation.
- Although the 14 year old skaters are racing in the Open groups, they will qualify for the Provincial Series only against other 14 year old skaters. They will be qualified for the Provincial Series at the beginning of the year on the basis of their 400m+1500m (100m track) times. They will be seeded into the Open groups for the purpose of creating Divisions within the meet, on the basis of their 500m+1500m (111.12 track) times. After the first meet of the year, they will be ranked on the Ranking List based on their 111.12m track times. 14 year old skaters will qualify for the Provincial Series at the midway point of the year, and also be called-up to Provincial Series meets, on the basis of their 500m+1500m (111.12 track) times.
 - Skaters in the Provincial Racing Series are not eligible to participate in any other Ontario racing series unless stated in the bulletin. **EXCEPTION:** For the 2015-2016 season in an effort to support the viability of Eastern Regional meets: if ALL the Regional skaters (from East, Central, West, and Flex) who applied to race at an Eastern Regional meet have been accommodated and space still remains, Provincial Series skaters may be granted a space at the meet. Provincial Series skaters would need to have registered and be waitlisted as per the regular registration procedures.
- Once skaters have met the criteria (time standard and within quota numbers) to race in the Provincial Racing Series, they will remain in the series for the duration of the competitive season. Skaters must confirm their intent to race Provincial Series by **September 10, 2015**. However, skaters may opt out of the Provincial Racing Series any time in order to compete in the Regional Racing Series – these

skaters must provide written notification to the OSSA office (sportmanager@ontariospeedskating.ca) and they will not be permitted to return to the Provincial Series for the rest of the season.

- Any skater who has missed the entire 2014-2015 short track season will need to start the 2015-2016 season as a Regional Series skater.
- Should a given racing group (example Girls 11) not achieve the minimum quota for racers because of skaters who have declined the Provincial Series invitation, the Technical Committee reserves the right to balloon another racing group (example Boys 12) to increase the racing numbers in the Provincial Series stream.
- Regional Series skaters will have the opportunity to enter the Provincial Series mid-way through the season. Two skaters in each age class (Boys and Girls 11-14 and Open Ladies and Men) will be invited to the Provincial Series after December 15th, 2015 (hereinafter, the “mid-way point of the year”). They shall be chosen based on their ranking on the ranking list at that time, the fastest skater being selected first, excluding any skaters who have declined the Provincial Series already. There shall be one further skater called up if any of these skaters decline the invitation.
- Ontario skaters training out of province will not occupy ranking spots, although they will be eligible to compete within the series should they wish to do so and if they meet the same qualifying criteria

Call-Ups to Provincial Series Meets

Skaters from the Regional Series shall be invited to skate in a particular Provincial Series meet to fill spots if numbers are not at capacity (such skaters hereinafter called “call-ups”). These skaters will be selected on the basis of their ranking time and their status as Regional skaters. Skaters selected are not under any obligation to attend and will not be penalized later in the season for declining a selection. Subject to the rules regarding qualification to the Provincial A Championships, selection to compete in one or more Provincial Series meets does not change the Racing Series classification of that skater. Skaters will be selected according to the following process:

- Only those skaters who have satisfied the following time standards (according to their time noted on the most current version of the Ranking List, at the time of registration), may be called up:
 - Open Men: 225.00s (1500m+500m – 111.12m track)
 - Boys 14: 240.00 (1500m+500m – 111.12m track)
 - Boys 13: 250.00 (1500m+400m – 100m track)
 - Boys 12: 265.00s (1500m+400m – 100m track)
 - Boys 11: 270.00s (1500m+400m – 100m track)
 - Open Ladies: 245.00s (1500m+500m – 111.12m track)
 - Girls 14: 245.00s (1500m+500m – 111.12m track)
 - Girls 13: 260.00s (1500m+400m – 100m track)
 - Girls 12: 275.00s (1500m+400m – 100m track)
 - Girls 11: 280.00s (1500m+400m – 100m track)
- All eligible Regional skaters who wish to be selected as call-ups for a given Provincial Series meet shall register for the meet along with the Provincial Series skaters. Each club registrar shall note which skaters are Regional skaters on their club entry form.
- The Provincial Registrar shall confirm the registration of the selected call-ups along with the Provincial Series skaters.
- The Provincial Registrar shall select as many Regional skaters per age group as there are open spots in that age group. I.e. if there are 2 open spots in Boys 11, there shall be two call-ups from the Boys 11 group. The Provincial Registrar shall select the Regional skaters who have registered for the meet based on their position on the Ranking List, the highest ranked skater having priority.
- If there are no pre-registered call-ups who have made the time standard in a group with missing skaters, there will not be any call-ups in that group.

Provincial Series Points Awards

Certificates will be given to the three skaters who receive the greatest amount of points from all Provincial Series Meets in each of the following groups: Open Ladies, Open Men, Boys 11-13 and Girls 11-13. The award recipients will be determined in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix C. These awards will be presented at the Provincial A Championships awards ceremony.

Provincial A Short Track Championships

See page 19 of this bulletin for eligibility requirements.

Racing Groups and Distances

Group 1

Age	Gender	Provincial Ranking	Track Size	Distances
Girls-14	Open Female	Ranked 1 – 9	111.12m	500m
15-16 (Junior B)		Ranked 1 – 22 on the Open Women Ranking List		1000m
17-18 (Junior A)				1500m
19-22 (Neo-Senior)				1500m Superfinal
23+ (Senior or Master)				3000m points race
Boys-14	Open Male	Ranked 1 – 12	111.12m	500m
15-16 (Junior B)		Ranked 1 – 30 on the Open Men Ranking List		1000m
17-18 (Junior A)				1500m
19-22 (Neo-Senior)				1500m Superfinal
23+ (Senior or Master)				3000m points race

Notes:

- The female skaters will race together as an Open category and the male skaters will race together as an Open category.
- Provincial ranking is based on a 500m + 1500m combined time.
- Skaters race 4 fixed distances (500m, 1000m, 1500m and 3000m points race). Please see Appendix A for the advancements. Note: there are different distances planned for Provincial Series #2 vs. all other Provincial Series meets.
- Relays may be added at discretion of Meet Coordinator and Chief Referee.
- Any skaters aged 23 or older who are ranked in the top 22 Open Ladies or top 30 Open Men at the beginning of the year shall be eligible for the Provincial Series, but shall balloon the Open group such that there shall be 22 Open Ladies aged 15-22 and 30 Open Men aged 15-22 who qualify for the Provincial Series at the beginning of the year.
 - Any skaters aged 23 or older who qualify for the Provincial Series at the mid-way point of the year as provided above shall also balloon the number of skaters who qualify at that time, such that there will be two Open Men aged 15-22 and two Open Ladies aged 15-22 who are invited to the Provincial Stream at that time.
- Ontario skaters training out of province will not occupy ranking spots, although they will be eligible to compete within the series should they wish to do so and if they would otherwise have qualified for the Open Group based on their ranking times. These skaters shall balloon the group in the same manner as the skaters aged 23+.
- The Open groups will be split into Divisions of 16 skaters at the discretion of the Chief Referee and Chief Recorder. Divisions could be increased to a maximum of 24 skaters:
 - Skaters shall be seeded into these groups based on their current ranking in their respective Open group. For the first Provincial Series meet, skaters shall be ranked on their final 2014-2015 Ranking List times.

- The number of Divisions and skaters per Division shall depend on the number of registrations received for a particular meet.
- Out-of-province skaters aged 14 or older may attend a Provincial Series meet if they meet the qualifying time standard as set out on page 24 of this Technical Bulletin. Any out-of-province skaters who so qualify shall be seeded into the Open groups based on their 500m+1500m times and shall balloon the total number of skaters at the meet.
- In fairness to all Ontario competitors, seeding for Provincial Series #1 will be done based on the 2014-2015 year-end ranking list #21. Times from the most recent 2015-2016 ranking list will be used to seed skaters at all subsequent Provincial Series meets.

Group 2

Age	Gender	Provincial Ranking	Track Size	Distances
11	Girls 11-13	Ranked 1 – 8	100.0m and 111.12m	200m (100m) pursuit + final
12		Ranked 1 – 17		400m (100m)
13		Ranked 1 – 7		500m (111.12m)
11	Boys 11-13	Ranked 1 – 14		1500m (100m)
12		Ranked 1 – 14		1500m (111.12m) Superfinal
13		Ranked 1 – 14		2000m or 3000m (100m) points race

Notes:

- Group 2 shall be divided by gender into two sub-groups – Girls 11-13 and Boys 11-13.
- Skaters will only race the 200m pursuit once (1). Re-skates will not be granted in any circumstance.
- Provincial ranking is based on 400m + 1500m combined time.
- Relays may be added at the discretion of the Meet Coordinator and Chief Referee.
- Girls 11-13 and Boys 11-13 will be split into 2 or more Divisions of no greater than 16 skaters as follows:
 - In fairness to all Ontario competitors, seeding for Provincial Series #1 will be done based on the 2014-2015 year-end ranking list #21. Times from the most recent 2015-2016 ranking list will be used to seed skaters for all subsequent Provincial Series meets.
 - Skaters shall be seeded into these groups based on their current ranking times. For the first Provincial Series meet, skaters shall be ranked on their final 2014-2015 Ranking List times (400m+1500m – 100m track). Any skaters who do not have 1500m times shall be ranked on their 400m time only, behind all skaters who have 1500m times.
 - The number of Divisions and skaters per Division shall depend on the number of registrations received for a particular meet.
- Out-of-province skaters aged 11-13 may attend a Provincial Series meet if they meet the qualifying time standard as set out on page 24 of this Technical Bulletin and shall balloon the total number of skaters at the meet. Any out-of-province skaters who so qualify shall be seeded into the 11-13 year old groups based on:
 - Their 400m+1500m (100m track) times, if they have any
 - Their 500m (111.12m track) time, if they do not have 400m+1500m (100m track) times. In this case, they shall be seeded into the group by placing them near Ontario skaters with similar 500m (111.12m track) times.

Racing Format

Groups 1 & 2: All points ability, gender specific.

All Points: Format in which all skaters advance to finals and therefore accumulate points.

Ability: Competition in which seeding is primarily on ability. Seed times prevail for seeding purposes, over age but not gender.

Please refer to Appendix A for information about the format of the points races and 200m pursuits.

Racing Points and Results

See Appendix B.

Medals will be awarded to the top 3 finishers in each Division based on the cumulative points earned during the Finals of each distance.

Provincial Series Schedule Meets #1 and #3

Saturday:

Warm-up: 7:45am start and will follow the order of racing.

Racing Starts at 8:35AM.

Group 1: 1500m Heat and Final
Group 2: 400m Heat, Semi, and Final (100m track)

Lunch Break

Group 1: 500m Heat, Semi, and Final
Group 2: 1500m Heat and Final** (100m track)

Sunday:

Warm-up: 7:45am and will follow the order of racing.

Racing Starts at 8:35AM.

Group 1: 1000m Heat and Semi
Group 2: 500m Heat and Semi (111.12 m track)

Lunch Break

Group 1: 1000m Final
Group 2: 500m Final
Group 1: 1500m Super Final
Group 2: 1500m Super Final (111.12m track)

Provincial Series Schedule – Meet #2 and #4

Saturday:

Warm-up: 7:45am start and will follow order of racing.

Racing Starts at 8:35AM.

Group 1: 1500m Heat and Final
Group 2: 400m Heat, Semi, and Final (100m track)

Lunch Break

Group 1: 500m Heat, Semi, and Final
Group 2: 1500m Heat and Final** (100m track)

Sunday:

Warm-up: 7:45am start and will follow order of racing.

Racing Starts at 8:35AM.

Group 1: 1000m Heat and Semi
Group 2: 200m Pursuit and Mass Start Final (100m)

Lunch Break

Group 1: 1000m Final
Group 2: 2000m points race Super Final (100m)
Group 1: 3000m points race Super Final

PROVINCIAL C SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Details about the 2016 Provincial C Championships will be made available at a later date and issued as a separate bulletin.

PROVINCIAL B AND MASTERS SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP

Details about the 2016 Provincial B and Masters Short Track Championships will be made available at a later date and issued as a separate bulletin.

PROVINCIAL A SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

This competition will be used to select skaters to attend the Canada East Short Track Championships and to name the Ontario Open Provincial Champions. The format of the Canada East Short Track Championships meets are contained in the relevant SSC Competitions Bulletin which can be accessed on the SSC website.

Skater Eligibility

- 1 It is imperative that all skaters, coaches, clubs, and parents review the qualification criteria below, and Bye Guidelines herein. All skaters will be deemed to understand these criteria once they accept an invitation to the Provincial Series.
- 2 All skaters who accepted the invitation to race the Provincial Racing Series as of September and attend 3 out of the 4 Provincial Series meets during the 2015-2016 season are eligible to participate in the Provincial A Championships. If a skater does not attend 3 out of 4 meets, he or she must obtain a Bye for any missed competition(s) in accordance with the Bye Guidelines contained herein, in order to maintain eligibility for the Provincial A Championships.
- 3 Skaters have hereby been given an opportunity to miss one of the Provincial Series meets without the necessity of obtaining a bye (hereinafter called a "Free Absence"). Skaters must use their Free Absence for their first non-attendance of the season, no matter the reason for the non-attendance. A skater must receive a bye for any further non-attendance(s), or forfeit his or her eligibility for the Provincial A Championships. A skater who starts a meet will be recognized as having attended the meet regardless of when s/he leaves the meet. An injured skater should review the Bye guidelines for additional information.
- 4 All skaters who accept the invitation to race the Provincial Racing Series after December 15th, 2015, and attend the remaining 2 Provincial meets during the 2015-2016 season are eligible to participate in Provincial A Championships. If a skater does not attend both meets, he or she must obtain a Bye for any missed competition(s) in accordance with the Bye Guidelines contained herein, in order to maintain eligibility for the Provincial A Championships.
- 5 Any skater who is classified as a Regional Series skater, having never been invited to the Provincial Series, and who has been called-up to and attended 3 out of 4 of the Provincial Series meets, shall be eligible to register for the Provincial A Championships. Such skaters must attend 3 out of 4 Provincial Series meets and are not eligible for byes for further non-attendance. A Regional Series skater who so qualifies and skates at the Provincial A Championships is not eligible for the Provincial B Championships.
- 6 A Provincial Series skater aged 22 and younger cannot attend the Provincial B Championships.
- 7 The following classes of skaters shall not be required to attend any Provincial Series Meets in order to attend the Provincial A Championships:
 - a Ranked Ontario skaters based out-of-province who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary program of study; and
 - b Ontario-based skaters who have accepted an invitation to race in the Provincial Series who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary program of study.

If any skater described in 7(a) or (b) wishes to register for the Provincial A Championships without having attended 3 out of 4 Provincial Series meets, he or she must enclose with his or her registration,

proof of enrollment throughout the skating season in a post-secondary degree, diploma or certificate program.

Description

- 1 Skaters aged 11-14 will race in their gender-specific, 1-year age categories. Skaters aged 15 and older will race as part of one, gender-specific Open group. If there are greater than 32 skaters registered in any group, that group will be split into two equal groups (ie. Open A Men and Open B Men).
- 2 15 year-old boys are eligible to skate the Canada East Short Track Championships, but will be racing in the Open categories. SSC requires skaters to have 100m track times to skate at the Canada East Short Track Championships. In order to attend the Canada East Short Track Championships, 15 year-old boys **WILL BE REQUIRED** to obtain 100m track times by skating in time trials at the end of the Provincial A competition. Any 15 year old boy who wishes to participate in the time trials must indicate such on his registration form.

AGE CLASSES/RACING GROUPS

Gender	Age Class
Female	Girls 11
Female	Girls 12
Female	Girls 13
Female	Girls 14
Female	Open – Junior B, Junior A, Neo-Senior
Male	Boys 11
Male	Boys 12
Male	Boys 13
Male	Boys 14
Male	Open – Junior B, Junior A, Neo-Senior

Warm-up: 7:45am start and will follow the order of racing. Racing scheduled to start at 8:35am.

Provincial A Short Track Championships Distances

Age Group	Track	Distances
Age 11 Female	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, 2000 points race, 2000m relay
Age 11 Male	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, either 2000 points race or 1500 SF (discretion of meet coordinator in consultation with Chief Referee), 2000m relay
Age 12 Female and Male	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, 2000m points race, 2000m relay
Age 13 Female	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, 3000 points race, 3000m relay
Age 13 Male	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, 2000 points race, 2000m relay
Age 14 Female and Male	100.0	200P, 400, 1500, 3000 points race, 3000m relay
Open Female and Male	111.12	500, 1000, 1500, 3000 points race or 1500m SF, depending on time *15 y.o. boys may be racing a 3000m relay if in contention for Canada East.

Notes:

- There will be no re-skates for the 200m pursuit. No exceptions.
- Relays will be offered and are a non-medal event for skaters aged 11-14. All skaters are strongly encouraged to participate in the relays as preparation for Canada East.
- Relays will be seeded as per the 2015-2016 SSC Competitions Bulletin for Canada East.

- If any age class does not have enough skaters to run heats and finals in any distance, that age class shall run **two finals** in such distance. For example, if there are 8 or fewer skaters in a group, that group will race two 1500m finals, as there are 8 skaters on the line in that distance.
- If there are greater than 32 skaters registered in either of the Open categories, it shall be split into two groups – Open A and Open B, based on Ranking List times

Seed Times for Provincial A Short Track Championships

Age Group	Seeding Distances
Age 11, 12, 13	400m + 1500m
Age 14	500m + 1500m (111.12m track)
Open	500m + 1500m

Racing Format

All points, age class – gender specific.

All Points: Format in which all skaters advance to finals and therefore accumulate points

Age Class: Competition in which seeding is done first by sex, then by age. In age class competitions male skaters compete with males and females with females, and skaters of the same age class are grouped together.

Please refer to Appendix A for information about the format of the Points race and 200m Pursuit.

Race Agenda Saturday:

Ages 11-14: 400m Heat, Semi, and Final (100m track)

Open: 1500m Heat and Final

Lunch Break

Open: 500m Heat, Semi, and Final

Ages 11-14: 1500m Heat and Final (100m track)

Race Agenda Sunday:

Open: 1000m Heat and Semi

Ages 11-14: 200m Pursuit (100m) and points race Super Final (100m)

Lunch Break

Open: 1000m Final

Ages 11-12 girls & 12-13 boys: 2000m relay (100m) , 13-14 girls 3000m relay (100m)

Open: 3000m points race or 1500m Super Final

15 y.o boys 100m time trials for Canada East seed times (200m, 400m and 1500m)

14-15 boys 3000m relay (100m)

Racing Points and Results

See Appendix B.

Medals will be awarded to the top 3 overall finishers in each male age class and each female age class aged 11-14, and each of Junior B Men, Junior A/ Neo-Senior Men and Junior B Ladies, Junior A/Neo-Senior Ladies based on points earned during the Finals.

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR CANADA EAST SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eligibility to participate as a member of Team Ontario at the Canada East Short Track Championships will be based on the criteria set by SSC.

Details of the SSC Short Track Championships are contained in the relevant SSC Competition Bulletins, which can be accessed at: <http://www.speedskating.ca/competitions-bulletins>

While SSC establishes the primary criteria for the eligibility of any skater participating in the various championships, the selection criteria used by OSSA for selection to Team Ontario will be based on a skater's overall results at Provincial A Short Track Age Class Championships.

Ties for the last place position on a team will be decided on the basis of the skater with the fastest 400m time skated at the Provincial A Championships. This procedure will also be used to determine the order of alternates to be named to a team, if multiple skaters in an "alternate" position are in a tie position.

OUT-OF-PROVINCE SHORT TRACK SKATERS

Out-of-Province skaters may enter any regular season Regional Series meet. Out-of-Province skaters may enter any regular season Provincial Series meet provided they meet the age requirements for the racing series and they have satisfied the time standards set out below. All times are in seconds. Only times from this season and last season will count.

Out-of-Province skaters will be placed within an age group based on their date of birth and will skate the track appropriate to that age group.

Out-of-Province skaters are not eligible to participate in any of the Provincial A, B, C or Masters Championships.

Age Class	Time Standard: 400m + 1500m (100m track)	Time Standard: 500m+ 1500m (111.12m track)	Time Standard: 500m (for skaters 11-13 without 100m track times)
Girls 11	239.00		59.00
Girls 12	230.00		57.00
Girls 13	224.00		55.00
Girls 14	222.00	230.00	
Open Ladies – Junior B (15-16), Junior A (17-18), Neo-Senior (19-22)		224.00	
Boys 11	239.00		56.00
Boys 12	233.00		53.00
Boys 13	220.00		52.00
Boys 14	205.00	214.00	
Open – Junior B (15-16), Junior A (17-18), Neo-Senior (19-22), Senior (23-29)		199.00	

ONTARIO SPEED SKATING ASSOCIATION BYE GUIDELINES

Purpose

To provide the Technical Committee with guidelines for the granting of byes to skaters into or from competitions or onto provincial teams where qualifying criteria are required to be met.

Philosophy of Team Selection

The philosophy for team or event selection is to select the skaters that will achieve the best possible result for Ontario at different competitions (Canadian Championships or Canada East) or develop towards the highest level of performance (Canada Winter Games, Junior Championships, and/or Senior Ranking Events onto a national team).

The Technical Committee is determined to make the selection to these teams or events as objective as possible. To ensure this occurs the Committee will use, whenever possible, objective criteria such as time, placing at a specific competition(s), and ranking etc. as the foremost criteria in selecting skaters.

These criteria will be used at a specified selection event(s) or a series of specified events.

In nominating the specific selection event(s), the Technical Committee will only nominate an event that occurs after the confirmation of the relevant selection policy. In all cases it is the intent of the Technical Committee that selection is earned through current performances in the specific selection events.

In exceptional circumstances a skater may not be able to compete in the relevant selection event(s). In this instance the skater is eligible to apply for selection under the Bye Conditions as detailed below.

Bye Clause Selection Philosophy

(The Bye Clause will only apply to selection for specific competitions/ events)

Due to exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness, injury, equipment break, etc.) and through no fault of his or her own, a skater sometimes does not have the opportunity to compete in the nominated selection events. In this situation the skater may be eligible to apply for a bye selection to the relevant team.

The basic philosophy for selecting a skater by granting a bye is that, all things being equal, the skater given the bye has clearly demonstrated superior performances in previous competition to other skaters being considered for selection or advancement in ranking.

A bye request is considered as the last means by which a skater can gain selection and is intended to provide for exceptional circumstances outside the normal selection criteria rather than being part of the normal means by which a skater can gain selection or advancement.

Rules for submitting a bye application:

- a Bye requests must be made in writing to the Technical Committee (see deadlines below).
- b Only the skater, their parent or guardian, and/or coach can submit the request.
- c In every case, the application **must enclose** supporting documentation. For example, if the bye request is made on the basis of an illness or injury, the skater must provide documentary evidence from a medical doctor. The Technical Committee has the right to request further independent medical review after the bye request has been submitted.

Conditions for applying for a Bye

I **Bye request for a short track Provincial Series competition in the current skating season, in order to preserve eligibility for Provincial A Championships:**

Bye requests will be considered in four (4) categories for all skaters qualified to race in the Provincial Series:

a *Pre-Competition illness or injury that prevents a skater from competing in an event.*

If a skater is ill or injured before the beginning of the event, a bye request must be made before the coaches' meeting of that event. The Technical Committee Representative must formally announce all bye requests at this meeting so that all other competitors are made aware of the possibility of a bye being granted.

A bye request will be ruled ineligible if the skater subsequently competes in the event.

In the case of selection being based upon participation at multiple events, a skater is eligible to apply for a bye request to a subsequent event if they are prevented from competing in one of the events due to a pre-existing illness or injury.

If the bye application is made because a skater has suffered a concussion, the skater must also follow the guidelines set out in the section entitled "Policy Regarding Byes for Concussions", on page 29.

b *Pre-competition conflicting engagement that prevents a skater from competing in an event.*

If a skater knows in advance that he or she will be unable to attend an event because of a conflicting engagement (ie. a funeral or an exam occurring on the same day as a competition), a bye request must be made **before the registration deadline** of the event.

A bye request will be ruled ineligible if the skater subsequently competes in the event.

In the case of selection being based upon participation at multiple events, a skater is eligible to apply for a bye request to a subsequent event if they are prevented from competing in one of the events due to a conflicting engagement.

In all cases it is preferable that a skater attend an OSSA selection event over another event. Byes shall not be granted for skaters to attend competitions in other sports, or speed skating competitions in other provinces, subject to these guidelines. Byes shall not be granted for conflicting engagements that are purely optional. Skaters should use their Free Absence (provided it has not already been used) if they wish to attend such optional events.

Subject to the guidelines herein, byes will not be granted for engagements that are not actually in a direct conflict. For greater certainty, the conflicting engagement must be on the same day as the competition.

Byes will be granted, upon receipt of the skater's application and supporting documents, for attendance at the following competitions:

- any National level selection, ranking meet or championship (ie. National Selections, Fall World Cup Trials, Junior Trials/Championship, Canada Cups, Canada Winter Games, Age Class Championships etc.)

- o any OSSA selection event or its substitute (Ontario Provincial Long Track Championships, Long Track Canada Winter Games Trials, Long-Track Provincial Championship Back-Up Event). If a skater has qualified for any of the above meets **and** such meet is either 3 or 4 days long, the skater shall be eligible to receive a bye for a Provincial Series meet which is occurring on the weekend directly preceding one of the above-described competitions, notwithstanding that the two events do not directly conflict. In the case of a skater who has qualified to represent Ontario at the Canada Winter Games in the discipline of long track speed skating and as a condition of accepting a position on the team has entered into an agreement to only participate in long track speed skating for a specified time period, that skater may receive a bye for any Provincial Series meets that fall within that time frame.

c *Injury, illness or equipment breakage during an event*

A Bye request must be made **within 48 hours** following the end of the event.

If the bye request is made on the basis of equipment breakage, this must be reported to – and verified by – the chief referee or Technical Committee representative immediately following the race in which the equipment breakage occurred.

If the bye application is made because a skater has suffered a concussion, the skater must also follow the guidelines set out in the section entitled “Policy Regarding Byes for Concussions”, on page 28.

d *Conflicting engagement or travel difficulty immediately prior to an event*

If a skater has registered for an event and is then unable to attend due to an unforeseen conflicting engagement or travel difficulty, a Bye request must be **made within 48 hours following the end of the event**. (Please note that travel distance/ inconvenience is not an acceptable travel difficulty – cancelled flights, late arrivals, etc. are eligible for consideration).

II **Bye request to be named to Team Ontario:**

This process is for the selection to a specific team and is relevant to skaters who are unable to attend the Provincial A Championships, but who wish, nevertheless, to be considered for selection to Team Ontario for the Canada East Short Track Championships.

The Bye must be requested as per the above guidelines and deadlines, except that a bye must be requested **prior to the end of the Provincial A Championships** for any situations that arise at the Provincial A Championships. The Bye application must state clearly what the skater is requesting, and appropriate documentation (medical, etc.) **must be attached**.

Process for reviewing a Bye application

The following steps are involved in the process of considering a request for a Bye.

- a Following the final selection event for the respective team/ event, the Technical Committee meets (in person or via conference call) to review the facts.
- b In cases where multiple Bye applications are lodged, they will be assessed individually and on their own merit.
- c All members of the Technical Committee (who are not in conflict of interest) will review the facts and make a recommendation (with supporting rationale). If there are fewer than three members of the

Technical Committee that are not in a conflict of interest, then the OSSA Board of Directors will make the recommendation regarding the Bye application.

- d If the Bye(s) is/are granted, the Technical Committee will establish a revised ranking of skaters based upon the selection event(s) and an assessment of previous performances from those who have requested a Bye.
- e From this revised ranking, the final selections will be made.
- f These final selections will then be named as the “Team” or “eligible” and will be communicated to the skaters(s) requesting the Bye, skater(s) directly affected by the Bye request, the coaches, and the skaters’ representatives.

Conditions for granting a Bye

Applications for a Bye to be selected to Team Ontario despite non- or partial participation in the relevant Provincial Championship will be held to a much higher standard than regular Bye applications for Provincial Series competitions.

The basic question the Technical Committee must answer is whether the skater requesting the Bye had a recent history of performances or other factors as listed below that demonstrate clear superiority of the skater requesting a Bye to those of other skaters in consideration for selection. If a skater submits a Bye after partial performance in the relevant Provincial Championship (ie. if a skater is injured partway through the Championship), the Technical Committee shall take into consideration the skater’s performance up to the point of that skater’s withdrawal from the competition in assessing the application.

The Technical Committee must also be certain that the skater requesting the Bye would be able to compete at a similar level in the event or team for which they seek selection. The Technical Committee may award a “Conditional Bye” to skaters recovering from injury or illness. In this situation, the skater may have certain conditions imposed upon him or her. This could include, but is not limited to, such things as a certain time frame, performance requirement, medical clearance etc.

In order to make these decisions, the Technical Committee will evaluate a number of elements including, but not limited to, the following:

- a Head-to-head competition results of the skaters being considered for selection.
- b Past performances of the skater requesting the Bye.
- c Results of the selection competition (by skaters in contention for the team).
- d Recent training and testing performances.
- e Medical evidence of suitability to compete.
- f Coach/ Club Official evaluation and recommendations of suitability to compete.

In evaluating past performances, the Technical Committee will assign priority to those performances from the 12 month period prior to the final selection event. If this data does not exist, performances beyond this 12-month period may be considered but will assume a lower value in assessing the Bye request.

In Short Track, the general guideline is that the Technical Committee judges that the skater being granted a Bye would have clearly finished within the ranking of the skaters selected.

Policy Regarding Byes for Concussions

If a skater applies for and receives a bye due to having sustained a concussion, he or she will be considered to be placed in the Concussion Protocol and shall adhere to the following rules for the subsequent Provincial Series competition(s) (including, if necessary, the Provincial A Championships):

- 1) If the skater has recovered from the injury, he or she must submit to the Technical Committee, before the registration deadline of the next Provincial Series competition, written medical clearance from a medical doctor which clearance approves the skater to compete in such competition. The skater shall

then be free to register for that and any further Provincial Series competitions and shall be considered to be out of the Concussion Protocol.

- 2) If the skater has not recovered from the injury, he or she must submit to the Technical Committee, before the registration deadline of the next Provincial Series competition, an updated written notice from a medical doctor which notice confirms that the skater has not been medically cleared to compete. The skater shall then receive a bye for that competition. The skater shall continue submitting medical notes confirming his or her medical status until he or she is able to satisfy the requirements of section (1) of this Protocol.
- 3) A skater in the Concussion Protocol shall not be allowed to register for any Provincial Series competitions so long as he or she has not satisfied the requirements of section (1) of this Protocol.
- 4) A skater in the Concussion Protocol who does not satisfy the requirements of either section (1) or (2) of this Protocol in respect of any competition shall forfeit his or her eligibility for the Provincial A Championships as he or she will not have attended 3 out of 4 meets and will not have received a bye for the extra absence.
- 5) For greater certainty, a skater is required to use his or her Free Absence for his or her first non-attendance. If a skater's first non-attendance is due to a concussion, he or she will still be considered to have used his or her Free Absence for the first competition, despite having applied for a bye. Such a skater will be placed in the Concussion Protocol.

Appeals

Following the announcement of the decision on the Bye application, the skater(s) affected by the decision has/have the opportunity to appeal the decision in accordance with the Ontario Speed Skating Association's Appeals Policy.

The Bye Application Form is posted on the OSSA website: ontariospeedskating.ca/technical-bulletins/.

APPENDIX A – SHORT TRACK ADVANCEMENTS

#1 Provincial Racing Series and Provincial A Championships

These advancements shall be used for the following groups and/or competitions:

- Provincial Racing Series: all groups

Short and Middle Distances (4 skaters per race)

- 400m on 100m track
- 500m and 1000m on 111.12m track for Open skaters, 11-13 Girls and Boys

Group	Program	Advancement to Semis	Advancement to Finals
1-4	1 Final		
5-8	2 semis / 2 finals		1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final B (2+0)
9-12	3 heats / 2 semis / 3 finals	1 st and 2 nd places and 2 fastest 3 rd places move to semis A+B (2+2) Remaining 3 rd and 4 th to Final C.	Semi A+B: 1 st and 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd and 4 th to Final B (2+0) Final C (no semi skated)
13-16	4 heats / 4 semis / 4 finals	1 st and 2 nd to semis A +B (2+0) 3 rd and 4 th to semi C+D (2+0)	Semi A+B 1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final B (2+0) Semi C+D 1 st , 2 nd to Final C (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final D (2+0)
17-20	4 heats / 4 semis / 5 finals *Heats are 5 on the line	1 st , 2 nd to AB semis (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to CD semis (2+0) Remaining skaters straight to E final	Semi A+B 1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final B (2+0) Semi C+D 1 st , 2 nd to Final C (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final D (2+0) E final (no semi skated)
21-24	6 heats / 6 semis / 6 finals	1 st and 2 fastest 2 nd places to A+B semis (1+2) Remaining 2nds and 4 fastest 3rds to C+D semis. Remaining 3rds and 4ths to E+F semis.	Semi A+B 1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final B (2+0) Semi C+D 1 st , 2 nd to Final C (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final D (2+0) Semi E+F 1 st , 2 nd to Final E (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final F (2+0)

200m (100m track) Pursuit (2 skaters per race) + Final (3 skaters per race)

Group	Program	Advancement to Finals
Unlimited number of skaters	1 pursuit (heat) for every 2 skaters / 1 final for every 3 skaters	3 fastest pursuit times to A Final (0+3) Next 3 fastest pursuit times to B Final Next 3 fastest pursuit times to C Final, Etc. etc.

Long Distance: 1500m (6 skaters per race) – for Open groups

Group	Program	Advancement to Finals
1-6	1 Final	
7-12	2 heats / 2 finals	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd to Final A (3+0) Rest to Final B
13-18	3 heats / 3 finals	1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) 3 rd , 4 th to Final B (2+0) 5 th , 6 th to Final C (2+0)
19-24	4 heats / 4 finals	1 st and 2 fastest 2nds to Final A (1+ 2) Remaining 2nds and all 3rds to Final B 4ths and 2 fastest 5ths to Final C Remaining 5ths and 6ths to Final D

Long Distance: 1500m (8 skaters per race) – for Boys and Girls 11-13

Group	Program	Advancement to Finals
1-8	2 Finals	
9-16	2 heats / 2 finals	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th to Final A (4+0) Rest to Final B
17-24	3 heats / 3 finals	1 st , 2 nd and 2 fastest 3rds to Final A (2+2) Remaining 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th and fastest 6 th to Final B Rest to Final C

Super Final: 8 skaters per race → 2000m and 3000m points race on both tracks, 1500m super final on 111.12m track (11-13 year old groups/T2T groups)

Group	Advancement to Finals
1 - 8	1 Final
9 -16	2 Finals
17 - 24	3 Finals

* Referee may combine races if there are not enough skaters for the last final.

Super Final: 6 skaters per race → Super 1500m on 111.12m track (Open groups)

Group	Advancement to Finals
1 - 6	1 Final
7 -12	2 Finals
13 - 18	3 Finals
19 - 24	4 Finals

#2 Regional Racing Series

These advancements shall be used for the Regional Racing Series competitions: All groups not to exceed 16 skaters

Open: 500m, 777m, 1000m – 4 skaters per race

Group 2: 500m (111.12m track), 400m (100m track) – 4 skaters per race

Group 3: 200m, 400m (100m track) – 4 skaters per race

<u>Group</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Advancement to Finals</u>
1-4	1 Final	
5-8	2 semis / 2 finals	Final A – 2+0 Final B – 2+0
9-12	3 heats / 3 finals	1 st , next fastest time to Final A (1+1) Rest to Finals B-C in order of heat times
13-16	4 heats / 4 finals	1 st to Final A (1+0) Rest to Finals B-D in order of heat times

Open, Group 2: 1500m (6 skaters per race) - both tracks

<u>Group</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Advancement to Finals</u>
1-6		1 Final
7-12	2 heats / 2 finals	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd to Final A (3+0) Remainder to Final B
13 - 18	3 heats / 3 finals	1 st , 2 nd to Final A (2+0) Next 6 fastest to Final B Rest to Final C

Super Final: 1500m (both tracks), 800m, 500m, and 300m - 6 skaters per race

<u>Group</u>	<u>Advancement to Finals</u>
1 - 6	1 Final
7 - 12	2 Finals
13-18	3 Finals

#3: Guidelines for the 2000m and 3000m Points Race and 200m Pursuit:

2000m and 3000m Points Race:

Note: these rules apply to the points race on both the 111.12m and the 100m tracks.

1. Skaters are to be seeded into this event based on the cumulative points earned in other distances in the meet. A maximum of eight (8) skaters will be allowed to start in each race, however, if the last final has fewer than 5 skaters it can be combined with the prior final allowing up to 12 skaters to start in a single race.
2. Skaters who are lapped prior to 7 laps (the lead skater has 7 laps to go) remaining must go to the centre of the ice. They will earn 0 points for the remainder of the race. A skater is deemed to be lapped once overtaken by the lead skater. These lapped skaters shall retain all points earned earlier in the race. Skaters who are lapped following 7 laps remaining will continue to race and score points on the finishing lap. If a skater eliminates the entire field, the race will be declared over and the skater will earn 1st place points for all remaining point laps.
3. Final placing in the event will be determined by the total number of points earned by each skater in the race. Should skaters finish with an equal number of points, the result on the final lap will be used to break the tie.
4. Skaters in the A final will receive Final Points for positions 1 through 8, skaters in the B final will receive Final Points for positions 9 through 16 and skaters in the C final will receive Final Points for positions 17 through 24.
5. Penalized skaters shall receive no points for the race; however points earned by those skaters during the race will not be re-distributed. They will receive last place final points for their final.
6. During the 3000m points races there will be a bell rung with 22, 15, 8 and 1 lap to go to indicate that the next lap is a points lap. During the 2000m points race there will be a bell rung with 15, 8 and 1 lap to go to indicate that the next lap is a points lap.
7. Should the referee be required to stop a race for any reason and a restart is required, the number of laps to be completed shall be at the discretion of the referee however the referee must allow skaters to complete at least three (3) laps prior to points being awarded. In the case of a stoppage, skaters will retain all points earned up to that point, unless the laps remaining require the last points earned to be raced for again. For example, if a race were stopped after 7 laps remaining and restarted with 11 laps to skate, the skaters would lose the last points earned in the first start (7 to go) and race for them again. Skaters who were lapped or penalized will not take part in the restart.
8. **3000m:** skaters will score points when they cross the line with 21, 14, and 7 laps remaining, as well as the finishing lap. Points are assigned as follows: 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2 and 1 point. Double points will be awarded for the final lap i.e. lap 27. The meet recorder shall post the results showing the points earned on each points lap along with the overall results of the race.
9. **2000m:** skaters will score points when they cross the line with 14, 7 laps remaining, as well as the finishing lap. Points are assigned as follows: 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2 and 1 point. Double points will be awarded for the final lap. i.e. lap 20. The meet recorder shall post the results showing the points earned on each points lap along with the overall results of the race.

200m Pursuit and Mass Start Final

1. A 200m Pursuit will be skated as the qualifying round for the 200m Mass Start Final.
2. Skaters will be seeded into pairs based on their cumulative points obtained up until that point in the competition. The highest ranked pair shall skate first, followed by the next ranked pair and so on. In the case of an odd number of skaters, the lowest ranked skater will skate alone in the final pair.
3. The higher seeded skater in a Pursuit pair shall start on the side of the start/finish line used for all other events.
4. Skaters will be marshaled on and off the ice with their entire racing group. Skaters that are not racing will be waiting on the ice with an official.
5. Use only the 3 centre tracks.
6. Skaters will be seeded into a 200m Mass Start Final based on the results of the Pursuit. The 200m Mass Start will be limited to 3 skaters per race.

APPENDIX B – RACING POINTS

#1 Final Short Track Provincial points:

Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points
1	1000	11	130	21	23	31	13	41	3
2	816	12	106	22	22	32	12	42	2
3	666	13	86	23	21	33	11	43	1
4	543	14	70	24	20	34	10	Others	1
5	443	15	57	25	19	35	9		
6	362	16	46	26	18	36	8		
7	295	17	37	27	17	37	7		
8	241	18	30	28	16	38	6		
9	196	19	25	29	15	39	5		
10	160	20	24	30	14	40	4		

#2 Ties

A tie for 1 st	1000 points each, next skater 666 points
A tie for 2 nd	816 points each, next skater 543 points
A tie for 3 rd	666 points each, next skater 443 points
A tie for 4 th	543 points each, next skater 362 points
A tie for 5 th	Etc.

#3 Disqualifications

Disqualifications in a heat will be placed into the lowest final.

Disqualifications in a semi-final will be placed into the lowest eligible final.

Disqualifications in the final, will receive last place points for that final, behind any skaters who did not finish (DNF) the race, but ahead of skaters who did not start (DNS) the race. All disqualified skaters in a final receive last place points.

Order of finish – DNF – DQ - DNS.

#4 Point Eliminations

If a skater does not participate (DNS) in a heat, he/she will be placed into the bottom final. He/she may skate the final but will receive no points for that distance. The time from the final will be recorded.

If a skater participates in the heat, but not the semifinal, he/she will be placed into the lowest eligible final. If he or she again does not participate in the final, he or she will receive last place points for that final.

If a skater participates in the heat and semi, but not the final, he/she will receive last place points for that final.

If a skater does not participate (DNS) in the Super final, he/she will receive no points for that distance.

APPENDIX C – OVERALL POINTS AWARDS

Regional Series

- The skaters in the highest ranked division in Group 3 (skaters 6-10 years old) at each Regional Series meet shall be eligible to receive points. There are no points given out in respect of the Provincial C Championships as this award is designed to reward participation throughout the season.
- Only the skaters from the host region are eligible to receive points. In other words, only eastern skaters may receive points at eastern meets and so on.
- The top 8 skaters in the above-noted division from the host region based on cumulative points at the end of each regional competition shall receive the following points: 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2, 1. The highest ranked skater shall receive 34 points, the next ranked skater shall receive 21 points and so on.
- If there are not enough skaters from the host region in the highest ranked division in Group 3 to award all of the above-mentioned points, the remaining points will be allocated to skaters in the next division, based on their overall standing at the end of competition.
- After all Regional Series meets from each region have occurred, the points accumulated by all of the skaters at each meet shall be added together and the 5 skaters in each region who have accumulated the greatest amount of points will receive the following awards, to be handed out at the Provincial C Championships:
 - o Overall Regional Series Points Champion
 - o 1st Runner Up – Regional Series Points Classification
 - o 2nd Runner Up – Regional Series Points Classification
 - o 3rd Runner Up – Regional Series Points Classification
 - o 4th Runner Up – Regional Series Points Classification

Provincial Series

- The skaters in the highest ranked division in Open Ladies, Open Men, Girls 11-13, and Boys 11-13 at each Provincial Series meet shall be eligible to receive points. There are no points given out in respect of the Provincial A Championships as this award is designed to reward participation throughout the season.
- Skaters from all regions are eligible to receive points.
- The top 8 skaters in each of the above-noted divisions based on cumulative points at the end of each Provincial Series competition shall receive the following points: 34, 21, 13, 8, 5, 3, 2, 1. The highest ranked skater shall receive 34 points, the next ranked skater shall receive 21 points and so on.
- After all 4 Provincial Series meets from each region have occurred, the points accumulated by all of the skaters at each meet shall be added together and the 3 skaters in each division who have accumulated the greatest amount of points will receive the following awards, to be handed out at the Provincial A Championships:
 - o Overall Provincial Series Points Champion
 - o 1st Runner Up – Provincial Series Points Classification
 - o 2nd Runner Up – Provincial Series Points Classification

APPENDIX D – GUIDELINES FOR INVITATION OF SKATERS TO THE PROVINCIAL SERIES

The Technical Committee invites a certain number of skaters in each age class to attend the Provincial Series competitions, based on the following goals:

- (1) to ensure, as much as is possible, minimum group sizes at the Provincial Series meets and Provincial A Championships (ie. to be able to run heats and finals in each distance for each group);
- (2) to ensure, as much as is possible, an appropriate number of skaters attending each Provincial Series competition and the Provincial A Championships;
- (3) to recognize that certain age groups are more competitive than others and to recognize the concept of proportionality; and
- (4) to recognize the development of skaters over the course of the season. It is OSSA's goal to have approximately 150 skaters at the Provincial A Championships.