

ANNOUNCEMENT

 **EUROPEAN
SPEED SKATING
CHAMPIONSHIPS
2006**

**HAMAR OLYMPIC HALL
JANUARY 14-15, 2006**

The Norwegian Skating Association and
the Organising Committee have the honour and pleasure to invite you to
the

 **European Speed Skating Championships
2006**

to be held at the artificial frozen 400 meters indoor ice rink
Hamar Olympic Hall in Hamar, Norway
on Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, January 15, 2006.

PROGRAM

Friday, January 13:

16.00	Team leaders' meeting, Scandic Hotel
18.00	Opening draw, Hamar City Hall

Saturday, January 14:

12.00	500 meters Ladies
	500 meters Men
	3000 meters Ladies
	5000 meters Men

Sunday, January 15:

12.00	1500 meters Ladies
	1500 meters Men
	5000 meters Ladies
	10000 meters Men

GENERAL REGULATIONS

The ISU European Speed Skating Championships 2006 will be held in accordance with the 2004 Regulations of the International Skating Union and relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the Championships is open to skaters who belong to a European ISU Member (Rule 130, paragraph 1) and who have met the qualification criteria according to Rule 220 and ISU Communication No. 1353. The results from the European Championships will determine the entry quotas for European ISU Members at the ISU World Allround Championships 2006.

TITLES AND PRIZES

The winners of the Championships are the skaters with the lowest total points after all 4 distances have been completed (Rule 260, paragraph 2). The winners will bear the titles "Lady European Speed Skating Champion for 2006" and "European Speed Skating Champion for 2006" and they will be awarded the ISU Championship gold medal. The competitors placed second and third in the final overall classification will each be awarded the ISU silver, respectively bronze, Championship medal.

The winner of each distance will be awarded the small ISU gold medal. The second and third will be awarded the same medal in silver and bronze respectively. The prizes of honour and the prize money will be given according to the ISU Memorandum and ISU Communication No. 1286.

TRACK

Standard speed skating track of 400 meters to the lap laid out in the Hamar Olympic Hall, an artificially frozen covered skating rink with inner and outer curve radii of 25,5 and 29,5 meters, respectively.

The width of each lane of the competition track is 4 meters and there is an inside training track of 4 meters wide (Rule 203).

The track will be open for speed skating training for entered competitors from Tuesday, January 10 to Thursday, January 12 from 10.00 to 12.00 and from 16.00 to 18.00. Official training on Friday, January 13 from 10.00 to 12.00 and from 16.00 to 18.00. Trial starts will be organised on Friday, January 13.

ENTRIES

According to ISU Rule 220, paragraph 5 c), each European ISU Member has the right to enter one competitor for ladies and one for men, subject to achieved qualifying times as defined in ISU Communication No. 1353.

According to ISU Communication No. 1346, ISU Members of the following countries have the right to enter more than one competitor, in accordance with rule 220, paragraph 5 c).

Ladies		Men	
AUT	2	BEL	2
GER	4	FIN	2
ITA	2	GER	3
NED	4	ITA	3
NOR	3	NED	4
POL	2	NOR	4
RUS	3	POL	2
ROM	2	RUS	3
SWE	2	SWE	2

Each country may enter substitutes corresponding with the number of ordinary entries.

Preliminary entries, giving the number of competitors, substitutes and team officials (with provisional names), must be communicated by December 27, 2005.

Final entries, with the names of the competitors and substitutes as well as names of team officials, must be communicated **at the latest** by January 11, 2006.

Post entries are not allowed. Team officials may not be entered after the final entry deadline.

For all entries official ISU entry forms shall be used.

CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS AND CLEARANCE PROCEDURE

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 1117, all skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such a nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

DRAWING

The drawing will be made according to Rules 223 and 224.

ANTI-DOPING

Anti-Doping tests will be carried out in accordance with the valid ISU Anti-Doping Code (ISU Communications Nos. 1280 and 1281 or any further update of these Communications).

LIABILITY

In accordance with Rule 119, the ISU, the Norwegian Skating Association and the Organising Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property loss or damage incurred in connection with the Championships. Each Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage.

BOARD AND LODGING

The Organising Committee is responsible for board and lodging for the competitors and for one team leader from each participating country, from lunch Friday, January 13 up to and including lunch Monday, January 16, 2006 (Rule 137, paragraph 10 and 14).

The Organising Committee will make hotel reservations for the competitors and team officials at:

Scandic Hotel, Hamar

Vangsvegen 121

N-2318 Hamar

Telephone: + 47 21 61 40 00

Telefax: + 47 21 61 40 11

E-mail: hamar@scandic-hotels.com

The hotel is situated approximately 10 minutes walk from the ice rink.

Request for hotel reservations must be made by December 27, 2005, at the latest.

All hotel reservations must be made through the Organising Committee.

TRANSPORTATION

There will be a transportation service for arriving and departing teams and officials from January 10 to January 16 between Hamar and Oslo International Airport Gardermoen. Transportation will also be provided between the official hotel and the ice rink. The Organising Committee would like to be informed about the time of arrival and departure of the competitors and officials by December 27, 2005, at the latest.

ENTRIES AND INQUIRIES

All entries and hotel reservation requests, as well as other inquiries should be addressed to:

The Norwegian Skating Association

Sognsveien 75L

Serviceboks 1, Ullevål Stadion

N - 0840 Oslo

Phone: + 47 21 02 97 20

Fax: + 47 21 02 97 21

E-mail: skoyteforbund@nif.idrett.no

MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Press accreditation should be addressed to

Ole Peder Kjeldstadli

Hauglivn. 15

N-2319 Hamar

Phone: + 47 62 53 09 67

E-mail: ol-p-kj@online.no

Online accreditation: <http://www.n-s-f.no/em2006/accreditation.htm>