WINTER WORLD MASTERS GAMES • FINLAND 2028

Long Track Speed Skating · Winter World Masters Games 2028

INVITATION TO COMPETE AND SPORTS INFORMATION

Lahti, 14–18 January 2028 · Version October 2026

1. Welcome to Lahti

The Winter World Masters Games 2028 bring 14 winter sports to Lahti, Heinola and Levi on 14–23 January 2028. Long track speed skating is raced at Kisapuisto in central Lahti on 14–18 January: official training on Friday, races on Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday, and Monday kept as the reserve day.

The track is built for these Games. Kisapuisto is a permanent outdoor ice venue, but not a speed skating venue. For one week its ice field becomes a 333.3 m oval, made for this competition and taken down after it. Racing under the open sky, the way speed skating began.

Six distances over three race days, up to four per skater. Pairs are seeded by time, so you race skaters of your own speed. Medals go by age class. Nothing stops us.

2. Organisers

Role	Organisation
Event owner	World Masters Sports (WMS)
Organising committee	Salppuri Oy, Lahti
Competition organiser	Finnish Skating Association (Suomen Luisteluliitto)

Rules	ISU Constitution and General Regulations, ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules Speed Skating, IMSSC Constitution and Regulations
Competition Manager and Referee	Appointed by the Finnish Skating Association
Contact	nothingstopsus@masters2028.com, subject "Speed Skating"

3. Venue and track

Venue:

Kisapuisto Sports Park, Lahti

Track:

Kisapuisto is a permanent outdoor ice field with its own cooling system. The 333.3 m speed skating track is temporary, custom-made and adapted to the ice field for these Games, and the cooling technology keeps the ice quality high.

- Built for the Games under ISU Rule 204, which allows tracks shorter than 400 m. The track is approved by World Masters Sports.
- The speed skating oval, its boards and its markings are built only for this competition.
- Changing rooms are at Kisapuisto. A heated waiting and warm-up space for skaters is next to the track, with the call room in the middle of the oval.
- The track is lit, so racing continues after January daylight.
- Results on a temporary 333.3 m track are not eligible for records.
- Kisapuisto is just 500 m from Lahti Sports Center and the Games Centre / Masters Hub
- Helsinki Airport to Lahti: about 100 km, one hour by train or car.

Distance	Laps	Start
500 m	1.5	Back straight

1000 m	3	Finish line
1500 m	4.5	Back straight
3000 m	9	Finish line
5000 m	15	Finish line
10 000 m	30	Finish line

4. Who can enter

- Participants must be at least 30 years old before 1 July 2028 (born on or before 30 June 1998), in accordance with IMSSC rules
- A competitor must be a member of a skating club affiliated with a national skating federation that is a member of the International Skating Union (ISU).
- The Games are for masters. Current members of a national team in the 2027–28 season cannot take part.
- You have your own accident, health and liability insurance, including repatriation, valid in Finland for training and competition. The organiser takes out no insurance for participants.
- You compete at your own risk and you are responsible for your own fitness to compete. No medical certificate is needed; you confirm your health in the registration.
- Masters compete for themselves. There are no national delegations or quotas.
- Participants holding Russian or Belarusian citizenship may attend the Winter World Masters Games 2028 only if they also hold citizenship of another country or are permanent residents of a country other than Russia or Belarus, and they participate individually without using or displaying any Russian or Belarusian flags, symbols, names, abbreviations, colour combinations, anthems, or other national identifiers. This decision has been made by the Local Organising Committee and follows the policies of the Finnish Government and Finnish sports organisations. If the political situation changes, LOC is able to re-consider the decision any time.

5. The events

Race day	Distances

Saturday 15 January	500 m, then 3000 m
Sunday 16 January	1500 m, then 5000 m
Monday 17 January	1000 m, then 10 000 m

Women and men race in separate five-year classes: 30–34 · 35–39 · 40–44 · 45–49 · 50–54 · 55–59 · 60–64 · 65–69 · 70–74 · 75–79 · 80+. Your age on 1 July 2028 sets your class. Skaters of different ages can share a pair. Results and medals are always per class: gold, silver and bronze in every class, on every distance.

6. Competition format

Single distances. Every distance is its own competition. There is no allround ranking, no heats and no final. The ranking is by time within your class.

Up to four distances. Pick any four of the six. Every distance is open to every age class, the 10 000 m included.

Pairing. In the registration you give your personal best for each distance you enter. Pairs are drawn on those times, so you race a skater of your own speed, whatever their age. Giving a personal best is optional.

Quartet starts. From 3000 m up, four skaters may start together under the ISU rules. The start format for each distance is confirmed with the start lists.

Start lists. Pairs and start lists with exact times are published on masters2028.com before the Games.

7. Programme

Day	Speed skating	Also on
Friday 14 January	Official training · Athlete Information Meeting	Opening Ceremony, Lahti · accreditation open at the Games Centre
Saturday 15 January	500 m · 3000 m · medals	

Sunday 16 January	1500 m · 5000 m · medals	
Monday 17 January	1000 m · 10 000 m · medal	
Tuesday 18 January	sReserve day. No racing unless the weather forces a postponement	
Sunday 23 January		Farewell Party, Lahti

The track is outdoors. If the extreme weather stops a race day, the races move to the reserve day on Tuesday 18 January. Changes are decided by the organising committee together with the Competition Manager, and announced at the Athlete Information Meeting and on masters2028.com.

The speed skating long track ends on Monday 17 January. Speed skating Short track opens the ice at RTK Arena on Wednesday 19 January, so you can skate both. Short track counts as a separate sport on your entry. Entry fee enables participating in up to three (3) different sports.

8. Training

Friday 14 January: official training on the competition track, included in your entry. No training on the track while a race is on.

9. Athlete Information Meeting

Friday 14 January, after the official training. The meeting replaces the team leaders' meeting. The Competition Manager and the Referee present the programme, the pairing, the start procedure, the weather plan and the reserve day. Further meetings are called when needed.

10. Rules

- The races follow the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules Speed Skating and the IMSSC Constitution and Regulations, current editions, unless amended in this invitation. The rules are applied with the masters character of the event in mind.
- Decisions on the ice are made by the Referee. Protests follow the ISU rules.

- Timing transponders are provided by the organiser. You collect yours at the race office against a 50 € deposit, refunded when you return it after your last race.
- Bring long track skates, a racing suit, gloves and warm layers for waiting outdoors in January.
- Anti-doping: the WMS anti-doping rules and the WADA Code apply.

11. Entry and fees

- Registration opens on 1 November 2026 at masters2028.com. The first week is reserved for pre-registered athletes. Each athlete registers and pays personally online.
- Speed skating: 225 € per athlete, VAT 13.5 % included. The game entry covers up to three sports; long track speed skating counts as one, with up to four distances. Short track is a separate sport.
- In the Speed Skating form you choose your distances and give your personal best for each, your club and your national federation.
- There is no limit on the number of skaters.
- Changes to your distances are free until 30 November 2027, then 25 €.
- Late fee +50 € from 1 October 2027. Last-minute fee +100 € from 1 January 2028. Entries close on 14 January 2028.

12. Cancellation

When you cancel	Refund
Until 30 June 2027	Full refund minus 50 € admin fee
1 July – 30 November 2027	50 %
From 1 December 2027	No refund
With a doctor's certificate, any time	50 %

Entries cannot be transferred to another person. If the organiser cancels all your sports, 50 % is refunded. The general terms and conditions and the privacy policy on masters2028.com are part of this invitation.

13. Results and medals

Start lists and live results are on masters2028.com. The top three in every class receive medals the same evening at the Masters Hub, Lahti Sports & Exhibition Centre. No flags, no national anthems: masters compete for themselves.

14. Accommodation and travel

Hotels and transport in Lahti are booked through masters2028.com. Local transport runs at a special reduced rate with your accreditation. Details in 2027.

15. Coaches and companions

Access to the track area requires accreditation. Coaches and companions register as accompanying persons on masters2028.com. Registration for accompanying persons opens in 2027.

16. Contact

nothingstopsus@masters2028.com · subject "Speed Skating" · masters2028.com

Attachments: ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules Speed Skating; IMSSC Constitution and Regulations. Changes for organisational, weather or safety reasons are possible.

The version date for this document is 27 October 2026.

NOTHING STOPS US.
WE ARE MASTERS.