



MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE

**ISU WORLD SYNCHRONIZED SKATING
CHAMPIONSHIPS® 2022**

HAMILTON, CANADA

APRIL 7-9, 2022



Skate Canada looks forward to hosting media attending the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships® 2022 in Hamilton, Canada. The event will be held at the FirstOntario Centre from April 7-9, 2022.

This information will assist you in planning your trip to Hamilton and to apply for media accreditation to cover the event. Every effort will be made to ensure journalists have all the appropriate facilities necessary to work at the event.

The Press Centre and press tribune will be open and operational as from the first practice/training session on Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 7:30.

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If you require further information or have any questions, please contact:

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Useful Information

Language

English is the predominant language of Hamilton; however, French, Italian, Arabic, Spanish, and Polish are also commonly spoken. English and French are the official languages in Canada, and most government services are available in either language.

Financial Services and Banking Hours

Regular banking hours are Monday to Friday from 9:30 until 16:00 with extended hours including weekends at many locations. Some banks are open on Saturdays for a brief amount of time, but most are also closed on Sundays and holidays.

Major credit cards are honoured in most business establishments. Automated teller machines (ATMs) marked with a Plus or Interac symbol will accept automated banking cards from outside Canada. Banks charge a fee of approximately \$2 for international transactions. The visitors' bank sets the exchange rate.

For currency conversions refer to: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/exchange/daily-converter/>.

Taxes

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is a five percent (5%) tax that is applied to most supplies of goods and services made in Canada. The Province of Ontario also has a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST). Almost all services and products are subject to a 5% GST, but many items have a 13% tax added to the initial price of an item. Most prices posted in stores do not include taxes. Visitors to Canada may be eligible for tax rebates. Rebate forms are available at the airport or Tourism Office. There is no rebate on consumable items such as meals, liquor, tobacco, transportation costs and gasoline.

Currency

The currency is the Canadian dollar (CAD). For denominations under five dollars, Canadians use coins, including what are affectionately known as the "Loonie" (one-dollar coin) and "Toonie" (two-dollar coin). Daily currency exchange rates appear in newspapers, are posted online, and are posted at banks and currency exchange businesses.

Electricity

Electricity sockets are 120V plug type A. Visitors with appliances of different voltages should bring adapters.

Tobacco and Alcohol

The legal age in Ontario is 19; a driver's license is considered a valid form of identification. Smoking is banned in all public spaces and workspaces in Ontario, including restaurants, bars and private clubs. The ban extends to outdoor public areas such as playgrounds, sport fields and spectator areas.

Business Hours

In general, stores are open from 09:00 until 17:00 from Monday to Saturday, Sunday from 11:00 until 18:00. Some shopping malls are open 10:00 until 21:00. Some large pharmacies, grocery stores and bookstores stay open late all week, and some smaller boutiques may open their doors later in the morning.

Emergency Services

The emergency number for all health, safety, police, and crime emergencies is 9-1-1.

Media Accreditation

All media must apply for media accreditation through the ISU Online Media Accreditation System (OMAS) on the International Skating Union (ISU) website (www.isu.org) under «[Media Accreditation](#)».

Accreditation will be granted to professional journalists and photographers only.

Writing press, photographers, non-right holding media and freelancers

- **Writing Press** (newspaper, magazine, internet, agencies, and ISU Member Federations): maximum one professional per organization onsite (agencies and major newspapers: maximum two professionals)
- **Photographer**: maximum one professional per organization on-site (agencies and major newspapers: maximum two professionals onsite)
- **Television non-right holder**: maximum three professionals per organization onsite
- **Radio non-right holder**: maximum one professional per organization onsite
- **Freelancer**: A freelance journalist or photographer is a full-time professional editor or photographer, who is not employed by an agency or newspaper – a self-employed professional. A freelance editor or photographer must provide written evidence that he/she operates on behalf of a clearly identified media. A freelance editor or photographer operating under his/her own account will not be accepted.

The International Skating Union (ISU) and the Organizing Committee (OC) have been working diligently to ensure there will be ample coverage opportunities available to media outlets wishing to cover the ISU events. This in mind, there will be two types of media accreditations issued for those wishing to cover ISU Championships.

On-site media accreditations will be subject to capacity.

Remote media accreditation holders will not have access to the venue and will be covering the event virtually.

The deadlines to apply for media accreditations are as follows:

On-site media accreditation requests: Monday, **April 4, 2022**

Remote media accreditation requests: Monday, **April 4, 2022**

No late media accreditation requests will be accepted for on-site media accreditation requests.

All media must provide the following documentation when applying for media accreditation and further information can be requested:

1. Endorsement Letter in .pdf, .jpg, .png or .jpeg
2. Copy of current professional media or journalist card in .pdf,.jpg,.png,.jpeg
3. ID photo in .pdf, .jpg, .png or .jpeg
4. Waiver Form for Attendees of ISU Events during Covid-19 Pandemic

Rights holding TV and radio

All right holding media must also apply for accreditation via OMAS. Access to the Right Holders area is restricted, therefore Right Holders are invited to contact the ISU Media Team media@isu.ch in order to obtain a username and password.

Accreditation Confirmation

If the accreditation request is accepted – either on-site or remote - an automatic email of confirmation will be issued. For on-site attendance, you may be asked to present a copy of the email of confirmation to receive your accreditation badge.

You will also be notified if your accreditation request is denied. Please note that the ISU and OC reserve the right to refuse accreditation with or without justification.

Media personnel can pick up their accreditation at FirstOntario Centre (Sales Entrance) starting Thursday, April 7 from 8:30-12:00. Photo identification will be required for the duration of the event.

Media Accreditation Operating Hours:

- Thursday, April 7 8:30-12:00
- Friday, April 8 14:00-17:00
- Saturday, April 9 10:00-13:00

COVID-19 Measures

As mentioned in the [ISU Covid-19 Pandemic Guidelines](#), all event attendees (even those vaccinated) must present **a negative PCR test result taken no more than 72 hours before arrival at accreditation.**

Upon arrival at the accreditation office, all event attendees (even those vaccinated) will be tested with an **antigen test**.

For more information about testing refer to the [ISU Covid-19 Pandemic Guidelines](#) and for any other media concerns, please contact: media@skatecanada.ca

Visa Application

The Government of Canada requires that all travellers carry a valid passport as the only universally accepted travel document for the purposes of international travel. People who live in countries where a visa is needed to enter Canada must obtain one from a Canadian embassy abroad before coming to Canada.

Canada does not have a visa office in every country, so it is important that delegates visit the website of the Canadian visa office responsible for processing their visa application locally. This will give them information on how to submit a visa application and the documentation required. Processing times for visa applications vary depending on the visa office and the time of the year.

Media representatives requiring an official invitation letter in order to apply for a visa must contact the Organizing Committee (media@skatecanada.ca). Please note that an official invitation letter will only be provided to approved media representatives.

Please Note: Depending on your nationality, you may be required to give your biometrics:

- Starting July 31, 2018, the biometric requirement becomes mandatory for nationals of Europe, Middle East, and Africa
- Starting December 31, 2018, the biometric requirement becomes mandatory for nationals of Asia, Asia Pacific, and the Americas.

For additional information on whether you require a biometric, please refer to our [fast facts about Biometrics](#).

Visitors must have valid travel documents to enter Canada. Document requirements vary depending on which country you are travelling from. For specific information on travel documents and to find out if you require a visa to enter Canada as a visitor, please refer to <http://www.cbsa.gc.ca/> and <http://www.cic.gc.ca/>.

Important Notice: Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is mandatory for visa-exempt foreign nationals travelling to Canada by air (not by land or sea). To avoid any issues at the airport, you should get your eTA as soon as you begin planning your trip to Canada. To find out if you need an eTA or to apply online, visit this [website](#).

Media Facilities at the Venue

- The Press Centre is located at FirstOntario Centre and will provide a working area for media with fully equipped internet (wireless and hard-line), printing stations, and a small catering station.
- A press conference room will also be located at FirstOntario Centre.

Competition Rink – FirstOntario Centre

101 York Blvd
Hamilton, ON, Canada L8R 3L4
Telephone: +1-905-546-3100
FirstOntario Centre | Core Entertainment

Practice Rink – Chedoke Twin Pad Arena

91 Chedmac Drive
Hamilton, ON, Canada L9C 7R5
Telephone: +1-905-546-3747
Arenas | City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Press Centre Operating Hours:

(subject to change)

- Thursday, April 7 – 7:30-18:30
- Friday, April 8 – 10:00-23:00
- Saturday, April 9 – 6:00-20:00

Mixed Zone & Press Conferences

The Mixed Zone provides an opportunity for media to interview athletes immediately after competition.

The Mixed Zone is split into five main sections and follows a pre-determined priority order:

- Rights holders TV and radio broadcasters who have pre-booked positions
- ENG crews
- Written press
- Non-rights holders
- Virtual Mixed Zone

A **Mixed Zone** has been created at FirstOntario Centre. Skaters will access this zone on the way to their dressing rooms from the Kiss & Cry. The Mixed Zone will be located at ice level.

Press conferences will feature the top-3 finishers after the Short Program and the medallists after the Free Program. They will also be available virtually (through Microsoft Teams) to all remote media accreditation holders. Conferences will take place after the Short Program and Free Skating, and are usually held approx. 15-20 minutes after the end of the competitions/victory ceremonies. Press conferences will be moderated by a member of the Organizing Committee, and will be archived and available for on-demand viewing.

All remote media accreditation holders will be able to access the **virtual mixed zone and virtual press conferences** through a provided link on the ISU Inside Event App. Once in the **Microsoft Teams** room, those wanting to ask a question will be asked to notify the moderator by using the chat or raise hand function. The moderator will call on those wanting to ask a question.

Material Available

- Press Conference: All draws and press conferences will take place at FirstOntario Centre in the Press Conference & Draw Room.
- [Press Releases](#)
- [Media Guide](#)
- For interview requests of athletes, contact OC team (media@skatecanada.ca)
- To access ISU photo galleries for editorial and non-commercial purposes, [click here](#). When using a picture, the ISU must be credited as follows: ©International Skating Union (ISU) and must be tagged or mentioned in any social media post.
- Social Media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)
- Website: <https://skatecanada.ca/>
- Hashtags: #WorldSynchro / #SynchroMonde / #SynchroSkating

Connect with ISU official channels for all the latest and live information:

- [ISU website](#)
- [Media Information](#) on the WSYSC Event's webpage
- Facebook: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)
- Instagram: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)
- Twitter: [@ISU_Figure](#)
- Tik Tok: [@isuskating](#)
- [ISU Newsletter](#) subscription

Competition information

- [Schedule](#)
- [Entry List](#)
- [Results](#)
- [Rankings](#)

Media Accommodation

Sandman Hotel Hamilton

560 Centennial Parkway North
Hamilton, ON
L8E 0G2

Days Inn by Wyndham Hamilton

210 Main St. E.
Hamilton, ON
L8N 1H3

Transportation

Hamilton Public Transit

Please find all information relating to the Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) schedules and fares [here](#). The HSR Trip Planner App will help you use public transit from your starting point to FirstOntario Centre.

For any additional questions or information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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[Official Website – ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships® 2022](#)

[ISU Event Page – ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships® 2022](#)