## PRESS RELEASE

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Beijing, China

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### Schulting (NED) goes for third gold in 1500m, open race in Men's 5000m Relay on last Short Track day in Beijing

Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games

"Flying Dutchwoman" <u>Suzanne Schulting</u> (NED) is aiming at a fourth medal in the 1500m at the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, while the Men enter an open battle for the 5000m Relay as the Olympic Short Track competition concludes Wednesday at the Beijing Capital Indoor Stadium.

#### Schulting faces tough competition

Schulting has been a top star in Beijing, claiming gold in the 1000m and 3000m Relay as well as silver in the 500m. She also set a new world record in the 1000m and an Olympic record in the 500m. Now with the 1500m ahead, she has a chance to get her third gold in China and her sixth Olympic medal overall.

However, the field is deep and the challengers are hungry. <u>Minjeong Choi</u> (KOR) is the 2018 Olympic Champion over this distance. "Blonde Arrow" <u>Arianna Fontana</u> (ITA) would like to add an 11<sup>th</sup> Olympic medal to her impressive record. In Beijing, she struck gold in the 500m and silver with the Mixed Relay.

Others to watch include <u>Kim Boutin</u> (CAN), <u>Hanne Desmet</u> (BEL), <u>Kristen Santos</u> (USA), who so far has been unlucky in Beijing, World Cup leader <u>Yubin Lee</u> (KOR) and <u>Courtney Sarault</u> (CAN).

#### Exciting battle to be expected in the 5000m Relay

The Men's 5000m Relay Final looks open after the 2018 Olympic Champions Hungary surprisingly crashed out in the semifinal and will compete only in the B-Final. Competition should be interesting with five top teams in the Final.

China with Beijing Olympic Champions <u>Dajing Wu</u> and <u>Ziwei Ren</u> on their team has high hopes to take the gold on home ice. Korea can count on their 1500m Olympic Champion <u>Daeheon Hwang</u>. Canada comes with legendary <u>Charles Hamelin</u> and two-time Olympic medalist <u>Steven Dubois</u>. ROC has Beijing medalists <u>Konstantin Ivliev</u> and <u>Semen Elistratov</u>. Team Italy will race as well. There are five teams in the Final A after the Chinese were advanced. Competition starts with the 1500m quarterfinals on Wednesday.

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The International Skating Union (ISU), founded in 1892, is the oldest governing international winter sport federation and the exclusive international sport federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) administering the sports of Figure Skating (Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance), Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating worldwide. The objectives of the ISU are to regulate, govern, promote and develop its sports on the basis of friendship and mutual understanding between athletes. Currently three ISU disciplines are included in the Olympic Winter Games program (Figure Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating not please visit isu.org.