

November 23, 2021

Dordrecht, Netherlands

Final Olympic spots up for grabs as ISU World Cup Short Track heads to Dordrecht

It's now or never for the world's top Short Track Speed Skaters as the last ISU World Cup of the season takes place in Dordrecht, Netherlands from November 25-28. The final places at the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games will be won and lost.

There will be joy and heartbreak as spots in the 500m, 1000m, 1500m (for both genders), the Men's and Women's Relays, and the Mixed Relay, are secured via the Special Olympic Qualifying Classifications (the full rules are [here](#)).

It will also be the final opportunity of the calendar year for medal contenders to sharpen their game pre-Beijing. After this, the only tournaments before the main event itself are the European Championships and Four Continents Championships, which take place across the same weekend in January.

One person whose marker is well and truly laid down is the Netherlands' powerhouse [Suzanne Schulting](#). The World Champion produced arguably [the most ruthless performance of her career](#) last weekend in Debrecen, Hungary, winning all three individual golds, plus the Women's 3000m Relay, to put her a class above the field.

In an unpredictable sport like Short Track, Schulting looks the closest thing you're likely to find to a safe bet for medals in Beijing. Cool-headed, physically dominant and tactically impeccable, she will head to the rink in her homeland brimming with confidence.

Behind Schulting comes a classy cast of characters who can push her all the way. Olympic 500m Champion [Arianna Fontana](#) (ITA) tops the World Cup standings in that distance and has been extremely consistent, picking up medals at all three World Cups so far this season.

Republic of Korea's [Lee Yubin](#) narrowly leads the 1500m standings from Schulting, skating with power and poise, while Lee's teammate and three-time World Champion [Choi Min Jeong](#) (KOR) has had a relatively quiet season by her standards, but is still making podiums.

Canadian duo [Kim Boutin](#) and [Courtney Lee Sarault](#) are also looking sharp. The USA's [Kristen Santos](#), meanwhile, has been the only skater to vanquish Schulting in a pure battle of speed this term – beating her in the 1000m in Nagoya, Japan. Making a habit of that is harder than doing it once, however.

The Men's competition is far more wide-open, with a variety of participants making it into A finals and on to podiums.

Four racers have stood out so far amid the free-for-all: [Hwang Daeheon](#) (KOR), [Pascal Dion](#) (CAN), [Ren Ziwei](#) (CHN) and [Shaolin Sandor Liu](#) (HUN).

Hwang, the 2019 World Champion in 500m, has perhaps been the most consistent, and looks a likely contender in every 500m and 1000m he enters, but he is so competitive he is prone to errors.

Ren illustrated his muscular, aggressive racing style in Debrecen with a fine victory in the 1500m, and looks like he is peaking as his home Games approach.

Shaolin Sandor meanwhile has had a patchy start to the season but showed his class in races such as the 500m in Debrecen, where he took gold on home ice. His brother, the World Champion [Shaoang Liu](#) (HUN), has had less luck but the pair remain a huge dual threat.

Canada's Dion is perhaps the discovery of the season. He was on few radars as a potential Olympic star before the campaign began in Beijing last month, and admits he has surprised himself. But the sharp, precise racer is making A finals and podiums with a real consistency and seems full of confidence.

Behind these four, the likes of [Itzhak de Laat](#) (NED), [Park Jang Hyuk](#) (KOR) and [Semen Elistratov](#) (RUS) have all had their moments. But there is ample opportunity for other contenders to make late charges, too.

Dordrecht will also feature a fierce battle for the Relay spots, with countries seeking top-eight point finishes to make it to Beijing in the Men's 5000m, Women's 3000m and Mixed 2000m categories.

France's Men, the French and Japanese Women's teams, and the Hungarian and Belgian Mixed teams are all currently placed outside the top eights and will be desperate to put in good performances to book their tickets.

Tune in to isu.org and the [SkatingISU YouTube Channel](#) to stay up to date with every twist and turn. If the live stream is not available in your country, take a look at the [Where to Watch](#) to find out how you can enjoy this weekend's action.

World Cup Classification - Men

[Men 500m](#)

[Men 1000m](#)

[Men 1500m](#)

[Men 5000m Relay](#)

World Cup Classification - Women

[Women 500m](#)

[Women 1000m](#)

[Women 1500m](#)

[Women 3000m Relay](#)

World Cup Classification – Mixed Relay

[Mixed Relay](#)

Where to watch and follow the ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating 2021/22?

Viewers will be able to watch the Saturday and Sunday afternoon (local time) World Cup sessions via their national broadcaster/channel. For countries where there are no broadcasters and for the qualification and repechage races, the ISU will offer a live stream on the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#). You will find the full list in the Where to watch news [here](#).

Subscribe to the [ISU Newsletter](#) to receive the latest information and the “[Where to Watch](#)” news. You can also subscribe to the [Skating ISU YouTube Channel](#) to receive notifications when live streams start or new videos are published.

Highlights, clips, interviews, behind the scenes:

YouTube: [ISU Skating](#)

IG: [@isuspeedskating](#)

Facebook: [@ISUShortTrackSpeedSkating](#)

Twitter: [@ISU_Speed](#)

Follow the conversation with #ShortTrackSkating.

For further information on ISU Short Track Speed Skating visit: <https://www.isu.org/short-track>.

ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series events 2021:

[Beijing, CHN October 21 – 24, 2021](#)

[Nagoya, JPN - October 28 – 31, 2021](#)

[Debrecen, HUN - November 18 – 21, 2021](#)

[Dordrecht, NED - November 25 – 28, 2021](#)

About ISU World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Series

The World Cup series consists of nine distances 500, 1000 and 1500 meters for Women and Men, Women 3000 meters Team Relay, Men 5000 meters Team Relay and a Mixed Gender Relay over 2000 meters.

The competitions have a single distance character and are held in separate sessions over four days. Day 1 and 2 are dedicated to all Qualifying Rounds. Days 3 and 4 the last Qualifying Rounds (if necessary) take place, followed by the World Cup sessions.

For the Mixed Gender Relay Teams (2 Women & 2 Men), the Women 3000 meters Relay races and Men 5000 meters Relay races a maximum of four Skaters shall compete and must belong to the same ISU Member.

During the Olympic season there are four ISU World Cup Short Track events that also serve at the Olympic qualifying events.