

**Selection Criteria for the British Short Track Speed Skating
National Performance Pathway 2009/10 Season**

**Selection for Teams Competing at the World Cups World Junior
Championships, European Championships, World Championships &
Winter Olympics Games**

General information

Two (2) trials will be held during the season. The first trials (1st) will be held in August 2009 and will be open to all NISA registered skaters, only skaters with a British Passport and are eligible for Olympic Selection under BOA Bye-Law for doping offences may compete, they must also have attained the necessary Medal Test qualification standard. This Open Trials will be used to select the National Squads for one year and will also select the National Team for all the World Cups. The Second (2nd) Relay trials will also be open, held in November/December 2009, this will select place/s for the Relay at the European and World Championships. For the Winter Olympic Games Team, the skater/s can only win a nomination to the British Olympic Association. The British Olympic Association will then select the 2010 Olympic team; the trial dates must be set 6 weeks in advance and notice must be given 3 weeks in advance if a none squad member wishes to take part in the second relay Trials.

Medal Test Times are calculated by using the current world record times, which are updated on 1st July 2009, (as this coincides with the age categories changing), and adding a percentage to these records as follows:

For Individual senior ladies and men:

- Gold Medal standard - World Record time with 2% added
- Inter Gold Medal standard - World Record time with 4% added
- Silver Medal standard - World Record time with 6% added

- See full list for all the different age Medal Test Standards (see appendix "A").

The Medal Tests Times are set and approved by the World Class Management Group. To achieve a medal test standard the time must have been skated within the current or previous season (see Athletes Charter). For a senior moving up from junior or a junior skater moving up in age category they will have 3 months from the first open trial to achieve the required time Standard at their new age category.

Selection of the National Squad

From the results of the 1st Trials a national ranking is established which will be used to select the National Squad. The number of skaters selected to go to competitions is dependent on the funding available, the ranking and the required Medal test standard.

The Medal Test Standards for International Competition are:

World Cups; Individual places will be senior Silver Standard

** Relay place:- If an individual standard has not been achieved the Performance Director may select a skater as a member of the Relay Team if it is felt that the Relay Team will be competitive. (These skaters will have to skate the individual competition).

Europeans Championships; will be Senior Int-Gold Medal Test Standard for Individual Places. Performance Director may select a skater as a member of the Relay Team if it is felt that the Relay Team will be competitive.

Senior World Championships; will be Senior Int-Gold Medal Test Standard for Individual Places. Performance Director may select a skater as a member of the Relay Team if it is felt that the Relay Team will be competitive.

Junior World Championships; will be Junior "A" Silver Medal Test Standard or refer to Junior World Championships Qualification. The Performance Director may select a skater as a member of the Relay Team if it is felt that the Relay Team will be competitive. (These skaters may have to skate the individual competition).

Winter Olympic Games;

See Winter Olympic Games Qualifying.

The Standard for all other international competitions, skaters must be at least silver Medal Test Standards in the category in which they will race i.e. seniors or juniors.

Qualification for the Squads is as follows:

National Squad

Up to 7 places in the men from the ranking gained at the 1st squad trials and meet Training commitment Criteria

Up to 7 places in the women from the ranking gained at the 1st squad trials and meet Training commitment Criteria.

All skaters must have achieved a Silver Test Medal Standard (within their respective age category). To achieve a medal test standard the time must have been skated within the current or previous season (see Athletes Charter). There are up to 14 places open for skaters to qualify onto the National Squad (subject to funding being available) if one gender does not have 7 skaters that meet the qualifying standard, then extra places may go to the other gender provided they have skaters who do meet the standard. This may result in an imbalance in numbers, but this will only happen if there is an imbalance in ability.

The funding of the National Squad is then split by the level of the previous years International results into Podium and Development. See Sport UK Athlete Personal Award Programme (APA's) Criteria from July 2005.

National Squad Skaters Training at the National Ice Centre

An automatic review of the selected athletes will take place after the first Squad Trial.

Each skater that qualifies through the trials will have to commit themselves to training at the National Training Centre, Nottingham and meet the training commitments laid down in the Athletes Agreement. All these skaters will be under the direct control of the Performance Director.

Selection Criteria for International Competitions

World Cups

From the first Open trials in August the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Overall Ranked skaters from the men and ladies will qualify for the World Cup 2009/2010 season. The rest of the National Squad members will have a relay test (best 2 results from 3 tests) to select the 4th & 5th member of the team, the 6th and last place will be the recommendation by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG) this selection will be done taking all performance indicators into consideration. Any decision on selection of the 6th skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG

WCMG – 5 Members are: Performance Director, NISA-General Secretary, Board Member representing Short Track, NISA Finance Officer, PA from UK Sport.

The Performance Director after consultation with the Head Coach decides who will skate the individual distances and the relay at all World Cups, any decision on who will skate which distance at the World Cups is done at the sole discretion of the Performance Director.

For the selection of the relay team, a separate test may be held amongst the skaters. The test consists of 7(men) 4 (ladies) X 1.5 laps, starting every 60 seconds.

Junior World Championships

The selection of up to 4 Junior men and 4 Junior Ladies will be made, based on the results from the World Cups 1,2,3,4 and Junior Star Class competition rounds 1 & 2.

All skaters must have a Junior "A" Silver Medal Test Time. If a skater qualifies through the Junior Star Class competition but does not have the qualifying Medal Test Standard, the Performance Director may still select the skater to go for developmental reasons; this would be approved by the WCMG.

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European Championships

Selection for the individual places for the European Championships will be:

The first automatic place will be awarded to the skater who is the highest individual Ranked from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4, if there is a tie the highest single

result will be placed higher, if there is still a tie, best time (personal best - % of the World Record) will be placed higher. The 2nd Individual place will be selected by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG) this selection will be done taking all performance indicators into consideration. Any decision on selection of the 2nd skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG. The first 2 Relay Places will be selected from the Results from 2nd Open trials (Relay) rankings, the 5th and last place will be selected by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG) this selection will be done taking all performance indicators into consideration. Any decision on selection of the 5th skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG.

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World Championships

The first automatic place will be awarded to the skater who is the highest individual Ranked from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4, if there is a tie the highest single result will be placed higher, if there is still a tie the best time (personal best - % of the World Record) will be placed higher. The 2nd Individual place will be selected by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG) this selection will be done taking all performance indicators into consideration, Any decision on selection of the 2nd/3rd skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG. The first two (2) Relay places will be selected from the results from the 2nd Open Trials (Relay) rankings, the 5th and last place will be selected by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG) this selection will be done taking all performance indicators into consideration . Any decision on selection of the 5th skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG.

WCMG – 5 Members are: Performance Director, NISA-General Secretary, Board Member representing Short Track, NISA Finance Officer, PA from UK Sport.

Winter Olympic Games

Medal Test Standards

Nomination to the British Olympic Association athletes must have achieved at least an Inter-Gold Standard time (as attached at Appendix A). For a relay nomination the athlete has to achieve at least a Relay Inter-Gold Standard time (as attached at Appendix A).

Relay Team Qualification

The three (3) automatic individual places will be awarded to the skaters who are the highest individual ranked from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4 in 2009/10 season in a single distance. These rankings will be taken from the ISU World Cup Ranking List. If there is a tie, the athlete with the highest single result will be selected. If there is still a tie the skater with the best time (personal best - % of the World Record) will be selected. The 4th selected skater will be the 1st ranked skater from the results of the 2nd Open Trials (Relay) rankings (see below). The 5th skater will be selected following the recommendation by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG). All recommendation made by the Performance Director will be done taking all training and competition performance indicators into consideration, Any decision on selection of the 5th skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG-

The 5 Members of the WCMG are: Performance Director, NISA-General Secretary, Board Member representing Short Track, NISA Finance Officer, PA from UK Sport.

Open Men Relay Ranking

Three (3) relay tests will be held with the best two (2) results added together to count and form a ranking. From these rankings, the highest ranked skater will be selected to join the three (3) individual skaters for the Men's Relay Team

Open Ladies Relay Ranking

Three (3) ladies relay tests will be held with the best two (2) results will be added together to produce a ranking. From these rankings the highest ranked skater will be selected to join the two (3) individual skaters for the Ladies Relay Team.

Non-Relay Team Qualification.

The first two (2) automatic individual places will be awarded to the skaters who are the highest individual ranked from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4, in 2009/10 season, in a single distance. This ranking will be taken from the ISU World Cup Ranking List. If a 3rd individual place is gained the athlete will be selected following the recommendation by the Performance Director (and approved by the WCMG). All recommendation made by the Performance Director will be done taking all training and competition performance indicators into consideration, Any decision on selection of the 3rd skater is done at the sole discretion of the WCMG.

Selection of Individual Distances

Individual distance selection will depend on the number of qualified individual places in each distance. The 1st place will go to the highest individual ranked skater from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4, in the 2009/10 season in the relevant distance. This will be taken from the ISU World Cup Ranking List 2009/10. If we qualify two (2) places the second skater will be selected at the sole discretion of the Performance Director. If we qualify three (3) places the second selection will go to the second highest individual ranked skater from World Cups 1, 2, 3 & 4, in 2009/10 season in the relevant distance. This will be taken from the ISU World Cup Ranking List 2009/10. The third place will then be selected by the Performance Director. Selections made by the Performance Director will be done taking any performance indicators into consideration. Any subjective decision is done at the sole discretion of the Performance Director.

Appeal Policy Timetable for Olympic Selection (Nomination to BOA)After the relay trials November 30th to December 3rd 09

Friday 4 th December 09 09:00/17:00	Athletes informed of selection
Monday 7 th December 09 09:00/17:00	Deadline for any athlete to appeal against selection decision (Appeal to be made to NISA to General Secretary in writing (with £500 deposit)
Tuesday 8 th December 09 09:00/17:00	General Secretary informs (in writing) the independent arbitrator (Sport Resolution UK) of the appeal.
Wednesday/Thursday 9 th /10 th December 09 09:00/17:00	Independent Arbitrator panel formed by Sport Resolutions (UK) to review all written information and request hearing if necessary.
Friday 11 th December 09 09:00/17:00	Sport Resolutions(UK) through the General Secretary announces the result of the appeal
Monday 14 th December 09 09:00/17:00	National Ice Skating Association nominates to the British Olympic Association Andy Hunt (Chef De Mission) copy to Mike Hay (Performance Director Winter sport).

Dates announced may change due to unforeseen circumstances but the timetable (within a week) conclusion must be kept.

De-Selection

Until Delegation Registration Meeting DRM (29th January 2010) any fitness test decision are at the discretion of NISA after this date the fitness test comes under the discretion of the BOA (any appeal after this date would come under BOA appeal policy)

Pre- DRM

The skater: Performance Director: Medical Officer acting on behalf of NISA or BOA: can call for a Fitness Test. This would be called if it is felt that an athlete's has lost the ability to compete at their best due to illness/injury or lack of Performance.

Post DRM

Post DRM, it is the BOA's decision to de-select any skater, any appeal will be under BOA rules. The significance of the DRM with respect to final selection and the issue of de-selection post DRM will be in accordance with IOC policy and timetable. See below:

"The IOC's Athlete Late Replacement Policy primarily provides for replacement of a selected athlete on the basis that they are unfit to compete due to injury and/or illness. In the event of there being a query over the ability of an athlete to be able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to an injury or illness the following procedure will be adhered to:

- (i) the Chief Medical Officer can require an athlete to undergo a medical examination to determine his/her fitness to participate which at this stage will be determined based on an assessment of whether or not the injury and/or illness is such that the athlete is physically able to compete or risks causing medical harm to him or herself, or endangering other competitors, officials or spectators.*
- (ii) if the athlete passes the medical examination carried out but NISA and/or the BOA have concerns over whether or not the athlete is able to compete to the best of his/her ability due to the underlying injury or illness, the Team GB Chef de Mission can require the athlete to undergo a relay test (see below).*

The Director of Coaching or a medical officer acting on behalf of the NISA or BOA can call for a fitness test up to 48 hours before the event. This is to give the skater time to recover from the test and in most cases the final entry has to be given in by 18.00 hours the day before the draw, the draw takes place the day before the start of the event.

The fitness test would be a Relay test:

The test consists of 7 X 1.5 laps (Men) or 4 x 1.5 laps (Ladies), starting every 60 seconds. The skater would have to perform within 5 % of their personal best skated within the last 6 months. Electronic timing gates must be used for the test.

The number of skaters selected to go to competitions is dependent on the funding available and the required Medal Test Standard.

Skaters that have qualified for any NISA squad or who have been selected to represent GB in International competitions, must have agreed and signed the Association's Athlete Agreement document.

Format for the Trials

The competition is to be held on an ice surface 30 x 60 meters. The NISA racing rules are in force.

Competitors are selected by doing a 7 laps time trial in pursuit style for both ladies and men sections. The first 16 skaters from each section will be ranked and put in the first group (Pool A) men or ladies. The other skaters will be ranked 17th to 32nd and will be the second group (Pool B) men or ladies.

Anyone can participate in the trials providing they are registered members of the NISA and would be available for selection for the National Squad and eligible to be nominated to the British Olympic Association for the Great Britain Olympic Team. The trials are to be held at least three weeks before the first World Cup. Anyone taking part in the trials will have to have achieved at least the Bronze World Class Medal Test time in their respective category and be of Juvenile age category or above.

The National Squad and the National team will be selected based on the cumulative results of the four distances, 500M, 1000M, 1500M and Time Trial. Points are allocated for the finals of each distance.

The ranking for the pursuit is as follows. Three groups are made for the starting draw of the pursuit.

- Group 1 Skaters 1 to 10 from the results of the last Open full trials
- Group 2 Skaters 11 to 20 from the results of the last Open full trials
- Group 3 All the other skaters.

From these ranking the pairs are drawn for the starting order of the individual pursuit.

The racing format is as follows. The 7 lap's pursuit is also used to rank the skaters for the first distance, the 1500m. The result of the Time Trial and 1 1500m will be used to make the heats of the 500m. The cumulative results, total of the final points, of the Time Trial, 1500m and 500m are used to rank the skaters for the 1000m.

If two or three skaters have the same time in the pursuit the referee calls them together and will have them draw for position. If two skaters or more have the same time for the 16th position, all these skaters will do another 7 lap pursuit to separate them. The winner will be 16th and the others will be in the second group and classified 17th, etc.

The 16th ranked skater from the 1500m will move down to the "B" group for the 500m. The 1st ranked skater in the 1500m group "B" will move up to the "A"

group for the 500m. The 16th ranked skater from the 500m will move down to the "B" group for the 1000m. The 1st ranked skater after the 500m in group "B" will move up to the "A" group for the 1000m

Qualifying Format

1500m

In the 1500m semi-finals are made up based on the ranking of the pursuit.

The make-up of the heats is as follows:

Semi-final A	1	6	7	12	13
Semi-final B	2	5	8	11	14
Semi-final C	3	4	9	10	15 16

The finals are as follows:

Final A	Skaters 1 and 2 of each semi-final
Final B	Skaters 3 and 4 of each semi-finals
Final C	The rest of the skaters.

Group "B" follow the same format as group "A" were numbers allow

500m

After the Top skater from group "B" 1500m has been moved up to group "A" and the 16th ranked skater from group "A" in the 1500m has moved down to group "B", The make-up of group "A" heats for the 500M is based on the final points ranking of the Time trial and 2 x 1500m and is done as follow:

Heat A	1	8	9	16
Heat B	2	7	10	15
Heat C	3	6	11	14
Heat D	4	5	12	13

The semi-finals are as follows:

Semi-final A 1st Skater from heat A and 1st from heat D
2nd Skater from heat B and 2nd from heat C

Semi-final B 1st Skater from heat B and 1st from heat C
2nd Skater from heat A and 2nd from heat D

Semi-final C 3rd Skater from heat A and 3rd from heat D
4th Skater from heat B and 4th from heat C

Semi-final D 3rd Skater from heat B and 3rd from heat C
4th Skater from heat A and 4th from heat D

The finals are as follows:

Final A	Skaters 1 and 2 of semi-final A and B
Final B	Skaters 3 and 4 of semi-final A and B
Final C	Skaters 1 and 2 of semi-final C and D
Final D	Skaters 3 and 4 of semi-final C and D

Group "B" follow the same format as group "A" were numbers allow

1000m

After the Top skater from group "B" ranking has been moved up to group "A" and the 16th ranked skater from group "A" in the ranking has moved down to group "B" ,The heats for group "A" 1000m are based on the cumulative final points of the Time trial, 1500m and 500m. The making of the heats, semi-finals and finals is the same as for the 500m.

Group "B" follow the same format as group "A" were numbers allow

Distribution of points

-The point's distribution for the Time trials and all the other distances is as follows:

Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	500	366	265	191	137	97	68	49
Position	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	33	22	15	9	5	3	1	0
Position	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	-1	-3	-5	-9	-15	-22	-33	-49
Position	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
	-68	-97	-137	-191	-265	-366	-500	-501

If there are more then the prescribed number of skaters in a final, the extra skaters get the points of the top skaters in the following final. For example, If there are 5 skaters in final A of the 500m, skater # 5 has 137 points and the 1st skater of final B will get 97 points.

NOTE: If at the end of the four competitions there is a tie, the fastest time of the pursuit will be used to break the tie.

Disqualification

In case of a disqualification, the disqualified skater will get the points of the last position in the race.

If the referee judges that there was team skating he/she can disqualify all the skaters involved and they would receive no points.

Special rules

- If a skater decides to retire before the start of the pursuit the pairs will be remade. If a skater retires from the competition after the start of the pursuit, the competition continues and the skater alone in his pair will skate alone.
- In case of a disqualification and advancement the referee decides in which race the skater is advanced to. (Primary or secondary final or semi-final). The skater advanced will race in the same race as the #2 skater of that race.
- If a skater did not finish the race because of an injury they will get the points of the position before any disqualified skater.
- If a skater withdraws from the competition before the making of the heats, the heats will be remade without the skater.
- If a skater withdraws before the semi-final or the final he will receive the points of the last position in the race. Disqualified skaters will receive the points for the position ahead of the skater who has withdrawn.
- If a skater withdraws from the competition because of an injury or illness, and the referee approves it, his name will remain in the competition. He will be ranked as per his total points, as all other skaters, and he will receive the points of the last position in the group where he last raced. (This is in order not to penalize him)
- If a skater in-group "A" retires after the pursuit, but before the start of the 1500m, skater 17 will be advanced to 16th position and group "A".

Re-run of races

- In the pursuit, all the skaters may ask for a rerun of their pursuit race. If they request a re-run the skater must notify the referee before they leave the ice. A minimum of 20 minutes rest must be given before the rerun.
- The time of the rerun will be the official time. If a skater has asked for a rerun he must skate it. If he elects not to do the rerun he will be excluded from the competition.

- If during the pursuit a skater catches the other skater and has problems overtaking, the referee may grant that skater a rerun. In this case the best time of the two races will be the official time. That skater will always have the right to ask for a rerun. In this case the rule stipulated above applies for the rerun.
- The official time of the pursuit must be announced before the skaters leave the ice.
- If in the last race a skater, who is in contention for a place on the racing team, is taken out of the race, the referee has the power to stop the race and rerun it without the skater disqualified. The race will be rerun from the start. If the referee judges that the infraction was intentional, the disqualified skater in that race would receive 0 points.

Selection Appeal Procedure

An individual may lodge a formal appeal against the judgment of the Performance Director and the World Class Management Group in matters concerning the following:

- Selection for GB representative teams
- Application for NISA-WCPP membership
- Removal from the programme
- Modification of membership status and/or funding levels

This process is invoked by making a formal written appeal to General Secretary of NISA who will in turn engage an independent arbitrator for sport stating that an appeal panel is needed, following receipt of the deposit as outlined below, the independent arbitrator for Sport will then convene a panel of people to hear the case:

The complainant must provide a written synopsis of the allegation, which, together with a response from the NISA-WCPP Performance Director, will be considered by the independent arbitrator, which will then issue a written ruling within a time-scale appropriate to the nature of the complaint. All parties must maintain confidentiality until the ruling is issued and any attempt by either party to publicize the matter will be considered as prejudicial by the independent arbitrator.

The full costs of convening the appeal including, independent arbitrator and where applicable, consultant's fees must be met by the complainant if the appeal is rejected. This is likely to be substantial and therefore a deposit of £500 will be payable in advance of any hearing, by the complainant. If the appeal is upheld the money will be refunded.

This appeal procedure will apply only to World Class Programmes, and skaters will be required to sign within their athlete agreements that they agree to use and abide by the decision of this appeal procedure.