



FOTO: HANNEKE MENNENS

ANNOUNCEMENT
DUTCH
CHALLENGER
OPEN

24-25 JANUARY 26
HEERENVEEN, THE NETHERLANDS

Hoofdsponsors Shorttrack



On behalf of Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond, the Organizing Committee has the honor and pleasure of inviting you to a competition in the Challenger series

Dutch Challenger Open

**which will be held at Thialf
Heerenveen, the Netherlands
January 24 -25, 2026**

General Regulations

The competitions will be held under the 2024 ISU General Regulations and Special Regulations and the relevant communications.

Participation is open to all ISU Members. This competition is part of the Challenger Series Short Track 2025-2026. The competition will be a knock-out system.

Distances

Individual 500, 1000, meters Women and Men

Relay 2000 meters Mixed Team Relay, 3000 meters Women and 5000m Men

Based on the ISU Communication 2532, the Dutch Challenger Open Short Track Competition will use the 'zero false starts' rule.

Program

Monday 19 January 20.00 Online Team Leader meeting (link to be sent later)

Saturday, January 24 9.00-17.00* 500m Women & 1000m Men, Mixed Team Relay

Sunday January 25 9.00-1700* 1000m Women & 500m Men, Relays 3000m & 5000m

* Final program to be confirmed, times subject to change.

Track Conditions

The Elfstedenhal has an artificially refrigerated indoor ice surface of 60 x 30 meters. Protective padding covers the boards in accordance with Rule 280, paragraph 5 and ISU Communication No. 2365 (or any further update). The standard track will be laid out 111.12 meters to the lap.

Entries

- **This competition is for the following Categories: Senior, Junior A & B**
- Only registered competitors of ISU Members and affiliated clubs are allowed to participate; entries can be made only through the respective members.
- Only those competitors who have submitted their entries and paid the entry fee by the given deadline are allowed to participate.

Please indicate your intention of participation as soon as possible to enable us to prepare the competition as well as possible. Participation will be based on a first come first serve policy.

Due to the limited ice time, we have a maximum entry: 75 men and 55 women that can take part in the competition.

Final Entries must reach the Organizing Committee on **January Friday 9, 2026** and the following information must be communicated to the Organizing Committee:

- Names of the Competitors and a list of alternate names per category with their International Registration Numbers.
- Names of the Competitors and their personal best time, recorded during the period of eligibility, for all individual distances they might participate in.
- Names of the Competitors for each of the respective individual distances.
- Confirmation of participation in all the competitions of the Relay.

Only the Competitors listed on the Final Entry, respecting the maximum number of entries allowed, can attend and receive an accreditation for the Event.

Citizenships/Residence Requirements and Clearance Procedure

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 2526, all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the ISU Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another ISU Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

Entry Fee

An entry Fee of €75,00 must be paid per skater.

Entry

The entry for this competition will start on **December 22, 2025, and close on January 9, 2026.** Entries must be made by the Club Competition Secretary or Federations by using your standard login password on the Entry page of the website:

www.shorttrackonline.info

If a login password is not available, it can be applied for using the special form on the Entry-page of [shorttrackonline.info](http://www.shorttrackonline.info). Federations cannot use their password for ISU Championships for the competition. You need a separate password for this competition.

Payment Entry Fee

After the Entry for the competition has closed, an invoice will be sent to the email address which is registered in the Entry system.

The invoice will contain a BOOKING NUMBER, the amount to be paid and the information on the bank account to transfer the payment to. We request that you use the booking number as the reference and make the payment immediately after receiving the invoice.

Helmet covers:

For the helmet covers, a deposit must be paid of €10.00 per helmet cover with a maximum of €50,00 per club/team. The deposit must be paid in cash upon arrival at the registration desk and will be refunded after the competition when returning the helmet covers.

Anti-Doping

Anti-Doping tests may be carried out according to the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures, as given in the applicable ISU Communications (ISU Communications Nos. 2344 & 2366 or later updates).

Medics

A fully equipped medical team will be present during competition hours.

Liability

In accordance with Rule 119 of the ISU General Regulations, the ISU, Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond and The Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred in connection with the ISU Junior World Cup Short Track Speed Skating Competition. Each Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage thereto.

Accommodation

All participants should bear their own expenses for accommodation. The OC recommends hotels nearby the Ice Rink, listed below, please make your reservation directly at the hotel. The rooms are available in limited numbers.

Fletcher Hotel Heidehof	Hotel Van Der Valk Wolvega-Heerenveen
Golflaan 1	Atalanta 10
8445 SR Heerenveen	8472 CA Wolvega
T: +31 513 630200	T: +31 561 692800
E: info@hotelheidehof.nl	E: receptie@wolvega.valk.nl
Www: hotelheidehof.nl	Www: hotelwolvega.nl
Single Room (p.p.p.n) € 102,50 breakfast included	Single Room € 149,50 (p.p.p.n) breakfast included
Double Room (p.p.p.n.) € 60,00 breakfast included	Double Room € 74,75 (p.p.p.n) breakfast included
Reservation code: FHQ-C200057	Reservation Code: Short Track
Tax: € 1,65 per person per day (p.p.p.d)	Tax: € 2.25 (per person per day)
Hotel is in walking distance from the Ice rink	Hotel is 10 km from the ice-rink

Transportation

Members are responsible for their own transportation upon arrival at Schiphol.

For transportation from Schiphol to Leeuwarden please contact:

Besseling Travel, E-mail travel@besseling.com. Phone: +31 33 476 57 56.

This must be done in advance and pre-payment is required by Besseling Travel.

Please follow all measures mentioned by Besseling for travel. If you book transportation with Besseling Travel, make sure to mention that this is for the Dutch Challenger Open (ref: **DCO2026**).

Travelling from Schiphol to Thialf by train is also possible and easy to reach.

Multiple connections per day are available.

The date, airline & flight number, expected time of arrival and the time of departure should be communicated to the organizing Committee before January 9, 2026 on the enclosed Travel Form.

Water Bottles

Plastic water bottles will not be provided by the Organizing Committee. Teams are asked to bring their own reusable water bottles and to use the Dutch tap water.

Organizing Committee – Entries and Inquiries Information & inquiries

- For inquiries about the competition please contact the organizing committee.
- For hotel enquiries, please contact the hotel directly.

Organizing Committee

KNSB

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Competition Information & Results

All information concerning the competition will be available on the following Event website:

Schaatsen.nl/shorttrackonline.info

Live results will be available on www.shorttrackonline.info