COMPETITION FORMAT FOR THE TEAM SPRINT EVENTS
Team Sprint races will be skated according to ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraph 4.2, with teams of 3 Skaters each, and with distances of 3 laps both for Ladies and for Men.

GROUPING and DRAWING PROCEDURES
The grouping and drawing of pairs will be made according to ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraph 5.

PRIZES AND POINTS
For each event World Cup points and prize money will be awarded according to ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraphs 6 and 8.

ANTI-DOPING
Anti-Doping tests will be carried out in accordance with the valid ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures (ISU Communications Nos. 1871, 1872, 1922 and 1941 or any further update of these Communications).

TRAINING TIMES
The speed skating track will be open for training for entered Competitors from Monday, December 7, 2015. Trial starts will be organized on Thursday, December 10, 2015.
Only accredited Competitors, substitutes and team officials will be allowed to enter the ice-rink during the official training hours.

LIABILITY
In accordance with Rule 119 of the ISU General Regulations, the ISU, KNSB and the Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property loss or damage incurred in connection with the ISU World Cup Speed Skating. Each Member is solely responsible for providing insurance coverage thereto.

ACCOMMODATION
Participating ISU Members will have to bear expenses for accommodation for all participating Skaters and team officials.
The cost of a room and meal at the official hotel(s) will be as follows:
- *Single Room occupancy: € 70,00 - € 132,00 per person per night. Prices including meals.*
- *Double Room occupancy; € 59,75 - € 97,25 per person per night. Prices including meals.*

Payment: Cash in Euro's or by credit card.

Accommodation requests can only be made using the ISU Online Entry System for Speed Skating Events.

OFFICIAL HOTEL(S)
The Organizing Committee will make hotel reservation for the teams in the following hotels:

a. Hotel Golden Tulip Tjaarda at Oranjewoud, phone +31(0) 513 433533, fax +31(0) 513 433599, e-mail: info@tjaarda.nl
b. Fletcher Hotel De Heidehof at Heerenveen, phone +31(0) 513 630200, fax +31(0) 513 630201, e-mail: info@hotelheidehof.nl
c. Hotel van der Valk at Wolvega, phone +31(0) 561 692800, fax +31(0) 561 692805, e-mail: info@wolvega.valk.nl
d. Holland Inn Hotel at Wolvega, phone +31(0) 561 618847, fax +31(0) 561 618591, e-mail: hotelwolvega@gmail.com
e. Huis ten Wolde at Steenwijk, phone +31(0) 521 535400, e-mail: info@huistenwolde.nl
f. Hotel van der Valk at Sneek, phone +31(0) 515 481818, fax +31(0) 515 481808, e-mail: info@sneek.valk.com
g. Hampshire Hotel-de Eese at Steenwijk, phone +31(0) 521 511452, fax +31(0) 521 511316, e-mail: info.eese@hampshire-hotels.com
h. Hotel Restaurant Lunia at Oldeberkoop, phone +31(0) 516 452555, fax +31(0) 516 452929, e-mail: info@lunia.nl

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to limit the number of hotel rooms available to each team at the official hotel(s).

TRANSPORTATION
There is a direct railway connection from Amsterdam International Airport Schiphol to Heerenveen. Arriving at Heerenveen railway station, please call telephone number +31(0) 88 48 92 065 for transportation to the hotel. On request bus transportation from Schiphol Airport to Heerenveen can be arranged. For further information on this, please address the Organizing Committee.
A shuttle bus service will be available for transportation between hotels and the ice rink from Monday, December 7, 2015.
Information about the date and time of arrival and departure (incl. flight details) of the competitors and team officials must be submitted via the ISU Online System for Speed Skating Events.

ACCREDITATIONS
The organizer is not obliged to provide services (accomodation, accredited entrance to the ice rink, transporatation, etc.) for an excessive number of team officials or other accompanying persons from participating ISU Members. Additional fee € 50,00 for extra accrediations must be paid to the Organizing Committee.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE – MEDIA ACCREDITATION - INQUIRIES
Inquiries should be addressed only to the Organizing Committee or KNSB at the addresses below.
For Media accredations, please contact the below address as soon as possible.

Organizing Committee	KNSB	Media accrediatation
P.O. Box 500	P.O.Box 11084	Mr. H.Snoep
8440 AM HEERENVEEN	3505 BB UTRECHT	press officer KNSB
phone: +31(0) 88 48 92 060	phone: +31(0)88 48 92 000	phone: +31(0)88 48 92 000
e-mail: OC.Thialf@knsb.nl	e-mail: wedstrijdorganisatie@knsb.nl	e-mail: h.snoep@knsb.nl

Results and other information from the competitions will be posted on the following website:
www.schaatsen.nl/wc-heerenveen-1516-1-en

HEERENVEEN - THE NETHERLANDS
11 - 13 DECEMBER 2015

ISU WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING

ISU World Cup Speed Skating
2015/16 Heerenveen, The Netherlands

Announcement

December 11, 12 and 13, 2015
Thialf – Heerenveen, The Netherlands
Ladies and Men – All Distances

Official Sponsors of the ISU World Cup Speed Skating

KNSB thialf kpn De Telegraaf infront SPORTS & MEDIA

On behalf of the KNSB and the Organizing Committee,
consisting of members of the board of directors
of the Royal Ice club Thialf at Heerenveen and representatives of the KNSB,
we have the honour and pleasure to invite you to a Competition in the

ISU WORLD CUP SPEED SKATING 2015/16

which will be held at the indoor ice-rink Thialf
in Heerenveen, the Netherlands
on Friday, December 11, Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13, 2015.

The Competition will be held under the 2014 ISU General Regulations, Special Regulations and Technical Rules for Speed Skating and ISU Communication No. 1958.

This World Cup Competition will serve as one of the qualifying events for quota places at the ISU World Single Distances Speed Skating Championships 2016.

PROGRAM:

Thursday, December 10, 2015:	16.00	Team leaders Meeting, Ice Stadium Thialf	
	18.00	Opening draw, Ice Stadium Thialf	
Friday, December 11, 2015:	12.30*	Division B:	3000m Ladies
			500m Ladies (1st)
			500m Men (1st)
	15.55	Division A:	3000m Ladies
			500m Ladies (1st)
			500m Men (1st)
			Team Pursuit Men
			Team Sprint Ladies
			Team Sprint Men
Saturday, December 12, 2015:	09.30*	Division B:	1000m Ladies
			1000m Men
			5000m (quartet starts)
	14.00	Division A:	1000m Ladies
			5000m Men
			Team Pursuit Ladies
			1000m Men
Sunday, December 13, 2015:	09.00*	Division B:	1500m Ladies
			1500m Men
			500m Ladies (2nd)
			500m Men (2nd)
	14.00	Division A:	1500m Ladies
			1500m Men
			500m Ladies (2nd)
			500m Men (2nd)
			Mass start Ladies
			Mass start Men
	18.05*	Division B:	Mass start Ladies
			Mass start Men

* The actual starting times for the B Division races will be announced at the Team leaders meetings. For each distance, the races of Division A and the races of Division B are considered as two separate competitions with independent final classifications (list of results) for determining the awarding of World Cup points and prize money.

TRACK

A standard speed skating track of 400 meters to the lap laid out at the Ice Stadium Thialf, an artificially frozen indoor skating rink in Heerenveen. The radii of the inner and outer competition lanes are 26 and 30 meters, respectively. The width of the inside training lane is 4 meters.

ENTRIES

Entries for this competition will be restricted and must be made according to ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraph 3.4.
Entries can only be made using the ISU Online Entry System for Speed Skating Events on www.isu.org, section Speed Skating or www.k4sport.ru/login.php
Preliminary entries, giving the number of Competitors & substitutes and the number of coaches and other team staff, as well as provisional names of the Competitors and team leader must be submitted at the latest by *Tuesday, November 10, 2015.*
Final entries including the names of the Competitors and available substitutes, as well as the names of the team leader, coaches and other team staff for whom an accreditation is required must be submitted at the latest by 12:00 noon (local time) on *Monday, December 7, 2015* (see also ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraph 3.4.3).
Please note that for all persons entered by the Members, the procedures regarding the Declaration for Competitors and Officials (all team officials requiring an accreditation) entering ISU Events (Rule 131) as outlined in ISU Communication No. 1628, need to be strictly observed.

For more details please refer to Rules 115, 131 and ISU Communications No. 1628 and 1797 or any update of this Communications.
In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU Regulations and ISU Communication No. 1420, all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate.

According to ISU Communication No. 1958, the entry quotas (maximum number of entries per distance, subject to the qualifying times criteria) for this competition are

LADIES					ISU Member	MEN				
500	1000	1500	3000	Mass start		500	1000	1500	5000	Mass start
2	2	1	1	2	AUT	1	2	2	1	3
1	1	2	2	2	BEL	1	2	2	2	2
1	1	2	2	3	BLR	1	1	1	1	2
4	3	3	3	3	CAN	5	4	4	3	3
5	4	4	3	3	CHN	4	4	2	2	3
2	2	3	2	3	CZE	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	2	DEN	1	1	1	1	2
1	1	1	1	2	EST	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	FIN	3	3	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	FRA	1	2	3	2	2
4	3	3	4	3	GER	4	4	1	4	3
1	1	1	1	1	HUN	1	1	2	1	2
2	1	1	2	3	ITA	2	3	1	2	3
4	5	5	5	3	JPN	5	2	1	3	3
2	2	1	1	1	KAZ	2	3	2	1	2
5	4	4	3	3	KOR	4	4	4	3	3
1	1	1	1	1	LAT	1	2	2	1	2
5	5	5	5	3	NED	5	5	5	5	3
1	3	3	2	3	NOR	2	4	4	5	3
1	1	1	1	1	NZL	1	1	1	2	3
1	2	3	4	3	POL	3	4	5	3	2
4	5	4	4	2	RUS	5	4	5	5	3
1	1	1	1	1	SUI	1	1	1	1	2
1	1	1	1	1	SWE	1	1	1	2	1
4	4	3	3	3	USA	2	4	4	1	2

ISU Speed Skating Members not listed in the table above, may enter a maximum of 1 Skater for each distance.
All entered Skaters (incl. substitutes) must have achieved applicable qualifying times for the respective distances according to the criteria given in Communication No. 1958, paragraph 3.4.2.

COMPETITION FORMAT AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR THE MASS START EVENTS

Mass Start races will be skated according to Rule 253, paragraph 4 b) in the ISU Technical Rules for Speed Skating and ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraphs 4.3 and 5.5, with distances of 16 laps for both Ladies and Men. Further details, in particular on safety measures, are given in ISU Communication No. 1957.

COMPETITION FORMAT FOR THE TEAM PURSUIT EVENTS

Team Pursuit races will be skated according to Rule 261, paragraph 1 in the ISU Technical Rules for Speed Skating and ISU Communication No. 1958, paragraph 4.2, with national teams of 3 Skaters each, and with distances of 6 laps for Ladies and 8 laps for Men.