



International Seniors' Speed Skating News

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**International Seniors'
Speed Skating Committee**

Target of these News

These "International Seniors' Speed Skating News" turn to speed skaters at an age of 30 years and older. In some countries these speed skaters are named "veterans". We will not use this designation because it is not right, veterans are former participants of a war. We will say "seniors" and, if necessary for distinction, we will add a remark about the age group.

We will inform you about international speed skating competitions for seniors at an age of 30 years and older. We will inform you about national championships for seniors of this age too. Furthermore we will inform you about sessions of the "International Seniors' Speed Skating Committee (ISSSC)" and their results.

These "International Seniors' Speed Skating News" shall help to promote international contacts between the speed skating seniors at an age of 30 years and older. We think this is necessary, because there is a deficit. Speed skating is a fascinating sport for the whole life, not only a sport for the age group between 10 and 29 years.

History of the Seniors' Speed Skating World Games

In 1990, at the German Speed Skating Championships for Seniors (from 30 years) at Munich, Peter Reimann, Swiss guest participant from Davos, and Peter Croll, participant from Frankfurt am Main, discussed seniors' speed skating. Peter Reimann stated that no international competition for seniors from 30 years existed and that it would be interesting to start such a competition. In 1990, too, independent of this discussion, Karl-Heinz Treppe, also speed skater from Frankfurt am Main, who had taken part in the World Championships for Senior Cyclists (from 30 years) at St. Johann/Austria, had the idea that such an international competition as for cyclists should be organized for speedskating seniors from 30 years too. In discussion with the chairman of the "Olympic Speed Skating Club Frankfurt", Horst Klehr, the "Veterans' Speed Skating World Games" were born.

Horst Klehr, in cooperation with Peter Croll, invited worldwide for the "1st Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1991" on the 31.11./01.12.1991 at Frankfurt/Main in Germany. The response was disappointing for Horst Klehr, only 22 participants came (11 from the Netherlands, 1 from Belgium, 13 from Germany). Nevertheless, the participants fortified Horst Klehr to go on with the "Veterans' Speed Skating World Games".

The "2nd Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1993", organized by Peter Croll and his crew, took place again at Frankfurt am Main in the following speed skating season on the 27./28.02.1993. Especially thanks to personal contacts 52 seniors came (3 women and 49 men), 31 from the Netherlands, 18 from Germany, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Switzerland and 1 from the United States of America. This event was a success, all speed skaters had much fun.

The "3rd Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1994" were organized by the "Iceclub Haarlem" on the 15./16.01.1995 at Haarlem/Netherlands. The seniors of the "Iceclub Haarlem" were friends of the seniors of the "Olympic Speed Skating Club Frankfurt". This friendship had fastened on racing cycle tours in the Champagne/France. The head of the organization crew in Haarlem was Aris J. Dijkstra, who made the "Veterans' Speed Skating World Games" the main event of the "Ice Festival 1995" with a program lasting a week. The festival program had its reason in the "125 Years Jubilee of the Iceclub

Haarlem". 105 speed skaters (13 women and 92 men) took part in these World Games, 74 from the Netherlands, 14 from Germany, 9 from Canada, 4 from Sweden, 1 from Finland, 1 from Latvia, 1 from Belgium and 1 from Switzerland. It was a wonderful competition.

The "4th Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1995", organized again by Aris J. Dijkstra and his crew, were a further highlight in seniors' speed skating. These World Games were embedded in the skating festival program of "100 Years Koninklijke Schaatsenrijders Bond Nederland/Region Noord-Holland/ Utrecht and 750 Years Town Haarlem" of the "Iceclub Haarlem", lasting one week. This time the World Games at Haarlem lasted three days, 13.-15.03.1995. From 125 participants (27 women and 98 men) 94 participants came from the Netherlands, 15 from Germany, 5 from Switzerland, 4 from Finland, 4 from Canada, 2 from the United States of America, and 1 from Poland. It was a great speed skating festival.

The "5th Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1996" will be organized by Gaëtan Rochette and his crew at Québec/Canada on the 23.-25.02.1996 and the "6th Seniors Speed Skating World Games 1997" will be organized by Dominik Wehling and his crew at Berlin-Wilmersdorf/Germany, the date is not yet known.

History of the "International Seniors' Speed Skating Committee (ISSSC)"

The "3rd Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1994" were organized by Aris J. Dijkstra of the "Iceclub Haarlem" at Haarlem/Netherlands in January 1994. Because it seemed uncertain at the end of these World Games whether the "4th Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1995" could be held again at Frankfurt am Main/Germany, Aris J. Dijkstra was asked if he could organize these World Games at Haarlem/Netherlands too. He agreed and started the organisation of these Games.

In spring 1994, however, the "Olympic Speed Skating Club Frankfurt" showed interest to organize the 4th World Games too. To discuss the further proceeding, a meeting at Krefeld/Germany was organized by Volker Serini, Referent for Seniors of the Deutsche Eisschnellauf-Gemeinschaft (DESG). This meeting took place on the 14.05.1994. The participants were Aris J. Dijkstra (Haarlem/NED), Harry G. Falke (Haarlem/NED), from 1995 Member of the Board of the Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond (KNSB), Roland Hagemann (Frankfurt/GER) and Volker Serini (Krefeld/GER).

They decided the 4th World Games 1994 should be held at Haarlem/Netherlands because of the advance preparations. Further was decided that the "Olympic Speed Skating Club Frankfurt" should organize another international competition for seniors in January 1995. Later this competition got the name "World Speed Skating Master Cup 1995" by the "Olympic Speed Skating Club Frankfurt". A further decision at the meeting was the establishment of an "Organization Committee for Seniors' Speed Skating World Games and Cup Competitions".

At the 2nd session at Krefeld, 03.09.1994, the name of the Organization Committee was simplified to "International Seniors' Speed Skating Committee (ISSSC)" by proposition of Harry G. Falke. As place for the "5th Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1996" Québec/Canada was discussed and approved.

The 3rd Session of the ISSSC was held at Krefeld, 11.11.1995. (see minutes "3rd Session of the ISSSC 1995 at Krefeld/Germany" in this first edition of the International Seniors' Speed Skating News).

3rd Session of the ISSSC 1995 at Krefeld/Germany

Minutes

The 3rd session of the International Seniors' Speed Skating Committee was held at Krefeld/Germany, Dorint-Hotel, Saturday 11th November 1996.

Participants: Aris J. Dijkman (Haarlem/Netherlands)
Harry G. Falke (Haarlem/Netherlands)
Volker Serini (Krefeld/Germany)
Dominik Wehling (Berlin/Germany)

The 3rd session of ISSSC had the following results:

- 1) In future the name of the most important annual international competition for seniors from 30 years shall be: "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" instead of "Veterans' Speed Skating World Games". The expression "Veterans" is not right, because it is synonym for former participants in a war.
- 2) The expression "World" shall be restricted to the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games".
- 3) For the next years the ISSSC does not aspire to official ISU-World Championships. The ISSSC however hopes that the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" will rise to real official ISU-Championships for Senior Speed Skaters from 30 years. To get more experience the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" shall take place every year in another country.
- 4) The official ISU key-date 01.07. of the year shall be introduced for the age groups from the "6th Seniors' Speed Skating World Games 1997" at Berlin Wilmersdorf. Furthermore 5-year age groups shall be introduced on approval (as at the 1st Veterans' Speed Skating World Games 1991 at Frankfurt am Main/Germany).
- 5) For the planning of national competitions the date of the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" shall be fix in the middle of January for the next years.
- 6) The "6th Seniors' Speed Skating World Games 1997" shall be at Berlin-Wilmersdorf/Germany. The wished date: 18./19.01.1997 (alternatives 11./12.01.1997, 25./26.01.1997, priority decreasing). Dominik Wehling clarifies the date.
- 7) The "7th Seniors' Speed Skating World Games 1998" shall be at Baselga di Pinè/Italy. Aris J. Dijkman will clarify place and date in February 1996 at Baselga di Pinè. Wished Date: 17./18.01.1998 (alternatives 10./11.01.1998, 24./25.01.1998, priority decreasing).
- 8) The members of the ISSSC who cannot take part in one or more of the sessions of the ISSSC (for example because of the high travelling expenses) will be informed in time about the necessary decisions of the next session. They can express their opinion in a query-sheet, which will be considered in the session.

- 9) Aris J. Dijkman will send the invitation for the "Veterans' Speed' Skating World Games 1996" at Québec/Canada to Tom Askeroi, the contact person for seniors from 30 years in Norway. Dominik Wehling will send Tom Askeroi the invitation for the "World Speed Skating Master Cup 1996" at Berlin-Wilmersdorf.
- 10) The planned "International Seniors' Speed Skating News" shall be sent to all interested National Speed Skating Associations. These National Speed Skating Associations are asked to name a contact person for seniors from 30 years to the ISSSC.
- 11) The "4th Session of the ISSSC" will be held at Davos/Switzerland, 06.01.1996, 14.30 h, restaurant at the natural ice rink. We will discuss seniors' speed skating in general. There will be no decisions.
- 12) The "5th Session of ISSSC" will take place at Krefeld/Germany, 11.05.1996, 10.30 h, Dorint-Hotel. The members of ISSSC will be informed about discussion points in time.

Members of ISSSC

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Further International Competitions

Besides the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" there exists a further international competition for seniors from 30 years, the "World Speed Skating Master Cup", which took place for the first time at Frankfurt am Main/Germany on the 14./15.01.1995, organized by Roland Hagemann and his crew. This competition has been repeated at Berlin-Wilmersdorf on the 13./14.01.1996, organized by Dominik Wehling and Christian Mann and their crew.

Every year the competition "Les Maitres de Québec" will be organized by Gaëtan Rochette. Participants are Canadian and USA speed skating seniors.

In 1994 the "Union of Skaters in Russia" had invited to the "International Competitions for Veterans" at Nizhny Nowgorod. We don't know, if this competition still exists.

For the 3rd February 1996 the "Sportivi Ghiaccio Trento" had invited seniors from 35 years (three age groups) to an International Competition with the distances 500 m/1000 m at Basella di Pinè/Italy.

We will report about further International Competitions for seniors from 30 years if we get knowledge of such competitions. We are interested in information by the National Speed Skating Associations respectively their representatives for speed skating seniors from 30 years. We invite these Associations to send us results and reports of International Competitions for Seniors from 30 years including Marathon Competitions to be communicated in the next issue of the ISSS-News. We invite them furthermore to send us their competition lists and especially their announcements of International Speed Skating Competitions for Seniors from 30 years including Marathon Competitions before the 31.08. of the year to be issued in October in the "International Seniors' Speed Skating News".

National Seniors' Championships and other National Competitions

National Championships for Seniors from 30 years exist in the following countries:

Germany	3 distances	women 500 m, 1000 m/1500 m
	4 distances	men 500 m, 1500 m/1000 m, 3000 m (5-year age groups from 30 years)
	sprint*	women 500 m, 1000 m/500 m, 1000 m men 500 m, 1000 m/500 m, 1000 m (5-year age groups from 30 years)
	marathon*	women 20 km/10 km men 20 km/10 km (5-year age groups from 30 years)

* = no official championships, but open for all members of DESG

Norway	3 distances	women 500 m, 1000 m/1500 m
	4 distances	men 500 m, 3000 m/1500 m, 5000 m (from 35 years) men 500 m, 1500 m/1000 m, 3000 m (from 60 years) (6-, 7- and 10-year age groups from 35 years)
	sprint	women 500 m, 1000 m/500 m, 1000 m
	sprint	men 500 m, 1000 m/500 m, 1000 m (6-, 7- and 10-year age groups from 35 years)
	marathon	women half marathon men half marathon (14- and 10-year age groups from 35 years)

We are interested in information about these and further National Championships and other National Competitions for Seniors from 30 years by the National Speed Skating Associations respectively their representatives for speed skating seniors from 30 years.

Imprint

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You may contact ISSSC at the above address or at the address of one of the members of ISSSC (see page 4). We are open for new ideas and suggestions.

Front Cover: The flags on the front cover are the flags of the nations of participants in the "Seniors' Speed Skating World Games" since their beginning in 1991: Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America

Back cover: The picture on the back is a reproduction of the oil-painting "Joy on the ice near Kampen" by Hendrik Averkamp, an early baroque painter from Holland

Distribution: Subscribers
Interested National Speed Skating Associations
Members of ISSSC