



Canada East Short Track Championships - Selection Process and Criteria - 2017-18

Speed Skate PEI will use the following process to select skaters to represent Prince Edward Island at the Canada East Short Track Championships, to be held on March 31 & April 1, 2018 in Lévis, Quebec.

PEI is entitled to send a minimum of two skaters per gender age category, with a strong likelihood of sending three or more skaters per gender age category, depending on final entry allocations from Speed Skating Canada. The age categories for Canada East are one year age groups for girls aged 11 to 14 and for boys aged 12 to 15. All ages are based on the skater's age as of June 30 prior to the current season.

Ranking List:

A ranking list will be produced by SSPEI and published starting after the first Maritime meet of the season. Eligibility / priority to compete at Canada East will be based on SSPEI age group rankings. A % based ranking formula will be used, based on times skated on a 100 metre track in the 200m, 400m and 1500m distances. For Canada East rankings, the best time by a PEI skater in the season in each gender age category and distance will be used as 100%. The average of a skater's % across each time will be used to determine their overall % and ranking.

Other eligibility requirements:

- Skaters must be a member of the Intermediate or Advanced skating group¹ to be eligible to compete at Canada East.
- Skaters must have competed in three sanctioned meets during the current season to be eligible to compete at Canada East.
- Skaters must have attended a minimum of 60% of regularly scheduled on- or off-ice practices during the skating season to be eligible to compete at Canada East.

Injury / Illness Exception requests:

Where a skater has not met the above requirements for sanctioned meet attendance or 60% practice attendance due to a major injury or illness (documented by medical note), the skater may request an "injury bye" that, if granted, would permit an exception to these meet and/or practice attendance requirements.

¹ In rare instances, where PEI would otherwise have fewer skaters than Canada East quota positions available in a given age and gender category, with the approval of SSPEI and Speed Skating Canada, a skater who has temporarily relocated off-Island may be eligible to represent PEI at Canada East. The skater must be registered as an Out of Province skater with SSPEI and must also meet other eligibility criteria regarding competition attendance and regarding attendance with their off-Island club.

In situations where a skater has not competed during the current season, or where a skater was injured or suffered an illness after achieving their ranking list times and the granting of an injury bye to that skater would bump another skater off the PEI team, then the skater requesting the bye will be required to skate time trials (in all distances used for ranking purposes) to demonstrate that he/she can attain times faster than the skater who would be bumped from the team. The time trials will have one skater on the line, and each participating skater will have the option of a re-skate in one distance of their choice as part of the time trials, however, any other time trial skater will also have the option to re-skate the same distance, with each skater using their best time in each distance after any re-skates. The pre-injury/illness times of the skater seeking the injury bye will be disregarded and replaced with their time trial results for ranking list purposes. Where the skater requesting an injury bye achieved qualifying ranking list times *after* returning from their injury or illness, no time trials shall be required.

The skater in position to be bumped by the injury bye shall also be granted the opportunity to skate equivalent time trials to improve upon his or her ranking list times to maintain his or her spot. (Time trial times slower than his or her existing ranking list times will be disregarded.) The number of skaters who may be bumped from the lowest eligible spots on the ranking list based on time trial results shall be limited to the number of skaters receiving injury byes. For instance, if one skater receives an injury bye and thus skates a time trial along with the lowest ranked skater who otherwise qualifies for a team position, the next lowest ranked skater on the ranking list will not be in jeopardy and cannot be bumped, even if both skaters (the lowest ranked skater in a team position and the injury bye recipient) skating in time trials achieve times which are faster than that skater.

Any required time trials shall be skated on the same day by affected skaters.

Injury bye requests, including all pertinent supporting medical information, should be submitted to the coach as early as possible and will be decided upon by the Board of SSPEI in consultation with the responsible coach.

Readiness to Compete:

Any skater otherwise eligible to represent PEI, but who is recovering from a serious injury or illness not requiring an injury bye, may be required to prove their readiness to compete no later than 14 days prior to the start of Canada East. At the discretion of the coach of the PEI team, the recovering skater may be required to skate time trials to prove their readiness.

Where an alternate skater meets the skater eligibility criteria and is available for selection, the time trials would be held with the recovering skater and the first alternate skater during the same ice session. Any required time trials will be carried out according to the procedure described above for injury / illness exception requests. The recovering skater must be able to skate at least two of the three ranking list distances faster than the first alternate skater. If the recovering skater is not able to skate faster time trials in two of three ranking list distances, he or she will be replaced with the first alternate skater.

Selection timing:

Team selections will be made three weekends before Canada East. Therefore, ranking lists will be “frozen” and the team will be selected immediately after the last event that is at least 3 weekends before Canada East. Times from a sanctioned competition held on the weekend of March 10 & 11, 2018 or earlier would be the last times included in the PEI ranking lists and team selection for Canada East for 2018. Preliminary entries for skaters confirmed as wishing to compete at Canada East are due to SSC by March 12. This cutoff for PEI rankings and team selection does not preclude selected skaters from achieving new seed times at a later date for submission to SSC on the final PEI Branch entry form. For 2018, SSC requires that final entries including seed times be submitted by March 21.