

Time Trials Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your questions! We want you to feel prepared for time trials and help you experience the best race-day possible! Please refer to the information below, or reach out to cspiewak@thepettit.com for all other inquiries.

Do I need to be a member of US Speedskating to compete in Time Trials?

Yes, in order to comply with our National Governing Body's insurance policy, every registered competitor needs to possess a current membership with US Speedskating, or another member Federation registered with the International Skating Union (ISU). Click [here](#) for more information about how to become a member of USS.

What time is warm-up and when do races begin on Saturdays and Sundays?

The oval will be ready for warm-up at 7:25am and will last for 30 minutes. Please be off the ice by 7:55am for your safety. Skaters are not allowed on the ice during the Zamboni resurface. Also, our officials need time to set up the electronic photocells. We use sensitive equipment that needs to be aligned well in order to capture your fastest times. You can continue to use the running track, off-ice training room, infield track and stairs, and tunnel to do your off-ice exercises. Unless otherwise notified, races begin at 8:30am and take place on Saturdays. See the [Time Trials Schedule](#) for a complete list of dates.

When will I find out the race-day schedule and learn which pair(s) I am?

Our Referees and timing deck officials work together to send out an approximate time table to your coaches by Thursday the weekend before races. If you do not have a coach, please select to add your email address to our Time Trials distribution list when you complete the Annual Registration Form. Adding your name will help to ensure that you receive the appropriate communication. Pairs get published and distributed electronically before races. Please make sure to check yourself in and confirm your pair(s) on Saturday/Sunday mornings at the wooden cabinet located at Center Ice (see picture below). Often times, changes happen on Friday afternoon and new pair sheets gets published right before (or after) on-ice warm-up. We want to make sure you get to the start line ready to go!

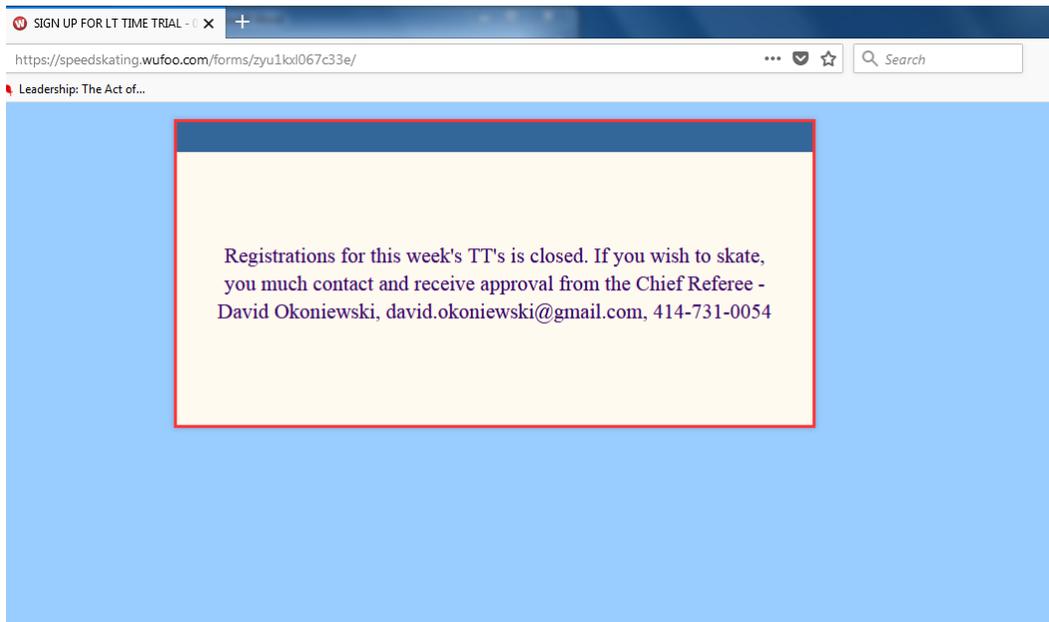


How much do Time Trials cost?

\$18 paid via credit, debit or gift card online.

Who do I contact if I missed the deadline, but still need to register?

Always contact the Chief Referee first. You can find his/her contact information on the weekly sign-up form and in the notification box that displays when registration closes. See example below. To access after the deadline, click on the metric race date you wish to sign-up for and the corresponding link listed under the Pettit Time Trials Schedule.



Where do I go to pay the \$28 late fee?

After you receive approval from the Chief Referee, please email cspiewak@thepettit.com and arrange for a time to process your late payment. She will send you a link to the late registration form where you can pay your fee online. If you cannot pay via credit, debit or gift card, please inquire about an alternative payment method.

I know the signup deadline is the Wednesday at 12pm Noon the weekend before races, but when can I no longer appeal to the Chief Referee for a late entry?

The final late registration deadline is Friday at 12pm Noon before races.

My time didn't read on the scoreboard when I crossed the finish line. What happened and how do I find out my results?

Sometimes the skate boot or blade fails to break the light beam on the photo sensor equipment. Other times, skaters mistakenly step over the line. Results get captured through three different systems and

then transmitted to speedskatingresults.com soon after races end. Prior to the conclusion of time trials, you can check with any on-ice official for your missed time.

Who do I notify if I need to scratch on race-day?

Please inform your coach as soon as possible, so that he/she can fill out an Entry Change Form and relay your decision to the Chief Referee. If you're skating without a coach, please feel free to connect with the Chief Referee yourself. We ask that you be courteous to the other skaters who are competing that day, as well as the volunteers who are managing the racing details. Last minute changes happen and are part of the process, but they ultimately affect the pairs and schedule. Entry Change Forms can be found at Center Ice.

What do I do if I accidentally signed up for the wrong distance, or need to change my event, but already submitted my registration form?

Please contact the Chief Referee as soon as possible.

How many distances can I race?

You may compete in two standard single distances and one opening or development distance of your choice, either 100m or 300m, on the following select weekends: Oct 27, Dec 15, Feb 16, Feb 23. Please see the Time Trials Schedule for a complete list of dates

What is a seed time? What if I don't know or have a seed time for a particular distance?

A seed time is the best time you've recently skated for that distance. If you've never raced before, please enter 999 in the seed time field on the registration form.

Do I need to wear long track skates in order to participate?

No, you do not need to wear long track skates to race, but you do need to wear speed skates. Fixed blades on short track boots are fine.

This is my first time racing. What should I wear?

Form fitting, athletic clothing like spandex, running tights, or leggings work well if you do not own a skin suit. A long sleeve fitted shirt also works well to keep you warm and cut down on wind resistance. We also encourage you to wear gloves for your safety and comfort. The ice arena temperature is around 55°F.

What other types of long track competitions are available?

The Pettit Center offer a variety of long track speed skating competitions in order to help skaters at every level develop and gain valuable experience. These variations include:

Olympic Style Metric Time Trials – two skaters stay in their respective lanes and race against the clock, only crossing lanes on the backstretch to ensure they each travel an equal number of

meters by the time they reach the finish line. Olympic distances include 500m (1.25 laps), 1000m (2.5 laps), 1500m (3.75 laps), 3000m (7.5 laps), 5000m (12.5 laps), and 10,000m (25 laps)

Pack Style Races –resembles short track speed skating and involves 4-8 competitors at one time, who skate anywhere from 50m – 3000m depending on their age and ability. Top finishers then advance through the rounds until they reach the final. Regional associations and local clubs host traditional, long track pack style meets a few times each season.

Team Pursuit –involves three to four athletes from one team, skating in synchronicity against the clock and an opposing team opposite them on the other side of the track. Women skate 6 laps, while the men skate 8 laps on the inner lane of the 400m oval. The third skater to cross the finish line clocks the final time that counts for the entire team.

Team Sprint – a designated number of skaters race one distance together and take turns leading each lap in order to maintain the fastest speed possible. After each skater leads, he/she pulls off the pack in succession until only one skater remains to finish the last lap. The number of laps skated is equal to the number of skaters on the team.

Mass Start –debuted during the 2018 Winter Olympics in Korea and also resembles short track speed skating. It lasts for 16 laps on the 400m oval and can include up to 29 skaters at one time. Skaters can earn points by winning sprint laps that occur every four laps during the race. Top finishers then advance through the rounds until they reach the final, like in short track speed skating. Competing in this event requires more safety equipment than Metric Time Trials including a neck guard, helmet, cut-proof suit, shin guards, knee pads, and ankle protectors.

Metric + Pack Events – These events mix time trials with pack style racing to offer more races per day for each skater. Throughout the competition, skaters will have the opportunity to alternate between racing against a group to racing against the clock. Groups will be organized based on ability and pack distances will vary from weekend to weekend. Please see the final schedule, which will be compiled and published on the Thursday before the event.

Marathon Style – long distance endurance events ranging from 25k – 50k.

What is the Pettit Racing Series?

The Pettit Racing Series is a three part, pack style series with a Championship meet that is open to the public. These races are open to all ages, abilities and skate types. You do not need to be a member of US Speedskating to participate.