

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

This report is an update prepared for the June 2015 Speed Skate Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting. The status column below provides detailed updates on the various elements of the four strategies.

Strategy 1: Detailed plans for the strengthening of core infrastructure

Strategy	Responsibility	Time Frame	Status
1. Governance			
1.1. Update the Memorandum of Association and By-Laws of the association in line with current practices at the Registry of Joint Stocks.	Board of Directors	Prior to spring 2014 AGM	Proposed new Memorandum of Association and By-Laws were passed at the 2014 AGM. The Registry of Joint Stock Companies has requested an amendment to remove the reference to the short name of the organization before approving the Special Resolution. This is scheduled to be done at the 2015 AGM.
1.2. Update the Board structure to align Officer and Director responsibilities with the current directions of the organization, and to establish committees for higher workload responsibilities.			New committee structure established in fall 2013; the Competitions Committee has not been formed but all other standing committees are active. New Board structure included in new By-Laws.
1.3. Recruit new board members to fill vacant positions.			In progress, two new board members appointed at 2014 AGM. Positions of Secretary and Vice President are still vacant.
1.4. Arrange for staff support of Board.			Completed.
2. Funding			
2.1. Establish a more robust budgeting process that will match funding allocations to strategic priorities.	Finance Committee	Fall 2013 / Winter 2014	Completed.
2.2. Establish responsibilities for identifying and pursuing grant funding opportunities.		Prior to spring 2014	Completed.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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		AGM	
2.3. Develop partnerships with funding sponsors.		2014/2015 fiscal year	Scheduled for 2014/2015
3. Coaches			
3.1. Continue recruitment of new coaches from the ranks of former speed skaters who have been attracted back to the sport by the Emera Oval.	Coaches and organizers of activities on the oval	Ongoing	Ongoing.
3.2. Schedule regular coaching clinics to formalize the training of the new coaches.	Coaching Committee	2013-2014 season	FUNDamentals coaching clinics hosted by Speedy Kids OPS in fall of 2013 and 2014. Work in progress to host clinic in Sydney in fall of 2015.
3.3. Develop a formal training program to bring at least one male and one female coach up to Level 3 in time for the 2015 Canada Winter Games.	2015 Canada Winter Games Committee	Fall 2013	Almost complete. Exception granted for Canada Games as last module required for full qualification was not available from Speed Skating Canada. This module is now available and plans and funding are in place to complete this training.
4. Officials			
4.1. Update the current list of officials to identify those who wish to continue to work as officials in the sport.	Officials Committee	2013-2014	Completed.
4.2. Identify gaps in the current availability of officials to work in different roles, and the future needs for officials at higher levels for hosting national and international events.	Officials Committee	2013-2014	Completed.
4.3. Look at the example of the paddling community to determine whether rotational assignments of officials will result in the development of stronger and more versatile officials.	Officials Committee	2013-2014	Completed.
4.4. Recruit additional officials and provide entry-level	Clubs	Ongoing	Completed.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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training clinics.			
4.5. Develop officials for higher level events.	Clubs	2014-2015	In progress. Officials Committee has identified requirements. Assistance being sought from Speed Skating Canada to facilitate mentoring and experience requirements for accelerated development of officials.
5. Communication and promotion			
5.1. Complete the development of the new Speed Skate Nova Scotia website, including development of sub-sites for the clubs without the resources to develop and maintain their own websites.	Board of Directors	Fall 2013	Completed.
5.2. Develop promotional materials for distribution at speed skating demonstration events and events with high public participation such as the Skate the Common Marathon, and for distribution through the skate rental trailer at the Emera Oval and at arenas with public skating times.			Outstanding.

Strategy 2: Detailed plans for the development of strong grassroots organizations and increasing overall participation in the sport

Strategy	Responsibility	Time Frame	Status
1. Club Development			
1.1. Work with Sport Nova Scotia's Community Sport Development Coordinators to initiate the development of new clubs around the province.	Club and Membership Development Committee	Ongoing	In progress.
1.2. Ensure that new clubs are oriented to the organization of the sport, that they have assistance in			In progress.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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identifying and obtaining start up funding, and that their boards, coaches, officials and volunteers are given appropriate development opportunities.			
2. Speed skating demonstration events			
2.1. Schedule regular speed skating demonstration events around the province to extend the reach of the sport.	Club and Membership Development Committee	Ongoing	In progress.
2.2. Increase the inventory of demonstration skates so that participants in demonstration events can try speed skates at the events.		Fall 2013	Completed.
3. Inclusiveness			
3.1. Support the Speedy Kids Oval Program's free speed skating programs for underserved groups by providing free SSC/SSNS registration of participants.	Board of Directors	2013	Completed.
3.2. Expand the partnership with sledge hockey teams and the IWK/Easter Seals learn to sledge program, by continuing to include sledge racing in the marathon events at the oval, and by adding sledge racing to sprint events on the oval and providing shared practice time on the oval.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	2013-2014	In progress.
4. Community racing			
4.1. Continue to host the Skate the Common Marathon as a major community event, with an 'any type of skate' format that encourages non-speed skaters to try racing on skates.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	Ongoing	In progress.
4.2. Acquire timing chips and additional software for the chip timing system to ensure that the sport is self-sufficient in hosting marathon-style events.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	2013-2015	Official MyLaps timing software, 20 additional timing chips, and a laptop to run the system were acquired during 2014-2015. Funding still required for additional timing chips.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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4.3. Establish an informal racing program on Sunday mornings, open to all comers, on any type of skates.	Clubs in the HRM	2013-2014 season	Successful Sunday racing series run again in 2014-2015 season; open only to speed skaters at this time due to limited ice time available.
4.4. Establish varsity racing programs in partnership with the schools, also with an 'any type of skates' format.	Clubs in the HRM	2014-2015 season	Outstanding.
5. School programs			
5.1. Contact teachers in school-based physical education programs to incorporate speed skating into their programming.	Club and Membership Development Committee	2014-2015	Outstanding.
5.2. Incorporate speed skating components into some of the school skating times on the oval.			Outstanding.
6. Continue to attract and retain new speed skaters on the oval			
6.1. Acquire a small inventory of speed skates to be available through the HRM free skate rental program for people who would like to try speed skates during public speed skating times.	Club and Membership Development Committee	Fall 2013	Completed.
6.2. Continue to provide free Learn to Speed Skate sessions on the oval.	Halifax Regional Speed Skating Club	Ongoing	Ongoing.
6.3. Establish a masters speed skating club for adult speed skaters at the oval, to complement the activities of the Speedy Kids Oval Program; to engage these skaters more fully in the sport, developing them as athletes, coaches, officials, organizers and volunteers; and to build a consistent speed skating presence at the oval during speed skating ice time.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	Fall 2013	Completed.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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6.4. Develop and post promotional materials at the oval so that people who are curious about speed skating get the information they need to begin to get involved in the sport.	Board of Directors	Fall 2013	Outstanding.

Strategy 3: Detailed plans for the development of elite athletes achieving success at the national level

Strategy	Responsibility	Time Frame	Status
1. Recruitment			
1.1. Develop a program for the recruitment of athletes with strong skating skills at the Training to Train and Learning to Compete stage.	Board of Directors in collaboration with the Long Track Coach and Regional Development Mentor	2013-2015	In progress.
2. Training			
2.1. Qualify a full complement of male and female athletes for recruitment into the Atlantic Long Track Program.	Clubs in collaboration with the Long Track Coach and Regional Development Mentor	2013-2015	In progress.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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3. Development			
3.1. Send a full team of athletes to the Canada East Short Track Championships every year.	Clubs in collaboration with the Long Track Coach and Regional Development Mentor	2013-2015	Larger contingent sent to 2015 event, but additional numbers still required.
3.2. Send a full team of athletes to the Canadian Age-Class Long Track Championships every year.			Strong development has occurred in long track, but additional numbers still required.
3.3. Have athletes qualify for short track and long track Canada Cups every year.			Good progress in this area.
3.4. Send full teams of athletes for both short track and long track to the 2015 Canada Winter Games.			Twelve athletes (of eighteen possible) sent to 2015 event, significant improvement over seven sent to 2011 event, with significantly improved results. Long track athletes participated in Pursuit event for the first time at CWG.

Strategy 4: Detailed plans for the hosting of high level competitions to develop hosting expertise

Strategy	Responsibility	Time Frame	Status
1. Facilities			
1.1. Provide input to the Halifax Regional Municipality to ensure that the permanent facilities on the oval will be suited to the hosting of high-level international competitions.	Competitions Committee	2013-2014	Competitions Committee not yet established; input to process provided by Atlantic Long Track Coach and Regional Development Mentor.
1.2. Provide input into the HRM process for the building of new rinks on the Halifax peninsula in order to have one pad constructed with international-sized ice surface, space for spectator viewing of competitions,			HRM has just announced that the Dartmouth Crossing Four Pad will have an Olympic size ice surface, with substantial spectator seating.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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and storage facilities for safety padding.			
2. Hosting organization			
2.1. Continue to host one regional or one national short track competition per annum in the HRM.	Halifax Regional Speed Skating Club	Ongoing	Ongoing.
2.2. Continue to host the annual Atlantic Long Track Championships on the Emera Oval.	Clubs in the HRM		Two major championship events held in 2015.
2.3. Continue to host the annual Skate the Common Marathon on the Emera Oval.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club		Event was held in 2015, but on a reduced basis due to damage to timing equipment earlier in the season.
2.4. Encourage the smaller clubs outside the HRM to host entry-level competitions to develop organizing and officiating skills.	Clubs outside the HRM		In progress.
3. Protective padding			
3.1. Obtain additional short track safety padding in the HRM to reduce the cost of running high level competitions, and the disruption to club programming outside the HRM when pads have to be shipped to the HRM.	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	2013-2014	Complete.
3.2. Work with the Halifax Regional Municipality to identify safety padding needs for the Emera Oval and develop funding solutions.	Competitions Committee	2013-2015	In progress.
4. Equipment			
4.1. Obtain timing chips and additional software for the MyLaps chip timing system at the Emera Oval, to reduce costs of hosting the marathon, and to enable the use of the timing system on an ongoing basis through the season for training and longer distance	Nova Scotia Masters Speed Skating Club	2013-2015	Official MyLaps timing software, 20 additional timing chips, and a laptop to run the system were acquired during 2014-2015. Funding still required for additional timing chips.

JUNE 2015 PROGRESS REPORT
Speed Skate Nova Scotia 2013-2015 Strategic Plan

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racing on the oval.			
4.2. Obtain additional components for the FinishLynx electronic timing system to allow it to be used for long track racing on the Emera Oval.	Competitions Committee	2014-2015	Outstanding.