



**SPEED  
SKATING  
BC**

Format Bulletin:

# Awards Bulletin

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April 2026

## Introduction

The Speed Skating BC (SSBC) awards program is designed to recognize the achievements and contributions of our growing community. The awards are aligned to the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan values, mission, and priority areas.

## Timelines

Awards are divided into three four phases to align with the timeline of presenting the awards presentations at BC Cup Short Track - Phase 1, BC Long Track Championships (BCLT) - Phase 2, BC Short Track Championships (BCST) - Phase 3, and the SSBC Annual General Meeting - Phase 4.

Phase 1	
Spirit Award	Award presented at BC Cup Short Track
Phase 2	
Spirit Award	Awards presented at BC Long Track Championships
Neil Dyer Memorial Shield	
Randy Sulyma 5000m Open Award	
Phase 3	
Nominations Close: March 9, 2026 Selection Committee Meetings: March 2026	
Spirit Award	Awards presented at BC Short Track Championships
Coach of the Year - Competitive	
Coach of the Year - Recreational	
Clara Overend Trophy	
Official of the Year - Regional	
Official of the Year - Ritha Johnson	
Volunteer of the Year	

<b>Phase 4</b> Nominations Close: April 30, 2026 Selection Committee Meetings: May 2026	
Innovator, Builder, Champion Award	Awards Presented at Speed Skating BC AGM
Good News	
Graduation Achievement Award	
PACK	
Pat Underhill - Spirit of Competition	
Provincial Challenges (April 15, 2026)	
Skater of the Year	
Team BC Certificates	
Youth Volunteer Recognition	

## Nomination Process

Nominations are submitted through the [SSBC Awards page](#) using the online forms. Before submitting a nomination, please consult the award descriptions found on our website to ensure the nominee meets the eligibility and selection criteria. For reference, a list of previous recipients for each award can also be found on the website.

Please refer to the Awards Descriptions below for the specific requirements for each award. Speed Skating BC reserves the right to decline the Award in any given year.

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## Awards Descriptions

### Builder Award

Evidence of development of the sport as a coach, athlete, official, volunteer, or administrator as we build a future of speed skating. This award can be given to an individual and/or a club. Some examples could be; Increased retention of athletes in a club because of a volunteer's activities. A coach's dedication to their athletes resulted in a significant increase in the number of PBs at provincial championships.

As a **Builder** we are: *“Who Members can rely on to build our sport by building on our successes. Whether it is the development and retention of our athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers or working with our clubs to support their development and growth, we build a future together.”*

**Criteria:** Nominations will be reviewed and compared to the objectives identified in the Builder description from the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. Other factors will be considered such as Membership growth, Member retention, Club satisfaction, Member satisfaction, and/or Participation in developmental activities.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026

### Innovator Award

Evidence of new and innovative approaches to improve the experience of SSBC's members. This award can be given to an individual and/or a club. Examples could be: A coach who develops a new program to make speed skating more accessible to underrepresented groups.

As an **Innovator** we are: *“Who Members can rely on to look to the future development of the sport. Being knowledgeable of the best practices for development of technical programs and good governance will create and maintain a high-quality experience for all SSBC members.”*

**Criteria:** Nominations will be reviewed and compared to the objectives identified in the Innovator description from the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. Other factors will be considered such as Programs adopted by other organizations, Member satisfaction in terms of inclusion and safety, Member retention rates, and/or Papers or technical presentations to other organizations.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026

## Champion Award

We are who Members can rely on to generate awareness about the sport, promote the sport, communicate effectively, recognize excellence, and advocate for the sport and our members.

This award celebrates those who have achieved excellence either by championing speed skating or recognition of significant personal or club achievements. This award can be given to an individual and/or a club. Examples could be; An athlete overcoming adversity to achieve their personal goals. A Club creates new partnerships within their community that result in more people speed skating.

As a **Champion**, we are: *“Who Members can rely on to generate awareness about the sport, promote the sport, communicate effectively, recognize excellence, and advocate for the sport and our members.”*

**Criteria:** Nominations will be reviewed and compared to the objectives identified in the Champion description from the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. Other factors will be considered, such as Social media statistics, Member satisfaction in communication and/or Recognition of members.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026

## Coach of the Year - Competitive

This award recognizes the contributions of coaches throughout SSBC.

**Criteria:** Open to coaches who coach provincial-level skaters or above.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** March 9, 2026

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## Coach of the Year - Recreational

This award recognizes the contributions of coaches throughout SSBC.

**Criteria:** Open to coaches who coach athletes who skate at a regional or recreational level.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** March 9, 2026

## Clara Overend Trophy

This trophy is presented by the Ridge Meadows Speed Skating Club, for perpetual annual competition by clubs in the BC Short Track Championships, in recognition of the outstanding efforts on behalf of speed skating made by Mrs. Clara Overend.

**Criteria:** Points will be allocated to clubs based on the overall results of each participant, as per the Competition Format Bulletin of the current season. Points earned by a skater accumulate to their club as follows:

- I. 100% of points earned by Pre-Youth, Youth, NeoJunior and Junior skaters
- II. 50% of points earned by Senior skaters
- III. 25% of Points earned by Master skaters.

**How to Apply:** Calculations will be made during the BC Short Track Championships. The winning Club is to be awarded the trophy at the end of the competition.

**Deadline:** Not applicable

## Graduation Achievement Award

**Criteria:** Refer to the Skater Graduation Achievement Award for the criteria for this award.

**How to Apply:** Refer to the above document for the application process for this award.

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026

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## Neil Dyer Memorial Shield

This shield is presented by the Fort St John Speed Skating and Recreation Club, for perpetual annual competition by clubs in the BC Long Track Championships, in memory of Neil Dyer.

**Criteria:** Points will be awarded in both Olympic Style & Mass Start divisions, with points earned by a skater accumulating to their club as follows:

- I. 100% of points earned by Pre-Youth and Youth skaters (total of Mass Start and Olympic Style races)
- II. 100% of Olympic Style Points earned by NeoJunior and Junior skaters
- III. 50% of Olympic Style Points earned by Senior skaters
- IV. 25% of Olympic Style Points earned by Masters skaters
- V. Where an interclub, FUNale or mini meet is associated with the Championship, clubs are awarded 10 points per minor participant (<19), and 5 points per adult participant (19+) in the competition, not per race.

**How to Apply:** Not applicable. Calculations will be made during the BC Long Track Championships. The winning Club is to be awarded the trophy at the end of the competition.

**Deadline:** Not applicable

## Official of the Year - Ritha Johnson

This award recognizes the contributions of officials throughout SSBC in honour of Ritha Johnson's contributions to building officiating in the province.

**Criteria:** Open to Officials who are Level 2 or above and reside in BC.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** March 9, 2026

## Official of the Year - Regional

This award recognizes the contributions of Level 1 officials throughout the SSBC.

**Criteria:** Open to Officials who are Level 1 and reside in BC.

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**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** March 9, 2026

## PACK Award

Recreational and Competitive for Life (C4L) award recognizes the contribution of a participant to creating and building a connected community of recreational and Competitive for Life skaters throughout SSBC. Must be 18 years and over.

The PACK (participation, achievement, community, knowledge) Award recognizes Active for Life and Masters members' contribution to creating and building a connected community of recreational and Active for Life skaters throughout SSBC.

**Criteria:** Participants must demonstrate commitment to building the PACK community within SSBC.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026

## Pat Underhill - Spirit of Competition

The Pat Underhill Spirit of Competition Award was established during the 60th anniversary season of BCSSA. Pat Underhill, a pioneer of speed skating in BC, explained that she wanted the award to value the participation of all club skaters in competition, where everyone can contribute to a team total, regardless of age or ability. Pat envisioned a system where every club participant in a sanctioned meet proudly earned a point for their club.

**Criteria:** The award is based upon the number of registered club skaters who competed at each SSBC-sanctioned competition.

**How to Apply:** No application, verified by ADC & Awards Committee

**Deadline:** Not applicable

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## Provincial Challenges

Relay Challenges and Sprint Challenges regulations are published through the [Provincial Challenges bulletin](#).

**Criteria:** Refer to the applicable bulletin.

**How to Apply:** [Sprint Challenge Online Submission Form](#), [Relay Challenge Online Submission Form](#), [Vertical Jump Challenge Submission Form](#), [Flyer Challenge Submission Form](#).

**Deadline:** April 15, 2026

## Randy Sulyma 5000m Open Award

The Randy Sulyma 5000m Open Race is skated annually at the BC Long Track Championship in memory of Randy Sulyma. The first skater crossing the finish line in the race is awarded this award.

**Criteria:** Fastest 5000m Open at BC Long Track Championships.

The first skater crossing the finish line in the race is awarded this award.

**How to Apply:** Not applicable. The award will be presented at the conclusion of the BC Long Track Championships competition.

**Deadline:** Not applicable

## Skater of the Year (Updated April 2026)

The Skater of the Year Award recognizes the top performance of a skater in their respective age category and discipline. Awards will be given for the following groups:

Masters (30+), Senior, Neo-Senior, Junior, and Neo-Junior in both Short Track and Long Track

**Criteria:**



## Short Track

Based on the SSC National Rankings at the end of the season, the Skater of the Year Award recognizes the top performance of a skater in their respective age category and discipline.

Awards will be presented in the following categories: Senior, Neo-Senior, Junior, Neo-Junior

## Long Track

Based on the SSC National Rankings at the end of the season, the Skater of the Year Award recognizes the top performance of skaters within specific long track disciplines.

Three Long Track awards will be presented to Neo Senior, Senior:

- Short Distance Skater of the Year
- Combined Long Distance Skater of the Year
- Mass Start Skater of the Year

### Short Distance Skater of the Year

This award is determined based on performances in the 500m, 1000m, and 1500m events. Selection is based on the skater's overall SSC ranking points at the end of the season, using their two highest-ranked distances among these three events.

### Combined Long Distance Skater of the Year

This award is determined based on long-distance performances:

- Women: 1500m, 3000m & 5000m
- Men: 1500m, 5000m and 10,000m

Selection is based on the skater's overall SSC ranking points at the end of the season, using the applicable long-distance events.

Please note: If master skaters compete at a national or world level they will be awarded on their ranking.

### Mass Start Skater of the Year

This award is determined by SSC's National Mass Start ranking at the end of the season, recognizing consistent performance throughout the competitive season.

Neo-Junior and Junior Skaters (Female & Male) For Junior and Neo-Junior skaters, female and male, all Long Track awards will be determined using the samelaaght points system, based on

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results from the National Championships, which represent the highest level of competition for these categories.

**How to Apply:** No application, verified by ADC & Awards Committee

**Deadline:** Not applicable

## Team BC Certificates

Skaters who represent Team BC at national championship events are awarded recognition certificates..

**Criteria:** Qualified to represent SSBC as Team BC at select national competitions.

**How to Apply:** Not applicable.

**Deadline:** Not applicable

## Volunteer of the Year

This award originated in 1991 to recognize the contributions of the volunteers throughout SSBC.

**Criteria:** Based on level of service, contributions, and impact to speed skating.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** March 9, 2026

## Youth Recognition

Youth Recognition certificates recognize the contributions of the youth (19 years or younger) volunteers throughout the SSBC.

**Criteria:** Youth must demonstrate commitment to volunteerism within a SSBC club.

**How to Apply:** [Online Submission Form](#)

**Deadline:** April 30, 2026