



# USSPEEDSKATING PRESS RELEASE

5662 South Cougar Lane | Kearns UT 84118

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Matt Whewell ([mwhewell@usspeedskating.org](mailto:mwhewell@usspeedskating.org))

## **US Speedskating Announces 2016-17 Long Track Fall World Cup Rosters**

*Team USA roster for Fall World Cups features 10 Olympians*

**KEARNS, Utah** – US Speedskating announced its 2016-17 Long Track Fall World Cup [roster](#) today following the three-day World Cup Qualifier meet held at the Pettit National Ice Center in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Skaters named to the Fall World Cup roster earned start positions for the first four ISU World Cups this fall, with specific team and distance announcements to take place prior to the respective World Cup event. The ISU World Cup season starts in Harbin, China on Nov. 11-13.

“We had a great weekend of competitive racing giving us a positive gauge on where we are heading into the 2016-17 ISU World Cup season,” said Long Track Program Director **Nick Pearson**. “I’m looking forward to seeing the team build on their 46 World Cup medals from last season.”

A winner of 18 total World Cup medals last season and the 500m overall World Cup champion, **Heather Bergsma** (High Point, N.C.), earned top honors in the 500m, 1000m, 1500m and Mass Start. Qualifying alongside Bergsma on the ladies side are 2014 Olympians **Kelly Gunther** (Clinton Township, Mich.) and **Sugar Todd** (Omaha, Neb).

Joining the three Olympians are 2015-16 Fall World Cup team member, **Paige Schwartzburg** (Ocala, Fla.) and 2013-14 World Cup member, **Petra Acker** (Clifton Park, N.Y.). In addition, **Jerica Tandiman** (Kearns, Utah) qualified for her first World Cup roster, while **Mia Manganello** (Crestview, Fla.) returns to the World Cup stage for the first time since 2007-08.

“With a deep, veteran pool of skaters we have on this fall’s Sprint Team, we’re positioned well to compete at the highest levels in all distances,” said National Sprint Team Head Coach **Matt Kooreman**. “It’s a great compliment of experienced and young skaters on the team and I couldn’t be more excited to start the international racing circuit.”

On the men’s side, seven of the nine qualified skaters have Olympic experience, including two-time Olympic champion **Shani Davis** (Chicago, Ill.) and four-time Olympian **KC Boutiette** (Tacoma, Wash.). Their combined seven Olympic appearances will be joined by fellow Olympians **Joey Mantia** (Ocala, Fla.), who placed first over the weekend in the 1000m, 1500m and Mass Start, and the 500m American Record-holder **Mitch Whitmore** (Waukesha, Wisc.).

2010 Olympic silver medalist **Brian Hansen** (Glenview, Ill.) also qualified for the team after a two-year break while attending the University of Colorado. Others to qualify include 2014 Olympians **Jonathan Garcia** (Houston, Texas) and **Emery Lehman** (Oak Park, Ill.) **Kimani Griffin** (Winston-Salem, N.C.) and **Ian Quinn** (St. Louis, Mo.), members of the 2015-16 Fall World Cup team, round out the men’s squad.

With 16 individuals qualifying for the World Cup roster, Team USA features 10 Olympians who have combined to make 19 Olympic teams.

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“It’s an exciting time for the Allround skaters on Team USA because of the talent up and down the roster,” said **Tom Cushman**, the National Allround Team Head Coach. “Everyone has international experience and will provide great motivation for one another during our races in Asia and Europe.”

A full list of the 2016-17 Long Track Fall World Cup [roster](#) in alphabetical order is below.

### **Men**

KC Boutiette (Tacoma, Wash.)  
Shani Davis (Chicago, Ill.)  
Jonathan Garcia (Houston, Texas)  
Kimani Griffin (Winston-Salem, N.C.)  
Brian Hansen (Glenview, Ill.)  
Emery Lehman (Oak Park, Ill.)  
Joey Mantia (Ocala, Fla.)  
Ian Quinn (St. Louis, Mo.)  
Mitch Whitmore (Waukesha, Wisc.)

### **Women**

Petra Acker (Clifton Park, N.Y.)  
Heather Bergsma (High Point, N.C.)  
Kelly Gunther (Clinton Township, Mich.)  
Mia Manganello (Crestview, Fla.)  
Paige Schwartzburg (Ocala, Fla.)  
Jerica Tandiman (Kearns, Utah)  
Sugar Todd (Omaha, Neb.)

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### **About US Speedskating**

From Pond to Podium, we are US Speedskating. We grow and nurture a sport where all ages can experience the thrill of speed and the camaraderie of the skating community. US Speedskating is responsible for the development of speed skating from grassroots to the highest elite racing programs. US Speedskating is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Skating Union as the governing body for the sport of speed skating in the United States. The Organization has won 86 Olympic medals to-date, making it one of the most successful sports in U.S. Olympic history. US Speedskating is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), on [Facebook](#) and at [www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org).