

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, April 11, 2016 Contact: Matt Whewell (<u>mwhewell@usspeedskating.org</u>)

Apolo Anton Ohno Elected into US Speedskating Hall of Fame

Ohno's Hall of Fame Induction will take place on May 13 in Park City, Utah

KEARNS, Utah – US Speedskating (USS) announced today that eight-time Olympic medalist **Apolo Anton Ohno** will be inducted into the US Speedskating Hall of Fame on Friday, May 13. The ceremony will take place at Snow Park Lodge Deer Valley in Park City, Utah and begins at 7 p.m. MT.

"It's an honor to be inducted into the US Speedskating Hall of Fame," stated Apolo Ohno. "This incredible sport has taught me so much, and to be associated with a special group of legends like this is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life. I feel proud, blessed and humbled."

Apolo Ohno's name is synonymous with speed skating having amassed eight Olympic medals, making him the most decorated American in Winter Olympic history. The three-time Olympian and 12-time U.S. National Champion collected more than 30 medals in international competitions over the course his speed skating career.

"Apolo is one of the great ambassadors of speed skating in the world today," commented Mike Plant, president of US Speedskating. "He set the bar on the ice with his eight Olympic Medals but what he has done off the ice for our sport is as equally significant."

Away from the ice, Ohno has garnered further mainstream appeal by winning ABC's *Dancing with the Stars* (2007), hosting Game Show Network's *Minute to Win It*, and serving as a commentator for NBC's broadcast of the 2012 and 2014 Olympic Games. A believer in living an active and healthy lifestyle, Ohno completed the New York City Marathon in 2011 and the 2014 IRONMAN World Championship in October of 2014 in Kona, Hawaii.

The US Speedskating Hall of Fame Induction is in conjunction with the USS Annual Congress held May 13-14. Fans interested in attending the Hall of Fame induction ceremony can purchase tickets at the <u>Hall of Fame</u> <u>Event Page</u>.

MEDIA NOTE: Media interested in attending or acquiring additional information should contact Matt Whewell at <u>mwhewell@usspeedskating.org</u> or 801-417-5374.

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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 <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, on <u>Facebook</u> and at <u>www.usspeedskating.org</u>.