

Dong-Sung Kim (17-KOR), Jonathon Cavar (63-CAN), Cees Juffermans (21-NED)

The Lynx System Developers system has demonstrated its efficiency over the first 4 World Cup Short Track Speed Skating events of the season.

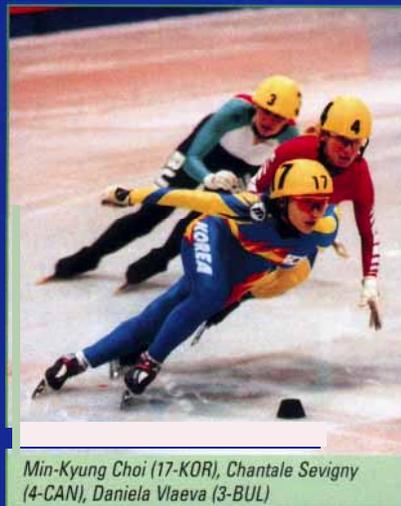
This system is designed to run the entire administration of a competition. For instance, one of the novelties, which this system provides, is the possibility to produce very quickly accurate updates of rankings and post them on the Internet within seconds of the finish of the final race. With this reliable high-speed system, Short Track is technologically ready for the next millennium. This season starts with very promising prospects, as the World Cup scene is clearly benefiting from growing international interest. The total number of countries which have taken part in the series, so far, is higher than expected as a total of 19 Member countries have participated in only 4 events, underlining the continuous global growth of this sport. The standings also show that the quality of the skating in countries where the sport is relatively new, has greatly improved as more Skaters from these countries who have taken to this sport are able to contend for the podiums.

The Short Track Speed Skating season kicked off with the first four out of a total of six World Cup events taking place in Montreal (CAN) through to Salt Lake City (USA), Nobeyama (JPN) and Chang Chun (CHN). The rest of the season's events will continue in Hungary, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands, finishing off with the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships in Sheffield (GBR).

Last year China dominated the World Cup and the ISU Championships. In total, 6 World Titles were won by Chinese Skaters. This season, after 4 World Cups, China is in the lead again. Defending Ladies' World Champion Yang Yang (A) has the maximum score on the 1500 meter World Ranking and is amongst the top-10 on all other rankings. In the Men's division, Apolo Anton Ohno (USA), the current World Junior Champion, has shown some great performances and he has done well in all distances. Ohno was the overall winner of the 4th World Cup Competition in China. The 2 most recent World Cups were held in Asia and several European Members did not attend. With the last 2 World Cups scheduled in Europe and the fact that only the 4 best of 6 results are counted, the rankings will

most likely go through quite a change. Those Skaters who already have 4 good results might be able to improve their score and those who don't, will have opportunities to greatly improve theirs. The World Cup Short Track Speed Skating of this season is not yet finished, in fact the best is still to come.

(See pages 18-19 for current World Cup standings)



Min-Kyung Choi (17-KOR), Chantale Sevigny (4-CAN), Daniela Vlaeva (3-BUL)