



MEET COORDINATOR'S REPORT

2008 - 2009 Annual General Meeting
Pacers Speed Skating Club of Ottawa

7:00 - 9:00 PM
Ottawa Citizen Conference Room
1101 Baxter Road
Ottawa, Ontario

This season, the Ottawa Pacers were awarded two (2) meets and hosted one long track camp.

October 04-05, 2009

“1st Eastern Regional Ability Meet” (Bell Sensplex)

- ❑ Sanctioned by OSSA and SSC
- ❑ **2005:** 153 athletes participated
- ❑ **2006:** 201 athletes participated (14 clubs)
- ❑ **2007:** 184 athletes participated (12 clubs)
- ❑ **2008:** 158 athletes participated (10 clubs)

January 10-11, 2009

“Long Track Training Camp” (Brewer Oval)

Camp registration this year dropped to 63 skaters (from 101 in 2008), due largely to ST meets being held the same weekend in Brockville and Oakville and a full ST schedule throughout the month that acted as a deterrent to LT participation. Nine coaches participated in program delivery, organized by Gerry Harrington. Hot food and snacks were organized by Maureen Young. Weather was good and ice conditions were exceptional. Preliminary OSSA schedule suggests that next year's camp should face somewhat less competition from ST meets.

January 17-18, 2009

“Ontario Long Track Mass Start and Olympic Style Meet” (Brewer Oval)

The long track competition held at the Brewer Skate Park is a long established Event for the Ottawa Pacers Speed Skating Club.

The Pacers alternate annually between hosting a regular long track meet during the second week of January and the Provincial Long Track meet with the Sault Saint Marie Club.

- ❑ **2004:** 145 athletes attended
- ❑ **2005:** 87 athletes attended
- ❑ **2006:** 89 athletes attended
- ❑ **2007:** 148 athletes from 14 clubs registered (no ice)
- ❑ **2008:** 107 athletes from 12 clubs attended
- ❑ **2009:** 101 athletes from 12 clubs attended

- ❑ **17** unofficial records were set
- ❑ Weather was –17 and the snow held off until Sunday afternoon
- ❑ The event was sanctioned by OSSA and SSC

Season Highlights

- ❑ The Ottawa Pacers appreciate the ongoing support of The Gloucester Concordes through the loan of equipment and the many parents who volunteer during the competitions hosted by the Pacers.
- ❑ The mentoring in various positions was ongoing during the season. The Ottawa Pacers engaged in mentoring the following positions:
 - referee
 - clerk of the course
 - meet recorder
 - chief judge
 - lap counter
 - long track starter

It is important to maintain this mentoring program to have qualified officials to continue to run successful meets and for succession planning purposes. .

Recommendations from 2007-2008 season

- ❑ Ensure that every contact with the Bell Sensplex staff and management is done in writing and well in advance of the actual event being planned **(completed)**
- ❑ Obtain a contract from the Bell SensPlex prior to scheduled events **(completed)**
- ❑ Purchase of 8 new mats so that all of the mats are doubled during the competitions as recommended by the referee. **(outstanding)**
- ❑ Continue the mentoring program **(completed)**
- ❑ Discuss with Rick Hunt the changes required to make the long track registration form user friendly **(New Long track form was tried January 2009)**
- ❑ Research options to eliminate some trailer usage at the Brewer Oval due to health and safety issues **(completed as a trailer was installed by the City of Ottawa)**
- ❑ Participation from all members for food donations **(completed)**

Recommendation from 2008-2009 season

- ❑ OSSA mandated warm-up and start times did not work well for the Oct ST meet. Coordination with the Zamboni drivers was most difficult. **Will address issue with OSSA.**
- ❑ October 04-05 is too early in the season to host a meet. **Numerous clubs are not on the ice yet.**
- ❑ Will bid for a two-day meet later in October.
- ❑ Would like to host coaches Long Track meeting at the Brewer Oval in 2010.
- ❑ Will need to reassess trailer assignment for Long Track. Food trailer for officials was too crowded and electrical breaker kept jumping.
- ❑ Food for the Officials at the Long Track Meet was taken away too early. Officials are cold and tired during the long days and need food and beverages available until the end of the day.
- ❑ Tweaking of the long track registration form is ongoing

Sponsorships

For the ST meet : Costco, Farm Boy, Loblaw's and Sobeys

For the Oval: Atco Trailers, Boshtuka, Figure Eight, Mr Muffler and Tim Hortons

Thank you

Thank you to the great team of volunteers and officials that worked hard, every step of the way to ensure that the competitions were pleasant and safe for all of the athletes.

I look forward to working with you again next year and to another successful speed skating season.

***Kathie Gauthier
Meet Coordinator***