

The XIX Olympic Winter Games

February 8-24, 2002

Salt Lake City, Utah. USA

Team Handbook and Media Guide



Australian Winter Olympic Team 2002

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Salt Lake City time is **18 hours** behind Eastern Australian Summer Time

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following companies are helping Australia's athletes realise their dream of competing at the Salt Lake City 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Thanks to their belief in the Olympic spirit, Australia's athletes can strive for excellence in the greatest sports festival – the Olympic Games. The contribution made to the 2002 Australian Winter Olympic Team has ensured they are among the best prepared, trained and outfitted team to compete at Salt Lake 2002.

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Australian Olympic Committee Incorporated
ABN 33 052 258 241

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* AOC President, John Coates and Susan O'Neill are also IOC Members.
Ms O'Neill is not a member of AOC Executive.

A MESSAGE FROM THE AOC PRESIDENT

I take great pride and pleasure in introducing this 2002 Team Handbook and Media Guide.

The XIX Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City will be the fourth to be staged in the United States of America and it will be fifteenth time that Australia has sent a Team to compete at an Olympic Winter Games. It is anticipated that approximately 2000 athletes from some 80 nations will take part in the Games.

The Australian Team will be led by Chef de Mission, Ian Chesterman. Ian has a strong background in winter sports and was the Chef de Mission of the 1998 Australian Team in Nagano.

The Team will be hoping to build on the bronze medal winning performances of the Australian short track relay team in Lillehammer in 1994 and Zali Steggall in women's slalom in Nagano in 1998.

Following the 1998 Olympic Winter Games, the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) recognised that more needed to be done to assist our winter athletes achieve at the highest level on the world stage. This realisation led to the establishment of the Olympic Winter Institute (formerly the Australian Institute of Winter Sports) by the AOC. Since the OWI's inception, Australian athletes have won numerous medals in World Championships and World Cup events in four winter disciplines. We remain hopeful that the solid foundation set by the OWI will lead to success for 2002 Olympians.

The AOC recognises the Federal Government, through the Australian Sports Commission and Australian Institute of Sport, for its valuable support for the growth of winter sports in Australia.

I am confident that the members of the Team will conduct themselves in a manner that will rekindle the sense of pride that all Australians felt during the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.

I wish the Team every success in Salt Lake City and sincerely hope that they return home proud of their achievements.



John D. Coates AO
President, Australian Olympic Committee

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice,
for we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
our home is girt by sea;
our land abounds in nature's gifts
of beauty rich and rare;
in history's page, let every stage
advance Australia fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
advance Australia fair.

Beneath our radiant Southern Cross
we'll toil with hearts and hands;
to make this Commonwealth of ours
renowned of all the lands;
for those who've come across the seas
we've boundless plains to share
with courage let us all combine
to advance Australia fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
advance Australia fair.

AIMS OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

- Olympism seeks to create a new way of life, blending sport with culture and education based on the joy found in effort, educational value of good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles.
- To educate young people through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit which requires understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.
 - The goal of Olympism is to place everywhere sport at the service of the harmonious development of man, encouraging a peaceful society.
- To bring together athletes of the world in the great sports festival, the Olympic Games.

ATHLETE'S OATH

"In the name of all competitors I promise that we will take part in these Olympic Games, responding and abiding by all the rules which govern them in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and honour of our teams."

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHEF DE MISSION

The 2002 Australian Olympic Winter Team will be our biggest since 1960 and the best credentialled ever. It boasts two Olympic medallists, two world champions, a world championship silver medallist, a world championship bronze medallist and numerous world cup medallists.

Australian winter sportspeople have come along way since 1994 when our short track relay team won our first Olympic medal, a bronze, at the Lillehammer Games. Zali Steggall produced a brilliant performance four years later in Nagano when she became our first skiing Olympic medallist, winning the bronze in the alpine slalom event.

Both Zali Steggall and Jacqui Cooper won their respective world championships in 1999. Zali took the slalom gold medal in Vail, USA, and Jacqui the aerials title in Meiringen, Switzerland.

But we have still left scope for further firsts – a silver or a gold Olympic medal beckons in Salt Lake City in February.

We can but hope one comes our way, but we can be certain that our performance in winter Olympic sports is ever improving. Grand plans are already in place for further success at the 2006 Olympic Games in Turin, Italy.

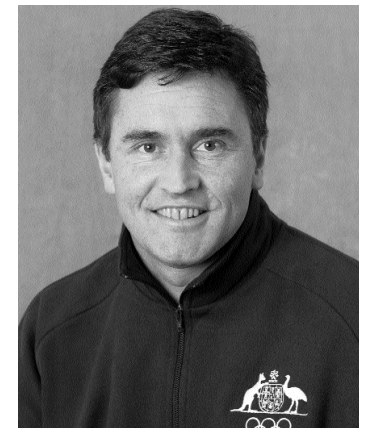
Much of the credit for this improvement and confidence can be directly attributed to the work of the Olympic Winter Institute of Australia, founded by the Australian Olympic Committee, with the support of the Australian Institute of Sport and its corporate partners.

The OWI has also ensured our talent has stayed longer in our sports. Three athletes will take part in their fourth Olympic Games - a remarkable achievement. Only our legendary speed skater Colin Coates, who can boast of six appearances, has been to more winter Games.

Congratulations to Zali Steggall, Steven Bradbury and Adrian Costa on building such a fine Olympic record. They add the element of experience to a team infused with youth that will represent our country with distinction.

In Salt Lake City there will still be much talk of the last Olympic Games - those gloriously hosted by Sydney to such acclaim. The Australian Winter Olympic Team is proud of our country's standing in the Olympic movement and is proud to build on its reputation of representation and success.

Ian Chesterman
Chef de Mission
2002 Australian Winter Olympic Team



THE HISTORY OF THE GAMES

Although the first Winter Olympics were held in Chamonix in 1924, two sports on the current Winter Games program had previously featured in Summer Games. Figure skating was contested at the 1908 London Olympic Games, and both figure skating and ice hockey were on the 1920 program in Antwerp, Belgium.

At the first Winter Olympics in Chamonix in 1924, 294 athletes from 16 nations battled for medals in 14 events across seven sports – speed skating, cross country skiing, nordic combined, figure skating, bobsleigh, ski jumping and ice hockey. Since then, the list of sports and the number of nations and competitors has grown considerably to make the Olympic Winter Games a major celebration of sport. In Lillehammer in 1994, more than 1800 competitors from 67 nations contested the 61 events on the program.

The first new sport to be added to the original line-up in the Games was alpine skiing, with the combined event for men – a slalom race and a downhill race – entering the program in 1936.

After the Second World War, in 1948, separate downhill and slalom events for men, and downhill, slalom and combined events for women were added to the list of Winter Olympic sports. The Oslo Games in 1952 was the first time women could compete in cross country skiing, and in 1960, in Squaw Valley, biathlon was introduced, for men only, and the first women's speed skating event was contested.

Luge was added to the Games program in 1964 for both men and women, and four years later, relay was added to the biathlon program, a women's event in the sport not available until 1992.

It wasn't until 1992 that any new sports were added, though ice dancing in 1976 and alpine skiing Super G in 1988 joined the list of events contested. The 1992 Albertville Games hosted the first freestyle competition, in moguls, and the first short track events, and also marked the first women's competition in biathlon.

Following the Albertville Games, the practice of holding Summer and Winter Games in the same year was altered, with the Lillehammer Games scheduled for 1994. That year, aerials was added to the freestyle skiing program.

In Nagano, curling, snowboarding and women's ice hockey were added to the Olympic program, which numbered 68 events across 14 sports.

At Salt Lake 2002, skeleton returns to the program for the first time since 1948, this time with women also competing, and a two woman bobsleigh event will be contested. In cross country, a sprint event will make its debut, while the snowboard alpine event has been changed from a giant slalom to a parallel giant slalom competition. A 1500m event for both men and women has been added to the short track speed skating program.

Year	Venue	Nations	Male athletes	Female athletes	Total	Australian team
1924	Chamonix, France	16	281	13	294	0
1928	St Moritz, Switzerland	25	468	27	495	0
1932	Lake Placid, USA	17	274	32	306	0
1936	Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Ger.	28	675	80	755	1
1940	Sapporo/St Moritz and Garmisch-Partenkirchen bid, but Games not held (World War II)					
1944	Awarded to Cortina D'Ampezzo but not held (World War II)					
1948	St Moritz, Switzerland	28	636	77	713	0
1952	Oslo, Norway	30	623	109	732	9
1956	Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy	32	686	132	818	10
1960	Squaw Valley, USA	30	521	144	665	31
1964	Innsbruck, Austria	36	986	200	1186	6
1968	Grenoble, France	37	1081	212	1293	3
1972	Sapporo, Japan	35	1015	217	1232	4
1976	Innsbruck, Austria (originally awarded to Denver, USA, which subsequently withdrew)	37	900	228	1128	8
1980	Lake Placid, USA	37	833	234	1067	10
1984	Sarajevo, Yugoslavia (now Bosnia-Herzegovina)	49	1000	274	1274	11
1988	Calgary, Canada	57	1110	313	1423	18
1992	Albertville, France	64	1313	488	1801	22
1994	Lillehammer, Norway	67	1217	522	1739	27
1998	Nagano, Japan	72	1488	814	2302	24
2002	Salt Lake City	78				
2006	Torino					

AUSTRALIA AT THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

Australia's representation at Olympic Winter Games commenced in 1936 at Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and since that time, the country has sent a team to all Winter Olympics except for the post World War II Games in St Moritz, Switzerland in 1948.

1936

Kenneth Kennedy was Australia's first Winter Olympic representative, competing in the long track speed skating events in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Kennedy finished 29th out of a field of 36 in the 500 metres, and placed 33rd in both the 1500m and the 5000m.

1952

No Games were held in 1940 or 1944 due to the Second World War, and Australia did not send a team to the 1948 Games in St Moritz. But in 1952, in Oslo, nine winter sports athletes marched under the Australian flag – three in alpine skiing, two in cross country, three in figure skating and one in speed skating.

One of the figure skaters was Gweneth Molony, whose daughter, Joanne Henke, also represented Australia, in alpine skiing in the 1976 Games in Innsbruck, Austria.

1956/1960

In 1956, in Cortina, Italy, the team size was 10, with Christine Davy the first woman to represent Australia in alpine skiing. The following Games, held in Squaw Valley, saw a 31 member team, thanks to the presence of the only ice hockey team Australia has ever fielded. The 1960 Games also saw the only Australian to compete in the nordic combined discipline, with Hal Nerdal finishing 31st in the dual cross country skiing and ski jumping event.

1964/1968

The 1964 Olympics in Innsbruck were a tragedy for the Australian team, with 17-year-old Victorian alpine skier Ross Milne killed in practice for the downhill event. With his close friend and fellow downhill racer Peter Brockhoff pulling out of the Games, just four Australians competed, all in alpine skiing.

Inspired by the fate of his brother, Malcolm Milne fought his way into the team for the next Olympic Games, in Grenoble, the sole Australian alpine skier. Aged 19 at the time, he finished 24th in both the downhill and the slalom, the best results ever recorded by an Australian skier to that time, with the slalom placing still the best by any Australian male. Milne went on to win a World Cup downhill event in Val D'Isere in 1969, and also won the country's first ever World Championship medal when he placed third in the downhill in 1970. Grenoble was the first of six Games for speed skater Colin Coates.

1972 - 1980

At the 1972 Games in Sapporo, Japan, Milne was one of just four team members, but at the following Games, the team had started to grow again, eight members marching in the opening ceremony in Innsbruck in 1976, and then ten in Lake Placid, USA, in 1980. The Lake Placid Games saw Australia's first and only female cross country competitor, Colleen Bolton.

1984

The 1984 Games saw the debut of Steven Lee, who finished 19th in the downhill, and who went on to represent his country in a further two Winter Olympics. The following

year, Lee won Australia's second World Cup skiing event, a Super G, in Furano, Japan. The Sarajevo Games also witnessed the country's first biathlon representative, Andrew Paul.

1988

In Calgary, the team had increased to 18 members, and for the first time, there were competitors in both bobsleigh and ice dancing, and also athletes contesting the demonstration sports of freestyle moguls and short track speed skating. For Colin Coates, skating in the 10,000m, it was a sixth Winter Games.

1992

Diane Ogle became our first luge competitor in 1992, moguls and short track became full medal sports, and Kirstie Marshall contested the demonstration sport of freestyle aerials. Our short track relay team went to the Games as reigning world champions, but a fall in the semi-final put them out of the final and medal contention. Paul Narracott made Australian sporting history, becoming the first person to represent his country at both a Winter and Summer Games. A member of the 2-man bobsleigh team, he had also run the 100m at the 1984 Los Angeles Games.

1994

In Lillehammer, Australia finally broke through for a Winter Olympic medal, the short track

relay team of Steven Bradbury, Richard Nizielski, Andrew Murtha and Kieran Hansen claiming bronze behind Italy and the US. The 27-member team also produced four other top ten placings - sixth to Kirstie Marshall in aerials, eighth to Kerryn Rim in the 15km biathlon, and eighth to Steven Bradbury and 10th to Richard Nizielski in 500m short track. For Chef de Mission Geoff Henke, it was a sixth and final Olympic Winter Games.

1998

Australia went to the Nagano Games with more realistic medal hopes than ever before. Freestyle skiers Kirstie Marshall and Jacqui Cooper were among the favourites for the aerials gold, but were unable to produce the goods on the day, missing the final. But Zali Steggall, skiing in her third Olympics, fulfilled Australia's long-cherished dream of an individual Winter Games medal, taking the bronze in slalom with a superb performance under immense pressure. Joanne Carter, just 17 and in her first Olympic Games, placed 12th in the ladies figure skating, the best result by an Australian in the Ladies competition, and when field size was taken into account, the best by any Australian skater. The bobsleigh pair of Jason Giobbi and Adam Barclay finished 22nd in the two man event, also the best performance by an Australian bobsleigh team in 2-man competition.

OLYMPIC WINTER INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

Following the Nagano Olympics, the Australian Olympic Committee undertook a major commitment to expand its support to winter sports, and the Australian Institute of Sport backed that move with funding and technical support.

The Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (OWI), previously known as the Australian Institute of Winter Sports (AIWS), was established by the AOC in June 1998.

The objectives of the OWI are to:

- develop and prepare elite Australian athletes for their participation in Olympic Winter Games, World Championships and World Cups in Olympic winter sports;
- assist with the development and funding of high performance coaches with expertise in the disciplines of the winter sports; and
- assist the AOC in the attainment of its objects through encouragement of elite performance by Australian athletes in the disciplines of the winter sports.

The OWI conducts programs for elite athletes in alpine and freestyle skiing, snowboarding, figure skating and short track speed skating disciplines.

Athletes are considered by the OWI for support through a scholarship arrangement. Priority for scholarships is given to athletes currently competing at World Championship or World Cup level and who have the potential to achieve a medal result at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Subject to total funds available, additional athletes are considered for support who are currently competing at or have the potential to compete at World Cup or World Championship level and who have the potential

to achieve a medal result at the 2006 Winter Olympic Games.

AOC funding of the OWI is \$750,000 per annum.

As with its predecessor organisation, the Australian Ski Institute, alpine skiing and freestyle moguls and aerials remained core programs.

With the recruitment of the world's best-credentialed coaches, great success has been achieved on the snow, including:

- Jacqui Cooper achieving three World Cup titles and the 1999 world championship crown,
- Zali Steggall winning the 1999 world championship slalom title
- Maria Despas winning a silver medal in moguls at the 2001 world championships, and
- two of our other athletes – Alisa Camplin and Adrian Costa – also winning World Cup medals.

Since the 1999 season, the Institute has operated a full scholarship program in alpine snowboarding, and in that time, Zeke Steggall and John Fletcher have both produced excellent results. At the end of 2001, Zeke had won four World Cup events and collected four minor medals with John also making the podium for silver and bronze.

The OWI has also provided the same level of support to short track speed skating with the specific goal of qualifying a relay team at the Salt Lake City Games. Under the leadership of coach Anne Zhang, that mission was accomplished at the 2001 Olympic Qualifier event in Salt Lake in October.

Figure skating operates as a minor sports program within the Institute, with Anthony Liu and Stephanie Zhang receiving funding support, and Belinda Trussell appointed as Program Coordinator to oversee the OWI's figure skating activities.

Through directed support, the OWI has made a difference. Since its creation post-Nagano, until the end of the 2001 season, OWI athletes have won 13 World Cup events, and a total of 26 World Cup medals.

A key focus of the Olympic Winter Institute is also the nurturing of the next generation of winter sports athletes, and to that end we operate intensive development programs that are clearly focussed on Turin in 2006.

The Institute is confident that the programs we have in place for our development squad athletes will help them produce truly impressive results when they get their Olympic Games opportunity.

AIWS/OWI RESULT SUMMARY

Since the formation of the Australian Institute of Winter Sports, Olympic Winter Institute in July 1998, Australia has achieved the following international results.

	World Cup Medals	World Championship Medals
Season: 2000/2001 Aerial Skiing Mogul Skiing Snowboard Total	7 (3 Gold) - 2 9 (3 Gold)	 1 - 1
Season: 1999/2000 Aerial Skiing Snowboard Total	6 (4 Gold) 5 (2 Gold) 11 (6 gold)	 N/A N/A N/A
Season: 1998/1999 Aerial Skiing Alpine Skiing Snowboard Total	4 (3 Gold) 1 1 (Gold) 6 (4 Gold)	1 (Gold) 1 (Gold) - 2 (2 Gold)
Total World Cup Medals Won: 26 (13 Gold) Total World Championship Medals Won: 3 (2 Gold)		
Major Highlights to the end of the 2001 season: Jacqui Cooper ranked number 1 in the world in aerials; three-time World Cup titleholder; 1999 world aerials champion Zali Steggall wins the world slalom championship Zeke Steggall wins bronze at the 1999 world snowboard championship, three World Cup gold medals. Maria Despas wins Australia's first mogul world championship medal Alisa Camplin ranked number 5 in the world in aerials, wins two World Cup silver medals John Fletcher wins three World Cup snowboard medals		

SALT LAKE 2002

	FRI 8	SAT 9	SUN 10	MON 11	TUES 12	WED 13	THURS 14	FRI 15
CEREMONIES RICE-ECCLES OLYMPIC STADIUM	OPENING CEREMONY 18:00-21:00							
ALPINE SKIING SNOWBASIN			Downhill Men 10:00-11:30	Downhill Women 10:00-11:30		M Comb 10:00-11:30 13:00-14:00 15:00-15:30	W Comb 10:00-11:30 13:00-14:00 15:00-15:30	
ALPINE SKIING DEER VALLEY/ PARK CITY								
FREESTYLE SKIING DEER VALLEY		Moguls W QUAL 9:00-10:00 W Finals 12:00-13:00			Moguls M QUAL 9:00-10:30 M Finals 12:00-13:00			
SNOWBOARD PARK CITY			Halfpipe W Qualification 10:00-11:30 W Finals 13:00-14:00	Halfpipe M Qualification 10:00-12:30 M Finals 13:30-14:30			PGS W Qual 10:00-11:00 M Qual 13:00-14:00	PGS M W Finals 10:00-12:00
CROSS COUNTRY/ BIATHLON/ SOLDIER HOLLOW		Cross country W 15 km 9:00-10:00 W 30 km 12:30-14:00		Biathlon W 15km 11:00-13:00 M 20km 13:30-15:30	Cross country W 10km 9:00-10:30 M 15km 12:00-13:30	Biathlon M 10km Sprint 11:00-12:30 W 7.5km Sprint 13:30-15:00	Cross country M Pursuit 9:15-10:30 12:00-12:45	Cross country W 9:00-10:00 11:30-12:00
NORDIC COMBINED SOLDIER HOLLOW			M 15 km 9:00-10:00					4X5km Team 13:30-14:30
NORDIC COMBINED/ SKI JUMPING UTAH OLYMPIC PARK	Ski Jumping M K90 Qual 9:00-11:30	Nordic Comb. M-K90 Individual 9:00 - 12:15	Ski Jumping M-K90 Finals 8:30 - 11:00		Ski Jumping M K120 Qual 8:30-11:00	Ski Jumping M-K120 Final 8:30-11:00	Nordic Comb M K90 Team 8:30-11:30	
BOB/LUGE SKELETON UTAH OLYMPIC PARK			Luge Men 16:00-19:00	Luge Women 9:00-12:30	Luge Women 16:00-19:00	Luge Women 16:00-19:00		Luge Doubles 9:00-11:30
ICE HOCKEY E CENTRE	Men 16:00-18:30 21:00-23:30	Men 19:00-21:30	Women 11:30-13:30 Men 16:00-18:30	Women 11:30-13:30 Men 16:00-18:30	Women 11:30-13:30 Men 16:00-18:30	Men 15:00-17:30 20:00-22:30	Men 11:30-13:30 16:00-18:30 20:45-23:15	
ICE HOCKEY THE PEAKS ICE ARENA	Men 14:00-16:30 19:00-21:30	Men 16:00-18:30	Women 14:00-16:30 Men 19:00-21:30	Women 14:00-16:30 Men 19:00-21:30	Women 14:00-16:30 Men 19:00-21:30	Women 11:00-13:30 16:00-18:30 Men 21:00-23:30	Women 14:00-16:30 Men 19:00-21:30	
FIGURE SKATING/ SALT LAKE ICE CENTRE		Pairs Short 18:30-21:30		Pairs Free 17:45-21:30	Men Short 17:15 - 21:30		Men Free 17:45-22:00	Dance Compulsory 15:45-21:00
SHORT TRACK/ SALT LAKE ICE CENTRE						W 1500m Final M 1000m Prelim M 5000m Rel. Pre 18:00-21:30		
SPEED SKATING UTAH OLYMPIC OVAL		Men 5000m 12:00-15:30	Women 3000m 13:00-15:30	Men 500m 13:00-14:30	Men 500m 13:00-14:30	Women 500m 17:00-18:30	Women 500m 17:00-18:30	
CURLING THE ICE SHEET AT OGDEN				Men 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00 Women 9:00-12:00 14:00-17:00	Men 14:00-17:00 Women 19:00-22:00 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00	Men 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00 Women 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00	Men 14:00-17:00 Women 19:00-22:00 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00	Men 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00 Women 9:00-12:00 14:00-17:00

GAMES SCHEDULE

	SAT 16	SUN 17	MON 18	TUE 19	WED 20	THUR 21	FRI 22	SAT 23	SUN 24
									CLOSING CEREMONY 18:00-21:00
	Men Super G 10:00-11:30	Women Super G 10:00-11:30							
					Deer Valley W Slalom 10:00-11:00 13:00-14:00	Park City M GS 10:00-11:30 13:00-14:30	Park City W GS 10:00-11:30 13:00-14:15	Deer Valley M Slalom 10:00-11:30 13:00-14:00	
	Aerials W Qual 10:00-12:00 M Qual 13:30-15:30		Aerials W Final 12:00-13:00	Aerials M Final 12:00-13:00					
	Biathlon M Pursuit 9:00-10:00 W Pursuit 12:00-13:00	Cross country Men 4x10km Relay 9:30-11:30	Biathlon Women 4x7.5km Relay 11:30-13:30	Cross country M/W Sprint 9:00-10:00 12:30-14:30	Biathlon Men 4x7.5km Relay 11:00-13:00	Cross country Women 4x5km Relay 12:30-13:45		Cross country Men 50km 9:30-13:00	Cross country Women 30km 9:30-12:00
							7.5km Sprint 10:00-11:30		
	Bobsleigh 2-Man 15:00-18:45	Bobsleigh 2-Man 15:00-18:45		Bobsleigh Women 16:30-18:30	Skeleton M/W 9:00-12:00		Bobsleigh 4-Man 15:30-18:45	Bobsleigh 4-Man 15:30-18:45	
	Women 11:00-13:30 Men 16:45-19:15 21:30-24:00	Men 16:00-18:30 21:00-23:30	Men 11:00-13:30 16:00-18:30	W Semis 11:00-13:30 16:30-19:00	M Quarters 16:00-18:30 20:15-22:45	Women Gold 17:00-19:30	M Semis 12:00-14:30 16:15-18:45	Men Bronze 12:15-14:45	Men Gold 13:00-15:30
	Women 14:00-16:30 19:00-21:30	Women 14:00-16:30 Men 19:00-21:30	Men 13:30-16:00 19:00-21:30	Women 14:00-16:30 19:00-21:30	M Quarters 13:30-16:00	Women Bronze 12:00-14:30			
			Dance Original 17:30-21:00	Dance Free 17:15-21:15	Ladies Short 17:15-21:30	Ladies Free 17:45-22:00	Exhibition 18:45-21:15		
	Final M 1000m W 500m Prelim W Relay 18:00-21:00					Final M 1500m W Relay Prelim W 1000m 18:00-21:00		Final M 500m W 1000m M Relay 18:00-21:00	
	Men 1000m 13:00-15:00	Women 1000m 17:15-19:15		Men 1500m 13:00-15:30	Women 1500m 13:00-15:00		Men 10,000m 12:00-15:15	Women 5000m 13:00-14:45	
	Men 14:00-17:00 Women 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00	Men 9:00-12:00 19:00-22:00 Women 9:00-12:00 14:00-17:00	Men 14:00-17:00 Women 19:00-22:00	Tiebreak 9:00-12:00 14:00-17:00 19:00-22:00	W Semi 9:00-12:00 M Semi 14:00-17:00	W Bronze 9:00-12:00 W Gold 14:00-17:00	M Bronze 9:00-12:00 M Gold 14:00-17:30		

DAILY SCHEDULE

TIME	SPORT	EVENT INFO	VENUE
8 February			
9:00am - 11:30am	Ski Jumping	K90 Individual: Qualifications	Utah Olympic Park
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Opening Ceremony	Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium	
9 February			
9:00am - 1:00pm	Freestyle Skiing	Women's Moguls: Qualification and Final	Deer Valley
9:00am - 2:00pm	Cross-Country	Women's 15km Freestyle	Soldier Hollow
		Men's 30km Freestyle	
9:00am - 12:15 p.m.	Nordic Combined	Individual K90	Utah Olympic Park
12:00pm - 3:30pm	Speed Skating	Men's 5000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Belarus vs. Ukraine	The Peaks Ice Arena
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Slovakia vs. Germany	E Center
6:30pm - 9:30pm	Figure Skating	Pairs Short Program	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Austria vs. Latvia	The Peaks Ice Arena
9:00pm - 11:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Round: Switzerland vs. France	E Center
10 February			
8:30am - 11:00am	Ski Jumping	K90 Individual: Final	Utah Olympic Park
9:00am - 10:00am	Nordic Combined	Individual 15km	Soldier Hollow
10:00am - 11:30am	Alpine Skiing	Men's Downhill	Snowbasin Ski Area
10:00am - 2:00pm	Snowboarding	Women's Halfpipe: Qual/Final	Park City Mountain Resort
1:00pm - 3:30pm	Speed Skating	Ladies' 3000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
4:00pm - 7:00pm	Luge	Men's Singles: Runs 1 and 2	Utah Olympic Park
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Austria vs. Germany	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Latvia vs. Slovakia	E Center
11 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 1:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 12:30pm	Luge	Men's Singles: Runs 3 and 4	Utah Olympic Park
10:00am - 11:30am	Alpine Skiing	Ladies' Downhill	Snowbasin Ski Area
10:00am - 2:00pm	Snowboarding	Men's Halfpipe: Qual/Final	Park City Mountain Resort
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Canada vs. Kazakhstan	E Center
11:00am - 3:30pm	Biathlon	Women's 15km Individual	Soldier Hollow
	Biathlon	Men's 20km Individual	
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Speed Skating	Men's 500 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Sweden vs. Russia	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 1:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Ukraine vs. Switzerland	E Center
5:45 p.m. - 9:30pm	Figure Skating	Pairs Free Program	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Belarus vs. France	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 2:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden

TIME	SPORT	EVENT INFO	VENUE
12 February			
8:30am - 11:00am	Ski Jumping	K120 Individual: Qualification	Utah Olympic Park
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 2:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 1:00pm	Freestyle Moguls	Men's Qualification & Final	Deer Valley Resort
9:00am - 1:30pm	Cross-Country	Women's 10km Classical	Soldier Hollow
12:00pm-1:30pm	Cross-Country	Men's 15km Classical	Soldier Hollow
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: United States vs. Germany	E Center
1:00pm - 2:30pm	Speed Skating	Men's 500 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Finland vs. China	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 3:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
4:00pm - 7:00pm	Luge	Women's Singles: Runs 1 and 2	Utah Olympic Park
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Slovakia vs. Austria	E Center
5:15 p.m. - 9:30pm	Figure Skating	Men's Short Program	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Germany vs. Latvia	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 3:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
13 February			
8:30am - 11:00am	Ski Jumping	K120 Individual: Final	Utah Olympic Park
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 4:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
10:00am - 3:30pm	Alpine Skiing	Men's Combined: Downhill and Slalom	Snowbasin Ski Area
11:00am - 3:00pm	Biathlon	Men's 10km Sprint	Soldier Hollow
	Biathlon	Women's 7.5km Sprint	
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Russia vs. Canada	E Center
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim: Sweden vs. Kazakhstan	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 4:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
4:00pm - 7:00pm	Luge	Women's Singles: Runs 3 and 4	Utah Olympic Park
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: Switzerland vs. Belarus	E Center
5:00pm - 6:30pm	Speed Skating	Ladies' 500 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
6:00pm - 9:30pm	Short Track	Ladies' 1500 Metres: Final	Salt Lake Ice Center
	Short Track	Men's 1000 Metres: Preliminaries	
	Short Track	Men's 5000-Meter Relay: Preliminaries	
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Prelim. Rnd: France vs. Ukraine	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 5:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
14 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminary 5:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 12:45 pm	Cross-Country	Men's 10km Classical Pursuit	Soldier Hollow
	Cross-Country	Men's 10km Freestyle Pursuit	
8:30am - 11:30am	Nordic Combined	Team K90: Finals	Utah Olympic Park
10:00am - 2:00pm	Snowboarding	Men's PGS: Qualification	Park City Mountain Resort
	Snowboarding	Women's PGS: Qualification	
10:00am - 3:30pm	Alpine Skiing	Ladies' Combined: Downhill and Slalom	Snowbasin Ski Area
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim: Finland vs. Germany	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 6:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
3:00pm - 5:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Classification Round: A3 vs. B3	E Center
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim: China vs. United States	The Peaks Ice Arena
5:00pm - 6:30pm	Speed Skating	Ladies' 500 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
5:45 p.m. - 10:00pm	Figure Skating	Men's Free Program	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 6	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
8:00pm - 10:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Classification Round: A2 vs. B2	E Center
9:00pm - 11:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Classification Round: A4 vs. B4	The Peaks Ice Arena

TIME	SPORT	EVENT INFO	VENUE
15 February			
9:00am - 11:30am	Luge	Doubles	Utah Olympic Park
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 7	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 12:00pm	Cross-Country	Women's 5km Classical Pursuit	Soldier Hollow
	Cross-Country	Women's 5km Freestyle Pursuit	Soldier Hollow
10:00am - 12:00pm	Snowboarding	Men's Parallel Giant Slalom: Final	Park City Mountain Resort
	Snowboarding	Women's Parallel Giant Slalom: Final	
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Russia vs. Qualifier 1	E Center
13:30pm - 14: 30pm	Nordic Combined	Team 4x5km Relay	Soldier Hollow
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim: Kazakhstan vs. Russia	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 7	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
3:45 p.m. - 9:00pm	Figure Skating	Dance Compulsory	Salt Lake Ice Center
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Canada vs. Sweden	E Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Czech Rep. vs. Qual. 2	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 8	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
8:45 pm - 11:15 pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Finland vs. United States	E Center
16 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 8:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
10:00am - 11:30am	Alpine Skiing	Men's Super-G	Snowbasin Ski Area
9:00am - 1:00pm	Biathlon	Men's 12.5km Pursuit	Soldier Hollow
	Biathlon	Women's 10km Pursuit	
10:00am - 3:00pm	Freestyle Skiing	Women's Aerials: Qualification	Deer Valley Resort
	Freestyle Skiing	Men's Aerials: Qualification	
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: United States vs. Finland	E Center
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Speed Skating	Men's 1000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Germany vs. China	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 9:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
3:00pm - 6:45pm	Bobsleigh	Two-Man: Runs 1 and 2	Utah Olympic Park
4:45pm - 7:15pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Finland vs. Qualifier 1	E Center
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Short Track	Ladies' 500 Metres: Prelims and Final	Salt Lake Ice Center
	Short Track	Ladies' 3000-Meter Relay: Prelims	
	Short Track	Men's 1000 Metres: Final	
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Prelim. Rnd: Canada vs. Sweden	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 9:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:30pm - 12:00am	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: United States vs. Russia	E Center
17 February			
9:30am - 11:00am	Cross-Country	Men's 4x10km Relay	Soldier Hollow
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 10:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
10:00am - 11:30am	Alpine Skiing	Ladies' Super-G	Snowbasin Ski Area
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Classification Round: A3 vs. B4	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 10:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
3:00pm - 6:45pm	Bobsleigh	Two-Man: Runs 3 and 4	Utah Olympic Park
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Rd: Sweden vs. Czech Republic	E Center
5:15 pm - 7:15pm	Speed Skating	Ladies' 1000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
5:30pm - 9:00pm	Figure Skating	Dance Original	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Rnd: Canada vs. Qualifier 2	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 11:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00pm - 11:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Classification Round: B3 vs. A4	E Center

TIME	SPORT	EVENT INFO	VENUE
18 February			
8:30am - 11:30am	Ski Jumping	K120 Team: Final	Utah Olympic Park
9:00am - 12:00am	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 11:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 2:30pm	Cross Country	Men's and Women's 1.5km Sprint	Soldier Hollow
11:00am - 1:30am	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Rnd: Qual. 1 vs. United States	E Center
11:30am - 1:30am	Biathlon	Women's 4x7.5km Relay	Soldier Hollow
12:00am - 1:00am	Freestyle Skiing	Women's Aerials: Final	Deer Valley Resort
1:30pm - 4:00pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Russia vs. Finland	The Peaks Ice Arena
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Men's Preliminaries 12:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
4:00pm - 6:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Rnd: Czech Republic vs. Canada	E Center
5:15pm - 9:15pm	Figure Skating	Dance Free	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Final Round: Qualifier 2 vs. Sweden	The Peaks Ice Arena
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Curling	Women's Preliminaries 12:	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
19 February			
9:00am - 10:00pm	Curling	Tiebreak Matches	Ice Sheet at Ogden
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Semifinals	E Center
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Freestyle Skiing	Men's Aerials: Final	Deer Valley Resort
1:00pm - 3:30pm	Speed Skating	Men's 1500 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Class. Round: 7th-Place Game	The Peaks Ice Arena
4:30pm - 6:30pm	Bobsleigh	Two-Woman	Utah Olympic Park
4:30pm - 7:00pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Semifinal: B1 vs. A2	E Center
5:15pm - 9:30pm	Figure Skating	Ladies' Short Program	Salt Lake Ice Center
7:00pm - 9:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Class. Round: 5th-Place Game	The Peaks Ice Arena
20 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Women's Semi-finals	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
9:00am - 12:00pm	Skeleton	Men's and Women's singles	Utah Olympic Park
10:00am - 2:00pm	Alpine Skiing	Women's Slalom	Deer Valley Resort
11:00am - 1:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Quarter final	E Center
11:00am - 1:00pm	Biathlon	Men 4x7.5km Relay	Soldier Hollow
1:30pm - 4: 00pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Quarter final	The Peaks Ice Aren
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Speed Skating	Women's 1500m	Utah Olympic Oval
2:00pm - 5: 00pm	Curling	Men's Semifinals	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
4:00pm - 6: 30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Quarter final	E Center
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Short Track	Men's 1500m final	Salt Lake Ice Center
	Short Track	Women's 3000m Relay Final	
	Short Track	Women's 1000m Prelim	
8:15pm - 10:45pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Quarter final	E Center
21 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Women's Bronze Medal Match	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
10:00am - 2:30pm	Alpine Skiing	Men's Giant Slalom: Final	Park City Mountain Resort
10:30am - 12:30pm	Nordic Combined	Sprint: K120	Utah Olympic Park
12:00pm - 2:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Bronze Medal Match	The Peaks Ice Arena
12:30pm - 1:45pm	Cross Country	Women's 4x5km Relay	Soldier Hollow
2:00pm - 5:00pm	Curling	Women's Gold Medal Match	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
5:00pm - 7:30pm	Ice Hockey	Women's Gold Medal Match	E Center
5:45pm - 10:00pm	Figure Skating	Ladies' Free Program	Salt Lake Ice Center

GOLD MEDALS DAY BY DAY

TIME	SPORT	EVENT INFO	VENUE
22 February			
9:00am - 12:00pm	Curling	Men's Bronze Medal Match	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
10:00am - 11:30am	Nordic Combined	7.5km Sprint	Soldier Hollow
10:00am - 2:15pm	Alpine Skiing	Ladies' Giant Slalom: Final	Park City Mountain Resort
12:00pm - 2:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Semifinal	E Center
12:00pm - 3:15pm	Speed Skating	Men's 10,000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
2:30pm - 5:30pm	Curling	Men's Gold Medal Match	The Ice Sheet at Ogden
3:30pm - 6:45pm	Bobsleigh	Four-Man: Runs 1 and 2	Utah Olympic Park
4:15pm - 6:45pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Semifinal	E Center
6:45pm - 9:15pm	Figure Skating	Ladies' Exhibition	Salt Lake Ice Center
6:45pm - 9:15pm	Figure Skating	Men's Exhibition	Salt Lake Ice Center
23 February			
9:30am - 1:00pm	Cross-Country	Men's 50km Classical	Soldier Hollow
10:00am - 2:00pm	Alpine Skiing	Men's Slalom	Deer Valley Resort
12:15pm - 2:45pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Bronze Medal Match	E Center
1:00pm - 2:45pm	Speed Skating	Ladies' 5000 Metres	Utah Olympic Oval
3:30pm - 6:45pm	Bobsleigh	Four-Man: Runs 3 and 4	Utah Olympic Park
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Short Track	Men's 500 Metres: Preliminaries and Final	Salt Lake Ice Center
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Short Track	Ladies' 1000 Metres: Final	Salt Lake Ice Center
6:00pm - 9:00pm	Short Track	Men's 5000-Meter Relay: Final	Salt Lake Ice Center
24 February			
9:30am - 12:00pm	Cross-Country	Women's 30km Classical	Soldier Hollow
1:00pm - 3:30pm	Ice Hockey	Men's Gold Medal Match	E Center
6:00pm - 9:00pm		Closing Ceremony	Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium

Friday, 8 February

Opening Ceremony No medals decided

Saturday, 9 February

Speed skating Men's 5000m
 Cross-country skiing Men's 30km freestyle
 Women's 15km freestyle
 Freestyle skiing Women's moguls

Sunday, 10 February

Speed skating Women's 3000m
 Alpine skiing Men's downhill
 Nordic combined Individual
 Ski jumping Individual normal hill
 Snowboarding Women's halfpipe

Monday, 11 February

Biathlon Women's 15km individual
 Men's 20km individual
 Luge Men's singles
 Figure skating Pairs
 Alpine skiing Women's downhill
 Snowboarding Men's halfpipe

Tuesday, 12 February

Speed skating Men's 500m
 Cross-country skiing Men's 15km classic
 Women's 10km classic
 Freestyle skiing Men's moguls

Wednesday, 13 February

Biathlon Men's 10km sprint
 Women's 7.5km sprint
 Luge Women's singles
 Short track speed sk. Women's 1500m final
 Alpine skiing Men's combined
 Ski jumping Individual large hill

Thursday, 14 February

Figure skating Men's individual
 Speed skating Women's 500m
 Alpine skiing Women's combined
 Cross-country skiing Men's combined pursuit

Friday, 15 February

Luge Doubles
 Cross-country skiing Women's combined pursuit
 Nordic combined Team
 Snowboarding Men's parallel giant slalom
 Women's parallel giant slalom

Saturday, 16 February

Biathlon Men's 12.5km pursuit
 Women's 10km pursuit
 Speed skating Men's 1000m
 Short track speed sk. Men's 1000m
 Women's 500m
 Alpine skiing Men's Super-G

Sunday, 17 February

Bobsleigh Two-man
 Speed skating Women's 1000m
 Alpine skiing Women's Super-G
 Cross-country skiing Men's 4x10km relay

Monday, 18 February

Biathlon Women's 4x7.5km relay
 Figure skating Ice dancing

Freestyle skiing Women's aerials
 Ski jumping Large hill team

Tuesday, 19 February

Bobsleigh Two-woman
 Speed skating Men's 1500m
 Cross-country skiing Men's 1.5km sprint
 Women's 1.5km sprint
 Freestyle skiing Men's aerials

Wednesday, 20 February

Biathlon Men's 4x7.5km relay
 Speed skating Women's 1500m
 Short track speed sk. Men's 1500m
 Women's 3000m relay
 Skeleton Men's individual
 Women's individual
 Alpine skiing Women's slalom

Thursday, 21 February

Curling	Women's tournament
Ice hockey	Women's tournament
Figure skating	Ladies' individual
Alpine skiing	Men's giant slalom
Cross-country skiing	Women's 4x5km relay

Friday, 22 February

Curling	Men's tournament
Speed skating	Men's 10,000m
Alpine skiing	Women's giant slalom
Nordic combined	Sprint

Saturday, 23 February

Bobsleigh	Four-man
Speed skating	Women's 5000m
Short track speed sk.	Men's 500m

	Men's 5000m relay
	Women's 1000m
Alpine skiing	Men's slalom
Cross-country skiing	Men's 50km classic

Sunday, 24 February

Ice hockey	Men's tournament
Cross-country skiing	Women's 30km classic

Alpine skiing

Sunday 10 February	10:00 - 11:30	Men's Downhill	Snowbasin
Monday 11 February	10:00 - 11:30	Women's Downhill	Snowbasin
Wednesday 13 February	10:00 - 15:30	Men's Combined: DH/SL	Snowbasin
Thursday 14 February	10:00 - 15:30	Women's Combined: DH/SL	Snowbasin
Saturday 16 February	10:00 - 11:30	Men's Super G	Snowbasin
Sunday 17 February	10:00 - 11:30	Women's Super G	Snowbasin
Monday 20 February	10:00 - 14:00	Women's Slalom	Deer Valley
Thursday 21 February	10:00 - 14:30	Men's Giant Slalom	Park City
Friday 22 February	10:00 - 14:15	Women's Giant Slalom	Park City
Saturday 23 February	10:00 - 14:00	Men's Slalom	Deer Valley

Despite its status as one of the blue riband events of the Winter Games, alpine skiing was first included in the Winter Olympic program at the 1936 Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, with women's events added at the following Games in St Moritz, Switzerland, in 1948. The present program embraces slalom, giant slalom, downhill and super G competitions plus a combined event - a separate two run slalom and a downhill event, with the winner being the person with the fastest aggregate time.

THE SPORT

Rules covering the design and inspection of alpine courses, how they should be used for training prior to an official contest and the starting order are covered by regulations of the International Ski Federation (FIS). A maximum of four athletes per event is allowed per National Olympic Committee. For alpine competitions each NOC may enter a maximum of 22 competitors, with a maximum of 14 males or 14 females allowed.

THE EVENTS

Downhill

The most thrilling and fastest of all alpine events is the downhill, with competitors regularly recording speeds in excess of 100 kilometres per hour. The winner is determined by the fastest time over a single descent of the course, with competitors forced to ski within a series of control gates which define the correct route, test technical skill and control speed. Helmets are obligatory.

The downhill course is set by an International Ski Federation (FIS) official rather than a representative of one of the competing nations.

Two downhill training runs are held on the Olympic slope prior to race day, and skiers can inspect the course by side-slipping through it on the day of the competition.

Follow all the action of the Australian Team at Salt Lake 2002 on the Australian Olympic Committee website at www.olympics.com.au

The downhill start order is determined by a draw on the eve of the race. Athletes with the best World Cup downhill results get first choice of bib numbers. The top 15 skiers on the downhill World Cup Start List (WCSL) (calculated after the downhill event prior to the Games) select a start position anywhere among the first 30 positions. Next, any remaining skiers with at least 400 WCSL points may choose a start position among the remaining spots in the top 30. The balance of the top 30 is filled by a random draw among all other athletes ranked in the top 30 in downhill. From No. 31 on, athletes start in order of their FIS points (another list that resembles the WCSL closely but also factors in World Championships and previous Olympic results).

Downhill racers begin their runs at fixed intervals that are officially announced on the eve of the race. Generally, racers begin their runs before the preceding skier has reached the finish line. Start intervals may be shortened because of inclement weather or interrupted because of a crash.

Super G

The super G, the most recent addition to the alpine Olympic program, made its debut at the Calgary Olympics in 1988. Designed to incorporate elements from the giant slalom and the downhill, it is shorter than the premier 'speed' event, but puts more emphasis on the sequence of long and medium turns down the course determined by the gates which each skier must pass through. Like downhill, the skier with the fastest single descent through the course is the winner. Inspection of the course is limited to the morning of competition. Helmets are compulsory.

The super G course is normally set the day before the race. The course must have a minimum of 35 changes of direction for the men and at least 30 changes of direction for the women.

The super G course is set by a representative of one of the competing nations, determined by a draw following the last super G prior to the Games. The country of each super G racer ranked in the top 15 (as determined by the super G World Cup Start List) is written on a slip of paper and put into a bowl. A representative of the nation chosen will set the course.

Unlike the downhill, there are no training runs on the super G course, only a race-day inspection.

Super G start order is determined by a draw on the eve of the race in the same way as in the downhill, except that it is based on the super G World Cup Start List and the super G FIS points list following the previous World Cup super G race.

Super G racers begin their runs at fixed intervals that are officially announced on the eve of the race. As in the downhill, the intervals may be shortened because of inclement weather and interrupted because of a crash.

Giant Slalom

The longer of the two 'technical' events, the giant slalom (GS) is generally considered to be the most technically demanding of all the alpine disciplines. The course is designed with long, medium and tight turns that exploit natural variations in the terrain. The number of gates is between 12 to 15 per cent of the vertical drop in metres. The winner is determined by the fastest combined time down two runs down separate courses on the same slope. Start numbers for the second run of the giant slalom and slalom are determined according to the standings achieved in the first run. If the course is in good condition, the order of the top 30 skiers is reversed. Head protection is not obligatory.

The two giant slalom courses will be set by two people from different countries. The nationalities of the GS course-setters are determined by a draw after the last World Cup giant slalom prior to the Games. The number of times a country is represented in the course-setters' draw is based on the number of athletes it has in the top 15 on the giant slalom World Cup Start List (WCSL). Once a

country's representative is selected to set the GS course, the nation is removed from course-setting consideration for the slalom and slalom-combined.

In giant slalom, the number of turns is determined by the vertical drop of the course. The vertical drop is figured by subtracting the elevation at the finish from the elevation at the start.

The first-run start order for the GS is determined by a draw the night before the race. Using rankings from the latest giant slalom World Cup Start List (WCSL), the top seven skiers are randomly assigned start positions 1-7. Skiers ranked 8-15 on the WCSL are assigned the next eight bibs randomly. Then, skiers with more than 400 WCSL points may choose start positions anywhere between 16 and 30. The remaining athletes are slotted in the order of their FIS points. In the race, each skier wears a number to indicate his or her first-run start position.

Each skier who finishes the first run receives a second run (unlike on the World Cup circuit, which limits the second run to the top 30 finishers). Skiers are ranked according to their first-run times. In the second run, the top 15 start in reverse order of finish in the first run and the rest follow in order of finish. Competitors keep their original bibs from the first run.

Slalom

A men's slalom course has a vertical descent of between 180 and 220 metres; women's courses are between 140 and 200 metres. The gates are positioned to provide a number of changes of direction, while also making it possible to gain speed and maintain a steady flowing rhythm through the course when competitors use the right turning technique and time their moves precisely. For men, the number of gates is between 55 and 75 plus or minus three; for women, it's between 45 and 65 plus or minus three. Head protection is not obligatory, but protective gear guarding knees, shins, and forearms is necessary for punching through the spring-loaded gates. As in all alpine events, both skis must pass through the gate, but the body can swing outside the pole.

The first and second run slalom courses are set by two people representing different nations. The nationalities of the slalom course-setters are determined by a draw after the last World Cup slalom prior to the Games (though cannot be representatives of the nations that have set the GS).

The slalom start order is determined the same way as in GS, except rankings are based on slalom results. The top seven start positions are randomly assigned among the top seven racers on the World Cup Starting List (WCSL). The next eight slots are assigned randomly to racers ranked 8-15 on the slalom WCSL list. Then, skiers with more than 400 WCSL points may choose start positions anywhere between 16 and 30. The remaining athletes are slotted in the order of their FIS points. In slalom, it is often to the racer's advantage to be the first person on the course, since slalom runs tend to deteriorate quickly, with every skier making the same series of rapid turns.

To be eligible for a second run, each skier must pass through every gate with both feet. If a skier misses a gate, the athlete may hike uphill and try to clear it successfully before continuing down the course. Everyone who finished the first run will receive a second run (unlike on the World Cup circuit, which limits the second run to the top 30 finishers). After the first run, skiers are ranked according to their times. To determine the second-run start order, the top 15 are flipped and the rest follow in order of finish. Competitors keep their original bibs from the first run, and will appear out of sequence in run two.

If a competitor loses a ski during a run, the athlete is permitted to finish without it, regardless of where the ski was released.

Combined

A separate slalom and downhill are held for both men and women to make up the Combined event, with the gold medal going to the skier with the fastest combined time over both events.

The combined event is held on two distinct courses – one for downhill and one for slalom. The downhill-combined course is set by an International Ski Federation official – the race director – rather than a representative of one of the nations.

The two slalom-combined courses are set by two people representing different nations. Both courses are on the Olympic downhill trail but have different starting points.

The men's combined downhill course begins at the women's downhill start house and the women's combined has its own starting point below the men's. Both courses converge at the same finish line. The slalom races within the combined event are set up on the downhill trail, with the women starting below the men.

For the downhill and the first run of the slalom, start orders are determined as they are for the regular events. The start order for the second slalom run is determined by adding the times from the downhill and first slalom run together, with the top 15 skiers racing in the reverse order of finish. From 16th place on, athletes start in order of finish based on their combined times. If a skier is disqualified or does not finish at any point of the combined event, the athlete is eliminated from the event.

EQUIPMENT

Alpine skis have undergone significant transformation over the past few years, especially in the slalom discipline, becoming much smaller in length, and wider in the shovel (the area just below the tip of the ski) and the tail. Men's alpine skis must be a minimum of 155 centimetres; women's skis must be at least 150cm. At the bindings, the skis must be at least 60 millimetres wide. Other size restrictions are regulated based on the discipline and gender. In slalom and giant slalom, the minimum height of the shovel tip is 50 mm. In downhill and super G, the minimum tip height is 30mm. There are no restrictions on the maximum length of the skis, their weight, camber, flexibility or composition.

Restrictions are also in place to limit the height that the boot can be above the top surface of the ski, with binding plates and boot insoles limited in thickness. More height means greater leverage on the ski, more flexibility and control. The maximum distance between the ski boot sole and the base of the heel is 45 millimetres for women and 50mm for men.

VENUES AND COURSES

The alpine skiing competitions for the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games will be hosted by three resorts - Snowbasin Ski Area, Deer Valley Resort and Park City Mountain Resort. Snowbasin Ski Area is approximately 70 km/44 miles north of Salt Lake City, Deer Valley Resort is approximately 58 km/36 miles south-east and Park City Mountain Resort is approximately 54 km/34 miles in the same direction.

Snowbasin Ski Area

Downhill, combined, Super G

There are separate men's and women's courses at Snowbasin for the downhill, though they finish in the same area and cross on their way down the hill. The men's is shorter, at 3016 metres compared to 3140m, but descends through a greater vertical drop (883m compared to 800m).

Men's downhill course (Grizzly):

Start altitude: 2831 m
Finish altitude: 1948 m
Vertical drop: 883 m
Course length: 3016 m
Maximum grade: 74%

Snowbasin Capacity: Seated - 14,000; Standing - 8000

Combined

The Combined downhill and slalom courses are on the downhill course, the slalom course on the lower portion of the women's downhill course. The men's and women's course share a common finish arena. The middle bowl at Snowbasin Ski Area on Upper Porcupine and Wildcat runs will be the training site.

Park City Mountain Resort - Giant slalom

The men's and women's giant slalom will be held on the same course on CB's Run at Park City, CB's Run, with the same start and finish points.

Start altitude: 2500 m
Finish altitude: 2120 m
Vertical drop: 380 m
Course length: 1220 m
Maximum grade: 58 percent
Capacity: Seated - 9500; Standing - 7000

Deer Valley Resort - Slalom

Both the women's and men's slalom will be held on the same run at Deer Valley, Know You Don't, with the 65m longer men's course starting higher on the hill.

	Men	Women
Start altitude:	2484m	2473m
Finish altitude:	2275m	2275m
Vertical drop:	209m	198m
Course length:	542m	477m
Maximum grade:	65%	65%

Capacity: Seated - 10,000; Standing - 3000

Women's downhill course (Wildflower):

Start altitude: 2748 m
Finish altitude: 1948 m
Vertical drop: 800 m
Course length: 3140 m
Maximum grade: 58%

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1924 – 1932

No Alpine events on Olympic program.

1936 – 1948

No Australian alpine skiers competed

1952

DH	W."Bob" Arnott	Unpl.
	Bill Day	Unpl.
	Barry Patten	Unpl.
SL	W."Bob" Arnott	Unpl.
	Bill Day	Unpl.
	Barry Patten	Unpl.
GS	W."Bob" Arnott	Unpl.
	Bill Day	Unpl.
	Barry Patten	Unpl.

1956

DH	Bill Day	35th
GS	Anthony Aslungal	69th
	Bill Day	61st
	Frank Prihoda	80th
	James Walker	84th
SL	Anthony Aslungal	retd
	Bill Day	retd
	Frank Prihoda	54th

1960

DH	Bill Day	52nd
	Peter Brockhoff	57th
GS	Bill Day	41st
	Peter Brockhoff	disq
SL	Peter Brockhoff	30th
	Bill Day	disq

1964*

DH	Simon Brown	61st
	Peter Wenzel	68th
GS	Simon Brown	51st
	Peter Brockhoff	62nd
	Peter Wenzel	68th
SL	Peter Brockhoff	DNQ
	Simon Brown	DNQ
	Peter Wenzel	DNQ

* Ross Milne was fatally injured during training

1968

DH	Malcolm Milne	24th
GS	Malcolm Milne	33rd
SL	Malcolm Milne	24th

1972

DH	Malcolm Milne	23rd
	Stephen Clifford	44th
GS	Malcolm Milne	29th
	Stephen Clifford	36th
SL	Malcolm Milne	24th
	Stephen Clifford	disq

1976

DH	David Griff	22nd
	Kim Clifford	34th
	Rob McIntyre	DNF
GS	Kim Clifford	disq
	David Griff	DNF
SL	Kim Clifford	DNF
	David Griff	DNF

1980

DH	Antony Guss	26th
GS	Rob McIntyre	38th
	Antony Guss	41st
SL	Antony Guss	32nd
	Rob McIntyre	DNF

1984

DH	Steven Lee	19th
	Alistair Guss	34th
GS	Steven Lee	disq

1988

DH	Steven Lee	22nd
	Peter Forras	DNF
CMB	Steven Lee	disq
	Peter Forras	disq
GS	Steven Lee	36th
SG	Richard Biggins	31st
	Steven Lee	DNF

1992

DH	Steven Lee	36th
CMB	Steven Lee	19th
SG	Steven Lee	30th

1994

DH	Anthony Huguet	DNS
CMB	Anthony Huguet	DNS
Super G	Anthony Huguet	37th
GS	Anthony Huguet	DNF

1998

No Australian competitors

WOMEN

1924 – 1936

No Alpine events on Olympic program.

1948 – 1952

No Australian women alpine skiers competed

1956

DH	Christine Davy	39th
SL	Christine Davy	33rd
GS	Christine Davy	37th

1960

DH	Christine Davy	27th
SL	Christine Davy	29th
GS	Christine Davy	32nd

1964

DH	Christine Smith	27th
	Judy Forras	42nd
SL	Christine Smith	28th
	Judy Forras	disq
GS	Christine Smith	DNF
	Judy Forras	40th

1968 – 1972

No Australian women alpine skiers competed

1976

DH	Sally Rodd	34th
	Joanne Henke	36th
SL	Sally Rodd	disq
	Joanne Henke	DNF
GS	Sally Rodd	33rd
	Joanne Henke	40th

1980

SL	Jacqui Cowderoy	17th
	Jenny Altermatt	DNF
GS	Jacqui Cowderoy	disq
	Jenny Altermatt	28th

1984

DH	Marilla Guss	28th
	Ondine McGlashan	DNS

1988

No Australian woman alpine skier competed

1992

DH	Zali Steggall	29th
SL	Zali Steggall	DNF
GS	Zali Steggall	23rd
CMB	Zali Steggall	DNF

1994

SL	Zali Steggall	22nd
GS	Zali Steggall	24th
CMB	Zali Steggall	DNF

1998

SL	Zali Steggall	3rd
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BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

Downhill	
Steven Lee	19th (1984)
Super G	
Steven Lee	30th (1992)
Giant slalom	
Malcolm Milne	29th (1972)
Slalom	
Malcolm Milne	24th (1968)
Malcolm Milne	24th (1972)

WOMEN

Downhill	
Christine Davy	27th (1960)
Christine Smith	27th (1964)
Giant slalom	
Zali Steggall	23rd (1992)
Slalom	
Zali Steggall	3rd (1998)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

Slalom	
1948	Edi Reinalter, Switzerland
1952	Othmar Schneider, Austria
1956	Anton Sailer, Austria
1960	Ernst Hinterseer, Austria
1964	Josef Stiegler, Austria
1968	Jean-Claude Killy, France
1972	Francisco Ochoa, Spain
1976	Piero Gros, Italy
1980	Ingemar Stenmark, Sweden
1984	Philip Mahre, USA
1988	Alberto Tomba, Italy
1992	Finn Christian Jagge, Norway

1994 Thomas Stangassinger, Austria
1998 Hans-Petter Buraas, Norway

Giant Slalom

1952 Stein Eriksen, Norway
1956 Anton Sailer, Austria
1960 Roger Staub, Switzerland
1964 Francois Bonlieu, Switzerland
1968 Jean-Claude Killy, France
1972 Gustavo Thoni, Italy
1976 Heini Hemmi, Switzerland
1980 Ingemar Stenmark, Sweden
1984 Max Julen, Switzerland
1988 Alberto Tomba, Italy
1992 Alberto Tomba, Italy
1994 Markus Wasmeier, Germany
1998 Hermann Maier, Austria

Super G

1988 Franck Piccard, France
1992 Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Norway
1994 Markus Wasmeier, Germany
1998 Hermann Maier, Austria

Downhill

1948 Henri Oreiller, France
1952 Zeno Colo, Italy
1956 Anton Sailer, Austria
1960 Jean Vuarnet, France
1964 Egon Zimmermann, Austria
1968 Jean-Claude Killy, France
1972 Bernhard Russi, Switzerland
1976 Franz Klammer, Austria
1980 Leonard Stock, Austria
1984 Bill Johnson, USA
1988 Pirmin Zurbriggen, Switzerland
1992 Patrick Ortlieb, Austria
1994 Tommy Moe, USA
1998 Jean-Luc Cretier, France

Combined

1936 Franz Pfner, Germany
1948 Henri Oreiller, France
1988 Hubert Strolz, Austria
1992 Josef Polig, Italy
1994 Lasse Kjus, Norway
1998 Mario Reiter, Austria

WOMEN

Slalom

1948 Gretchen Frazer, USA
1952 Andrea Lawrence-Mead, USA
1956 Renee Colliard, Switzerland
1960 Anne Heggtveit, Canada

1964 Christine Goitschel, France
1968 Marielle Goitschel, France
1972 Barbara Cochran, USA
1976 Rosi Mittermaier, Germany
1980 Hanni Wenzel, Liechtenstein
1984 Paoletta Magoni, Italy
1988 Vreni Schneider, Switzerland
1992 Petra Kronberger, Austria
1994 Vreni Schneider, Switzerland
1998 Hilde Gerg, Germany

Giant Slalom

1952 Andrea Lawrence-Mead, USA
1956 Ossi Reichert, Germany
1960 Yvonne Ruegg, Switzerland
1964 Marielle Goitschel, France
1968 Nancy Greene, Canada
1972 Marie-Therese Nadig, Switzerland
1976 Kathy Kreiner, Canada
1980 Hanni Wenzel, Liechtenstein
1984 Debbie Armstrong, USA
1988 Vreni Schneider, Switzerland
1992 Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden
1994 Deborah Compagnoni, Italy
1998 Deborah Compagnoni, Italy

Super G

1988 Sigrid Wolf, Austria
1992 Deborah Compagnoni, Italy
1994 Diann Roffe-Steinrotter, USA
1998 Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden

Downhill

1948 Hedy Schlunegger, Switzerland
1952 Trude Jochum-Beiser, Austria
1956 Madeleine Berthod, Switzerland
1960 Heidi Biebl, Germany
1964 Christl Haas, Austria
1968 Olga Pall, Austria
1972 Marie Therese Nadig, Switzerland
1976 Rosi Mittermaier, Germany
1980 Annemarie Moser-Proll, Austria
1984 Michela Figini, Switzerland
1988 Marina Kiehl, Germany
1992 Kerrin Lee-Gartner, Canada
1994 Katja Seizinger, Germany
1998 Katja Seizinger, Germany

Combined

1948 Barbara Scott, Canada
1988 Anita Wachter, Austria
1992 Petra Kronberger, Austria
1994 Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden
1998 Katja Seizinger, Germany

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES Nagano, Japan

MEN

Downhill

1 Jean-Luc Cretier, France 1:50.11
2 Lasse Kjus, Norway 1:50.51
3 Hannes Trinkl, Austria 1:50.63

Slalom

1 Hans-Petter Buraas, Norway 1:49.31
2 Ole Christian Furuseth, Norway 1:50.64
3 Thomas Sykora, Austria 1:50.68

Giant slalom

1 Hermann Maier, Austria 2:38.51
2 Stefan Eberharter, Austria 2:39.36
3 Michael von Gruenigen, Switzerland 2:39.69

Super G

1 Hermann Maier, Austria 1:34.82
2 Didier Cuche, Switzerland 1:35.43
3 Hans Knauss, Austria 1:35.43

Combined

1 Mario Reiter, Austria 3:08.06
2 Lasse Kjus, Norway 3:08.65
3 Christian Mayer, Austria 3:10.11

Women

Downhill

1 Katja Seizinger, Germany 1:28.89
2 Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden 1:29.18
3 Florence Masnada, France 1:29.37

Slalom

1 Hilde Gerg, Germany 1:32.40
2 Deborah Compagnoni, Italy 1:32.46
3 Zali Steggall, Australia, 1:32.67

Giant slalom

1 Deborah Compagnoni, Italy 2:50.59
2 Alexandra Meissnitzer, Austria 2:52.39
3 Katja Seizinger, Germany 2:52.61

Super G

1 Picabo Street, United States 1:18.02
2 Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria 1:18.03
3 Alexandra Meissnitzer, Austria 1:18.09

Combined

1 Katja Seizinger, Germany 2:40.74
2 Martina Ertl, Germany 2:40.92
3 Hilde Gerg, Germany 2:41.50

2001 ALPINE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

St Anton, Austria

Jan. 29 - Feb. 10, 2001

MEN

Slalom

1 Mario Matt, AUT 1:39.66
2 Benjamin Raich, AUT 1:39.81
3 Mitja Kunc, SLO 1:40.36

Giant slalom

1 Michael von Gruenigen, SUI 2:23.80
2 Kjetil Andre Aamodt, NOR 2:24.15
3 Frederic Covili, FRA 2:24.18

Super G

1 Daron Rahlves, USA 1:21.46
2 Stephan Eberharter, AUT 1:21.54
3 Hermann Maier, AUT 1:21.69

Downhill

1 Hannes Trinkl, AUT 1:38.74
2 Hermann Maier, AUT 1:38.94
3 Florian Eckert, GER 1:39.26

Combined

1 Kjetil Andre Aamodt, NOR 2:58.25
2 Mario Matt, AUT 2:58.93
3 Paul Accola, ITA 2:59.53

Women

Slalom

1 Anja Paerson, SWE 1:32.95
2 Christel Pascal Saioni, FRA 1:33.56
3 Hedda Berntsen, NOR 1:33.99

Giant slalom

1 Sonja Nef, SUI 2:19.01
2 Karen Putzer, ITA 2:20.11
3 Anja Paerson, SWE 2:20.52

Super G

1 Regine Cavagnoud, FRA 1:23.44
2 Isolde Kostner, ITA 1:23.49
3 Hilde Gerg, GER 1:23.52

Downhill

1 Michaela Dorfmeister, AUT 1:36.20
2 Renate Goetschl, AUT 1:36.34
3 Selina Heregger, AUT 1:36.37

Combined

1 Martina Ertl, GER 2:55.65
2 Christine Sponring, AUT 2:58.23
3 Karen Putzer, ITA 2:58.69

2000/2001 World Cup Standings

Men

Overall

- Hermann Maier, AUT 1618
- Stefan Eberharter, AUT 875
- Lasse Kjus, NOR 866
- Benjamin Raich, AUT 865
- Michael Von Grünigen, SUI 743
- Heinz Schilchegger, AUT 730
- Kjetil-André Aamodt, NOR 668
- Josef Strobl, AUT 527
- Fredrik Nyberg, SWE 475
- Didier Cuche, SUI 473

Slalom

- Benjamin Raich, AUT 545
- Heinz Schilchegger, AUT 414
- Mario Matt, AUT 406
- Pierrick Bourgeat, FRA 368
- Hans-Petter Buraas, NOR 340
- Jure Kosir, SLO 300
- Kjetil-André Aamodt, NOR 291
- Kilian Albrecht, AUT 247
- Mitja Kunc, SLO 226
- Rainer Schönfelder, AUT 226

Giant slalom

- Hermann Maier, AUT 622
- Michael Von Grünigen, SUI 612
- Erik Schlopy, USA 350
- Benjamin Raich, AUT 320
- Heinz Schilchegger, AUT 316
- Marco Büchel, LIE 305
- Fredrik Nyberg, SWE 300
- Lasse Kjus, NOR 241
- Andreas Schifferer, AUT 185
- Massimiliano Bardone, ITA 185

Super G

- Hermann Maier, AUT 420
- Cristoph Gruber, AUT 246
- Josef Strobl, AUT 228
- Stefan Eberharter, AUT 208
- Werner Franz, AUT 182
- Didier Cuche, SUI 177
- Hannes Trinkl, AUT 148
- Lasse Kjus, NOR 143
- Fredrik Nyberg, SWE 129
- Kjetil-André Aamodt, NOR 124

Downhill

- Hermann Maier, AUT 576
- Stefan Eberharter, AUT 562
- Fritz Strobl, AUT 402
- Hannes Trinkl, AUT 313
- Lasse Kjus, NOR 301
- Franco Cavegn, SUI 290
- Silvano Beltrametti, SUI 266
- Werner Franz, AUT 236
- Peter Rzehak, AUT 213
- Josef Strobl, AUT 196

Women

Overall

- Janica Kostelic, CRO 1256
- Renate Götschl, AUT 1189
- Régine Cavagnoud, FRA 1105
- Sonja Nef, SUI 1060
- Michaela Dorfmeister, AUT 923
- Isolde Kostner, ITA 895
- Martina Ertl, GER 776
- Corinne Rey-Bellet, SUI 744
- Carole Montillet, FRA 702
- Brigitte Obermoser, AUT 669

Slalom

- Janica Kostelic, CRO 824
- Sonja Nef, SUI 384
- Martina Ertl, GER 346
- Karin Köllerer, AUT 340
- Laure Pequegnot, FRA 317
- Christelle Pascal Saioni, FRA 311
- Kristina Koznick, USA 300
- Hedda Berntsen, NOR 293
- Trine Bakke, NOR 245
- Anja Paerson, SWE 235

Giant slalom

- Sonja Nef, SUI 676
- Anja Paerson, SWE 408
- Michaela Dorfmeister, AUT 341
- Karen Putzer, ITA 297
- Corinne Rey-Bellet, SUI 265
- Martina Ertl, GER 260
- Brigitte Obermoser, AUT 238
- Allison Forsyth, CAN 226
- Janica Kostelic, CRO 204
- Ylva Nowen, SWE 162

Super G

- Régine Cavagnoud, FRA 577
- Renate Götschl, AUT 466
- Carole Montillet, FRA 405

- Mélanie Turgeon, CAN 364
- Michaela Dorfmeister, AUT 332
- Isolde Kostner, ITA 281
- Corinne Rey-Bellet, SUI 267
- Mojca Suhadolc, SLO 162
- Martina Ertl, GER 156
- Petra Haltmayer, GER 153

Downhill

- Isolde Kostner, ITA 596
- Renate Götschl, AUT 455
- Régine Cavagnoud, FRA 360
- Carole Montillet, FRA 297
- Brigitte Obermoser, AUT 295
- Mélanie Turgeon, CAN 275
- Petra Haltmayer, GER 215
- Corinne Rey-Bellet, SUI 212
- Michaela Dorfmeister, AUT 210
- Megan Gerety, USA 204

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (as at Jan. 1, 2002)

MEN

Slalom

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Mario Matt AUT | 251 |
| 2 | Jean-Pierre Vidal FRA | 239 |
| 3 | Ivica Kostelic CRO | 231 |
| 4 | Giorgio Rocca ITA | 200 |
| 5 | Bode Miller USA | 180 |
| 6 | Kalle Palander FIN | 131 |
| 7 | Kjetil Andre Aamodt NOR | 123 |
| 8 | Tom Stiansen NOR | 122 |
| 9 | Pierrick Bourgeat FRA | 91 |
| 10 | Lasse Kjus NOR | 83 |

Giant slalom

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Frederic Covili FRA | 333 |
| 2 | Benjami Raich AUT | 280 |
| 3 | Fredrik Nyberg SWE | 266 |
| 4 | Bode Miller USA | 240 |
| 5 | Michael Von Gruenigen SUI | 238 |
| 6 | Stephan Eberharter AUT | 230 |
| 7 | Didier Cuche SUI | 200 |
| 8 | Sami Uotila FIN | 167 |
| 9 | Christoph Gruber AUT | 162 |
| 10 | Vincent Millet FRA | 126 |

Super G

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Stephan Eberharter AUT | 100 |
| 2 | Didier Cuche SUI | 80 |

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|
| 3 | Silvano Beltrametti SUI | 60 |
| 4 | Christoph Gruber AUT | 50 |
| 5 | Fritz Strobl AUT | 45 |
| 6 | Pierre-Emmanuel Dalcin FRA | 40 |
| 7 | Fredrik Nyberg SWE | 36 |
| 8 | Marco Buechel LIE | 32 |
| 9 | Didier Defago SUI | 29 |
| 10 | Stephan Goergl AUT | 26 |

Downhill

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Stephan Eberharter AUT | 370 |
| 2 | Fritz Strobl AUT | 260 |
| 3 | Kristian Ghedina ITA | 228 |
| 4 | Christian Greber AUT | 227 |
| 5 | Franco Cavegn SUI | 221 |
| 6 | Kurt Sulzenbacher ITA | 192 |
| 7 | Josef Strobl AUT | 178 |
| 8 | Kjetil Andre Aamodt NOR | 172 |
| 9 | Michael Walchhofer AUT | 155 |
| 10 | Lasse Kjus NOR | 125 |

WOMEN

Slalom

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Anja Paerson SWE | 200 |
| 2 | Laure Pequegnot FRA | 172 |
| 3 | Kristina Koznick USA | 152 |
| 4 | Monika Bergmann GER | 120 |
| 5 | Tanja Poutiainen FIN | 106 |
| 6 | Christel Pascal-Saioni FRA | 104 |
| 7 | Trine Bakke NOR | 95 |
| 8 | Sonja Nef SUI | 89 |
| 9 | Martina Ertl GER | 87 |
| 10 | Christine Sponring AUT | 80 |

Giant slalom

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Sonja Nef SUI | 240 |
| 2 | Michaela Dorfmeister AUT | 196 |
| 3 | Allison Forsyth CAN | 175 |
| 4 | Andrine Flemmen NOR | 161 |
| 5 | Anja Paerson SWE | 109 |
| 6 | Maria Jose Rienda Contreras SPA | 101 |
| 7 | Karen Putzer ITA | 93 |
| 8 | Tina Maze SLO | 70 |
| 9 | Tanja Poutiainen FIN | 65 |
| 10 | Carole Montillet FRA | 62 |

Super G

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|-----|
| 1 | Hilde Gerg GER | 195 |
| 2 | Karen Putzer ITA | 140 |
| 3 | Renate Goetschl AUT | 130 |
| 4 | Caroline Lalive USA | 120 |

5	Daniela Ceccarelli ITA	113
6	Petra Haltmayr GER	109
7	Alexandra Meissnitzer AUT	108
8	Pernilla Wiberg SWE	103
9	Kirsten L Clark USA	80
9	Carole Montillet FRA	80
9	Michaela Dorfmeister AUT	80
Downhill		
1	Isolde Kostner ITA	280
2	Sylviane Berthod SUI	212
3	Michaela Dorfmeister AUT	172
4	Corinne Rey Bellet SUI	160
5	Hilde Gerg GER	110
6	Renate Goetschl AUT	92
7	Picabo Street USA	85
8	Pernilla Wiberg SWE	78
9	Catherine Borghi SUI	72
10	Selina Heregger AUT	70

OVERALL WORLD CUP WINNERS

MEN

1996 Lasse Kjus, Norway
 1997 Luc Alphand, France
 1998 Hermann Maier, Austria
 1999 Lasse Kjus, Norway
 2000 Hermann Maier, Austria
 2001 Hermann Maier, Austria

WOMEN

1996 Katja Seizinger
 1997 Pernilla Wiberg, Sweden
 1998 Katja Seizinger, Germany
 1999 Alexandra Meissnitzer, Austria
 2000 Renate Goetschl, Austria
 2001 Janica Kostelic, Croatia

Who to watch - men

SL

Aamodt
 Kostelic
 Matt
 Miller
 Raich
 Rocca
 Vidal

GS

Aamodt
 Covili
 Eberharter
 Kjus
 Miller
 Raich
 Nyberg
 Schlopy
 Von Gruenigen

SG

Aamodt
 Eberharter
 Kjus
 Nyberg
 Rahlves

DH

Eberharter
 Ghedina
 Greber
 Kjus
 Rahlves
 Strobl
 Sulzenbacher
 Trinkl
 Walchofer

Kjetil Andre Aamodt, 30, Norway

OWG 1992: GS 3rd, SG 1st; 1994: SG 3rd, DH 2nd, CMB 2nd; 1998: SG 5th, DH 13th - 5 medals

WCH: 2001: SL 7th; GS 2nd; CMB 1st - 10 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001: SL 7th; GS16th; SG 10th - 18 WC titles

Like his compatriot, fellow ageing warrior, and close friend Lasse Kjus, Aamodt may be nearing the end of a magnificent career, but no-one would bet against him making a podium of some sort at Salt Lake 2002. Like his team-mate again, he did not win in World Cup last season, and only climbed onto the podium once, albeit for slalom bronze in Park City. But he did win the combined gold and take silver in the GS at the 2001 world championships in St Anton. And just consider the career record - one of only four men to have won World Cup titles in all five disciplines, one World

Cup overall title, seven World Cup discipline titles, 18 World Cup wins, five Olympic medals, and an incredible ten world championship medals across six separate championships. His total of 15 Olympic and world championship medals is the most any male alpine skier has won.

Frederic Covili, 26, France

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: GS 3rd - 1 WCH medal

World Cup standings: 2001: GS 11th

Covili has been the revelation of season 2002, winning two of the first three World Cup giant slalom races and taking silver in the other to head the standings by more than 50 points, despite a best placing of ninth in the remaining two events before the New Year. He did not entirely come from nowhere, however, producing four top 10 GS finishes in 2001, and collecting the giant slalom bronze in St Anton at the world championship.

Stefan Eberharter, 32, Austria

OWG: 1998: GS 2nd - 1 medal

WCH: 1991: SG 1st, CMB 1st; 1999: SG 4th, DH 5th, 2001: SG 2nd, DH 7th - 3 WCH medals
 World Cup standings: 2001: Overall 2nd, GS 21st, SG 4th, DH 2nd - 6 WC wins - two in 2001

The Nagano GS silver medallist burst onto the alpine scene in 1991, winning the super G and Combined at world championship titles at the age of 21, in his second year on the circuit. It seemed he would be the next superstar, but a series of injuries disrupted his career, and for several years in the mid-90s he was back in Europa Cup. He returned to the Austrian A team in 1998, going on to win the giant slalom silver medal at the Nagano Olympics, winning his first World Cup race, a GS in Crans Montana, and stringing together a series of minor medals in GS, super G and downhill to end the season third on the Overall points table. In the 1999 World Cup season he finished second in both giant slalom and super G, then had a win-less 2000 season before coming back strongly in 2001, losing the downhill title by just 14 points to his nemesis Maier, and finishing second in the Overall to his Austrian team-mate. Eberharter has been in the shadow of the Herminator for the past four years, finishing second to him on numerous occasions, and with Maier a non starter in Salt Lake, perhaps this is the time he will more fully realise his early promise.

Kristian Ghedina, 32, Italy

OWG: 1992: DH 11th, CMB 6th; 1994: DH 20th, CMB 6th; 1998: SG 16th, DH 6th

WCH: 1991: DH 1st, CMB 2nd; 1993: DH 2nd; 1996: DH 2nd; 1997: DH 3rd; 2001: SG 23rd - 5 WCH medals

World Cup standingS: 2001: SG: 23rd, DH 21st - 13 WC wins

The Italian veteran has had 12 WC downhill victories and one in super G in a career that is now in its 12th year. He has also stepped up to the plate and delivered in a series of world championship appearances, winning the 1991 downhill title, finishing second in 1993 and 1996, taking bronze in 1997, and missing out on the downhill podium in 1999 by just one place. It is a truly impressive record, and one that may not have seen its last major championship medal. In the 2001 season he recorded just one podium, a silver in Val d'Isere, to finish back in 21st place on the standings. But he has bounced back in 2002, winning in Val Gardena, one of his favourite courses, and collecting fourth and fifth place finishes to be third on the downhill standings at the New Year break.

Christian Greber, 30, Austria

OWG: -

WCH: -

World Cup standing: 2001: DH 28th

Greber finished in 28th place in downhill last season, with a sixth in Kitzbuhel his best result. Dropped from the Austrian A team before the 2002 season, he got his chance when team-mate Hannes Trinkl was injured, and seized it with both hands. He delivered his first World Cup downhill victory in Bormio after Christmas, and piled up four other top ten placings in the rest of the early season events to hold down fourth place on the standings at the New Year break.

Lasse Kjus, 31, Norway

OWG: 1994: GS 7th, SG 12th, CMB 1st; 1998: GS 8th, SG 9th, DH 2nd, CMB 2nd - 3 medals

WCH: 1993: CMB 1st; 1996: CMB 2nd; 1997: GS 2nd, SG 2nd, DH 2nd; 1999: SL 2nd, GS

1st, SG 1st, DH 2nd, CMB 2nd; 2001: SG 4th; GS 7th - 10 medals

World Cup standings: 2001: 3rd overall; 5th DH; 8th GS; 8th SG - 2 WC Overall titles (1996, 1999), 3 WC discipline titles, 14 WC wins

For the second year in a row, Lass Kjus did not win a single World Cup event last season, collecting just five podiums. In his defence, the man who became the first to medal in all disciplines at a world championship, and who has been World Cup overall champion twice (and also won three discipline titles) did have the excuse of ill health that has dogged him in recent years. But at 31, and going into his 12th season on the World Cup, perhaps he had run his race. Up to Christmas of the 2002 season, he had claimed one silver medal, in the downhill at Val Gardena, with his next best across the four disciplines a trio of fourth places. But we have seen him in major events before, and know what he can do - he is the only person to win a medal in all five events at a world championship, a feat he achieved in 1999 in Vail. In all he has 13 world championship and Olympic medals. And although he has won a combined gold medal at the Olympics, the straight discipline gold medals he has just missed must irk him. Can he add a missing element to a glorious career?

Ivica Kostelic, 22, Croatia

OWG: -

WCH: -

World Cup standings: 2001: SL 40th

Kostelic finished the 2001 season ranked 40th in slalom, with a best placing of 21st in Sestriere. But he has been one of the major surprises of the 2002 season, winning the opening slalom in Aspen then finishing fifth a day later in the second race at the Colorado resort. In the final race before Christmas he was on the podium again, taking bronze in the Kranjska Gora slalom, to start calendar year 2002 in third place on the standings, a remarkable improvement. He is the older brother of women's 2001 World Cup Overall champion Janica Kostelic.

Mario Matt, 22, Austria

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: SL 1st; CMB 2nd - 2 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001: SL 3rd - 3 WC wins

Matt had a brilliant world championship in St Anton last February, winning the slalom title and finishing second in the combined. In World Cup he won the Madonna di Campiglio slalom and

picked up three other podiums - including silver in Park City - on his way to a career-high end of season ranking of third. In 2002, he has continued his strong showing in slalom, winning gold and bronze in Aspen's and taking silver in Kranjska Gora. At New Year, he led the 2002 slalom standings.

Bode Miller, 24, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: SL 8, GS 18, SG 26; 2001

World Cup standings: 2001: GS 15th

Miller picked up his first World Cup podium last season, a bronze in giant slalom in Val d'Isere. Three other top ten placings helped him to 15th on the GS standings. Miller injured his knee in the world championships combined downhill, and missed the last four stops on the 2001 circuit. But he has returned in 2002 in brilliant form. He finished fifth in the opening GS in Soelden in October, then won slalom silver in Aspen at the end of November. In the second week of December in the Val d'Isere giant slalom, he collected the first victory of his career - and the first by a US men's technical skier in 18 years! A day later he added another gold medal, this time in slalom in Madonna di Campiglio. He will go Salt Lake City as one of the main American hopes for an alpine medal.

Frederik Nyberg, 32, Sweden

OWG: 1992: GS 8th; 1994: CMB 8th; 1998: GS 10th, SG 10th

WCH: 1999: GS 4th; 2001: Injured

World Cup standings: 2001: GS 7th; SG 9th - 6 WC wins

In a career that is now in its 14th year, Nyberg seems to keep getting better. Last season he finished ninth overall, ninth on the super G standings after winning in Beaver Creek, and seventh in GS on the strength of three bronze medals - and that in a year when a knee injury sustained in training in January disrupted the second half of his season. In the 2002 season he has continued to occupy the podium, taking bronze in the opening GS in Soelden and gold in Kranjska Gora to sit in third place on the standings at the New Year break. Now concentrating on GS and super G, Nyberg is yet to win an Olympic or world championship medal.

Daron Rahlves, 28, USA

OWG: 1998: GS 20th, SG 7th

WCH: 1999: SG 13th; 2001: SG 1st; DH 5th - 1 WCH medal

World Cup standings: 2001: SG 17th, DH 15th; - 2 WC wins

Rahlves broke through for his first World Cup victory in season 2000 on the Lillehammer Olympic downhill course in Kvitfjell and did it in style, winning not just one race, but two on consecutive days. He had never been on the World Cup podium before and he has only been back once since, for a bronze in the Kitzbuhel downhill last season. But he made up for that in St Anton last February winning the super G title at the 2001 world championships. Rahlves best 2002 result to New Year was fourth in downhill, in Bormio, but he will go to the Games carrying a large load of America's hopes.

Benjamin Raich, 23, Austria

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: SL 2nd - 1 WCH medal

World Cup standings: 2001 Overall 4th; SL 1st; GS 4th - 1 WC title, 9 WC wins

Benjamin Raich won the World Cup slalom title last season and took the slalom silver medal at the world championships behind compatriot Mario Matt to add another chapter to what has been a

short but brilliant career. In his first full season on the circuit, in 1999, he won twice in slalom and once in GS. The following year he took gold in two giant slaloms and garnered a further five podiums across the two technical disciplines. Last season he added four more gold medals, all in slalom, on his way to the discipline title, and a World Cup overall ranking of fourth. In the 2002 season he has concentrated on giant slalom, and to good effect, taking silver and gold on successive days in Kranjska Gora to occupy second place on the points table heading into calendar year 2002.

Giorgio Rocca, 26, Italy

OWG: -
WCH: 1999: SL 4th, GS: 11th; 2001: SL 15th
World Cup standings: 2001 SL 29th - No wins, three SL podiums

Rocca's 1999 season, where he picked up his first World Cup medal, was hailed by the Italians as a sign they had found someone to step into Alberto Tomba's boots. But in 2000 his best was a 10th, and last season, he could do no better than 17th. This season he seems to have recaptured his best form, taking the silver medal in the opening slalom in Aspen, then another silver in Madonna di Campiglio and a sixth in Kranjska Gora. At the mid-season break, he was fourth on the slalom standings, despite missing one of the four races on the calendar.

Erik Schlopy, 29, USA

OWG: -
WCH: 1997: SG 5th; 2001: SL 21st
World Cup standings: 2001 GS 3rd - 7 WC wins

In his best season on the World Cup circuit, Schlopy finished third on the GS standings last season with silver medals in Bormio and Are, and a fourth in Park City along the way. His previous best result had been a 15th. The GS specialist made a less than spectacular start to the 2002 season, finishing outside the top 20 in the three races he has contested. But Park City is his home town, and perhaps he can rise to the occasion.

Fritz Strobl, 29, Austria

OWG: 1998: DH 11th
WCH: 1997: DH 4th; 2001 DH 6th
World Cup standings: 2001: DH 3rd - 6 WC wins

Last season, Strobl won the Garmisch downhill and took bronze in Val d'Isere and Kvitfjell to finish third on the downhill points table. He also placed sixth in the world championship downhill in St Anton. In the current season he seems set to do even better, taking silver in the first Bormio downhill then gold a day later in the second race at the Italian resort. He started the New Year in second spot on the downhill standings behind fellow countryman Stefan Eberharter.

Kurt Sulzenbacher, 25, Italy

OWG: -
WCH: -
World Cup standings: 2001: DH 21st

In three years on the World Cup circuit, Sulzenbacher's best downhill result to the end of the 2001 season was a seventh in Garmisch. This season he seems to have found the magic formula, however, taking silver and bronze in the first two downhill events. Is he a one-week wonder?

Hannes Trinkl, 34, Austria

OWG: 1994: DH 6th; 1998: DH 3rd - 1 medal
WCH: 1996 DH 9th; 2001: DH 1st - 1 medal
World Cup standings: 2001: DH 4th; SG 7th - 5 WC wins

Trinkl won only one race last season, but he picked the right one - the world championships downhill in St Anton. It was his first world championship medal, to go with five World Cup wins in a ten year career, and he became the oldest alpine skiing world champion in history. He sustained a minor skull fracture in a fall in November, and was scheduled to return to racing in January.

Jean-Pierre Vidal, 24, France

OWG: -
WCH: -
World Cup standings: 2001: Nor-Am SL 29th - 1 WC win

Vidal skied Nor-Ams last season, finishing 29th in slalom, and won the French national titles in slalom and giant slalom, not exactly the credentials that might point to Olympic success. But in the 2002 season he won his first World Cup medal, a bronze in Aspen, followed that with a fourth in Madonna di Campiglio, then took the top spot on the podium in Kranjska Gora to sit in second place in the slalom standings at the Christmas break after the first four events of the season. Tomorrow the world?

Michael Von Gruenigen, 32, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: GS 3rd - 1 medal
WCH: 1996: SL 3rd, GS 3rd; 1997: SL 7th, GS 1st; 1999: SL 12th, GS 7th; 2001: GS 1st - 4 WCH medals
World Cup standings: 2001: Overall 5th; GS 2nd - 3 WC giant slalom titles, 19 WC wins

One of the greatest giant slalom skiers of all time, Von Gruenigen has won 19 World Cup events, taken the World Cup GS title three times, and won the giant slalom world championship twice (including last season), but he has won only one Olympic medal in three journeys to the Games, a GS bronze in 1998. After re-inventing his skiing style to adjust to changes in ski design, Von Gruenigen is back to his best, winning three GS races last season, including Park City, to finish just 19 points behind Hermann Maier in the battle for the GS title. In 2002 he had not won in the lead-up to the New Year break, but had garnered minor medals in Soelden and Alta Badia.

Michael Walchofer, 26, Austria

OWG: -
WCH: -
World Cup standings: 2001: SL24th, DH 42nd

With established stars Hannes Trinkl and Werner Franz out through injury, some of the other Austrians are seizing their opportunities. Walchofer's only downhill race in the 2001 season was in Kitzbuhel where he finished in ninth place. The previous season he had skied only slalom on the circuit. Then in the first three downhill races of the 2002 season he has delivered two medals, a bronze in Val d'Isere and silver in Val Gardena, a remarkable turnaround. But will he get an Olympic Games start in the strong Austrian line-up?

WOMEN

Sylviane Berthod, 24, Switzerland

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: SG 7th, DH 19th; 2001: SG 18th, DH 15th

World Cup standings: 2001: SG 13th, DH 14th - 1 WC win

Berthod won silver in Lake Louise in the downhill in November, then grabbed her first World Cup victory in December, taking the downhill in St Moritz. At the Christmas break she was second on the DH standings.

Kirsten Clark, 24, USA

OWG: 1998: DH 28th, CMB 18th

WCH: 1997: SG 24; 1999: GS 22nd, DH 16th; 2001: SG 9th, DH 12th, CMB 10th

World Cup standings: 2001: SG 22nd, DH 12th - 1 WC win

Clark won her first downhill race in Lenzerheide last season, on her way to a career best 12th place on the end of season points table. Her previous best result had been a ninth place. After the first three events of the 2002 season, she had collected another podium, a bronze medal in super G in St Moritz, while her best downhill result was an eighth at Lake Louise.

Michaela Dorfmeister, 28, Austria

OWG: 1998: SG 2nd, DH 18th - 1 medal

WCH: 1999: SG 3rd, DH 2nd, CMB 6th; 2001: GS 8th, DH 1st - 3 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001: Overall 5th, GS 3rd, SG 5th, DH 9th - 1 GS WC title, 10 WC wins

Dorfmeister, the Nagano super G silver medallist, won the 2001 downhill title in St Anton in February, her first world championship crown. In World Cup, she won the Sestriere giant slalom and took bronze in Cortina on the way to a third place on the GS points table. She also won the Aspen super G and claimed silver in Val d'Isere on her way to fifth in that discipline. She opened the 2002 season with a giant slalom win on the glacier in Soelden, then took bronze in Val d'Isere

Who to watch - women

SL

Kostelic
Koznick
Nef
Paerson
Pequenot
Saioni
Schleper

GS

Dorfmeister
Ertl
Flemmen
Forsyth
Kostelic
Meissnitzer
Nef
Paerson
Putzer
Schleper

SG

Clark
Dorfmeister
Ertl
Gerg
Goetschl
Kostner
Lalive
Meissnitzer
Rey Bellet

DH

Berthod
Clark
Lalive
Street
Montillet
Haltmayr

to be ranked second on the World Cup GS points table at the New Year break, despite missing the fourth event of the year. In downhill she was on the podium twice at Lake Louise for a silver and a bronze, to hold third place on the standings. Dorfmeister could medal in three events, and must be a favourite to take out gold in one of them.

Martina Ertl, 28, Germany

OWG: 1992: SL 15th; 1994: SL 14th, GS 2nd, DH 4th, CMB 5th; 1998: SL 4th, GS 4th, SG 7th, CMB 2nd - 2 medals

WCH: 1993: GS 3rd, 1996: GS 3rd; 1999: GS 5th, SG 5th; 2001: CMB 1st; - 3 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001: Overall 7th, SL 3rd, GS 6th, SG 9th - 2 WC discipline titles, 13 WC wins

Ertl is one of the most successful skiers on the circuit, boasting two World Cup discipline titles, two Olympic medals and three World Championship medals. But she is yet to take gold at an Olympic Games. In 2001 she finished third on the slalom standings, collecting silver in Park City, Aspen and Are. In GS she won the opening race in Soelden and, demonstrating her all round abilities, added a super G bronze in Lake Louise. At the world championships she won the combined title. In 2002 her best result has been a slalom sixth in Sestriere.

Andrine Flemmen, 27, Norway

OWG: 1998: GS 10th

WCH: 1999: SL 4th, GS 2nd; 2001: GS 12th - 1 WCH medal

World Cup standings: 2001: Injured for most of season - 2 WC wins

Flemmen scored the second World Cup win of her career in Copper Mountain in November and added a fourth place in Lienz just after Christmas to sit in third place on the 2002 giant slalom standings at the New Year break. A GS specialist, she missed most of the 2001 season after tearing ligaments in her knee in Aspen in November 2000.

Alison Forsyth, 23, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: SL 10th, GS 16th; 2001: GS 6th

World Cup standings: 2001: GS 8th

Forsyth is yet to collect her first World Cup gold medal, but she has been on the podium four times in giant slalom, the latest for a silver in Copper Mountain in the second race of the 2002 season. A fourth and a fifth prior to the New Year break put her in fourth place on the GS standings after three races, and into Salt Lake 2002 medal contention.

Hilde Gerg, 26, Germany

OWG: 1994: SG 18th, CMB 8th; 1998: SL 1st, GS 13th, SG 10th, DH 9th, CMB 3rd - 2 medals

WCH: 1997: SL 6th, SG 3rd, CMB 3rd; 2001: SG 3rd, DH 6th - 3 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001 DH 11th - 3 WC discipline titles, 11 WC wins

The woman who took the slalom gold medal in Nagano ahead of Zali Steggall's bronze is an all round skier who has won World Cup races in all disciplines. Last season, coming back from a broken leg sustained in training in February 2000, she won the Are World Cup downhill, and also took the bronze medal in super G at the St Anton world championships. In the current season it has been super G where she has done best, winning in Val d'Isere and placing fourth and fifth in the other two events to lead the standings at the break.

Renate Goetschl, 26, Austria

OWG: 1998: SG 5th

WCH: 1997: CMB 1st; 1999: SG 2nd, DH 1st, CMB 2nd; 2001: DH 2nd - 5 WCH medals

World Cup standings: 2001: Overall 2nd, SG 2nd, DH 2nd - 1 WC overall title, 4 WC discipline titles, 19 WC wins

One of the undoubted stars of the circuit, Goetschl continued to build her reputation in the 2001 season, finishing second in the World Cup Overall behind Janica Kostelic, second in the downhill, and second in the super G. Continuing this theme, she also took silver in the world championship downhill. At the end of the season, she had lifted her World Cup wins to 19, collected across slalom, super G and downhill. In the current season, she had done best in super G in the lead-up to Christmas, taking the silver medal in Val d'Isere and sitting in second place on the standings.

Janica Kostelic, 19, Croatia

OWG: 1998: GS 24th, SG 26th, DH 25th, CMB 8th

WCH: 2001: 5th SL, 13th SG

WC standings: 2001: SL 1st, GS 9th, SG 18th - 1 WC overall title, 1 WC discipline title, 12 WC wins

The sensation of the 2001 season, Kostelic won eight slalom races on her way to taking not only her first World Cup discipline title, but also the overall women's crown. She also finished ninth on the GS standings. The one important race that escaped her, however, was the world championship slalom. What was most remarkable about her season, however, was that she was making a comeback from a knee injury sustained in December 1999 that had ruled her out of the second half of the 1999/2000 season. In the months following her 2001 triumph, the Croatian star went under the surgeon's knife three times in an attempt to repair the knee, and missed the opening races of the current season. Clearly not back to her best, she had competed in just five events in the first half of the season, an 11th place in slalom in Lienz and a 12th in super G in Val d'Isere her best.

Isolde Kostner, 26, Italy

OWG: 1994: SG 3rd, DH 3rd; 1998: SG 11th - 2 medals

WCH: 1996: GS 6th, SG 1st, DH 2nd; 1997: GS 7th, SG 1st, DH 4th; 1999: SG 6th, DH 9th; 2001: SG 2nd, DH 5th - 3 WCH medals

WC: 2001: SG 6th, DH 1st - 1 WC discipline title (2001 DH), 14 WC wins

Kostner won her first World Cup downhill title last season, with victories in Lake Louise and Cortina, and four other podium placings. She also won a super G race in Lenzerheide, and claimed the silver medal in super G at the world championships in St Anton. At the New Year break of the 2002 season, she was once again on top of the downhill standings after winning the opening two races in Lake Louise, and adding a silver in St Moritz. A strong favourite for downhill gold in Salt Lake City.

Kristina Koznick, 26, USA

OWG: 1998: SL DNF

WCH: 1996: SL 19th; 1999: SL DNF; 2001 SL 8th, GS 15th

WC: 2001: SL 7th, GS 26th - 4 WC wins

A slalom win escaped Koznick last season, after two in the 2000 season, but she did claim three minor medals. She was back on the podium in Lienz in December, taking silver in the last event before the New Year break to end the 2001 calendar year in third place on the slalom points table. After bombing out in the world championships in Vail in front of her home crowd, and also missing out in Nagano and the 2001 world titles, Koznick will be desperate for a medal at Salt Lake 2002.

Caroline Lalive, 22, USA

OWG: 1998: CMB 7th

WCH: 1999: 28th,

WC: 2002: SG 30th, DH 20th - 1 WC win

Lalive's best results in the 2001 season were a pair of seventh placings, one in downhill and one in super G, both career best performances. But she opened the 2002 season by taking bronze in the Lake Louise super G, and added another seventh place in Val d'Isere to sit in fourth position on the standings at the New Year break. A tenth in St Moritz was her best downhill result.

Alexandra Meissnitzer, 28, Austria

OWG: 1998: GS 2nd, SG 3rd, DH 8th - 2 medals

WCH: 1999: GS 1st, SG 1st, DH 4th; 2001: SG 8th, DH 11th - 2 WCH medals

WC: 1999: Overall 1st, GS 1st, SG 1st, DH 2nd; 2001: GS 13th, SG 12th, DH 21st - 1 WC overall title, 2 WC discipline titles, 11 WC wins

Meissnitzer was the undisputed star of the women's alpine circuit in 1999, winning the overall title, two discipline titles - in GS and super G - and also taking world championship gold in GS and super G. In all she won eight World cup events that season, across GS, super G and downhill. But in November 1999 she crashed in training in Lake Louise, blowing out her left knee. She returned to the circuit in December 2000, and in the remainder of the 2000/2001 season produced a best super G result of fourth in Cortina and a best downhill of fifth in St Moritz. At the world championships in St Anton she was eighth in super G and 11th in downhill. This season, her best placing has been a super G fourth in Val d'Isere. Can she recapture her awesome form of 1999?

Sonia Nef, 29, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: GS DNF

WCH: 2001: SL 7th, GS 1st - 1 WCH medal

WC: 2001: Overall 4th, SL 2nd, GS 1st - 1 WC discipline title, 12 WC wins

If Janica Kostelic was the success story of the 2001 season, Sonia Nef was hardly far behind her. Nef won six times in giant slalom, taking the World Cup title, her first discipline crown. In slalom she won in Are, depriving an injured Kostelic of a clean sweep of the season, and also claimed silver and bronze to end the season in second place on the slalom standings. But where Kostelic failed at the 2001 world championships, Nef did not, winning the giant slalom crown. In the current season her form appears to be almost as good, with victory in the Val d'Isere giant slalom and two other podiums from three races putting her firmly atop the standings once again. Another medal has come in slalom, a bronze in Sestriere.

Anja Paerson, 20, Sweden

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: SL 1st, GS 2nd - 2 WCH medals

WC: 2001: SL 10th; GS 2nd - 3 WC wins

The brilliant young Swede - who comes from Tarnaby, the home town of the legendary Ingemar Stenmark - won her first World Cup race in December 1998 at the age of 17, taking the Mammoth Mountain slalom ahead of Zali Steggall. By the end of last season, she had not won another World Cup race, but five giant slalom podiums had given her enough points to be runner-up for the GS World Cup title. More importantly, she had won the world slalom title in St Anton. This season, as if making up for lost time, Paerson won two of the three opening slaloms of the season, in Sestriere

and Lienz, to head the standings at the New Year break. She had also claimed silver and bronze in giant slalom. A medal or two in Salt Lake City looks well within her grasp.

Laure Pequegnot, 26, France

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: -

WC: 2001: SL 5th - 1 WC win

Victory in the opening slalom of the season in Copper Mountain and two seventh placings in the two following events lifted Pequegnot to the second spot on the slalom rankings at the New Year break, and also into medal contention. In 2001 she finished fifth in the standings, taking the silver medal in Flachau and five other top ten results.

Karen Putzer, 23, Italy

OWG: 1998 GS 23, SG 28th

WCH: 2001: GS 2nd, SG 14th, CMB 3rd - 2 WCH medals

WC: 2001: GS 4th, SG 19th - 2 WC wins

Putzer claimed just one medal on World Cup last season, a silver in Maribor in giant slalom, but she was in good form at the world titles in St Anton, taking the silver in the GS and bronze in the combined, her first world championship medals. This season she has carried that on, winning the St Moritz downhill - the first of her career in that discipline - and taking silver in giant slalom in Lienz at the end of December. At the break she was second in the standings in downhill and fifth in GS, and a real medal prospect.

Corinne Rey Bellet, 29, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: SG 31st, DH 30th

WCH: 1999: GS 6th, SG 8th, DH 17th, CMB 8th; 2001: SG 6th, DH 4th, CMB 4th

WC: 2001: GS 5th, SG 7th, DH 8th - 4 WC wins

Another all rounder, Rey Bellet produced one win in 2001, in the Are super G in Are. She also picked up a bronze in Aspen, and minor medals in giant slalom and downhill. At the mid-season break, she was fourth on the 2002 downhill standings after bronze medals in Lake Louise and St Moritz.

Sarah Schleper, 22 (23 on Feb 19), USA

OWG: -

WCH: 1998: SL 22

WC: 2001: SL 11th, GS 21st

Schleper won her first World Cup medal last season, a silver in Sestriere, and added two other top ten placings to end the season in 11th place on the slalom rankings. She also picked up a bronze medal in giant slalom in Semmering. This season her best up till the New Year break was a sixth, but she is certainly a slalom medal prospect on her home snow.

Picabo Street, 30, USA

OWG: 1994: DH 2nd, CMB 10th; 1998: SG 1st, DH 6th - 2 medals

WCH: 1993: DH 10th, CMB 2nd; 1996: SG 3rd, DH 1st - 3 WCH medals

WC: 2001: Injured - 2 WC downhill titles (1995, 1996), 9 WC wins

Street has experienced both the absolute highs and the extreme lows in her ten year career. She won her first World Cup downhill medal back in 1993, and in the following year took the downhill silver medal at the 1994 Lillehammer Games. In 1995 she strung together six victories to claim the World

Cup downhill title - the first American to do so - and then defended it the following season. At the 1996 world championships she won the downhill and took bronze in the super G. But in December of that year, she tore ligaments in her knee in Vail, missing more than a year of competition. Although she missed the opening races of the 1997/98 season, and went to Nagano under a mental and physical cloud, she came away with the super G gold. A month later, at the World Cup final, she broke her left leg and tore anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee in a major fall. This time she was out of action for two complete seasons, returning to World Cup and Nor-Am races in December 2000. In her last World Cup of the season, remarkably, she finished in seventh place. Back in action in the 2002 season she was also back in the top ten, placing sixth and then fifth in the opening two Lake Louise downhill races. A medal at Salt Lake 2001 would make Street the first American to win three Winter Olympic alpine skiing medals

OTHER TO WATCH

Petra Haltmayr

Carole Montillet

Christelle Saioni

Pernilla Wiberg

Megan Gerety

Biathlon

Monday 11 February	11:00 - 13:00	Women's 15km Individual
	13:30 - 15:30	Men's 20km Individual
Wednesday 13 February	11:00 - 12:30	Men's 10km Sprint
	13:30 - 15:00	Women's 7.5km Sprint
Saturday 16 February	09:00 - 10:00	Men's 12.5km Pursuit
	12:00 - 13:00	Women's 10km Pursuit
Monday 18 February	11:30 - 13:30	Women's 4x7.5km Relay
Wednesday 20 February	11:00 - 13:00	Men's 4x7.5km Relay

Originally a hunting technique that combined skiing with shooting, biathlon (from the Greek word meaning 'two tests') was also incorporated into military strategy in northern Europe. The first world championship in the sport was held in 1958, and a men's event - the 20km individual event - was first introduced onto the Olympic program in 1960. A men's relay was added in Grenoble in 1968 and a 10km sprint event in 1980.

Women's biathlon competition was not introduced until the Albertville Games in 1992. In Salt Lake City, men's and women's pursuit events will be added to the program for the first time.

Biathlon combines two quite disparate elements - the speed and stamina required for cross country skiing, and the concentration and calmness needed for target shooting - contradictory skills which must both be mastered. In ordinary target shooting, the marksman remains still for relatively long periods of time before firing. Biathletes, however, arrive at the shooting range with a pulse often more than 150 beats per minute, breathing irregularly. A slight tremble of the hand will lead the bullet astray.

THE SPORT

Biathletes shoot with a 5.6mm calibre small bore rifle. Unlike the cross country events, there are no restrictions on skiing techniques, both freestyle and classic being permitted (relay competitors are restricted to the classical style for the first 100 metres, after which they can resume freestyle skiing).

Competitors get five shots, either prone or standing, in each round of shooting to hit five targets. Target size varies depending on the shooting position - 11.5cm for standing and 4.5cm for prone. In the relay, each competitor has three extra shots when shooting both prone and standing for the five targets. The distance between the shooting position and the targets is 50 metres.

Each miss is penalised either with extra time or a penalty ski loop - in the distance events, the men's 20km and the women's 15km, one minute is added; each miss in the men's 10km and women's 7.5km sprint events and the relays earns a 150m penalty loop.

For the individual and sprint competitions, all skiers will start at 30-second intervals. In the pursuit competitions, competitors start at intervals that correspond to their time behind the winner of the sprint competition. The relays begin with a mass start of all the first competitors from each team.

THE EVENTS

There are four men's competitions: 20km individual, 10km sprint, the 12.5km pursuit and the 4 x 7.5km relay. In the 20km, four rounds of shooting - prone, standing, prone, standing - are included between 3.5 and 17.5km; one minute is added to the total time for each missed target. The 10km sprint involves shooting prone at about 2.5km and standing at roughly 7.5km, with each missed target attracting a 150m penalty loop. The top 60 finishers in the sprint qualify for the pursuit.

In the pursuit, the competitors start at intervals based on their finish in the sprint competition. Men race 12.5 kilometres, stopping four times to shoot. The first two shooting sequences are prone and the second two are standing. For each target missed, athletes take a lap around the 150-metre penalty loop.

In the men's relay, four-person teams tackle four 7.5-kilometre legs for a total of 30 kilometres. Each team member has two firing sequences and is allowed three extra bullets (for a total of eight) to hit five targets, yet must load the three extra bullets one by one. For each target left standing, competitors must ski a penalty lap around the 150-metre

Women also have four competitions: 15km individual, 7.5km sprint, 10km pursuit, and 3 x 7.5km relay. The 15km race includes four rounds of shooting in the sequence prone, standing, prone, standing between 3.5 and 12km. In the 7.5km sprint, two rounds of shooting - first prone, then standing - are included at about 2.5 and 7.5km. The women's pursuit follows the same format as the men's, with start intervals based on the sprint finish results, four shooting rounds and a penalty loop for each missed target, but the distance covered is 2.5km shorter at 10km. The women's relay follows the same format as the men's.

Athlete participation in the biathlon competition is based on each nation's rank on the International Biathlon Union final World Cup Nations standings from the 2000/2001 season, with a maximum of six competitors of each gender and a maximum of four athletes per event. The best 20 nations on the 2000/2001 Nations Cup points standing qualified for the relay events.

THE VENUE

The biathlon (and cross country) venue of Soldier Hollow is approximately 69 kilometres from Salt Lake City, and ten kilometres from Heber City, adjacent to the north west corner of Deer Creek Reservoir.

The 518-hectare venue is an open, largely treeless site at the eastern edge of Wasatch Mountain State Park. The course is 1670 metres altitude at its lowest point, rising to 1793 metres at the highest point. Stadium elevation is 1690 metres. The average annual snowfall is 215cm. An extensive tree planting and wetland regeneration program has been carried out on the site, and the course has been designed to minimise environmental impact. The course is based around two separate 4km loops.

Capacity - seated 3500; standing 16,500

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1924 – 1964

No biathlon events on Olympic program

1968 – 1980

No Australian male biathlon competitors.

1984

10km	Andrew Paul	50th
20km	Andrew Paul	47th

1988

10km	Andrew Paul	62nd
20km	Andrew Paul	57th

1992

No Australian male competitors

1994 - 1998

No Australian male competitors

WOMEN

1924 – 1988

No women's biathlon events on Olympic program

1992

7.5km	Kerryn Pethybridge	39th
	Sandra Paintin	54th
15km	Kerryn Pethybridge	32nd
	Sandra Paintin	40th

1994

7.5km	Kerryn Rim (Pethybridge)	21st
	Sandra Paintin-Paul	40th
15km	Kerryn Rim (Pethybridge)	8th
	Sandra Paintin-Paul	64th

1998

7.5km	Kerryn Rim	47th
15km	Kerryn Rim	43rd

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

10 km	Andrew Paul	50th (1984)
20 km	Andrew Paul	47th (1984)

WOMEN

7.5 km	Kerryn Rim	21st (1994)
15 km	Kerryn Rim	8th (1994)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

10km Sprint

1980	Frank Ullrich, GDR
1984	Erik Kvalfoss, Norway
1986	Frank-Peter Rotsch, GDR
1992	Mark Kirchner, Germany
1994	Sergei Tchepikov, Russia
1998	Ole Einar Bjoerndalen, NOR

20km Individual

1960	Klas Lestander, Sweden
1964	Vladimir melanin, USSR
1968	Magnar Solberg, Norway
1972	Magnar Solberg, Norway
1976	Nikolai Kruglov, USSR
1980	Anatolij Aljabjev, USSR
1984	Peter Angerer, Germany
1988	Frank-Peter Rotsch, GDR
1992	Jevgenij Redkin, CIS
1994	Sergei Tarasov, Russia
1998	Halvard Hanevold NOR

4x7.5 km Relay

1968	USSR
1972	USSR
1976	USSR
1980	USSR
1984	USSR
1988	USSR
1992	Germany
1994	Germany (Ricco Gross, Frank Luck, Mark Kirchner, Sven Fischer)
1998	Germany (Ricco Gross, Peter Sendel, Sven Fischer, Frank Luck)

WOMEN

15km Individual

1992	Antje Misersky, Germany
1994	Myriam Bedard, Canada
1998	Galina Koukleva, RUS

7.5 km Sprint

1992	Anfissa Restova, CIS
1994	Myriam Bedard, Canada
1998	Yekaterina Dafovska, BUL

4 x 7.5km Relay

1994	Russia (Nadejda Talanova, Natalia Snygina, Louiza Noskova, Anfisa Reztsova)
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1998 Germany (Ursula [Uschi] Disl, Martina Zellner, Katrin Apel, Petra Behle)

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

MEN

10km

- Ole Einar Bjoerndalen Norway 27:16.2
- Frode Andresen Norway 28:17.8
- Ville Raikkonen Finland 28:21.7

Men's 20km

- Halvard Hanevold Norway 56:16.4
- Pier Alberto Carrara Italy 56:21.9
- Aleksei Aidarov Belarus 56:46.5

4 x 7.5km Relay

- Germany (Ricco Gross, Peter Sendel, Sven Fischer, Frank Luck) 1:19:43.3
- Norway (Egil Gjelland, Halvard Hanevold, Dag Bjoerndalen, Ole Einar Bjoerndalen) 1:20:03.4
- Russia (Pavel Mouslimov, Vladimir Dratshev, Sergei Tarassov, Victor Maigourov) 1:20:19.4

WOMEN

Women's 7.5km

- Galina Koukleva Russia 23:08.0
- Ursula Disl Germany 23:08.7
- Katrin Apel Germany 23:32.

Women's 15km

- Ekaterina Dafovska Bulgaria 54:52.0
- Yelena Petrova Ukraine 55:09.8
- Ursula Disl Germany 55:17.9

4 x 7.5km Relay

- Germany (Ursula Disl, Martina Zellner, Katrin Apel, Petra Behle) 1:40:13.6
- Russia (Olga Melnik, Galina Koukleva, Albina Akhatova, Olga Romasko) 1:40:25.2
- Norway (Ann-Elen Skjelbreid, Annette Sikveland, Gunn Margit Andreassen, Liv Grete Skjelbreid) 1:40:37.3

2001 BIATHLON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bled-Pokljuka, Slovenia
Feb 3-11, 2001

Men's 10km Sprint

	Shooting Faults	Time/ (margin)
1 Pavel Rostovtsev RUS	00	24:40.3
2 Rene Cattarinussi ITA	00	+46.6
3 Halvard Hanevold NOR	10	+47.9

4 Egil Gjelland NOR	10	+1:03.3
5 Sven Fischer GER	01	+1:04.0
6 Paavo Puurunen FIN	00	+1:05.3
7 Raphael Poiree FRA	02	+1:06.2
8 Frode Andresen NOR	22	+1:07.7
9 Jeremy Teela USA	10	+1:08.3
10 Vincent Defrasne FRA	01	+1:10.0

Men's 12.5km Pursuit

1 Pavel Rostovtsev RUS	1020	34:21.3
2 Raphael Poiree FRA	0101	+5.9
3 Sven Fischer GER	0110	+45.6
4 Ole Einar Bjoerndalen NOR	1101	+56.3
5 Egil Gjelland NOR	0110	+1:06.4
6 Frode Andresen NOR	1121	+1:18.2
7 Vincent Defrasne FRA	0002	+1:21.2
8 Tomas Globocnik SLO	0010	+1:21.3
9 Halvard Hanevold NOR	0021	+1:36.4
10 Zdenek Vitek CZE	0011	+1:41.8

Men's 20km Individual

1 Paavo Puurunen FIN	0001	55:05.6
2 Vadim Sashurin BLR	0001	+28.2
3 Ilmars Bricis LAT	0000	+29.5
4 Sergei Rozhkov RUS	0010	+1:32.2
5 Viktor Maigourov RUS	0101	+1:43.0
6 Ruslan Lysenko UKR	0100	+1:44.8
7 Ricco Gross GER	1100	+1:52.4
8 Pavel Rostovtsev RUS	1012	+2:01.1
9 Ville Rääkkönen FIN	1010	+2:38.8
10 Ole Einar Bjoerndalen NOR	1221	+2:43.6

Men's 15km Mass Start

1 Raphael Poiree FRA	1010	39:28.2
2 Ole Einar Bjoerndalen NOR	3100	+3.8
3 Sven Fischer GER	1101	+18.4
4 Ricco Gross GER	0000	+19.3
5 Vadim Sashurin BLR	1100	+44.5
6 Patrick Favre ITA	1110	+46.8
7 Sergei Rozhkov RUS	0100	+50.9
8 Ilmars Bricis LAT	0110	+56.4
9 Halvard Hanevold NOR	1001	+59.3
10 Rene Cattarinussi ITA	0020	+1:00.7

Men's 4x7.5km Relay

1 France	00	1:12:56.7
2 Belarus	00	+31.9
3 Norway	12	+33.0

Women's 7.5km Sprint

1 Kati Wilhelm GER	01	21:56.2
2 Uschi Disl GER	10	+26.9
3 Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree NOR	11	+41.4
4 Katrin Apel GER	11	+57.8

5 Corinne Niogret FRA	10	+1:09.2
6 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	01	+1:10.0
7 Olga Pyleva RUS	01	+1:16.7
8 Galina Koukleva RUS	10	+1:27.3
9 Delphyne Heymann-Burlet FRA	01	+1:30.7
10 Ann Elen Skjelbreid NOR	11	+1:43.6

Women's 10km Pursuit

1 Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree NOR	1121	32:13.5
2 Corinne Niogret FRA	0001	+25.0
3 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	0210	+35.0
4 Olga Pyleva RUS	1011	+38.4
5 Andrea Henkel GER	0001	+39.2
6 Delphyne Heymann-Burlet FRA	0011	+1:06.6
7 Kati Wilhelm GER	3310	+1:20.7
8 Katrin Apel GER	0221	+1:28.0
9 Ann Elen Skjelbreid NOR	0020	+1:30.6
10 Ekaterina Dafovska BUL	0011	+1:30.7

Women's 15km Individual

1 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	0001	45:13.0
2 Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree NOR	0102	+37.3
3 Olena Zubrilova UKR	1001	+1:09.2
4 Olena Petrova UKR	0000	+1:12.5
5 Anna Bogali RUS	0010	+1:25.0
6 Eva Tofalvi ROM	0000	+1:49.4
7 Andreja Grasic SLO	2000	+1:57.0
8 Nathalie Santer ITA	2010	+2:15.3
9 Andrea Henkel GER	0200	+2:23.0
10 Anna Murinova SVK	0001	+3:00.5

Women's mass start

1 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	0010	38:38.6
2 Martina Glasgow GER	0000	+1:04.4
3 Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree NOR	0220	+1:05.8
4 Pavlina Filipova BUL	0000	+1:23.7
5 Kati Wilhelm GER	0200	+1:23.8
6 Gunn Margit Andreassen NOR	0000	+1:32.3
7 Olga Pyleva RUS	2100	+1:43.0
8 Olena Zubrilova UKR	1012	+1:44.7
9 Delphyne Heymann-Burlet FRA	1111	+1:45.6
10 Eva Tofalvi ROM	0001	+1:56.4

Women's 4x7.5km Relay

1 Russia	01	1:29:02.8
2 Germany	20	+25.5
3 Ukraine	00	+52.4

2000/2001 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

Women overall

1 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	1021
2 Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree NOR	804

3 Olena Zubrilova UKR	774
4 Corinne Niogret FRA	665
5 Andrea Henkel GER	635
6 Uschi Disl GER	621
7 Olga Pyleva RUS	558
8 Kati Wilhelm GER	476
9 Martina Glasgow GER	451
10 Svetlana Ishmouratova RUS	441

Men overall

1 Raphael Poiree FRA	921
2 Ole Einar Bjoerndalen NOR	911
3 Frode Andresen NOR	712
4 Pavel Rostovtsev RUS	707
5 Sven Fischer GER	675
6 Halvard Hanevold NOR	590
7 Egil Gjelland NOR	582
8 Carsten Heymann GER	525
9 Ricco Gross GER	514
10 Viktor Maigourov RUS	492

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (as at Jan. 1, 2002)

Women

1 Magdalena Forsberg SWE	300
2 Andrea Henkel GER	256
3 Olga Pyleva RUS	243
4 Uschi Disl GER	235
5 Olena Zubrilova UKR	218
6 Katrin Apel GER	197
7 Katja Holanti FIN	188
8 Anna Bogali RUS	172
9 Martina Glasgow GER	162
10 Kati Wilhelm GER	153

Men

1 Frank Luck GER	248
2 Pavel Rostovtsev RUS	230
3 Vesa Hietalahti FIN	208
4 Ricco Gross GER	179
5 Raphael Poiree FRA	154
6 Ole Einar Bjoerndalen NOR	130
7 Vadim Sashurin BLR	130
8 Sergei Tchepikov RUS	129
9 Ludwig Gredler AUT	121
10 Christoph Sumann AUT	120

Who to watch

MEN

Ole Einar Bjoerndalen, 28, Norway

Gold medallist Nagano 10km

Silver medallist Nagano 4 x 7.5km relay

Silver medallist 15km mass start WCH

2001 World Cup overall runner-up

Sven Fischer, 30, Germany

Gold medallist Nagano 4 x 7.5km relay

Bronze medallist 12.5km pursuit 2001 WCH

Bronze medallist 15km mass start

Raphael Poiree, 27, France

Gold medallist 15km mass start 2001 WCH

Silver medallist 12.5km pursuit 2001 WCH

2001 World Cup overall champion

Paavo Puurunen, 28, Finland

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 20km

Pavel Rostovtsev, 30, Russia

Gold medallist in 2001 WCH 10k sprint

Gold medallist in 2001 WCH 12.5km pursuit

Fourth in World Cup standings last season

WOMEN

Uschi Disl, 31, Germany

Silver medallist Nagano 7.5km

Silver medallist Nagao 10km pursuit

Bronze medallist Nagano 15km

Gold medallist Nagano 4 x 7.5km relay

Silver medallist 2001 WCH 7.5km

Silver medallist 2001 WCH 7.5km sprint

Magdalena Forsberg, 34, Sweden

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 15km individual

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 10km mass start

Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 10km pursuit

2001 World Cup overall champion

Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree, 27, Norway

Bronze medallist Nagano Relay

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 10km pursuit

Silver medallist 2001 WCH 15km individual

Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 7.5km sprint

Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 10km mass start

Runner up 2001 World Cup Overall title

Kati Wilhelm, 25, Germany

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 7.5km sprint

Silver medallist 2001 WCH 10km pursuit

Olena Zubrilova, 28, Ukraine

Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 15km individual

Bronze medallist 2001 WCH relay

Third in 2001 World Cup standings

Bobsleigh

Saturday 16 February 15:00 - 18:45 Two-Man: Runs 1 and 2

Sunday 17 February 15:00 - 18:45 Two-Man: Runs 3 and 4

Tuesday 19 February 16:30 - 18:30 Two-Woman

Friday 22 February 15:30 - 18:45 Four-Man: Runs 1 and 2

Saturday 23 February 15:30 - 18:45 Four-Man: Runs 3 and 4

Bobsleigh is one of the high profile sports at any Olympic Winter Games - the 'Formula One race on ice' as it is known. Bobsleigh competitions have been in the Olympic program since the Winter Games were first held in 1924 (although no bob events were held at the 1960 Squaw Valley Games due to the lack of an appropriate venue). While the classes contested have varied in the past, since 1964 the men's competition has consisted of the two-man and four-man events. Women's bobsleigh enters the Olympic program for the first time at these Games, with a two woman event making its debut.

THE SPORT

The bobsleigh is push-started by its crew. This initial thrust and the force of gravity are the only permitted means of powering the bobsleigh down the course and is vital in determining the outcome of the race. Each streamlined metal sleigh chassis is covered with a fibre-reinforced plastic shell equipped with steering controls and a rear brake.

A number of technical requirements are specified for the bobsleigh itself. A two-man unit can weigh no more than 390kg, including crew, and the top weight for a four-man bob is 630kg. Any difference between these maximums and the actual weight of crew plus bob can be made up by attaching weights to the sled. Total weight is measured at the finish.

Heating the runners is banned and their temperature has to be measured by the jury immediately before the bobsleigh is placed on the starting line. The runners must be no more than four degrees above the temperature of a reference runner which has been exposed to the open air for one hour before the start of the competition. Lubricating the runners with any chemical substance is also banned. Results are determined after four runs conducted over a period of two days.

TECHNIQUE

Powerful starts are all important in the sport of bobsleigh. After 250 metres, speeds should already have reached at least 80km per hour, and remain between 80 and 120km per hour over the rest of the track. The team pushes the sleigh from a standing start and then boards the sled as nimbly as possible, with the brakeman the last in after 50 or 60m from the start. Teams may push their sleds for as long as they want, but any additional help in the starting procedure is prohibited. Once in the sleigh, the pilot, the only one who can see ahead, steers to avoid the walls and manoeuvres along the line of maximum speed in the curves. The other crew members keep their heads down, forming a compact surface with minimum drag. The brake is used only to stop the sleigh after passing the finish line.

For a run to count, all team members must cross the finish line with the sled. If a sled crashes, it is usually eliminated from competition because failure to finish any single run results in disqualification from the competition. The run, however, will count as long as all the competitors cross the finish line with the sled, even if it is on its side or upside-down.

PARTICIPANTS

Competitors must be a minimum of 18 years of age. Drivers must have met a series of qualifications relating to participation in and successful completion of international competitions on a variety of tracks, and earned a minimum number of points in World Cup, European Cup or America's Cup competition in either the 2000/2001 or 2001/2002 season.

VENUE

The 15-curve Olympic bobsleigh track sits on the 386-acre Utah Olympic Park complex in the Upper East Canyon Creek watershed. The Olympic luge and skeleton competition also will be held at the track. Utah Olympic Park is 24 miles east of Salt Lake City.

Course length:	1340m
Start Elevation:	2232.7m
Low Point Elevation:	2110.2m
Finish Line Elevation:	2128m
Vertical Drop to Finish:	103.9m
Vertical Drop to Low Point:	122.5m

Note: women's event starts from lower down the track.

AUSTRALIA'S OLYMPIC RECORD

1924 – 1984

No Australian competitors

1988

Two-Man

Angus Stuart & Martin Harland 23rd

Adrian DiPiazza & Simon Dodd 26th

Four-Man

Adrian DiPiazza, Martin Harland, 23rd

Simon Dodd & S. Craig

1992

Two-Man

Paul Narracott & Glenn Turner 30th

1994

Four-man

Justin McDonald, Glenn Carroll, 20th

Scott Walker & Adam Barclay

Two-man

Justin McDonald & Glenn Carroll 27th

1998

Two-man

Jason Giobbi & Adam Barclay 22nd

Four-man

Jason Giobbi, Scott Walker, 23rd

Ted Polglaze & Adam Barclay

BEST AUSTRALIAN RESULT

Two-Man

Jason Giobbi & Adam Barclay 22nd (1998)

Four-Man

Justin McDonald, Glenn Carroll, 20th (1994)

Scott Walker and Adam Barclay

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

Two-man

1932 USA I

1936 USA I

1948	Switzerland II
1952	Germany I
1956	Italy I
1964	GBR
1968	Italy
1972	Germany II
1976	GDR II
1980	Switzerland I
1984	GDR II
1988	USSR
1992	Switzerland
1994	Switzerland I (Gustav Weder/Donat Acklin)
1998	Canada (Pierre Lueders/David McEachern)
	Italy (Guenther Huber/Antonio Tartaglia)

Four-man

1924	Switzerland
1928	USA II (Five man)
1932	USA I
1936	Switzerland II
1948	USA II
1952	Germany
1956	Switzerland I
1964	Canada I
1968	Italy I
1972	Switzerland I
1976	GDR I
1980	GDR I
1984	GDR I
1988	Switzerland
1992	Austria
1994	Germany II (Harald Czudaj, Karsten Brannasch, Olaf Hampel, Alexander Szelig)
1998	GER II (Christoph Langen/Markus Zimmermann/Marco Jakobs/Olaf Hampel)

CRESTA

1928 Jennison Heaton, USA

1948 Nino Bibbia, Italy

1998 NAGANO OLYMPIC GAMES

Two-Man

1 Pierre Lueders/David MacEachern CAN 3:37.24

1 Guenther Huber/Antonio Tartaglia ITA 3:37.24

3 Christoph Langen/Markus Zimmermann GER 3:37.89

Four Man

1 GER II 2:39.41

Christoph Langen/Markus Zimmermann/
Marco Jakobs/Olaf Hampel

2	SUI I	2:40.01
	Marcel Rohner/Markus Nuessli/ Markus Wasser/Beat Hefti	
3	GBR I	2:40.06
	Sean Olsson/Dean Ward/ Courtney Rumbolt/Paul Attwood	
3	FRA I	2:40.06
	Bruno Mingeon/Emmanuel Hostache/ Eric Le Chanony/Max Robert	

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS St Moritz, Switzerland Jan 27-Feb 4

Two man

1	Christoph Langen/Marco Jakobs GER1	4:16.78
2	Reto Göttschi/Cedric Grand SUI3	4:17.73
3	Martin Annen/Beat Hefti SUI2	4:17.84
4	Christian Reich/Steve Anderhub SUI1	4:18.38
5	Pierre Lueders/Ken Le Blanc CAN1	4:18.87
6	Rene Spies/Franz Sagmeister GER2	4:19.54
7	Michael Dionne/John Kasper USA1	4:20.09
8	Günther Huber/Antonio Tartaglia ITA1	4:20.18
9	Evgeni Popov/Alexei Andrynin RUS2	4:20.32
10	Bruno Mingeon/Eric Le Chanony FRA1	4:20.65

Four man

1	Christoph Langen/Markus Zimmermann/ Sven Peter/Alex Metzger GER3	4:10.45
2	Andre Lange/Lars Behrendt/Rene Hoppe/Carsten Embach GER1	4:11.69
3	Christian Reich/Steve Anderhub/ Urs Aeberhard/Dominic Keller SUI1	4:11.95
4	Sandis Prusis/Marcis Rullis/ Matisis Zacmanis/Janis Ozols LAT2	4:12.03
5	Reto Göttschi/Alexandre Quiblier/ Beat Hefti/Cedric Grand SUI2	4:12.04
6	Matthias Benesch/Torsten Voss/ Udo Lehmann/Stefan Barucha GER2	4:12.25
7	Bruno Mingeon/Eric Le Chanony/ Christoph Fouquet/Max Robert FRA2	4:12.99
8	Evgeni Popov/Piotr Makartchuk/ Sergej Golubev/Alexei Andrynin RUS2	4:13.11
9	Michael Dionne/John Kasper/ Douglas Sharp/Earl Shepherd USA1	4:13.12
10	Sean Olsson/Scott Rider/ Phil Goedluck/Marcus Adam GBR1	4:13.32

2001 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

Two man

1	Martin Annen	SUI	229
2	Rene Spies	GER	218
3	Andre Lange	GER	206
4	Christian Reich	SUI	177
5	Reto Göttschi	SUI	168
6	Sandis Prusis	LAT	168
7	Evgeni Popov	RUS	159
8	Todd Hays	USA	150
9	Pierre Lueders	CAN	148
10	Pavel Puskar	CZE	135

Four man

1	Andre Lange	GER	222
2	Sandis Prusis	LAT	197
3	Matthias Benesch	GER	192
4	Todd Hays	USA	179
5	Martin Annen	SUI	168
6	Christian Reich	SUI	164
7	Bruno Mingeon	FRA	160
8	Wolfgang Stampfer	AUT	152
9	Evgeni Popov	RUS	136
10	Gatis Guts	LAT	129

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (JAN. 1, 2002)

4-Man

1	Todd Hays	USA	135
2	Andre Lange	GER	129
3	Martin Annen	SUI	123
4	Sandis Prusis	LAT	106
5	Christoph Langen	GER	96
6	Wolfgang Stampfer	AUT	84
7	Arend Glas	NED	81
8	Pierre Lueders	CAN	80
9	Evgeni Popov	RUS	79
10	Matthias Benesch	GER	77

2-Man

1	Todd Hays	USA	132
2	Martin Annen	SUI	124
3	Christoph Langen	GER	106
4	Pierre Lueders	CAN	102
5	Rene Spies	GER	98
6	Andre Lange	GER	97
7	Reto Göttschi	SUI	90
8	Wolfgang Stampfer	AUT	89
9	Christian Reich	SUI	88
9	Yannick Morin	CAN	88

2001 Women's World Championships February 9, Calgary, Canada

1	Francoise Burdet/Katharina Sutter	SUI1	1:55.08
2	Jean Racine/Jennifer Davidson	USA1	1:55.10
3	Susi Erdmann/Tanja Hees	GER2	1:55.40
4	Karin Olsson/Ludmila Engquist	SWE1	1:56.06
5	Christina Smith/Cherie Whelan	CAN1	1:56.09
6	Sandra Prokoff/Kerstin Jürgens	GER1	1:56.14
7	Christine Fraser/Paula McKenzie	CAN2	1:56.15
8	Bonny Warner/Vonetta Flowers	USA2	1:56.16
9	Eline Jurg/Nannet Kiemel	NED1	1:56.29
10	Kathrin Dostthaler/Ulrike Holzner	GER3	1:56.31

2001 Women's World Cup Final Standings

1	Jean Racine	USA	245
2	Sandra Prokoff	GER	227
3	Bonny Warner	USA	203
4	Susi Erdmann	GER	203
5	Christina Smith	CAN	184
6	Francoise Burdet	SUI	169
7	Eline Jurg	NED	145
8	Cheryl Done	GBR	138
9	Jill Bakken	USA	135
10	Christine Fraser	CAN	130

2002 Women's World Cup Final Standings

1	Susi Erdmann	GER	272
2	Sandra Prokoff	GER	264
3	Jean Racine	USA	232
4	Francoise Burdet	SUI	227
5	Bonny Warner	USA	220
6	Jill Bakken	USA	202
7	Christina Smith	CAN	166
8	Christine Fraser	CAN	161
9	Victoria Tokovaia	RUS	160
10	Ilse Broeders	NED	159

Who to watch

Two man

Annen, SUI
Hays USA
Lange, GER
Langen, GER
Lueders, CAN
Gotschi SUI
Reich SUI
Spies, GER

Four man

Annen, SUI
Hays USA
Lange, GER
Langen, GER
Reich SUI

Christoph Langen, 29, Germany

OWG: Bronze 2-man 1992; Gold 4-man 1998, Bronze 2-man 1998

WCH: Won 2-man 1993, 95; Won 2-man, 4-man 96, Won 2-man 2000, 2nd 4-man; Won 2-man, 4-man 2001

WC: 1996 2nd 2-man, won 4-man; 1998 4th 2-man, 9th 4-man 1999: Won 2-man, 4-man; 2000: 11th 2-man, 5th 4-man; 2001 15th 2-man, 11th 4-man

Langen did not contest all events in the 2000 and 2001 seasons, finishing down the World Cup points table. But he still won three and made the podium in another nine of the 17 2-man and 4-man events he contested. In the 2002 season he had also missed one of the four events on the pre-Christmas calendar, but had collected three wins and two silver medals in his six outings. In 2-man he has been particularly strong in the 2002 season, taking gold, gold, silver. Along the way he picked up the 2000 world championship in 2-man and the 2001 championship in both 2-man and 4-man. With three Olympic medals and seven world championship titles, he is one of the undoubted stars of the sport.

Andre Lange, 28, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: 6th 2-man, 7th 4-man; 2000: 2nd 2-man, 1st 4-man; 2001: 2nd 4-man

WC: 24th 2-man, 13th 4-man 1999; 7th 2-man, 8th 4-man 2000; 3rd 2-man, 1st 4-man 2001

Lange was the 4-man world champion in 2000, and runner up last season. He also won the World Cup title in 2001, winning three events and taking minor medals in three more in a dominant display over the seven-event year. In the first half of the current season he had not made the podium in 2-man but was in second place in the 4-man standings behind Todd Hays after two wins and a third placing from the four events.

Christian Reich, 34, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: 4th 2-man, 7th 4-man

WCH: 1997: 11th/-; 1999 7th/-; 2000: 3rd/3rd; 2001: 4th/7th*

WC: 1999: 4th/7th; 2000 1st/4th; 2001 4th/6th

Reich won three events and medalled in two others to take the 2-man World Cup title in 2000, his

**Note: Results are listed with 2-man first and 4-man second*

best season on the circuit. He also picked up bronze medals in both 2-man and 4-man at the world titles that year. In the 2001 season he claimed silver medals in both events on the Olympic track in Park City. This year he had not been so successful, collecting just one bronze medal in the first five events.

Reto Gotschi, 36, Switzerland

OWG: 1994: Silver 2-man; 1998: 6th 2-man

WCH: 1996: 3rd/-; 1997: 1st/-; 1999: 4th/4th; 2000: 4th/-; 2001: 2nd/-

WC: 1999: 2nd/8th; 2000: 2nd/-; 2001: 5th/-

The 2-man world champion of 1997, Gotschi was runner up for the title last season and posted back to back runner-up results in World Cup in 1999 and 2000. This season he appeared to have slipped a little, with a seventh placing his best result from the four events in the lead-up to Christmas.

Martin Annen, 28, Switzerland

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 3rd/-; WJCH: 2000: Won 2-man, Won 4-man

WC: 2000: -/18th; 2001 1st/5th

One of the rising stars of the sport, Annen won the 2-man World Cup title last season in his first full year on the circuit. He won three races and took bronze medals in two of the other four events. He also took two silver medals in 4-man to finish fifth on the standings. This season he has continued where he left off, sitting in second place on the 2-man standings at Christmas with one silver and three fourth placings. In 4-man he was lying in third place, with another silver and two bronze medals.

Todd Hays, 32, USA

OWG: 1998: Was an alternate for the US team

WCH: 2000: 6th/13th; 2001: 14th/14th

WC: 2000: 14th/11th; 2001 8th/4th

Hays rocketed into gold medal contention this season by winning the 2-man and 4-man races in the opening event in Calgary. He followed up with another 2-man victory in Lake Placid, and had added a silver medal in 2-man and silver and two bronze in 4-man to lead the standings in both events at the Christmas break. Hays looks sure to win his country's first bobsleigh medal since 1956.

Rene Spies, 28, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 6th/-

WC: 1999: 17th/-; 2000: 12th/26th; 2001: 2nd/-

Primarily a 2-man competitor, Spies opened the 2001 season with his first World Cup win, followed it with three bronze medals on the trot, then closed out the season with a silver medal to finish as runner-up for the title. Despite missing one of the four pre-Christmas races, he was fourth on the points table at the break, after taking a silver and two bronze medals.

Pierre Lueders, 31, Canada

OWG: 1994: 7th 2-man, 12th 4-man; 1998: Gold (tied with Gunther Huber) in 2-man, 9th 4-man

WCH: 1996: 2nd 2-man; 1997: 2nd 2-man; 1999: 3rd 4-man

WC: 1997: 1st/12th; 1998 1st/4th; 1999: 3rd/11th; 2000: 4th/3rd; 2001: 9th/16th

Lueders tied with Gunther Huber for the 2-man gold medal in Nagano, the first bobsleigh medal ever for Canada. He won the two-man World Cup title in 1997 and 1998, and is a multiple world championship medallist, with silver in 2-man in 1996 and 1997, and bronze in 4-man in 1999. In

1995, he became the first driver to win all three World Cup titles - two-man, four-man and overall -- in a single season. In the 2002 season, with a new brakeman replacing his former partner Dave McEachern, he has had some success, taking bronze in Lake Placid to sit in fourth place in the 2-man standings as of mid-season.

*Also of note: **Brian Shimer of the United States** competing (if selected) in his fifth Olympics.*

WOMEN

Four women stand out as the medal prospects in women's bobsleigh, but as a reading of the profiles will show, this is a developing sport, and dramatic improvements are not unusual.

Francoise Burdett, 34, Switzerland

OWG: -

WCH: 2000: 3rd

WC: 1998: 1st; 1999: 1st; 2000: 3rd; 2001: 6th; 2002: 4th

Burdett has been pushed down the rankings with the influx of new competitors to the sport, drawn by the lure of Olympic success. The two time World Cup winner has collected just five minor medals in her past 14 events, but is still a podium contender in Salt Lake.

Susi Erdmann, 34, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 3rd

WC: 2000: 3rd; 2001: 1st

Erdmann is a three time world luge champion and dual Olympic medallist, taking the bronze in Albertville and silver in Lillehammer. Coached by the Sarajevo dual gold medallist Wolfgang Hoppe, she took up bobsleigh in the 2000/2001 season, immediately making a major impact on the sport by taking the bronze medal at the world championships and finishing third on the World Cup standings. In her seven World Cup starts that season she claimed only one bronze medal, but never finished worse than fifth. This season she claimed the World Cup title after winning three events and taking silver in the remaining five. What more is there to say!

Sandra Prokoff, 27, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 6th

WC: 2000; 2nd; 2001: 2nd - 6 WC wins and 6 podiums from 15 starts

In her rookie 2001 season, Prokoff won on the Olympic track in Park City and collected three silver medals and a bronze to finish in second place in the World Cup title race. This season she posted five victories to finish as runner-up again, this time behind Susi Erdmann.

Jean Racine, 23, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 2000: 2nd; 2001: 2nd

WC: 2001: 1st; 2002: 3rd

Racine dumped her long time partner Jen Davidson just prior to the American trials, taking on Gea Johnson. In 2001 - with Davidson - Racine was never off the podium on her way to the World Cup title, winning five of the seven events. In 2002 the pair faced tougher opposition from Erdmann and Prokoff, collecting a relatively meagre three minor medals to finish the season in third place. Racine also finished out of the medals at the world championship, in sixth place.

Cross country

Saturday 09 February	09:00 - 10:30	Women's 15km Freestyle
	12:30 - 13:30	Men's 30km Freestyle
Tuesday 12 February	09:00 - 10:30	Women's 10km Classical
	12:00 - 13:30	Men's 15km Classical
Thursday 14 February	09:15 - 12:45	Men's Combined Pursuit: 10km Classical
	12:00 - 13:00	Men's Combined Pursuit: 10km Freestyle
Friday 15 February	09:00 - 10:00	Women's Combined Pursuit: 5km Classical
	11:30 - 12:00	Women's Combined Pursuit: 5km Freestyle
Sunday 17 February	09:30 - 11:30	Men's 4x10km Relay
Tuesday 19 February	09:00 - 10:00	Women's 1.5km Sprint
	12:30 - 14:30	Men's 1.5km Sprint
Thursday 21 February	12:30 - 13:45	Women's 4x5km Relay
Saturday 23 February	09:30 - 13:00	Men's 50km Classical
Sunday 24 February	09:30 - 12:00	Women's 30km Classical

Cross country is the oldest form of competitive skiing and one of the classic Olympic sports, being contested at every Games since the Winter Olympics commenced in 1924 in Chamonix. Until 1952 only men's events were contested, and while distances and skiing techniques have varied from Games to Games, the goal in what is one of the world's most demanding aerobic sports has always remained the same - to cover the distance as quickly as possible.

THE SPORT

The Salt Lake City program will include races using 'classical' technique and 'freestyle' technique, and introduces a sprint event for the first time.

In classical events, skating movements - or any variant where one or both skis are moved out of the parallel line - are generally forbidden. Skis move along prepared tracks in what is known as the 'diagonal stride'. One or two skating movements to change direction or recover balance are tolerated. In classical technique, gripping wax is applied to the skis to prevent them from slipping backwards on the uphill sections. One key to winning is choosing a wax that suits snow conditions during the race.

In the free technique races, skating and all other styles are permitted throughout the course, including the finish and relay handover areas. Competitors in both classical and freestyle technique competitions have to give way to skiers coming from behind, and must not hinder other skiers.

THE EVENTS

Twelve events are scheduled for the Salt Lake City Games. They are:

Men

- 1.5km sprint freestyle (qualification and finals)
- 10km classical interval start plus 10km freestyle pursuit
- 15km classical interval start
- 30km freestyle mass start
- 50km classical interval start
- 4 x 10km relay (two legs classical and two legs freestyle).

Women

- 1.5km sprint freestyle (qualification and finals)
- 5km classical interval start plus 5km freestyle pursuit
- 10km classical interval start
- 15km freestyle mass start
- 30km classical interval start
- 4 x 5km relay (two legs classical and two legs freestyle).

In the interval start events, competitors start at 30 second intervals and the winner is the skier with the fastest time. In the Combined event, competitors ski a 10 kilometre classical race from interval starts, then on the same day ski a 10km freestyle event, with the skier with the fastest time in the first leg starting first, and the rest of the field starting at time intervals equal to the time they were behind the first leg leader. The skier who crosses the finish line first is the gold medallist (the first leg of the combined is not a medal event). The 30km men's event and the 15km women's commence with a mass start and the winner is once again the skier with the fastest time.

The new event on the Olympic program, the 1.5km sprint, is different from the other cross-country events in that it is contested in a series of elimination rounds. After a qualifying round, the fastest 16 skiers advance to the elimination portion of the competition. In the quarterfinals, there are four races of four skiers each, all four competitors starting together. Each of these groups contests a mass-start race over the 1.5-kilometre course. The top two skiers in each race advance to the semifinals. Seeded based on their performances in the quarters - the winning skiers with the fastest and second-fastest times race in one semifinal, along with the second-place skiers with the slowest and next-slowest time. The other semifinal is comprised of the race winners with the third- and fourth-fastest times and the second-place finisher with the third- and fourth-slowest times. The skiers again contest a mass-start race over the 1.5-kilometre course. The top two skiers from each race in the semifinals advance to the final. The winner of the final is the gold medallist.

In all events, in the case of a photo finish, athletes will be ranked according to the order in which their front foot crosses the finish line. If an athlete falls while crossing the finish line, the competitor is ranked by the same method as long as his entire body crosses the finish line without any help.

THE VENUE

The cross country (and biathlon) venue of Soldier Hollow is approximately 69 kilometres from Salt Lake City, and ten kilometres from Heber City, adjacent to the north west corner of Deer Creek Reservoir. The 518-hectare venue is an open, largely treeless site at the eastern edge of Wasatch Mountain State Park. The course is 1670 metres altitude at its lowest point, rising to 1793 metres at the highest point. Stadium elevation is 1690 metres. The course is based around two separate 4km loops.

Capacity - seated 3500; standing 16,500

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1924 – 1948

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

1952

18km	Bruce Haslingden	74th
	Cedric Sloan	75th
50km	Bruce Haslingden	DNF
	Cedric Sloan	DNF

1956

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

1960

15km	Richard Walpole	51st
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1964

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

1968

15km	Ross Martin	60th
30km	Ross Martin	60th

1972 – 1980

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

1984

15km	David Hislop	59th
	Chris Allan	64th
30km	David Hislop	57th
	Chris Allan	59th
50km	David Hislop	48th
	Chris Allan	49th

1988

15km	Chris Heberle	33rd
	David Hislop	70th
30km	Chris Heberle	45th
	David Hislop	62nd

1992

10km	Anthony Evans	37th
	Paul Gray	73rd
15km	Anthony Evans	39th
	Paul Gray	65th
30km	Anthony Evans	54th
50km	Anthony Evans	34th
	Paul Gray	55th

1994

10km (C)	Anthony Evans	51st
	Mark Gray	67th

15km P (F)	Anthony Evans	57th
	Mark Gray	66th
30km (F)	Mark Gray	61st
50km (C)	Anthony Evans	47th
	Mark Gray	59th

1998

10km (C)	Anthony Evans	66th
	Paul Gray	88th
15km P. (F)	Anthony Evans	55th
30km (C)	Anthony Evans	51st
50km (F)	Anthony Evans	48th
	Paul Gray	59th

WOMEN

1924 – 1976

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

1980

5km	Colleen Bolton	36th
10km	Colleen Bolton	35th

1984 – 1998

No Australian cross country skiers competed.

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

10km (C)		
Anthony Evans		37th (1992)
15km (C)		
Hal Nerdal		30th (1960)
Chris Heberle		33rd (1988)
15km Pursuit (F)		
Anthony Evans		39th (1992)
30km (C)		
Chris Heberle		45th (1988)
50km (F)		
Anthony Evans		34th (1992)

WOMEN

5km (C)		
Colleen Bolton		36th (1980)
10km (C)		
Colleen Bolton		35th (1980)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

10km

- 1992 Vegard Ulvang, Norway
- 1994 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway
- 1998 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway

15km*

- 1924 Thorleif Haug, Norway
- 1928 Johan Grottnumsbraten, Norway
- 1932 Sven Utterstrom, Sweden
- 1936 Erik-August Larsson, Sweden
- 1948 Martin Lundstrom, Sweden
- 1952 Hallgeir Brenden, Norway
- 1956 Hallgeir Brenden, Norway
- 1960 Haakon Brusveen, Norway
- 1964 Eero Mantyranta, Finland
- 1968 Harald Gronningen, Norway
- 1972 Sven-Ake Lundback, Sweden
- 1976 Nikolai Bajukov, USSR
- 1980 Thomas Wassberg, Sweden
- 1984 Gunde Svan, Sweden
- 1988 Mikhail Deviatyarov, USSR
- 1992 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway
- 1994 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway
- 1998 Thomas Alsgaard Norway

*Note: From 1924 - 1952, the distance raced was 18km, not 15km

30km

- 1956 Veikko Hakulinen, Finland
- 1960 Sixten Jernberg, Sweden
- 1964 Eero Mantyranta, Finland
- 1968 Franco Nones, Italy
- 1972 Vjatjeslav Vedenin, USSR
- 1976 Sergej Savelijev, USSR
- 1980 Nikolai Zimjatov, USSR
- 1984 Nikolai Zimjatov, USSR
- 1988 Aleksej Prokororov, USSR
- 1992 Vegard Ulvang, Norway
- 1994 Thomas Alsgaard, Norway
- 1998 Mika Myllylae, Finland

50km

- 1924 Thorleif Haug, Norway
- 1928 Per Erik Hedlund, Sweden
- 1932 Veli Saarinen, Finland
- 1936 Elis Wiklund, Sweden
- 1948 Nils Karlsson, Sweden
- 1952 Veikko Hakulinen, Finland
- 1956 Sixten Jernberg, Sweden

- 1960 Kalevi Hamalainen, Finland
- 1964 Sixten Jernberg, Sweden
- 1968 Ole Ellefsaeter, Norway
- 1972 Pal Tyldum, Norway
- 1976 Ivar Formo, Norway
- 1980 Nikolai Zimjatov, USSR
- 1984 Thomas Wassberg, Sweden
- 1988 Gunde Svan, Sweden
- 1992 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway
- 1994 Vladimir Smirnov, Kazakhstan
- 1998 Bjorn Daehlie, Norway

Relay

- 1936 Finland
- 1948 Sweden
- 1952 Finland
- 1956 USSR
- 1960 Finland
- 1964 Sweden
- 1968 Norway
- 1972 USSR
- 1976 Finland
- 1980 USSR
- 1984 Sweden
- 1988 Sweden
- 1992 Norway
- 1994 Italy (Maurilio De Zolt, Marco Albarello, Giorgio Vanzetta, Silvio Fauner)
- 1998 Norway (Sture Sivertsen, Bjorn Daehlie, Erling Jevne, Thomas Alsgaard)

WOMEN

5km

- 1964 Klaudia Bojarsjick, USSR
- 1968 Toini Gustafsson, Sweden
- 1972 Galina Kulakova, USSR
- 1976 Helena Takalo, Finland
- 1980 Raisa Smetanina, USSR
- 1984 Marja-Liisa Hamalainen, Finland
- 1988 Marjo Matikainen, Finland
- 1992 Marjut Lukkarinen, Finland
- 1994 Ljubov Egorova, Russia
- 1998 Larissa Lazutina, Russia

10km

- 1952 Lydia Wideman, Finland
- 1956 Ljubov Kosyrjeva, USSR
- 1960 Maria Gusakova, USSR
- 1964 Klaudia Gustafsson, Sweden
- 1698 Toini Gustafsson, Sweden
- 1972 Galina Kulakova, USSR
- 1976 Raisa Smetanina, USSR
- 1980 Barbara Petzold, GDR

- 1984 Marja-Liisa Hamalainen, Finland
- 1988 Vida Ventsene, USSR
- 1992 Ljubov Egorova, CIS
- 1994 Ljubov Egorova, Russia
- 1998 Larissa Lazutina, Russia

15km

- 1992 Ljubov Egorova, CIS
- 1994 Manuela Di Centa, Italy
- 1998 Olga Danilova, Russia

20km

- 1984 Marja-Liisa Hamalainen, Finland
- 1988 Tamara Tikonova, USSR
- 1992 Stefania Belmondo, Italy
- 1998 Not contested
- 30km
- 1992 Stefania Belmondo, Italy
- 1994 Manuela Di Centa, Italy
- 1998 Julija Tchepalova, Russia

Relay

- 1956 Finland
- 1960 Sweden
- 1964 USSR
- 1968 Norway
- 1972 USSR
- 1976 USSR
- 1980 GDR
- 1984 Norway
- 1988 USSR
- 1992 CIS
- 1994 Russia (Elena Valbe, Larissa Lazutina, Nina Gavriluk, Ljubov Egorova)
- 1998 Russia (Elena Valbe, Larissa Lazutina, Nina Gavriluk, Olga Danilova)

1998 NAGANO OLYMPIC GAMES

Men's 15km classic

- 1 Mikhail Devyatjarov, URS 41:18.9
- 2 Paal Gunnar Mikkelsplass, NOR 41:33.4
- 3 Vladimir Smirnov, URS 41:48.5

Men's combined pursuit

- 1 Thomas Alsgaard, NOR 1:07:01.7
- 2 Bjorn Daehlie, NOR 1:07:02.8
- 3 Vladimir Smirnov, KAZ 1:07:31.5

Men's 30km freestyle

- 1 Mika Myllylae, FIN 1:33:55.8
- 2 Erling Jevne, NOR 1:35:27.1
- 3 Silvio Fauner, ITA 1:36:08.5

Men's 50km classic

- 1 Bjorn Daehlie, NOR 2:05:08.2

- 2 Niklas Jonsson, SWE 2:05:16.3
- 3 Christian Hoffmann, AUT 2:06:01.8

Men's 4x10km relay

- 1 Norway 1:40:55.7 (Sture Sivertsen, Erling Jevne, Bjorn Daehlie, Thomas Alsgaard)
- 2 Italy 1:40:55.9 (Marco Albarello, Fulvio Valbusa, Fabio Maj, Silvio Fauner)
- 3 Finland 1:42:15.5 (Harri Kirvesniemi, Mika Myllalae, Sami Repo, Jari Isometsae)

Women's 10km Classic

- 1 Vida Venciene, URS 30:08.3
- 2 Raisa Smetanina, URS 30:17.0
- 3 Marjo Matikainen, FIN 30:20.5

Women's combined pursuit

- 1 Larissa Lazutina, RUS 46:06.9
- 2 Olga Danilova, RUS 46:13.4
- 3 Katerina Neumannova, CZE 46:14.2

Women's 15km freestyle

- 1 Olga Danilova, RUS 46:55.4
- 2 Larissa Lazutina, RUS 47:01.0
- 3 Anita Moen-Guidon, NOR 47:42.6

Women's 30km classic

- 1 Julija Tchepalova, RUS 1:22:01.5
- 2 Stefania Belmondo, ITA 1:22:11.7
- 3 Larissa Lazutina, RUS 1:23:15.7

Women's 4x5km relay

- 1 Russia 55:13.5 (Nina Gavriluk, Olga Danilova, Yelena Valbe, Larissa Lazutina)
- 2 Norway 55:38.0 (Bente Martinsen, Marit Mikkelsplass, Elin Nilsen, Anita Moen-Guidon)
- 3 Italy 56:53.3 (Karin Moroder, Gabriella Paruzzi, Manuela Di Centa, Stefania Belmondo)

2001 NORDIC WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lahti, Finland

February 15-25, 2001

Women's 15km C

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|-----|---------|
| 1 | Bente Skari | NOR | 43:54.8 |
| 2 | Olga Danilova | RUS | 44:02.5 |
| 3 | Kaisa Varis | FIN | 44:57.5 |
| 4 | Hilde G. Pedersen | NOR | 45:20.4 |
| 5 | Virpi Kuitunen | FIN | 45:25.7 |
| 6 | Milla Jauho | FIN | 45:39.1 |
| 7 | Larissa Lazutina | RUS | 45:51.7 |
| 8 | Stefania Belmondo | ITA | 46:08.4 |
| 9 | Katerina Neumannova | CZE | 46:09.7 |
| 10 | Julija Tchepalova | RUS | 46:09.8 |

Women's 5km C/5km F (P)		
1	Virpi Kuitunen	FIN 28:06.1
2	Larissa Lazutina	RUS 28:08.9
3	Olga Danilova	RUS 28:09.3
4	Stefania Belmondo	ITA 28:23.9
5	Bente Skari	NOR 28:24.9
6	Kaisa Varis	FIN 28:26.2
7	Julija Tchepalova	RUS 28:39.6
8	Nina Gavriiljuk	RUS 28:42.8
9	Milla Jauho	FIN 28:50.1
10	Sabina Valbusa	ITA 29:15.3

Women's 10km C		
1	Bente Skari	NOR 26:55.5
2	Olga Danilova	RUS 27:08.4
3	Larissa Lazutina	RUS 27:27.0
4	Stefania Belmondo	ITA 27:40.5
5	Virpi Kuitunen	FIN 27:43.4
6	Hilde G. Pedersen	NOR 27:56.3
7	Kaisa Varis	FIN 28:03.1
8	Svetlana Nagejkina	RUS 28:22.5
9	Milla Jauho	FIN 28:24.8
10	Olga Savialova	RUS 28:25.6

Women's Sprint		
1	Pirjo Manninen	FIN
2	Kati Sundqvist	FIN
3	Julija Tchepalova	RUS
4	Sabina Valbusa	ITA
5	Nina Gavriiljuk	RUS
6	Elena Buruhina	RUS
7	Anita Moen	NOR
8	Elina Pienimaeki	FIN
9	Beckie Scott	CAN
10	Manuela Henkel	GER

Women's 4x5km Relay		
1.	Russia	(Olga Danilova, Larissa Lazutina, Julija Tchepalova, Nina Gavriiljuk)
2.	Finland +54.1	(Virpi Kuitunen, Milla Jauho, Kaisa Varis, Pirjo Manninen)
3.	Norway +1,00.3	(Anita Moen, Bente Skari, Hilde Pedersen, Elin Nilsen)

Men's 15km C		
1	Per Elofsson	SWE 39:26.0
2	Mathias Fredriksson	SWE 39:42.5
3	Odd-Bjoern Hjelmeset	NOR 39:49.3
4	Harri Kirvesniemi	FIN 40:06.3
5	Andrus Veerpalu	EST 40:06.5
6	Frode Estil	NOR 40:21.1
7	Anders Aukland	NOR 40:25.5

8	Johann Muehlegg	SPA 40:26.1
9	Magnus Ingesson	SWE 40:36.7
10	Jaak Mae	EST 40:41.0

Men's 10k C/10k F (P)		
1	Per Elofsson	SWE 47:15.5
2	Johann Muehlegg	SPA 47:42.0
3	Vitaly Denisov	RUS 47:49.5
4	Mathias Fredriksson	SWE 47:56.3
5	Thomas Alsgaard	NOR 47:59.0
6	Markus Hasler	LIE 47:59.5
7	Tor Arne Hetland	NOR 48:00.7
8	Fulvio Valbusa	ITA 48:01.4
9	Pietro Pillar Cottreer	ITA 48:01.9
10	Kristen Skjeldal	NOR 48:03.6

Men's 30km C		
1	Andrus Veerpalu	EST 1:14:17.9
2	Frode Estil	NOR 1:14:18.1
3	Mikhail Ivanov	RUS 1:14:49.1
4	Erling Jevne	NOR 1:14:57.2
5	Odd-Bjoern Hjelmeset	NOR 1:15:15.7
6	Mathias Fredriksson	SWE 1:15:21.5
7	Fabio Maj	ITA 1:15:21.6
8	Harri Kirvesniemi	FIN 1:15:24.5
9	Anders Aukland	NOR 1:15:29.6
10	Janne Immonen	FIN 1:15:52.4

Men's 50km F		
1	Johann Muehlegg	SPA 2:05:27.2
2	Rene Sommerfeldt	GER 2:07:23.4
3	Serguei Kriane	RUS 2:07:28.4
4	Andrei Noutrikhine	RUS 2:08:30.3
5	Christian Hoffmann	AUT 2:08:50.5
6	Per Elofsson	SWE 2:08:51.9
7	Vladimir Vilisov	RUS 2:09:26.9
8	Pietro Pillar Cottreer	ITA 2:09:52.0
9	Alexei Prokourorov	RUS 2:10:09.7
10	Kristen Skjeldal	NOR 2:10:12.1

Men's Sprint		
1	Tor Arne Hetland	NOR
2	Cristian Zorzi	ITA
3	Haavard Solbakken	NOR
4	Ari Palolahti	FIN
5	Anders Hoegberg	SWE
6	Peter Schlickerrieder	GER
7	Silvio Fauner	ITA
8	Rene Sommerfeldt	GER
9	Christoph Sumann	AUT
10	Jan Jacob Verdenius	NOR

Men's 4x10 Km Relay,		
1)	Finland 1.36.15,5	(Immonen, Kirvesniemi, Repo, Myllylä)

2) Norway +27,0 Seconds		
(Estil, Hjelmeset, Alsgaard, Hetland)		
3) Sweden +1.09,7		
(Lindgren, Fredriksson, Ingesson, Elofsson)		

2001 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

Men Overall			
1	Per Elofsson	SWE	763
2	Johann Muehlegg	SPA	603
3	Thomas Alsgaard	NOR	474
4	Pietro Pillar Cottreer	ITA	456
5	Odd-Bjoern Hjelmeset	NOR	439
6	Rene Sommerfeldt	GER	384
7	Fulvio Valbusa	ITA	378
8	Frode Estil	NOR	370
9	Kristen Skjeldal	NOR	363
10	Michail Botvinov	AUT	346

Men's Sprint			
1	Jan Jacob Verdenius	NOR	321
2	Cristian Zorzi	ITA	288
3	Tor Arne Hetland	NOR	239
4	Morten Broers	NOR	214
5	Trond Einar Elden	NOR	212
6	Thomas Alsgaard	NOR	200
7	Haavard Bjerkeli	NOR	177
8	Thobias Fredriksson	SWE	161
9	Fulvio Valbusa	ITA	154
10	Haavard Solbakken	NOR	152

Women Overall			
1	Julija Tchepalova	RUS	1106
2	Bente Skari	NOR	990
3	Larissa Lazutina	RUS	893
4	Stefania Belmondo	ITA	785
5	Olga Savialova	RUS	529
6	Gabriella Paruzzi	ITA	528
7	Olga Danilova	RUS	502
8	Nina Gavriiljuk	RUS	481
9	Katerina Neumannova	CZE	435
10	Kristina Smigun	EST	352

Women's sprint			
1	Bente Skari	NOR	430
2	Pirjo Manninen	FIN	380
3	Manuela Henkel	GER	259
4	Julija Tchepalova	RUS	256
4	Anita Moen	NOR	256
6	Gabriella Paruzzi	ITA	185
7	Stefania Belmondo	ITA	164
8	Karin Moroder	ITA	161
9	Claudia Kuenzel	GER	139
10	Elina Pienimaeki	FIN	136

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (Jan 1, 2002)

Men's Overall		
1	Per Elofsson	SWE 449
2	Anders Aukland	NOR 247
3	Erling Jevne	NOR 230
4	Thomas Alsgaard	NOR 216
5	Johann Muehlegg	SPA 213
6	Frode Estil	NOR 210
7	Jaak Mae	EST 187
8	Kristen Skjeldal	NOR 176
9	Ole Einar Bjoerdalen	NOR 160
10	Cristian Zorzi	ITA 157

Women's Overall		
1	Bente Skari	NOR 426
2	Julija Tchepalova	RUS 362
3	Kristina Smigun	EST 358
4	Katerina Neumannova	CZE 350
5	Olga Danilova	RUS 302
6	Stefania Belmondo	ITA 274
7	Hilde G. Pedersen	NOR 254
8	Larissa Lazutina	RUS 206
9	Vibeke W Skofterud	NOR 203
10	Natalia Baranova-Masolkina	RUS 179

Men's Sprint		
1	Cristian Zorzi	ITA 111
2	Jens Arne Svartedal	NOR 100
3	Thobias Fredriksson	SWE 85
4	Trond Iversen	NOR 80
4	Tor Arne Hetland	NOR 80
6	Bjoern Lind	SWE 70
7	Markus Hasler	LIE 69
8	Silvio Fauner	ITA 66
9	Marc Mayer	AUT 61
10	Andreas Schluetter	GER 60

Women's Sprint		
1	Bente Skari	NOR 108
2	Beckie Scott	CAN 105
3	Katerina Neumannova	CZE 100
4	Hilde G. Pedersen	NOR 96
5	Petra Majdic	SLO 80
5	Vibeke W Skofterud	NOR 80
7	Julija Tchepalova	RUS 50
7	Kati Sundqvist	FIN 50
9	Evi Sachenbacher	GER 46
10	Tina Bay	NOR 45

Who to watch

Thanks to coaches and athletes of the Australian Cross Country Ski Team for their assessment of the top internationals in cross country, and their predictions for the 2002 likely medal chances.

MEN

Per Elofsson from Sweden is the main man across all events except the sprint. He won two gold medals at the 2001 world championships in Lahti and will comfortably lead the 2001-2002 World Cup after all the December races. Elofsson could conceivably win the 15km classic, the 30km freestyle mass start, the 10km/10km pursuit, and could even have a crack at the 50km classic if he manages to hold his form all the way through.

Johann Muehlegg from Spain (formerly German) is likely to be Elofsson's main competition in the 30km freestyle and the 10km/10km pursuit. Muehlegg won the 30km in the Salt Lake City test event last year and skis well at altitude.

There is a host of **Norwegian classic skiers** who could win the 15km classic and 50km classic, but it's hard to tip until Norway decides which four skiers to enter in each race. **Odd-Bjom Hjeltneseth, Anders Auckland, Erling Jevne, Frode Estil, Espen Bjervig, Kristen Skjeldal, Tore Bjornviken, Thomas Alsgaard** could also win any event if he finds form, which sometimes eludes him. In addition, **biathlete Ole Einar Bjornndalen** will definitely be a contender in the 30km freestyle if he is given a start.

Christian Hoffman from Austria will be a chance in the 30km freestyle mass start, as will **Andrus Veerpalu** from Estonia in the 50km classic. **Mikhail Ivanov** from Russia could also surprise in the 15km classic.

The **freestyle sprint** will likely be the most hotly contested event. Only 16 skiers qualify for the finals, but from then it could be anyone's race, depending on who is firing on the day and has fast skis. The sprinters in form so far this season are **Christian Zorzi** from Italy and **Tor-Arne Hetland** from Norway, but there is a newcomer from Sweden by the name of **Bjom Lind** who is extremely fast in the qualifying round and just needs to learn some better race tactics.

In the **4 x 10km relay**, **Norway** has been the favourite in every major championship since 1992, though it lost in spectacular sprints in 1994 and 1999. With Norway likely to lead after the two classic legs, the question will be whether Elofsson can pull back enough time for **Sweden** or whether **Russia** can get four skiers to fire on the same day.

The Australian Ski Team Tips - the men

30km Freestyle Mass Start	10-10km Pursuit	50km Classic
1 Muehlegg, SPA	1 Elofsson, SWE	1 Jevne, NOR
2 Elofsson, SWE	2 Muehlegg, SPA	2 Veerpalu, EST
3 Hoffman, AUT	3 Alsgaard, NOR	3 Estil, NOR
15km Classic	Sprint	Relay
1 Elofsson, SWE	1 Hetland, NOR	1 Norway
2 Jevne, NOR	2 Zorzi, ITA	2 Sweden
3 Hjeltneset, NOR	3 Lind, SWE	3 Russia

Recent results - Men

Per Elofsson Sweden

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 15km C
Gold medallist 2001 WCH10k C/10k F (P)
2001 WC Overall champion

Johann Muehlegg, Spain

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 50km F
Silver medallist 2001 WCH 10k C/10k F (P)
2001 WC Overall runner up

Tor Arne Hetland, Norway

Gold medallist 2001 WCH Sprint
Third in 2001 WC Sprint standings

Cristian Zorzi, Italy

Silver medallist 2001 WCH Sprint
Second 2001 WC Sprint standings

Anders Auckland, Norway

Thomas Alsgaard Norway

WOMEN

Bente Skari from **Norway** will win all classic events unless the Norwegian team manages to completely mess up the waxing. Some other Norwegians could also feature in the classic events, including veteran **Hilde Pedersen** and up and coming **Vibeke Skofterud**

Expect **Russian** women to appear frequently in the top 10 in all events. **Larissa Lazutina, Olga Danilova, Nina Gavriljuk, Natalie Baranova, Elena Buruhina** and, of course, the 2001 World Cup Champion **Julia Tchepalova**

Kristina Smigun from **Estonia** had a relative shocker at the 2001 World Championships, but is back in form again this season. She could feature in any event.

Katerina Neumannova from the **Czech Republic** was in sensational form in the Salt Lake City test events in 2001, and is another skier who can challenge over any distance, from sprint to 30km.

Stefania Belmondo from **Italy** has her best chance in the 15km freestyle mass start, and expect her to move up many places in the freestyle leg of the pursuit.

Special mention needs to be made of the **Canadian** women's team headed up by **Beckie Scott**, who performed very well in the Salt Lake City test events and started the 2001-2002 season well. Scott could be a surprise podium in either the sprint or the pursuit.

The women's freestyle **sprint** has been thrown wide open with a pre-season injury to the 2001 World Champion **Pirjo Manninen** from **Finland**. There has been a different winner (and mostly different finalists) in each of the December sprint events. If Manninen is there, even if she hasn't competed since the last world cup season, she will still be the favourite. Otherwise **Tchepalova, Neumannova, Smigun**, or the **Italian Vallbusa** may be some names to pick from.

It is hard to see **Russia** managing to lose the women's 4 by 5km relay. It is not uncommon in World Cup for the second string Russian team to beat the rest of the world. Norway will be up there after the classic and could hold on for second. Other contenders will be Finland, Germany and possibly Sweden. Canada could also surprise.

Recent results - Women

Bente Skari NOR

Gold medallist 2001 WCH 15km C
Gold medallist 2001 WCH 10km C
2001 WC Sprint Champion
Runner up 2001 WC Overall standings

Olga Danilova RUS

Gold medallist Nagano 15km F
Gold medallist Nagano relay
Silver medallist Nagano Combined Pursuit
Silver medallist 2001 WCH 15km C
Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 5km C/5km F
Silver medallist 2001 WCH 10km C
Gold medallist 2001 WCH relay

Larissa Lazutina RUS

Gold medallist Nagano Combined Pursuit
Silver medallist Nagano 15km F
Bronze medallist Nagano 30km C
Gold medallist Lillehammer relay
Gold medallist Nagano relay
Silver medallist 2001 WCH 5km C/5km F
Bronze medallist 2001 WCH 10km C
Gold medallist 2001 WCH relay
Third 2001 WC Overall standings

Pirjo Manninen

Gold medallist 2001 WCH Sprint
Runner up 2001 WC Sprint standings
Been injured

Kati Sundqvist FIN

Runner up 2001 WC Sprint standings

Julija Tchepalova RUS

2001 WC Overall champion
Bronze medallist 2001 WCH Sprint
Gold medallist 2001 WCH relay
Third 2001 WC Sprint standings
Gold medallist Nagano 30km

Stefania Belmondo ITA

Gold medallist Albertville 30km
Silver medallist Nagano 30km C
Fourth 2001 WCH 5km C/5km F
Fourth medallist 2001 WCH 10km C

ALSO WATCH FOR:

Kristina Smigun EST

Katerina Neumannova CZE

Beckie Scott CAN

The Australian Ski Team Tips - the women

15km Mass Start

1 Tchepalova, RUS

2 Smigun, EST

3 Belmondo, ITA

5/5km Pursuit

1 Smigun, EST

2 Tchepalova, RUS

3 Neumannova, CZE

30km Classic

1 Skari, NOR

2 Danilova, RUS

3 Rolerova, RUS

10km Classic

1 Skari, NOR

2 Danilova, RUS

3 Lazutina, RUS

Sprint

1 Manninen, FIN (If healthy)

2 Tchepalova, RUS

3 Scott, CAN

Relay

1 Russia

2 Norway

3 Finland

Curling

11 - 18 February

Wednesday 20 February

Thursday 21 February

Friday 23 February

Preliminary matches - various times

09:00 - 22:00

09:00 - 12:00

14:00 - 17:00

09:00 - 12:00

14:00 - 17:00

Semi-final matches

Women's Bronze Medal match

Women's Gold Medal match

Men's Bronze Medal match

Men's Gold Medal match

The origins of Curling date back to 16th century Scotland, as a game played on frozen ponds and lakes with large rocks. Organised curling games and clubs began in the 18th century, and the sport gradually spread to Europe and then to North America via British troops and immigrants. The first North American club was formed in Montreal in 1807. Curling was a demonstration sport in 1992 in Albertville, and in Nagano it became a full medal sport for the first time. Ten men's and ten women's teams will participate in the Salt Lake City Games. Each national Olympic Committee qualified for the Olympics on the basis of their results at the World Championships in the three years prior to the Games (1999, 2000, 2001).

THE SPORT

Each team consists of four players: the lead, the second, the third and the skip (team captain). Each player, alternating with the opposing team, delivers two granite stones (with a maximum of 19.96kg each in weight) along the ice (called the sheet) toward a series of concentric rings called the 'house', the outer circle having a radius of 1.83m. The object is to place the stone as close as possible to the centre of the house, called the 'tee', and marked by the intersection of a line running down the centre of the sheet and a perpendicular 'tee line' drawn across the sheet. After each end of 16 stones, a team scores a point for each stone that is closer to the tee than its opponent's best stones (in the same way as the number of bowls nearest the jack in lawn bowls). Games are 10 ends, and last about two and a half hours. The team with the highest total score wins.

TECHNIQUE

On delivery, the stone is released with a characteristic spin, or 'curl,' which gives the game its name. The player slides down the ice from the 'hack', and must release the stone before the 'hog line', 10.6m down the ice. Two sweepers use brooms on the ice in front of the moving stone to control momentum and direction, manoeuvring the stone to where the skip has indicated. Sweeping clears the ice of any debris that might slow down the stone or send it off course, and also slightly melts it, which aids the slide of the stone. Players are not permitted to knock an opponent's stone out of the free guard zone between the hog line and the house until the first four stones delivered have come to a complete stop. This rule, introduced in 1991, has increased the importance of skill and strategy.

THE COMPETITION

The Salt Lake 2002 Games curling competition will consist of 10 teams, each competing in a round-robin from 11-18 February 2002. During this preliminary series, each team will play against

each of the other teams. Based on the results of the round-robin, semifinals will be on 20 February. The medal games for men and women will be held on separate days, with the women's medal games played 21 February and the men's medal games played 22 February. Any necessary tiebreaker games will take place after the completion of the round-robin.

VENUE

The Ice Sheet at Ogden was built in 1994. It accommodates four sheets of ice (each measuring 4.75 metres x 44.50 metres) and has seating for 2,000 spectators. The venue is approximately 66km from the Olympic Village.

1998 NAGANO WINTER OLYMPICS

Men

- 1 Switzerland
- 2 Canada
- 3 Norway

Women

- 1 Canada
- 2 Denmark
- 3 Sweden

2001 WORLD CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lausanne, March 31-April 8, 2001

Men

- 1 Sweden
- 2 Switzerland

- 3 Norway
- 4 Canada
- 5 Finland
- 6 France
- 7 Germany
- 8 USA
- 9 New Zealand
- 10 Denmark

Women

- 1 Canada
- 2 Sweden
- 3 Denmark
- 4 Scotland
- 5 Germany
- 5 USA
- 7 Japan
- 8 Norway
- 9 Russia
- 10 Switzerland

WHO TO WATCH

MEN

Sweden

Led by Peter Lindholm, the Swedish team were the reigning world champions going into Nagano, but finished in sixth place. After making the world championship final in all but one of the past five years, and winning the pre-Olympic world title in March this year, they will once again take the mantle of favourite into the Games.

Switzerland

The Swiss team - alternately skipped by both Andreas Schwaller and his older brother Christof - was runner up in the 2001 world championships in Lausanne. The result earned them the right to represent their country in Salt Lake, edging out the team of compatriot Patrick Huerlimann which had taken the gold medal in Nagano.

Norway

The Norwegian team of Paal Trulsen took the bronze medal in the 2001 world championships, going down to Sweden in the semi-finals, but not before pushing the eventual gold medallists into an extra end.

USA

The home team advantage may help the US team improve on their 1998 fourth place finish to claim a podium spot in Salt Lake.

WOMEN

Sweden

The Swedish team of Elizabet Gustafson won the bronze medal in Nagano after going into the Games - like their male compatriots - as one of the favourites for gold. That disappointment has been eased somewhat for Gustafson by winning four world titles, the most in history by a female skip. The team has been together since winning their first world title in 1992, and will be desperate to avenge their Nagano result (but note that they were not the team that represented Sweden in the 2001 worlds earlier this year, finishing second).

Denmark

The Danish team took the bronze medal at the 2001 worlds in Lausanne, their second in a row. Led by Lene Bidstrup, whose sister was a member of the silver medal-winning team in Nagano, the Danes should feature on the podium in Salt Lake.

Canada

Canada won gold in Nagano with the legendary Sandra Schmirler and also took the 2001 world title with a team skipped by Colleen Jones. Neither will be present in Salt Lake City, Schmirler having tragically died of cancer in March 2000 and Jones losing in the semifinals of the Olympic trials. But the Canadian team will still be a major podium challenger, led by 2000 world champion Kelley Law.

USA

Kari Erickson led the US to fifth place at the 2001 worlds, but the team lost four of their last five games after winning the opening four on the trot. Should be inspired by the home crowd

Figure skating

Saturday 09 February	18:30 - 21:30	Pairs Short Program
Monday 11 February	17:45 - 21:30	Pairs Free Program
Tuesday 12 February	17:15 - 21:30	Men's Short Program
Thursday 14 February	17:45 - 22:00	Men's Free Program
Friday 15 February	15:45 - 21:00	Dance Compulsory
Sunday 17 February	17:30 - 21:00	Dance Original
Monday 18 February	17:15 - 21:15	Dance Free
Tuesday 19 February	17:15 - 21:30	Ladies' Short Program
Thursday 21 February	17:45 - 22:00	Ladies' Free Program
Friday 22 February	18:45 - 21:15	Ladies' and Men's Exhibition

Figure skating has the longest Olympic history of all winter sports. It was on the Summer Olympic Games program in London in 1908 and Antwerp in 1920, and has been included on the Winter Games program since its inception in Chamonix in 1924. Men's, ladies and pairs skating competitions were on the 1924 program, and in 1976 in Innsbruck, ice dancing was added.

The United States has won the most Olympic Medals with a total of 40 (12 gold, 13 silver and 15 bronze). The United States has been exceptionally strong in ladies' singles, winning more than a third of the medals in the event's history.

The past two Olympic figure skating competitions have been dominated by the Russians, who won six of the possible eight gold medals and 10 in total. Ladies' singles is the one title that has eluded the Russians in the past two Olympics.

THE SPORT

The Salt Lake City Olympic figure skating field will consist of 30 ladies' and men's singles competitors, 20 pairs and 24 ice dance teams. There is a maximum of three entries per event per National Olympic Committee, and only skaters who have reached the age of 15 by July 1, 2001, are eligible to compete.

Individual and Pairs competition

Both individual and pairs competitions in figure skating consist of two sections: the short program (33.3% of the score) and free skating (66.6%). The short program, which is held first, embraces eight required elements such as jumps, jump combinations, spirals, spins and step sequences. Pairs must also demonstrate lifts and other pair skating elements. Free skating requires competitors to present a balanced and well-composed program of their own choosing which also harmonises with the accompanying music they select. In the two singles events, the 24 top competitors in the short program advance to the free skate. In pairs, all entries proceed to the free skate.

Ice dancing

Ice dancing is divided into three sections. The two compulsory dances account for 20 per cent of the marks, the set program for 30 per cent and free dancing for 50 per cent.

Compulsory Dances: At Salt Lake City, the two dances to be skated will be drawn from the following four: Ravensburger Waltz, Golden Waltz, Quickstep, and Blues. Each dance has a specified rhythm, tempo and steps and is skated to set music.

Original Dance: A dance individually choreographed for each couple to music of their own choice, to be skated to a Spanish medley of any two or three Paso Doble, Tango, Flamenco or Waltz rhythms orchestrated in a Spanish style/manner.

Free Dance: A program choreographed for each couple to music of their own choice, which includes various movements such as steps, small jumps and small lifts. The man's arm may not be higher than his head during lifts.

Ice dancing is significantly different from pairs skating. Couples face many more restrictions on their movements and must master prescribed movements. For example, acrobatic lifts or feats of strength are prohibited. In ice dancing, all entries proceed to the free dance.

STARTING ORDER

The order in which skaters compete in the singles and pairs short programs and ice dance compulsory dances is determined by a random draw held two days before the start of competition. Skaters are subdivided into groups according to their standings for the free skate in the singles and pairs and the original dance and free dance in the ice dance, with the order in each group determined by draw.

SCORING

Nine judges award marks for content and execution as competitors complete their programs. Scoring is from zero to six and to one decimal place. Six marks are awarded only for a perfect performance, while zero means the program was not attempted. If two individuals, or two pairs or a couple are tied on the same score at the end of competition, the competitor with the higher placement in the free program or the dance wins.

PROGRAM TIME

Singles

Short Program	Maximum 2 min 40 sec
Free Skating (M)	4:30 plus or minus 10 secs
Free Skating (W)	4 mins plus or minus 10 secs

Pairs

Short program	Maximum 2:40
Free skating	4:30 plus or minus 10 secs

Ice Dancing

Compulsory	2:00
Original	2:30 plus or minus 10 seconds
Free	4:00 plus or minus 10 secs

THE JUMPS

Singles elements

Double Axel: Forward outside takeoff, 2.5 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.
Triple Salchow: Back inside takeoff, 3 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.

Triple Toe Loop: Back outside, toe-assisted take-off, 3 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.
Triple Loop Back: Outside takeoff, 3 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.
Triple Flip Back: Inside, toe-assisted take-off, 3 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.
Triple Lutz: Back outside, toe-assisted take-off, 3 revolutions in the air, back outside landing on the opposite foot.

Triple Axel: Forward outside takeoff, 3.5 revolutions in the air, back outside landing.

Quads: Some skaters perform quadruple Salchow and quadruple Toe-Loop jumps. Same descriptions as for the triples, but with 4 revolutions in the air rather than 3.

Jump Combinations: A combination of two jumps, where the landing edge of the first jump becomes the take-off edge of the second jump.

Jump Sequences: A combination of a series of jumps performed close together with a turn, movement or other small jump(s) connecting the sequence together.

Flying Spins: A spin commenced with a jump but landed in a spin. Examples are flying sit spin, flying camel.

Combination Spins: A spin which involves a series of position changes and change of the spinning foot.

Pairs elements

Twist Lift: A lift in which the man throws the lady into the air, she rotates 2 or 3 times and is then caught by the man and assisted to a smooth landing.

Lifts: Hand-to-Hand (forwards or backwards).

Hip Lasso: (involving rotation from the point of take-off).

One-hand variations (more difficult to perform): The maximum number of revolutions in a lift is three by the man.

Lifts are performed to the full extension of the man's arms and, in hand-to-hand lifts and lasso lifts, the lady's arms are also at full extension.

Throw Jumps: Double or triple jumps, in which the man assists the lady during the take-off by 'throwing' her into the air, after which she rotates and lands by herself. Very spectacular because of the height and size of the jump achieved.

Death Spirals: Forward inside, backward inside, backward outside or forward outside. Performed with the lady's head and body very close to the ice, and the man providing support in a pivoting position.

Pairs also perform many of the jumps and spins performed by solo skaters.

THE EQUIPMENT

The blade of the figure skate is curved more than that of the hockey skate to make turns and spins easier. The front of the blade has a toe pick with a serrated edge, designed for use in jumps and spins. The blade itself is 3 to 4mm thick.

THE VENUE

The Salt Lake Ice Centre in downtown Salt Lake City will host the figure skating and short track events at the 2002 Olympics. The venue, which was built in 1991, features a six-story indoor facility for sports and entertainment and is home to the Utah Jazz of the National Basketball Association. The Salt Lake Ice Centre can accommodate more than 15,000 spectators for figure skating. The base elevation of the Salt Lake Ice Centre is 1,305 Metres (4,281 feet).

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1924 – 1948

No Australians competed in the Men's event

1952

Adrian Swan 10th

1956

Allan Ganter 13th

Charles Keeble 16th

1960

Bill Cherrell 18th

Tim Spencer 17th

1964 – 1972

No Australians competed.

1976

William Schober withdrew from the men's competition with an injury after the first day.

1980

No Australians competed.

1984

Cameron Medhurst 19th

1988

Cameron Medhurst 19th

1992

Cameron Medhurst 16th

1994

Stephen Carr 18th

1998

Anthony Liu 25th

LADIES

1952

Nancy Hallam 14th

Gweneth Molony 21st

1956

No Australians competed.

1960

Aileen Shaw 24th

Mary Wilson 26th

1964 – 1972

No Australians competed.

1976

Sharon Burley 20th

1980

No Australians competed.

1984

Vicki Holland 21st

1988

Tracey Brook 25th

1992 – 1994

No Australians competed.

1998

Joanne Carter 12th

PAIRS

1956

Jacqueline Mason and Mervyn Bower withdrew before the Pairs competition due to an injury to Bower.

1960

Jacqueline Mason/Mervyn Bower 12th

1964 – 1976

No Australians competed.

1980

Elizabeth Cain/Peter Cain 11th

1984

No Australians competed.

1988

No Australians competed.

1992

Stephen Carr/Danielle Carr 13th

1994

Stephen Carr/Danielle Carr 11th

1998

Stephen Carr/Danielle Carr 13th

ICE DANCING

1988

Monica MacDonald/Rodney Clarke 20th

1992-1998

No Australians competed

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

Adrian Swan 10th (1952)

LADIES

Joanne Carter 12th (1998)

PAIRS

Stephen and Danielle Carr 11th (1994)

(Elizabeth and Peter Cain also finished 11th in the Pairs competition in 1980, but in a smaller field).

ICE DANCING

Monica MacDonald & Rodney Clarke 20th (1988)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

1924 Gilles Graftstrom, Sweden

1928 Gilles Graftstrom, Sweden

1932 Karl Schafer, Austria

1936 Karl Schafer, Austria

1948 Richard Button, USA

1952 Richard Button, USA

1956 Hayes Alan Jenkins, USA

1960 David Jenkins, USA

1964 Manfred Schnelldorfer, Germany

1968 Wolfgang Schwarz, Austria

1972 Ondrej Nepela, Czechoslovakia

1976 John Curry, Great Britain

1980 Robin Cousins, Great Britain

1984 Scott Hamilton, USA

1988 Brian Boitano, USA

1992 Viktor Petrenko, CIS

1994 Alexei Urmanov, Russia

1998 Ilya Kulik, Russia

LADIES

1924 Herma Planck-Szabo, Austria

1928 Sonja Henie, Norway

1932 Sonja Henie, Norway

1936 Sonja Henie, Norway

1948 Barbara Scott, Canada

1952 Jeanette Altwegg, Great Britain

1956 Tenley Albright, USA

1960 Carol Heiss, USA

1964 Sjouke Dijkstra, Netherlands

1968 Peggy Fleming, USA

1972 Beatrix Schuba, Austria

1976 Dorothy Hamill, USA

1980 Anett Potszsch, GDR

1984 Katarina Witt, GDR

1988 Katarina Witt, GDR

1992 Kirsti Yamaguchi, USA

1994 Oksana Baiul, Ukraine

1998 Tara Lipinski, USA

PAIRS

1924 Englemann/Berger, Austria

1928 Joly/Burnet, France

1932 Joly/Burnet, France

1936 Herber/Baier, Germany

1948 Lannoy/Baugniet, Belgium

1952 Falk/Falk, Germany

1956 Schwarz/Oppelt, Austria

1960 Wagner/Paul, Canada

1964 Belousova/Protopopov, USSR

1968 Belousova/Protopopov, USSR

1972 Rodnina/Ulanov, USSR

1976 Rodnina/Zaitsev, USSR

1980 Rodnina/Zaitsev, USSR

1984 Valova/Vasiliev, USSR

1988 Gordeeva/Grinkov, USSR

1992 Michkouteniok/Dmitriev, USSR

1994 Ekaterina Gordeeva/Sergei Grinkov, Russia

1998 Oksana Kazakova/Artur Dmitriyev RUS

ICE DANCING

1976 Pachomova/Gorshkov, USSR

1980 Linichuk/Karponossov, USSR

1984 Torvill/Dean, Great Britain

1988 Bestemianova/Bukin, USSR

1992 Klimova/Ponomarenko, CIS

1994 Oksana Grischuk/Evgeni Platov, Russia

1998 Oksana Grischuk/Yevgeny Platov RUS

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

MEN

1 Ilya Kulik, RUS

2 Elvis Stojko, CAN

3 Philippe Candeloro, FRA

LADIES

1 Tara Lipinski, USA

2 Michelle Kwan, USA

3 Chen Lu, CHN

PAIRS

1 Oksana Kazakova/Artur Dmitriyev RUS

2 Elena Berezhnaya/Anton Sikharulidze RUS

3 Mandy Wotzel/Ingo Steuer GER

ICE DANCING

1 Oksana Grischuk/Yevgeny Platov RUS

2 Anjelika Krylova/Oleg Ovsyannikov RUS

3 Marina Anissina/Gwendal Peizerat FRA

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS Vancouver, BC, Canada

MEN

- 1 Yevgeny Plushenko RUS
- 2 Alexei Yagudin RUS
- 3 Todd Eldredge USA
- 4 Timothy Goebel USA
- 5 Takeshi Honda JPN
- 6 Yunfei Li CHN
- 7 Chengjiang Li CHN
- 8 Alexander Abt RUS
- 9 Emanuel Sandhu CAN
- 10 Elvis Stojko CAN
- 14 Anthony Liu AUS

LADIES

- 1 Michelle Kwan USA
- 2 Irina Slutskaya RUS
- 3 Sarah Hughes USA
- 4 Maria Butyrskaya RUS
- 5 Angela Nikodinov USA
- 6 Viktoria Volchkova RUS
- 7 Fumie Suguri JPN
- 8 Elena Liashenko UKR
- 9 Vanessa Gusmeroli FRA
- 10 Silvia Fontana ITA

PAIRS

- 1 Jamie Sale/David Pelletier CAN
- 2 Elena Berezhnaya/Anton Sikharulidze RUS
- 3 Xue Shen/Hongbo Zhao CHN
- 4 Maria Petrova/Alexei Tikhonov RUS
- 5 Tatiana Totmianina/Maxim Marinin RUS
- 6 Dorota Zagorska/Mariusz Siudek POL
- 7 Kyoko Ina/John Zimmerman USA
- 8 Kristy Sargeant-Wirtz/Kris Wirtz CAN
- 9 Aliona Savchenko/Stanislav Morozov UKR
- 10 Qing Pang/Jian Tong CHN

ICE DANCING

- 1 Barbara Fusar Poli/Maurizio Margaglio ITA
- 2 Marina Anissina/Gwendal Peizerat FRA
- 3 Irina Lobacheva/Iliia Averbukh RUS
- 4 Shae-Lynn Bourne/Victor Kraatz CAN
- 5 Margarita Drobiazko/Povilas Vanagas LTU

2000 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS Nice, France

MEN

- 1 Alexei Yagudin (RUS)
- 2 Elvis Stojko (CAN)
- 3 Michael Weiss (USA)

LADIES

- 1 Michelle Kwan (USA)
- 2 Irina Slutskaya (RUS)
- 3 Maria Butyrskaya (RUS)

PAIRS

- 1 Maria Petrova/Alexei Tikhonov (RUS)
- 2 Xue Shen/Hongbo Zhao (CHN)
- 3 Sarah Abitbol/Stéphane Bernadis (FRA)

ICE DANCING

- 1 Marina Anissina/Gwendal Peizerat (FRA)
- 2 Barbara Fusar-Poli/Maurizio Margaglio (ITA)
- 3 Margarita Drobiazko/Povilas Vanagas (LTU)

2002 GRAND PRIX FINAL

MEN

- 1 Alexei Yagudin RUS
- 2 Yevgeny Plushenko RUS
- 3 Timothy Goebel USA
- 4 Todd Eldredge USA
- 5 Takeshi Honda JPN
- 6 Ivan Dinev BUL

LADIES

- 1 Irina Slutskaya RUS
- 2 Michelle Kwan USA
- 3 Sarah Hughes USA
- 4 Maria Butyrskaya RUS
- 5 Yoshie Onda JPN
- 6 Tatiana Malinina UZB

PAIRS

- 1 Jamie Sale/David Pelletier CAN
- 2 Elena Berezhnaya/Anton Sikharulidze RUS
- 3 Xue Shen/Hongbo Zhao CHN
- 4 Kyoko Ina/John Zimmerman USA
- 5 Maria Petrova/Alexei Tikhonov RUS
- 6 Sarah Abitbol/Stephane Bernadis FRA

ICE DANCING

- 1 Shae-Lynn Bourne/Victor Kraatz CAN
- 2 Marina Anissina/Gwendal Peizerat FRA
- 3 Margarita Drobiazko/Povilas Vanagas LTU
- 4 Barbara Fusar-Poli/Maurizio Margaglio ITA
- 5 Galit Chait/Sergei Sakhnovski ISR
- 6 Marie-France Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon CAN

Who to watch

As is often the case with Olympic figure skating, at Salt Lake 2002 the competition looks to be all about one-on-one duals - Yagudin vs Plushenko, Kwan vs Slutskaya, Sale and Pelletier vs Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze - with the rest of the field seemingly fighting it out for the bronze. Time will tell.

LADIES

Michelle Kwan, USA

OWG: Silver 1998

WCH: Gold in 1996, 1998, 2000 and 2001; Silver 1997, 1999

Other events: Silver Grand Prix final 2001, 2002; Won Skate America 2001

The competition between Kwan and Tara Lipinsky was one of the highlights of the Nagano Games. Since losing out in that 1998 gold medal battle, Kwan has won the 1998, 2000 and 2001 world titles, defeating her major gold medal Russian rivals Irina Slutskaya and Maria Butyrskaya along the way. Only once in the world titles - in 1999 - has she gone down to one of the Russian duo, and that was in 1999 when Butyrskaya took the crown. In other events, Kwan lost to her main rival Slutskaya in Skate Canada, in the 2000 and the 2001 Grand Prix finals and at the Goodwill Games (for what that was worth) but in the past two world championships, Kwan has edged out her Russian rival with a superior free program. Will the grace and artistry of the American again be enough to overcome the technical superiority and power of the Russian?

Irina Slutskaya, 23 (on Feb 9), Russia

OWG: 5th 1998

WCH: 7th 1995, 3rd 1996, 4th 1997, 2nd 1998, 2nd 2000, 2nd 2001

Other events: Won European Championships 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001; Won Grand Prix final 2000, 2001

Slutskaya has consistently beaten Michelle Kwan over the past two years, except where it really counts - at the world championships. Most recently she defeated the American in the Grand Prix Final in December, but also relegated her to second in the Goodwill Games. A powerful jumper, Slutskaya is judged technically superior to Kwan. She was the first woman to land a triple lutz-triple loop combination and the first woman to land a triple salchow-triple loop combination. She turns 23 the day after the opening ceremony.

Sarah Hughes, 16, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 7th 1999, 5th 2000, 3rd 2001

Other events: Won 2001 Skate Canada, 2001 Skate America; 3rd 2001 Grand Prix final, 3rd 2002 Grand Prix final

Hughes has claimed a place in the elite of women's figure skating over the past year, finishing second to Kwan in Skate America in October, defeating Slutskaya in Skate Canada at the start of November, then taking the silver medal behind Butyrskaya in Trophee Laliue two weeks later. In the Grand

Prix final in Kitchener in December, she took the bronze medal behind Slutskaya and Kwan, edging out Butyrskaya - a repetition of the 2001 Grand Prix final in February 2001. She is a strong chance for a minor medal.

Maria Butyrskaya, 29, Russia

OWG: 4th 1998

WCH: 3rd 1998, 1st 1999, 3rd 2000, 4th 2001

Other events: 4th 2001 Grand Prix final, 4th 2002 Grand Prix final

The veteran will be one of just two world champions in the women's field, but in recent events seems to have been eclipsed by Hughes in the pecking order. But she is a tenacious competitor and if anyone makes a mistake she will be there.

MEN'S

Alexei Yagudin, 21, Russia

OWG: 5th 1998

WCH: 3rd 1997; Won 1998, 1999, 2000; 2nd 2001

Other events: Won 1998, 1999 European Championships; 2nd 2000, 2001 Europeans; Won 2001 Skate Canada, 2001 Trophee Laliq, 2002 Grand Prix final

In company with his compatriot Yevgeny Plushenko, Yagudin has dominated men's figure skating for the past four years. He won three consecutive world championships from 1998, and two European crowns. In 2001, however, he has lowered his colours to his younger team-mate, finishing second to Plushenko in the European title and the world championships (while carrying an injury) and finishing third behind him at the Goodwill Games in Brisbane. He bounced back in the 2002 Grand Prix final in December, however, relegating his rival to second place.

Yevgeny Plushenko, 19, Russia

OWG: -

WCH: 3rd 1998; 2nd 1999; 4th 2000; Won 2001

Other events: 2nd 1998, 1999 European Championships; Won 2000, 2001 European championships; Won 2001 Grand Prix final; 2nd 2002 Grand Prix final

Plushenko finished third behind the gold medal performance of his fierce rival Alexei Yagudin in the 1998 world championships, second in 1999, and fourth in 2000, but finally broke through for his first victory over his older compatriot, winning the 2000 European Championships and the Russian national title. In 2001 he finally prevailed in a world championship. Yagudin re-asserted himself at the Grand Prix final in December, ensuring that the gold medal battle in Salt Lake City will be an enthralling contest.

Todd Eldredge, 30, USA

OWG: 4th 1998

WCH: 2nd 1995; Won 1996; 2nd 1997, 1998; 3rd 2001

Other events: 3rd 2001 Japan Open; 3rd Skate Canada; 2nd Trophee Laliq; 4th 2002 Grand Prix final

The former world champion took most of the 1999 and 2000 seasons off from ISU competition, only returning to the circuit full time in 2001. He showed he was still competitive by taking the

bronze medal in the world championships in February, and also posted medal results at Skate Canada and Trophee Laliq. At the Grand Prix final in December he placed fourth behind Yagudin, Plushenko and compatriot Timothy Goebbel.

Timothy Goebbel, 21, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 12th 1999; 11th 2000; 4th 2001

Other events: 5th 2001 Grand Prix final; Won 2001 Skate America; 2nd Sparkassen Cup on Ice; 3rd 2002 Grand Prix final

In the past year Goebbel has moved into the elite level of competitors, albeit on a rung below Yagudin and Plushenko. He was the first skater to land a quad salchow in competition, and the first to land three quad jumps. In the past season he won Skate America, finished second to Plushenko at the Sparkassen Cup, and in December at the Grand Prix final, took third place behind the Russians, but ahead of older compatriot Todd Eldredge. He will be a definite contender for the bronze medal

Elvis Stojko, 29, Canada

OWG: 7th 1992; Silver 1994; Silver 1998

WCH: 2nd 1993; Won 1994, 1995; 4th 1996; Won 1997; 4th 1998; 2nd 2000; 10th 2001

Other events: A string of victories since 1992; Won 2000 Four Continents 2nd 2001 Skate Canada

Stojko barely competed in the 2000 or 2001 season, returning to the ice for the world championships where he finished in 10th place, hampered by injury. His 1998 Olympic campaign was also hit by injury, a groin strain preventing him from performing at his best. At 29, and with a history of injury and interrupted competition, he is not expected to feature in the medals at Salt Lake City, but he will certainly be a crowd favourite.

PAIRS

Jamie Sale and David Pelletier, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 4th 2000; Won 2001

Other events: Won 2000, 2001 Four Continents, 2000, 2001 Skate America and 2000, 2001 Skate Canada; 2000, 2001 Grand Prix final

The reigning world champions will be going to their first Olympics after teaming up in 1998. Placed fourth in their first world championship as a couple in 2000, Sale (pr. Sa-LAY) and Pelletier then took the gold medal in 2001. They have won the Four Continents, Skate America and Skate Canada for the past two years, and also taken the Grand Prix final in both years.

Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze, Russia

OWG: Silver 1998

WCH: Won 1998, 1999; 2nd 2001

Other events:

The Nagano silver medallists won successive world titles in 1999 and 2000, but after missing the 2000 event through injury, took the silver medal in 2001 behind Sale and Pelletier. Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze (pr. Sick-a-ra-LIDZ-a) won the Trophee Laliq and the Cup of Russia this year on

the Grand Prix circuit, but in their only meeting with the Canadians, in the 2002 Grand Prix final, they again finished in second place.

Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo, China

OWG: 5th 1998

WCH: 4th 1998, 2nd 1999, 2000, 3rd 2001

Other events: 3rd 2000 Grand Prix final; Won 2001 Sparkassen Cup on Ice, Won 2001 NHK; 3rd 2002 Grand Prix final

Became the first Chinese pair to win a medal at a world championship when they took silver at the 1999 titles. They followed with another silver in 2000, then bronze in 2001. Won the Sparkassen Cup on Ice this year, defeating the USA pair of Ina and Zimmerman, and also took the NHK. Will probably be competing for the bronze medal against the Americans

Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman, USA

OWG: 1998: 4th (Ina/Dungjen)

WCH: 4th (Ina/Dungjen) 1997; 9th 1999; 7th 2000; 7th 2001

Other events: 3rd Four Continents 2001; 2nd 2001 Sparkassen Cup on Ice, 2001 Skate America and 2001 Trophee Laliq; 4th 2002 Grand Prix final

The Japanese-born Ino finished fourth in Nagano with then partner Jason Dungjen, a placing that she believed should have been a medal result. Following the 1998 Games she teamed with Zimmerman, and together their best result in a major event has been a pair of seventh places in the 2000 and 2001 world championships. But in 2001 they took silver medals at the Sparkassen Cup on Ice, Skate America and Trophee Laliq. Finished out of the medals in fourth place in the 2002 Grand Prix final in December, but are clearly a minor medal contender with the Chinese in Salt Lake.

ICE DANCING

Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz, Canada

OWG: 1998 4th

WCH: 3rd 1996-1999, 4th 2001

Other events: Won Grand Prix final; Won Skate Canada, Skate America, Four Continents; 2nd Trophee Laliq

The Canadians took the gold medal at the Grand Prix final in December, their first major title win. Fourth in Nagano, they have four bronze medals and a fourth place from their last five world championships appearances. Other victories this year include Skate America and Skate Canada.

Marina Anissina and Gwendal Peizerat, France

OWG: Bronze 1998

WCH: 2nd 1998, 2nd 1999, Won 2000, 2nd 2001

Other events: Won European Championship 2000, Runner up 1999, 2001; Won 2001 Trophee Laliq, 2001 NHK, 2nd 2002 Grand Prix final

The Nagano bronze medallists were world champions in 2000, and runners-up in 1998, 1999 and 2001. The Russian-born Anissina and her French partner defeated Bourne and Kraatz at the Trophee Laliq this season, but took silver behind them in the Grand Prix final.

Barbara Fusar Poli and Maurizio Margaglio, Italy

OWG: 1998 6th

WCH: 5th 1998, 5th 1999, 2nd 2000, 1st 2001

Other events: Won 2001 Sparkassen Cup, 2001 Cup of Russia, 2001 Grand Prix final, 2002 Grand Prix final; Won 2001 European Championship

Created figure skating history in 2001 by becoming the first Italians to claim a world championship gold medal. They also took gold in two 2001 Grand Prix events and the Grand Prix final, then slipped to fourth place in the 2002 Grand Prix final in December.

Margarita Drobiazko and Pavilas Vanagas, Lithuania

OWG: 1998 8th

WCH: 6th 1999, 3rd 2000, 5th 2001

Other events: 3rd 2001 Grand Prix final, 3rd Skate America, 3rd Trophee Laliq, 2nd NHK Trophy, 3rd 2002 Grand Prix final

Broke through for their first major competition medals at the 2000 world championships and European championships, claiming bronze in both. This season they slipped to fifth at the world titles, but took bronze medals in Skate America and Trophee Laliq before finishing the year with another bronze in the 2002 Grand Prix final.

Irina Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh, Russia

OWG: 1998 5th

WCH: 4th 1998, 1999, 2000; 3rd 2001

Other events: 2nd 2001 Grand Prix Final; 3rd European Championships 1999, 2001; 2nd Cup of Russia, Trophee Laliq; Won Goodwill Games

Averbukh, the former partner of Anissina, and Lobacheva are yet to break through for a major victory, but medalled consistently in Grand Prix events in the 2000/2001 season, as well as taking the bronze medal in both the world championship and the Europeans. They also won the gold medal at the Goodwill Games in Brisbane.

Freestyle skiing

Saturday 09 February	09:00 - 10:00	Women's Moguls: Qualification
	12:00 - 13:00	Women's Moguls: Final
Tuesday 12 February	09:00 - 10:00	Men's Moguls: Qualification
	12:00 - 13:00	Men's Moguls: Final
Saturday 16 February	10:00 - 12:00	Women's Aerials: Qualification
	13:30 - 15:30	Men's Aerials: Qualification
Monday 18 February	12:00 - 13:00	Women's Aerials: Finals
Tuesday 19 February	12:00 - 13:00	Men's Aerials: Finals

Freestyle skiing has only been a medal sport on the Olympic program since 1992, although it made its Olympic debut back in Calgary in 1988 as a demonstration sport. Freestyle World Cup competition began under the auspices of the International Ski Federation in 1980, and the first World Championship was held in 1986. At the 1992 Games in Albertville, moguls became a full medal sport, while aerials had to wait until 1994 for that status. The nature and exciting format of the sport have ensured its great popularity among spectators since its introduction to the Olympic program.

THE SPORT

Moguls

Moguls competition involves skiing down a steep 250 metre slope evenly covered with rounded bumps known as moguls. Time, technique and jump performance are all critical for the final result, with 50 per cent assigned for technique, 25 per cent for two obligatory jumps and the remainder for time. A group of seven judges awards points, with five assessing technique or 'turns' and two assessing the jumps or 'air'. Important criteria for judging technique include fall line, utilisation of moguls, economy of motion, absorption, carving action, body position, pole plants, control and aggressiveness. The high and low scores are discarded and the three remaining scores are added together, for a maximum of 15 points. The other two judges assess the competitors' two jumps on form and degree of difficulty, with the scores being averaged for a maximum score of 7.5 points. The speed of the run is then incorporated into the score, with the competitor's time down the course evaluated against the time of four pacesetters who have skied the run prior to the competition.

The moguls qualifying round is a one-run competition, with the top 16 competitors in qualifying going through to the one-run final, which is skied in reverse order of qualifying points score. The skier with the highest score in the final round wins.

Aerials

The aerials field is divided into A seed and B seed groups derived from World Cup rankings, with the lower ranked skiers competing first. Each competitor has two jumps in the elimination round, with the top 12 competitors going through to the final. Elimination round scores are not carried

through to the final. In the two jump final, the scores of both jumps are added together to determine the winner.

Each jump is judged out of 30.0 points on three basic components by a panel of seven judges using a split-scoring system. This score is then multiplied by a predetermined jump degree of difficulty to come up with the competitor's final score.

Components:

Air: 20 per cent

Form: 50 per cent

Landing: 30 per cent

Five judges evaluate each aerialist's jump for air and form on a 7.0 scale. The high and low marks are discarded, and the three remaining scores are added together, with a maximum score of 21.0.

The landing makes up the last 30 percent, and two judges evaluate the landing on a 3.0 scale. The average of the two scores is then multiplied by three to obtain the overall landing mark, with a maximum score of 9.0. The total jump score is the sum of the air, form and landing multiplied by the jump's pre-determined degree of difficulty.

VENUE

Deer Valley Ski Resort, built in 1981, is about 48 kilometres east of downtown Salt Lake City in the historic mining town of Park City. Spread out over four mountains, Deer Valley boasts six bowls and 84 ski runs and is a premier ski destination and environmental sanctuary. Deer Valley has a base elevation of 2,002 metres and a summit of 2,917 metres, with an overall vertical drop of 914 metres (some 3000 ft.).

Moguls course: Champion

Course length: 265 m

Course width: 20 m

Angle: 28 degrees

Aerials course: White Owl

Start area: 10 m x 20 m

In-run: 68 m x 20 m at 24 degrees

Table: 24 m x 25 m

Landing hill: 27 m x 20 m at 37 degrees

Kickers will be limited to the following maximum heights:

Triple: 4.1 m

Double: 3.3 m

Spectator capacity: Moguls - Seated: 10,000; Standing: 3000/Aerials - Seated: 9400; Standing: 3000

AERIALS - THE MAJOR JUMPS

Doubles

Lay-full: Double somersault (or flip) in the layout position with full twist in the second flip (bLF, DD - 2.9) - Women

Full Full: 2 flips with 2 twists. double twisting, double flip (bFF, DD - 3.15) - Women

Full Double-Full: 2 flips with 3 twists, double twist in second flip - also called a triple twisting double (DD - 3.55, bFdF) - Women

Double Full-Full: 2 flips with 3 twists, double twist in the first flip (DD - 3.55, bDFF) - Women

Triples

Lay-Tuck-Full: Triple flip: first in layout position, second in tuck position, third flip in layout position with a full twist (DD - 3.5, bLTF) - Women

Lay-Full-Tuck: Triple flip; first in layout position, second laid out with a full twist, third in the tuck position without a twist (DD - 3.5, bLFT) - Women

Lay-Full-Full: Double twisting triple flip, with a single twist in each of the final two flips (DD - 3.8, bLFF) - Women/Men

Full-Tuck-Full: 3 flips with 2 twists, second flip is without twist but in a tuck (DD-3.75, bFTF) - Men

Full-Full-Full: 3 flips with 3 twists, one in each (DD - 4.05, bFFF) - Men

Full-Double Full-Full: 3 flips with 4 twists, two in the middle flip (DD - 4.45, bFdFF) - Men

Double Full-Full-Full: 3 flips with 4 twists. (2 twists on the first flip, right off the jump). Very difficult jump because of the double twist just after take-off (DD - 4.45, bDFFF) - Men

MOGULS - AERIAL MANOEUVRES

Every competitor must perform two different jumps, defined as a different number of positions, and two jumps from different categories. That is, the competitor must perform manoeuvres from two or more of the following eight categories:

1. Spread Eagle, Kosak, Zudnik.
2. Daffy.
3. Back Scratcher, Mule Kick.
4. Twister.
5. Helicopter
6. Helicopter, with one or more positions
7. 720°
8. 720° with one or more position

Spread Eagle: After take-off, the outstretched arms and legs are extended out to the sides away from the body, with the skis parallel to each other.

Zudnik: the upper body is bent roughly 90° at the waist by bringing the upper body forward and down and the lower body forward and up. The toes rise up towards and in the vicinity of the competitor's chin. The skis should remain close together and parallel with the competitor's hips.

Twister: The skis are twisted a minimum of 90° to the fall line, with the skis remaining parallel, together and perpendicular to the body.

Daffy: After take-off, one leg is brought up and forward while the other leg is simultaneously brought backwards and up, resulting in a 180° split position in which the front ski is parallel to the back ski, the front ski pointing straight up and the back ski pointing straight down.

Back Scratcher: The skis tails are brought back and up to a minimum angle of 90° when viewed from the side. The legs must be together and stay parallel.

Mule Kick: A combination of the backscratcher with a 45° twist of the hip to the side.

Kosak: A Kosak is a combination of a Spread Eagle and a Zudnik. Arms can be held in different ways; in front, between the skis, at the side, or a competitor may grab the ski tips.

Helicopter: A 360° revolution of the body on a vertical axis.

AUSTRALIA'S OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1992	
Moguls	
Nick Cleaver	11th
Adrian Costa	14th

1994	
Moguls	
Adrian Costa	14th
Nick Cleaver	16th
Paul Costa	26th

1998	
Aerials	
Jono Sweet	DSQ
Moguls	
Adrian Costa	21st

WOMEN

1994	
Aerials	
Jacqui Cooper	16th
Kirstie Marshall	6th

1998	
Aerials	
Jacqui Cooper	23rd
Kirstie Marshall	14th
Moguls	
Maria Despas	25th

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

Men's Moguls	
Nick Cleaver	11th (1992)
Women's Aerials	
Kirstie Marshall	6th (1994)
Women's Moguls	
Maria Despas	25th (1998)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

Moguls	
1992	Edgar Grospon, France
1994	Jean-Luc Brassard, Canada
1998	Jonny Mosely, USA

Aerials	
1994	Andreas Schoenbachler, Switzerland
1998	Eric Bergoust, USA

WOMEN

Moguls	
1992	Donna Weinbrecht, USA
1994	Stine Lise Hattestad, Norway
1998	Tae Satoya, Japan

Aerials	
1994	Lina Tcherjazova, Uzbekistan
1998	Nikki Stone, USA

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

Men's moguls	
1 Jonny Moseley, USA	
2 Janne Lahtela, FIN	
3 Sami Mustonen, FIN	

Women's moguls	
1 Tae Satoya, JPN	
2 Tatjana Mittermayer, GER	
3 Kari Traa, NOR	

Men's aerials	
1 Eric Bergoust, USA	
2 Sebastien Foucras, FRA	
3 Dmitri Dashinski, BLR	

Women's aerials	
1 Nikki Stone, USA	
2 Nannan Xu, CHN	
3 Colette Brand, SUI	

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Whistler, BC, Canada

Women's moguls	
1 Kari Traa NOR	
2 Maria Despas AUS	
3 Aiko Uemura JPN	
4 Corinne Bodmer SUI	
5 Sandra Laoura FRA	
6 Minna Karhu FIN	
7 Jennifer Heil CAN	
8 Shannon Bahrke USA	
9 Jillian Vogtli USA	
10 Tae Satoya JPN	

Men's Moguls	
1 Mikko Ronkainen FIN	
2 Pierre-Alexandre Rousseau CAN	
3 Stephane Rochon CAN	

4 Richard Gay FRA	
5 Gregory Lecaillon FRA	
6 Evan Dybvig USA	
7 Jari Savolainen FIN	
8 Toby Dawson USA	
9 Cedric Regnier-Lafforgue FRA	
10 Alex Wilson USA	

Women's Aerials	
1 Veronika Bauer CAN	
2 Michele Rohrbach SUI	
3 Deidra Dionne CAN	
4 Evelyne Leu SUI	
5 Kelly Hilliman USA	
6 Jacqui Cooper AUS	
7 Nannan Xu CHN	
8 Liselotte Johansson SWE	
9 Jiao Wang CHN	
10 Alla Tsuper BLR	
11 Alisa Camplin AUS	

Men's Aerials	
1 Alexei Grichin BLR	
2 Dmitri Dashinski BLR	
3 Joe Pack USA	
4 Eric Bergoust USA	
5 Corey Hacker USA	
6 Jerry Grossi USA	
7 Steve Omischl CAN	
8 Jeff Bean CAN	
9 Xiaotao Ou CHN	
10 Dmitri Rak BLR	

2001 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

Men's Aerials	
1 Eric Bergoust USA	456
2 Joe Pack USA	452
3 Dmitri Dashinski BLR	444
4 Steve Omischl CAN	436
5 Andy Capicik CAN	424
6 Nicolas Fontaine CAN	416
7 Alexei Grichin BLR	384
8 Christian Rijavec AUT	380
9 Brian Currutt USA	372
10 Jerry Grossi USA	372

Women's Aerials	
1 Jacqui Cooper AUS	492
2 Alla Tsuper BLR	468
3 Nannan Xu CHN	444
4 Veronika Bauer CAN	440
5 Alisa Camplin AUS	424
6 Emily Cook USA	412

7 Hilde Lid NOR	392
8 Brenda Petzold USA	380
9 Deidra Dionne CAN	372
10 Evelyne Leu SUI	372

Men's Moguls	
1 Mikko Ronkainen FIN	460
2 Janne Lahtela FIN	448
3 Pierre-Alexandre Rousseau CAN	440
4 Richard Gay FRA	404
5 Ryan Riley USA	392
6 Stephane Rochon CAN	392
7 Evan Dybvig USA	372
8 Toby Dawson USA	336
9 Travis Ramos USA	324
10 Gregory Lecaillon FRA	312

Women's Moguls	
1 Kari Traa NOR	484
2 Aiko Uemura JPN	444
3 Hannah Hardaway USA	400
4 Jennifer Heil CAN	428
5 Minna Karhu FIN	408
6 Katleen Allais FRA	396
7 Margarita Marbler AUT	376
8 Elena Vorona RUS	372
9 Shannon Bahrke USA	356
10 Maria Despas AUS	352

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (Jan. 1, 2002)

Men's Aerials	
1 Eric Bergoust USA	100
2 Kyle Nissen CAN	96
3 Andy Capicik CAN	92
4 Steve Omischl CAN	88
5 Qiu Sen CHN	84
6 Ales Valenta CZE	80
7 Britt Swartley USA	76
8 Alexei Grichin BLR	72
9 Martin Walti SUI	68
10 Dmitri Rak BLR	64

Women's Aerials	
1 Jacqui Cooper AUS	188
2 Natalia Orekhova RUS	176
3 Tracy Evans USA	148
4 Assol Silvets BLR	140
5 Lydia Ierodiaconou AUS	136
6 Xin Xin Guo CHN	136
7 Nina Li CHN	128
8 Deidra Dionne CAN	124

9	Emily Cook USA	120	10	Travis Mayer USA	96
10	Alisa Camplin AUS	116		Women's Moguls	
	Men's Moguls		1	Kari Traa NOR	200
1	Stephane Rochon CAN	196	2	Hannah Hardaway USA	180
2	Jeremy Bloom USA	184	3	Sandra Laoura FRA	164
3	Sami Mustonen FIN	156	4	Margarita Marbler AUT	144
4	Laurent Niol FRA	152	5	Marina Cherkasova RUS	144
5	Adrian Costa AUS	148	6	Ljudmila Dymchenko RUS	132
6	Jean-Luc Brassard CAN	140	7	Nikola Sudova CZE	128
7	Scott Bellavance CAN	124	8	Donna Weinbrecht USA	120
8	Mikko Ronkainen FIN	108	9	Katleen Allais FRA	116
9	Johann Gregoire FRA	100	10	Aiko Uemura JPN	108

Who to watch

MEN'S AERIALS

Eric Bergoust, 32, USA

OWG: 1994: 7th; 1998: 1st

WCH: 1993: 18th; 1995: 5th; 1997: 3rd; 1999: 17th; 2001: 16th

WC: 2001: Won World Cup title - 13 WC wins

The Nagano gold medallist surprisingly missed the podium in the 2001 World Championships last January, but will go to Salt Lake City as a short-priced favourite. Bergoust won the World Cup title last year for the first time, was the 1999 world champion and holds the record for both the highest total points score (260.98) and the highest individual jump score (133.05).

Dmitri Dashinski, 24, Belarus

OWG: 1998: 3rd

WCH: 1999: 8th; 2001: 2nd

WC: 1999: 2nd; 2000: 5th; 2001: 3rd

Dashinski won the bronze medal in Nagano in just his third season on the circuit, and before he had made the podium in World Cup. Since then he has won three times in World Cup events and taken the silver medal at the 2001 world championships.

Nicolas Fontaine, 31, Canada

OWG: 1994: 6th; 1998: 10th

WCH: 1991: 6th; 1993: 8th; 1995: 4th; 1997: 1st; 1999: 7th; 2001: 12th

WC: 1994: 3rd; 1995: 7th; 1996: 6th; 1997: 1st; 1998: 1st; 1999: 1st; 2000: 1st; 2001: 1st - 12 WC wins

Fontaine is one of the most successful aerialists in the history of the sport, winning four straight World Cup titles from 1997 to 2001. He also won the world championship in 1997, but like Bergoust, missed out in a weather-affected 2001 titles in Whistler Blackcomb last January when he missed the take-off in his second jump. Fontaine is yet to win an Olympic medal, and at 31 this is surely his last chance. One of his two victories last season was on the Deer Valley Olympic site, which will surely give him confidence going into the Games.

Alexei Grichin, 22, Belarus

OWG: 1998: 8th

WCH: 1999: 26th; 2001: 1st

WC: 1999: 8th; 2000: 2nd; 2001: 7th

Grichin won the world championship title at the beginning of 2001, his fourth year on the circuit. The 22-year-old Minsk aerialist has won two of his three World Cup gold medals at Mt Buller, taking the double in 1999. His third victory came in the World Cup finals at the end of 2001 which clinched the World Cup crown. If he is on-song, Grichin will challenge for the gold.

Steve Omischl, 23, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 7th

WC: 2000 4th; 2001 4th

On the World Cup circuit for his third season, Omischl is a major talent who won a medal in his debut year, and finished fourth on the standings. Although he is yet to claim his first gold, he has been to the podium five times in just 13 starts, an excellent record.

Joe Pack, 23, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 1997: 7th; 1999: 3rd; 2001: 3rd

WC: 1999: 6th; 2000: 3rd; 2001 2nd - 3 WC wins

Pack was runner up to team-mate Eric Bergoust in the World Cup last season, winning in Blackcomb and taking a silver and a bronze medal. Pack is a dual world championship silver medallist, but will be going to his first Winter Olympics. His highest points score - the third highest in history at the time - was recorded in the 2000 season on the Deer Valley Olympic site. Last season, Pack's silver medal was produced on the same jump hill, so he will go to the Games with a great deal of confidence.

WOMEN'S AERIALS

With many of the women adding new jumps to their repertoires during the past northern hemisphere summer, assessing their medal chances is more difficult that it is for the men. The lead-up World Cup events in January would have been perhaps the best indication of likely Salt Lake City form.

Veronika Bauer, 22, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: 6th; 2001: 1st

WC: 1998: 9th; 1999: 11th; 2000: 7th; 2001: 4th

Bauer's career highlight so far was winning the world championship in January 2001, a feat that seemed to surprise her as much as anyone. The Ontario student has collected three minor medals on the World Cup circuit - all at Mt Buller - but is yet to win World Cup gold, so perhaps the surprise was understandable. She placed fourth on the World Cup points table last season, the best finish of her four year career.

Veronica Brenner, 27, Canada

OWG: 1998: 9th

WCH: 1995: 20th; 1997: 3rd; 1999: 4th; 2001: -

WC: 1996: 2nd; 1997: 1st; 1998: 5th; 1999: 3rd; 2000: 2nd; 2001: - 10 WC wins

The 1997 World Cup champion missed the 2001 season through injury, but if she is fully recovered,

has the style and form to claim a podium place. Brenner has been one of Jacqui Cooper's major rivals for the past five years, winning ten times, and finishing behind the Australian in the 2000 title race, her last full season.

Deidra Dionne, 20, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 3rd

WC: 2000: 13th; 2001: 9th

Dionne arrived on the World Cup circuit in impressive fashion, taking a bronze medal in her first World Cup competition. She is yet to win an event, but has added to her minor medal tally, one of them being a silver collected on the Olympic jump site in the 2000 season. In January 2001 she won bronze in the world championships, in a competition shaped by poor weather that hampered the performances of several higher ranked competitors, including Australia's Jacqui Cooper. Dionne turns 20 three days before the Salt Lake opening ceremony

Evelyne Leu, 25, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: 13th

WCH: 1997: 14th; 1999: 14th; 2001: 4th

WC: 1998: 16th; 1999: 6th; 2000: 5th; 2001: 10th

Leu (pr. Loy) won her first World Cup gold medal on the Deer Valley jump site in January. One of the women on the circuit performing triple somersaults, which she seemed to have improved over the northern summer, Leu has the potential to make the Salt Lake podium. She has a personal best points score of 194.70, just three points below Jacqui Cooper's best, but in eight years on the circuit, her return is that one win and three bronze medals.

Alla Tsuper, 22, Belarus

OWG: 1998: 5th

WCH: 1997: 13th; 2001: 10th

WC: 1997: 19th; 1998: 34th; 2000: 4th; 2001: 2nd

Tsuper has won three times on the World Cup, most recently at Mt Buller in September 2001 in the weather-abbreviated second competition of the 2002 season (after being disqualified in the opening event). Formerly from the Ukraine, Tsuper finished fifth in Nagano, then missed the 1999 season. She was runner-up to Jacqui Cooper on the World Cup standings last season, her career-best finish.

Nannan Xu, 24, China

OWG: 1998: 2nd

WCH: 1997: 9th; 1999: 8th; 2001: 7th

WC: 1997: 17th; 1998: 15th; 2000: 9th; 2001: 3rd

Nannan Xu had her best season on World Cup in 2001, taking her maiden gold medal in the final in Himos with a personal best score and collecting two other medals to finish third on the points table. Like most of the Chinese, her acrobatic skills are first class, but she needs consistency in landing. In 1998, her second year on the circuit, she was a surprise silver medallist at the Nagano Games.

Other to watch

Hilde Lid and **Michelle Rohrbach** were both doing two triple twisting doubles on snow in pre-season training, and will be medal chances if the jumps are up to speed.

MEN'S MOGULS

The men's moguls podium looks like a battle between the Finns, the Americans and the Canadians, with Adrian Costa's fourth place on the Games course in 2000 a pointer to his ability to challenge for a medal. Much will also depend on how some athletes return after injury lay-offs - including Lahtela and Brassard

Jean Luc Brassard, 29, Canada

OWG: 1992: 7th 1994: 1st; 1998: 4th

WCH: 1991: 12th; 1993: 1st; 1995: 2nd; 1997: 1st; 1999: 36th; 2001: - 3 medals

WC: 1993: 1st, 1994: 3rd; 1995: 3rd; 1996: 1st; 1997: 1st; 1998: 2nd; 1999: 4th; 2000: 8th

Brassard is one of the legends of the sport, the Lillehammer gold medallist and a three time World Cup titleholder. He won the world championship in 1993 and 1997, taking the silver medal at the 1995 titles. At the 1999 worlds he broke a pole in qualifying and failed to make the finals. Brassard suffered a major knee injury at the World Cup finals in 2000, and sat out the 2001 season, returning to World Cup competition in Tignes in December, where he finished fifth. He has won 18 times on the World Cup since his first victory in 1991, and says he is back stronger than ever. In his fourth Olympics, he cannot be overlooked.

Janne Lahtela, 27, Finland

OWG: 1992: 18th, 1994: 9th; 1998: 2nd

WCH: 1993: 11th; 1997: 22nd; 1999: 1st; 2001: 15th

WC: 1998: 16th; 1999: 1st; 2000: 1st; 2001: 2nd - 11 WC wins

The Nagano silver medallist (pr. YAH-nay LAH-tel-uh) has been one of the dominant forces in men's moguls since 1999, winning the World Cup title that year and in 2000, and finishing second to team-mate Mikko Ronkainen last season. He also took the world championship in 1999. He went into the 2001 world championship as favourite but crashed in the final, finishing 15th. A knee injury kept him out of the final events of the 2001 season, but he had already accumulated enough points to hold on to that second place in the standings.

Sami Mustonen, 24, Finland

OWG: 1998: 3rd

WCH: 1997: 10th; 1999: 3rd

WC: 1998: 8th; 1999: 5th; 2002: 2nd; 2001: 16th

Another of the powerful Finnish team, Mustonen was the Nagano bronze medallist, and a year later took bronze again in the world championships. He has one World Cup win.

Stephane Rochon, 27, Canada

OWG: 1998: 8th

WCH: 1995: 8th; 1997: 2nd; 1999: 4th; 2001: 3rd

WC: 1995: 7th; 1996: 4th; 1997: 2nd; 1998: 5th; 1999: 6th; 2000: 10th; 2001: 6th

Rochon was the hottest performer in World Cup in the first two events of the 2002 season, taking the silver medal in Tignes, then winning in Steamboat. A dual world championship medallist, Rochon was runner-up in the World Cup in 1997, but has since failed to finish in the end of season top three. His win in Tignes was the third of his career, but if his current form holds, he will be a podium threat.

Mikko Ronkainen, 23, Finland

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: 15th; 2001: 1st

WC: 1998: 44th; 1999: 8th; 2000: 6th; 2001: 1st

Ronkainen won the World Cup title in 2001, taking gold medals in Iizuna Kogen and on the Olympic course in Deer Valley along the way, the second and third victories of his career. In a stellar season, he also won the world championship in Whistler. It was an impressive step up for the 23-year-old Finn, whose previous best end of season World Cup finish had been sixth.

Jean-Pierre Rousseau, 22, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 2nd

WC: 1998: 13th; 1999: 14th; 2000: 3rd; 2001: 3rd

Rousseau took the silver medal at the 2001 world championships last year, and finished third on the World Cup points table for the second year in a row. He is yet to win, but five minor medals in two years in World Cup - including bronze in Deer Valley in 2000 - would indicate that he is certainly a medal contender

THE AMERICANS

Jonny Mosely blitzed the field to win the gold medal in Nagano, and fired up by the home crowd, any one of four or five USA skiers could make the podium.

Jeremy Bloom, 20, USA

OWG: -

WCH: -

WC: One tenth place finish Himos 2001

The rookie Bloom had a very solid start to the 2002 season, taking the bronze medal in both Tignes and Steamboat. His only other outing in World Cup - in the World Cup finals in 2001 as the Nor-Am winner - had produced a tenth placing. Like all the Americans, Bloom will be fired up by the home crowd support. He turns 20 four days before the opening ceremony.

Toby Dawson, 23, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: 14th; 2001: 8th

WC: 1999: 18th; 2000: 15th; 2001: 8th

Dawson collected the first gold medal of his career in the final event of the 2001 season, the World Cup final in Himos. But his 2002 season did not start well, a 23rd in Tignes his best return from the opening two events.

Evan Dybvig, 26, USA

OWG: -

WCH: -

WC: 2001: 7th moguls

Dybvig is yet to win on the World Cup circuit, and has collected just six minor medals in his six year career. But two of them, both silver, have come on the Deer Valley Olympic course.

Jonny Mosely, 26, USA

OWG: 1998: 1st

WCH: 1995: 15th; 1997: 12th

WC: 1995: 6th; 1996: 2nd; 1997: 5th; 1998: 2nd; 2001: 37th

Mosely won the gold medal in Nagano in a dynamic display, but has hardly been on the World Cup circuit since, and his first priority was to qualify for the US team. He finished ninth in Tignes in the 2002 season opener, but was 37th in Steamboat.

Travis Ramos, 22 (23 on Feb 22), USA

OWG: -

WCH: -

WC: 2000: 21st; 2000: 9th

Ramos took his first victory - and first podium - last season in Sunday River, then finished fourth in Steamboat in the second event of the current 2002 season.

WOMEN'S MOGULS

Hannah Hardaway, 23, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 14th

WC: 1999: 34th; 2000: 24th; 2001: 3rd - 2 WC wins

If anyone can challenge Traa for the gold, it should be Hardaway, competing on home snow. The 23-year-old New Hampshire skier finished third on the moguls standings last season, but was the only woman to challenge the Norwegian's hold on the top step of the podium, winning twice. This season she opened with a silver medal and a fifth place to again occupy second spot on the standings at the calendar break.

Jennifer Heil, 18, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 7th

WC: 2001: 4th

Heil has had little more than one year on the World Cup circuit, but already has two podium placings from eight starts, finishing fourth on the standings in her first full season. Her opening two events of 2002 were unimpressive, a 14th in Tignes her best, but fired by the US crowd she could deliver a medal.

Kari Traa, 27, Norway

OWG: 1992: 14th; 1998: 3rd

WCH: 1997: 5th; 1999: 2nd; 2001: 1st

WC: 1999: 8th; 2000: 5th; 2001: 1st - 12 WC wins

Traa is a close to unbackable favourite for the women's moguls title (but so was Candice Gilg in Nagano, and she didn't make the final). The Norwegian has dominated moguls for the past two seasons, taking the 2001 World Cup title and the world championship. She won five of the seven races last season, and started the 2002 season with two from two in Tignes and Steamboat. Traa won the bronze medal in Nagano.

Aiko Uemura, 22, Japan

OWG: 1998: 7th

WCH: 1997: 16th; 1999: 23rd; 2001: 3rd

WC: 1999: 6th; 2000: 4th; 2001: 2nd

Uemura is a strong minor medal prospect, but probably one without the firepower she needs to take the gold. Last season she took three silver medals and a bronze in the seven World Cup events to finish in second place on the standings, a career best. Her return from the first two events of the 2002 season was a bronze medal in Tignes and a 22nd place in Steamboat.

Donna Weinbrecht, 35, USA

OWG: 1992: 1st; 1994: 7th; 1998: 4

WCH: 1989: 2nd; 1991: 1st; 1995: 5th; 1997: 2nd; 2001: 30th

WC: 1989: 2nd; 1990 -1994: 1st; 1995: 2nd; 1996: 2nd; 1997: 13th; 1998: 22nd; 2001: 27th

One of the legends of the sport, Weinbrecht is making a comeback to Olympic competition - if she makes it through the US trials - at the age of 35. A five time World Cup titleholder, the Albertville gold medallist and the 1991 world champion, she will be a great story if she makes it, and two events into the 2002 season, things were looking good. She finished 15th in the opener in Tignes, then moved up to seventh in Steamboat.

ALSO WATCH FOR:

Shannon Bahrke CAN

Sandra Laoura FRA

Ice Hockey

Preliminary matches will be played every day from February 9 through to February 18

Tuesday 19 February	11:00	Women's semi finals
	16:30	Women's semi finals
Wednesday 20 February	11:00	Men's quarter finals
	13:00	Men's quarter finals
	15:30	Men's quarter finals
	18:40	Men's quarter finals
Thursday 21 February	12:00	Women's bronze medal match
	17:00	Women's gold medal match
Friday 22 February	12:00	Men's semi-finals
	16:15	Men's semi-finals
Saturday 23 February	12:15	Men's bronze medal match
Sunday 24 February	13:00	Men's gold medal match

Like figure skating, ice hockey began as a sport of the Summer Games, introduced at the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium. Four years later it was included in the first Winter Games in Chamonix, and it has been part of the program ever since. The rules have remained much the same over the years, but growing interest in the sport in many countries has made it increasingly difficult to reach the top. Australia has only once qualified an ice hockey team for the Winter Olympics, in 1960. A women's competition was added to the Olympic program for the first time at the last Olympics in Nagano (women began competing at the World Championships in 1990). In another first for the sport, professional players from the world's premier competition, the National Hockey League of North America, played in the Nagano Games competition.

THE SPORT

The ice hockey rink measures 60 x 30 metres and is surrounded by boards. The playing area is divided into three zones: defence, neutral and attack. Men's teams at the Nagano Games will have 23 players, while women's teams will have 20, including two goalies, with a maximum of six players - including the goalie - permitted on the ice at any given time. Players may be substituted at any time during the game.

Playing periods

An ice hockey game is divided into three 20-minute periods of effective playing time with 15 minute intermissions. If a tie occurs in a medal-round game in which a winner must be determined, a 10-minute sudden-death overtime period will be played subsequent to another 15-minute intermission. There will be a 20-minute overtime in the gold-medal game. If the game is tied after the overtime period, penalty shots will be employed immediately to determine a winner.

Infractions

A game is controlled by a referee, two linesmen and two goal judges. Playing rules fall into two categories: a) line infractions, where the linesmen blow their whistles and a face-off follows, and b) rule infractions, where one or more players are sent off for a specified period.

Line infractions: An attacker is offside if he crosses the blue line into the attack zone ahead of the puck. A redline offside is a pass by a player from his own defence zone to a teammate on the other side of the red central line. A team with the same number of players or more than the opposing side is not permitted to send the puck from its own half of the rink across the opponent's extended goal line - a move called "icing".

Rule infractions: A player guilty of a rule infraction is sent off for two minutes (or until the opposing side scores a goal), or for a longer period. If the infraction is particularly serious, the player can be suspended for the rest of the game. Players can be sent off for a number of infractions.

THE COMPETITION

The Salt Lake City 2002 men's tournament is made up of 14 teams and consists of three rounds: preliminary round, final round and playoff round. The women's tournament is made up of eight teams and consists of a preliminary round and a playoff round.

Men's

The six teams with the top final placings from the 1998 Olympic Winter Games qualified directly into the final round of the 2002 Salt Lake Games, with only their seedings to be decided by play beforehand. They are: Czech Republic, Russia, Finland, Canada, Sweden and the United States.

Two more teams with the top final placings from the 1999 IIHF World Championships qualified directly into the preliminary round of the 2002 Games. They are: Slovakia and Switzerland. Six more teams qualified at the Olympic qualification tournaments in February 2001 and have also been placed into the preliminary round. They are: Belarus, Austria, Latvia, Ukraine, France and Germany.

The eight teams in the preliminary rounds will play off in two groups, with two teams winning their way into the final round. Each team will play the other three teams in its group during the final round, and there is no overtime for tied games. Once in the medal round, teams play a quarterfinal round, a semifinal round and a gold-medal game, which will be played on the final day of the Games.

Women

There are eight teams in the women's Olympic tournament - two more than the inaugural women's tournament at the 1998 Nagano Games. The six teams with the top final placings from the 2000 IIHF World Championships qualified for the 2002 Salt Lake Games. They are: Canada, the United States, Finland, Sweden, Russia and China. The final two teams qualified at the Olympic qualifying tournament in February 2001. They are: Kazakhstan and Germany. The eight teams will be grouped into two groups for the preliminary round, playing each other once to determine seedings for the playoff round.

THE VENUES

The 55 ice hockey games will be spread out over two venues - The Peaks Ice Arena and the E Center. The Peaks Ice Arena is located in Provo, Utah, and is approximately 82 kilometres from the Olympic Village. The E Center is home to the Utah Grizzlies, an International Hockey League team, and has a capacity of 10,451. The E Center is located in West Valley City, about 12 kilometres from the Olympic Village.

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

Australia has only once been represented in Ice Hockey at the Olympics, finishing ninth in the 1960 Games in Squaw Valley, USA.0

The following team took part:

B.M. Acton (capt), R.A. Jones, K.A. Wellman, A.R. Dewhurst, R.W. Amess, D. Cunningham, N.E. Derrick, V.J. Ekberg, B.I. Hansen, A.M. Hitch, N.P. McLoughlin, J.A. Nicholas, P.G. Parrot, K.J. Pawsey, R.W. Reid, J.L. Thomas, Z. Tikal, I. Vessley. Coach W.O. McEachern

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

1924	Canada
1928	Canada
1932	Canada
1936	Great Britain
1948	Canada
1952	Canada
1956	USSR
1960	USA
1964	USSR
1968	USSR
1972	USSR
1976	USSR
1980	USA
1984	USSR
1988	USSR

Who to watch

MEN

It will be one of the teams that finished in the top six in Nagano who will take the gold in Salt Lake City, but which one is hard to tell! There are many factors in play, including who actually turns up to play! The Czechs are the reigning Olympic and World Champions and deserve the right to start as favourites. But if the USA and Canadian teams arrive with their full complement of NHL players they will be hard to beat. But then, as the Czechs displayed in 1998, a champion team can beat a team of champions.

WOMEN

The USA is the defending Olympic champion and will be out to establish an unbroken record in the sport. The Canadians got the better of them at the 2001 World Championship, so expect another North American shoot out in Salt Lake.

1992	CIS
1994	Sweden
1998	Czech Republic

WOMEN

1998	USA
------	-----

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

Men

1	Czech Republic
2	Russia
3	Finland

Women

1	USA
2	Canada
3	Finland

2001 MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

1	Czech Republic
2	Finland
3	Sweden
4	USA
5	Canada
5	Russia

2001 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

1	Canada
2	USA
3	Russia
4	Finland

Luge

Sunday 10 February	1600 - 19:00	Men's Singles: Runs 1 and 2
Monday 11 February	09:00 - 12:30	Men's Singles: Runs 3 and 4
Tuesday 12 February	16:00 - 19:00	Women's Singles: Runs 1 and 2
Wednesday 13 February	16:00 - 19:00	Women's Singles: Runs 3 and 4
Thursday 15 February	09:00 - 11:30	Doubles

An Australian student George Robertson won what is reputed to be the world's first international sled race, in 1883 in Davos, Switzerland. He outslid 19 other competitors from England, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States on a four kilometre stretch of road from St. Wolfgang to Klosters to share the victory with Klosters mailman Peter Minsch.

It was not till 72 years later that the first World Championships occurred on an artificial track in Oslo in 1955. Fifty-two sliders from eight nations competed under the auspices of the International Bobsled and Toboggan Federation (FIBT). Two years later, the International Luge Federation (FIL) was founded in Davos and remains the governing body of luge today.

The luge was included in the Winter Olympic program for the first time at the Innsbruck Games in 1964. Women have competed in this event from the start, but so far only in singles, though following Albertville there have been no regulations preventing women from competing in doubles.

Germany, Austria, Italy or the former Soviet Union have dominated the competition, winning all but two of the medals awarded.

THE SPORT

Both singles and doubles events are on the program. Singles competitions are decided on the aggregate time of four runs over two days, while doubles luge is a one-day competition of two runs. Each run counts, and the fastest total time determines the winner. Luge is one of two sports at the Winter Olympics (along with short track speed skating) that is timed to the thousandth of a second. Men and women compete on the same track, but the women start from a position further down the course.

At the 2002 Salt Lake City Games, each nation belonging to the International Luge Federation (FIL) may enter a maximum of three men, three women and two doubles teams. There will be no more than 110 luge athletes at the Games (80 men, 30 women). The top 36 athletes are seeded in three groups of 12 based on their World Cup ranking from the three previous World Cups. There are draws for each seeded group and for the athletes ranked 37 and lower.

A luge is started from a stationary position. The start is critical. At the start, competitors grasp metal grips with both hands to push themselves forward. They then use their gloves, which have small spikes in the palms, to propel themselves forward, after which gravity takes over. Maximum speeds reached are around 120km/h.

For a run to be deemed legal, an athlete (or both athletes in the case of doubles) must be in contact with the sled when it crosses the timing light at the finish line. Crossing the finish line without the sled results in immediate disqualification. If a racer crashes on course, receives no outside assistance and still finishes with the sled unassisted, the run is counted.

THE LUGE

The sled rides along the course on two steel runners called steels. The steels are attached to kufens, which are flexible levers that respond to the pressure of slight leg movements. Bridges, made of steel, connect the two kufens. There are two bridges on each sled -- one at the front and one at the back. The slider or sliders lay in pods, the fibreglass bodies of the sled. The luge must satisfy a number of technical specifications. Since weight is an important factor in this sport, the maximum is set at 23kg for the single unit and 27kg for the double. Lugers weighing less than the basic weight - 75kg for women and 90kg for men - are allowed to make up part of the weight. In singles, 75 per cent of the difference can be equalised, subject to a maximum of 10kg for women and 13kg for men and 10kg for a doubles pair. The extra weights are attached to the competitor's body. Garments worn must also satisfy a number of specifications and are limited to 4kg maximum weight. The luge's runners may not be heated and they are checked before the start against a control runner to ensure that they are no more than five degrees above the ambient temperature.

THE VENUE

Utah Olympic Park will host the luge competition. Considered the world's fastest luge track, it includes 17 curves and is 1316m in length for men and 1140m for women and for doubles.

Spectator capacity - Seated: 3600; Standing: 12,000.

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

1964 - 1988

No Australian competitors

1992

Women's Singles

Diane Ogle 21st

1994

Men's single

Roger White 27th

1998

No Australian competitors

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

Singles

1964 Thomas Kohler, Germany
1968 Manfred Schmid, Austria

1972	Wolfgang Scheidel, GDR
1976	Detlef Gunther, GDR
1980	Bernhard Glass, GDR
1984	Paul Hildgartner, Italy
1988	Jens Muller, GDR
1992	Georg Hackl, Germany
1994	Georg Hackl, Germany
1998	Georg Hackl, Germany
	Doubles
1964	Austria I
1968	GDR I
1972	Italy I
1976	GDR
1980	GDR I
1984	Germany
1988	GDR I
1992	Germany
1994	Italy I (Kurt Brugger/Wilfried Huber)
1998	Jan Behrendt/Stefan Krausse GER
	Women's Singles
1964	Otrun Enderlein, Germany
1968	Erica Lechner, Italy
1972	Annamaria Muller, GDR

1976	Margit Schumann, GDR
1980	Vera Zozulia, USSR
1984	Steffi Martin, GDR
1988	Steffi Walter, GDR
1992	Doris Neuner, Austria
1994	Gerda Weissensteiner, Italy
1998	Silke Kraushaar, GER

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

Men's single

1	Georg Hackl, GER	3:18.436
2	Armin Zoeggeler, ITA	3:18.939
3	Jens Mueller, GER	3:19.093

Women's single

1	Silke Kraushaar, GER	3:23.779
2	Barbara Niedernhuber, GER	3:23.781
3	Angelika Neuner, AUT	3:24.253

Doubles

1	Jan Behrendt/Stefan Krausse	GER	1:41.105
2	Gordy Sheer/Chris Thorpe	USA	1:41.127
3	Mark Grimmette/Brian Martin	USA	1:41.217

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Calgary Canada
February 23-25, 2001

Men's single

1	Armin Zoeggeler	ITA	1:30.139
2	Georg Hackl	GER	1:30.485
3	Markus Prock	AUT	1:30.766
4	Rainer Margreiter	AUT	1:30.895
5	Robert Fegg	GER	1:30.932
6	Denis Geppert	GER	1:31.037
7	Wilfried Huber	ITA	1:31.040
8	Jens Müller	GER	1:31.056
9	Karsten Albert	GER	1:31.065
10	Reinhold Rainer	ITA	1:31.135

Women's single

1	Sylke Otto	GER	1:29.393
2	Silke Kraushaar	GER	1:29.681
3	Barbara Niedernhuber	GER	1:29.861
4	Sonja Wiedemann	GER	1:30.271
5	Angelika Neuner	AUT	1:30.393
6	Gabi Bender	GER	1:30.399
7	Veronika Halder	AUT	1:30.515
8	Iluta Gaile	LAT	1:30.606
9	Sonja Manzenreiter	AUT	1:30.690
10	Ashley Hayden	USA	1:30.718

Doubles

1	Andre Florschütz/Torsten Wustlich	GER	1:28.628
2	Steffen Skel/Steffen Wöller	GER	1:28.689
3	Tobias Schiegl/Markus Schiegl	AUT	1:28.896
4	Gerhard Plankensteiner/Oswald Haselrieder	ITA	1:29.051
5	Patric Leitner/Alexander Resch	GER	1:29.152
6	Grant Albrecht/Mike Moffat	CAN	1:29.180
7	Kurt Brugger/Huber Wilfried	ITA	1:29.203
8	Mark Grimmette/Brian Martin	USA	1:29.361
9	Chris Thorpe/Clay Ives	USA	1:29.440
10	Sebastian Schmidt/Andre Forker	GER	1:29.582

2000 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jan 31-Feb 6 2000
St Moritz Switzerland

Men

1	Jens Müller	GER	1:01.912
2	Armin Zoeggeler	ITA	1:02.102
3	Georg Hackl	GER	1:02.231

Women

1	Sylke Otto	GER	1:55.128
2	Barbara Niedernhuber	GER	1:55.359
3	Sonja Wiedemann	GER	1:55.397

Doubles

1	Patric Leitner/Alexander Resch	GER	1:54.303
2	Steffen Skel/Steffen Wöller	GER	1:54.703
3	Mark Grimmette/Brian Martin	USA	1:54.978

2000/2001 WORLD CUP FINAL STANDINGS

Men's

1	Armin Zoeggeler	ITA	700
2	Georg Hackl	GER	550
3	Markus Prock	AUT	525
4	Karsten Albert	GER	495
5	Jens Müller	GER	456
6	Wilfried Huber	ITA	385
7	Reinhold Rainer	ITA	376
8	Tony Benshoof	USA	363
9	Albert Demtschenko	RUS	353
10	Johan Rousseau	FRA	263

Women's

1	Silke Kraushaar	GER	740
2	Sylke Otto	GER	661

3	Angeika Neuner AUT	510	5	Rainer Margreiter AUT	279
4	Sonja Wiedemann GER	505	6	Wilfried Huber ITA	227
5	Iluta Gaile LAT	376	7	David Möller GER	225
6	Barbara Niedernhuber GER	351	8	Jaroslav Slavik SVK	210
7	Sonja Manzenreiter AUT	347	9	Tony Benshoof USA	194
8	Simone Eder AUT	288	10	Reinhold Rainer ITA	187
9	Courtney Zablocki USA	280			
10	Becky Wilczak USA	276			

Pairs

1	Skel/Wöller GER	591	1	Silke Kraushaar GER	385
2	Florschütz/Wustlich GER	545	2	Sylke Otto GER	355
3	Leitner/Resch GER	520	3	Angelika Neuner AUT	296
4	Grimmette/Martin USA	473	4	Becky Wilczak USA	277
5	Schiegl/Schiegl AUT	461	5	Barbara Niedernhuber GER	270
6	Plankensteiner/Haselrieder ITA	451	6	Sonja Manzenreiter AUT	201
7	Brugger/Huber ITA	441	7	Iluta Gaile LAT	195
8	Oberstolz/Gruber ITA	357	8	Anke Wischnewski GER	192
9	Thorpe/Ives USA	315	9	Veronika Halder AUT	189
10	Moffat/Pothier CAN	277	9	Simone Eder AUT	189

2001/2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (Jan 1, 2002)

Men

1	Armin Zöggeler ITA	350	1	Leitner/Resch GER	345
2	Markus Prock AUT	345	2	Skel/Wöller GER	295
3	Georg Hackl GER	339	3	Brugger/Huber ITA	287
4	Karsten Albert GER	310	4	Oberstolz/Gruber ITA	269
			5	Schiegl/Schiegl AUT	268
			6	Grimmette/Martin USA	259
			6	Florschütz/Wustlich GER	259
			8	Plankensteiner/Haselrieder ITA	227
			9	Moffat/Pothier CAN	204
			10	Mick/Marx SVK	190

WHO TO WATCH

MEN

Karsten Albert, 33, GER

OWG: -

WCH: 9th 2001

World Cup: 2000 3rd; 2001 4th

Karsten was fourth on the World Cup standings last season, having won one event and made the podium in two others. This year he stood at the same ranking mid-season, also with a victory and two podiums. Albert is yet to win at a major championship.

Tony Benshoof, 26, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 13th 2001

World Cup: 2001 8th

The American hope had a fourth place finish on the Olympic course last season on the way to a career-high eighth place finish on the World Cup. In the first half of this season his best has been a sixth, in Calgary, but his knowledge of the Salt Lake City track could lift him onto the podium.

Georg Hackl, 35, Germany

OWG: Gold medal 1992, 1994, 1998; silver 1988

WCH: Won 1989, 1990, 1997; six other medals

World Cup titles: 2 - 1989, 1990

If Georg Hackl wins the gold medal in Salt Lake City, he will become the first person in Winter Olympic history to win four consecutive gold medals in an individual event (he already holds the record for winning a medal at four Winter Games). But while he is supreme in the Olympic arena, his World Cup and World Championship record is not as strong, with just two World Cup titles (in 1989 and 1990) and three world titles (in 1989, 1990 and 1997) to his credit. But after a poor 2001 World Cup season he appears to have turned it around, winning three of his four pre-Christmas events.

Markus Prock, 37, Austria

OWG: Silver medal 1992, 1994, 1998

WCH: Won 1987, 1996; six other medals

World Cup titles: 10

Prock won the World Cup title ten times in the 13 years from 1988 to 2001, including eight straight from 1990 to 1997. In the 2001 season, he finished in third place, and halfway through the current season sits in second place on the points table. But he has not won since the 1999 season, and a fourth straight silver medal may be beyond him.

Armin Zöggeler, 28, ITA

OWG: Bronze medal 1994; Silver 1998

WCH: Won 1987, 1996; six other medals

World Cup titles: 10

Zöggeler took the double last season of the World Cup and World Championship titles, and also has two other world championship and World Cup titles to his credit. The dual Olympic medallist led the 2002 standings at the Christmas break with a win in Lake Placid and one other podium.

WOMEN

Silke Kraushaar, 31, Germany

OWG: Gold medal 1998

WCH: Silver 2000, 2001

World Cup: Won 1999, 2001

Along with German team-mate Silke Otto, Kraushaar has been one of the dominant figures in luge since winning the gold medal in Nagano. She won the World Cup title in 1999, finished second in 2000, then took the crown again in 2001, in a season that saw her take four victories and four second places in the eight events. She has started this season in ominous form, winning three of the four events she has contested and taking the silver medal in the other. She is yet to win a world title, finishing second to Otto in the past two championships.

Angelika Neuner, 32, Austria

OWG: Silver medal 1992, Bronze 1998

WCH: 3rd 1997, 5th 2001

World Cup: Second 1997, 3rd 2001

Like all the women on the circuit other than the German duo of Kraushaar and Otto, Neuner has been sliding for third spot on the podium for the past few years. She is a two time Olympic medallist,

having won the silver in 1992 and the bronze in 1998. Neuner finished third in the World Cup standings last season, a place she occupies halfway through the current season after collecting two bronze medals.

Sylke Otto, 32, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: Won 2000, 2001; 3rd 1999

World Cup: Won 1995, 2000; runner up 1999, 2001

Otto and Silke Kraushaar have shared the top two places in women's luge competition for the past three years, Otto winning the 2000 and 2001 world championships, and taking the World Cup title in 2000, but finishing behind her team-mate in the 2001 World Cup. This season she won the opening event, but had to settle for the silver behind Otto in the next three events they contested. Like her compatriot, Otto lists her occupation as soldier.

Barbara Niedernhuber, 27, Germany

OWG: Silver 1998

WCH: 2nd 1999, 2000; 3rd 2001

World Cup: 3rd 1999, 2000; 6th 2001

The Nagano silver medallist has not won on the World Cup for the past two seasons, but is a constant presence on the podium, collecting four bronze medals last season and another three in her four outings in the current one.

Becky Wilczak, 21, USA

OWG: -

WCH: 11th 2001

World Cup: 10th 2001

A relative newcomer to luge competition, Wilczak finished tenth on the World Cup rankings last season in her second year of competition. But along the way she recorded three fourth placings, including one on the Olympic track in Salt Lake City. This season she has maintained that form, finishing fourth in Calgary and Königssee, and second in Lake Placid, although Kraushaar and Otto were both missing from the New York State event. At the halfway point of the current season, she was ranked fourth in the World Cup.

THE OTHER AMERICANS

Courtney Zabolcki and **Ashley Hayden** have both had fourth place finishes this season, and on their home track could make the podium.

DOUBLES

Kurt Brugger/Wilfried Huber, Italy

OWG: Bronze 1992; Gold 1994; 6th 1998

WCH: 3rd 1999; 3rd 2000; 8th 2001

World Cup: 1st 1997, 1st 1998, 3rd 2000; 4th 2001

One of the veteran pairs in world luge, Brugger and Huber will be going to their fourth Games. A silver medal in the last event of 2001 in Oberhof has raised hopes of another Olympic medal to go with the bronze they won in Albertville and the gold from Lillehammer.

Andre Florschütz/Torsten Wustlich, Germany

OWG: 8th 1998

WCH: 4th 1999; Won 2001

World Cup: 8th 1999; 7th 2000; 2nd 2001

The 2001 world champions have had an up and down 2002 season so far, capturing the silver medal at their first two events, then finishing in sixth place and ninth to lie in eighth place on the standings midway through the circuit. But their form over the past season and a half shows they will be a threat for the medals.

Mark Grimmette/Brian Martin, USA

OWG: Bronze 1998

WCH: 7th 2000; 7th 2001

World Cup: 11th 2000; 6th 2001

Grimmette and Martin, the Nagano bronze medallists, finished last season ranked fourth in the world. The pair also took bronze in the 1999 and 2000 world championships. This season, their form has not been as good, just one podium result coming in five events, but their home track knowledge may provide the advantage they need to combat the Europeans.

Patric Leitner/Alexander Resch, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: Won 1999, 2000; 5th 2001

World Cup: 3rd 1999; 1st 2000, 3rd 2001

Leitner and Resch were leading the 2002 standings after the opening half of this season, winning two events and taking the silver in a third. The pair won the world title in 1999, then defended that crown and collected the World Cup title 2000. Injury hampered the early part of the 2001 season, but they still finished in third place after winning three of the last six events.

Steffen Skel/Steffen Woller, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 3rd 1997; 2nd 2000; 5th 2001

World Cup: 3rd 1994; 2nd 2000, 2nd 2001

The rivalry between the German teams will be fierce in Salt Lake City, with Skel and Woller, the 2001 World Cup champions, certain to feature in the medals. After an indifferent start to the 2002 season, they collected two bronze medals then stepped onto the top of the podium in the final race on December in Oberhof.

Nordic combined

Saturday 09 February	09:00 - 12:15	Individual: K90	Utah Olympic Park
Sunday 10 February	09:00 - 10:00	Individual: 15km	Soldier Hollow
Thursday 14 February	08:30 - 11:30	Team: K90	Utah Olympic Park
Friday 15 February	09:00 - 14:00	Team: 4x5km Relay	Soldier Hollow
Thursday 21 February	10:30 - 12:30	Sprint: K120	Utah Olympic Park
Friday 22 February	10:00 - 11:30	Sprint: 7.5km	Soldier Hollow

Few winter sports disciplines, if any, are as demanding as the Nordic Combined, which requires the competitor to be both a good ski jumper and a fast cross-country racer. Nordic Combined has been on the Olympic program since the first Games in Chamonix in 1924. Three member team competitions were introduced at the Calgary Games in 1988, and in Nagano, four member teams competed. The spectator appeal of this event was enhanced by the introduction of the pursuit start in the cross-country race, and will be further improved in Salt Lake City with the addition of a sprint event.

THE SPORT

The rules in Nordic Combined are the same as those for the individual sports of ski jumping and cross-country. Each nation can enter up to four competitors, who do not need to be the same in the individual and team competitions. There is no women's competition.

Individual

The individual nordic combined competition is composed of a ski jumping competition from the normal (90 metre) hill and a 15-kilometre cross-country race. On the first day of competition, each competitor takes two jumps, with each jump being scored for length and style, and the points from both jumps added together. On the second day, the athletes contest a 15km cross-country race. Any style of cross-country skiing is allowed (freestyle). The start order is determined by the results of the ski jumping, with the leader starting first and the others staggered behind based on a point-to-time conversion formula called the Gundersen Method - basically, one ski jumping point equates to six seconds, so, for example, if the second placed jumper has scored three points less than the leader, he starts the cross country race 18 seconds behind. The first person to cross the finish line is the winner.

Sprint

The nordic combined sprint competition is composed of a ski jumping competition from the large (120m) hill and a 7.5-kilometre cross-country race. On the first day of competition, each athlete takes one jump, then on the second day, contest a 7.5km cross-country race. Once again, any style of cross-country skiing is allowed, and the start order is determined by the results of the ski jumping, as per the individual event. The first person to cross the finish line is the winner.

Team

Each team consists of four members. The team nordic combined competition is composed of a ski jumping competition on the normal hill and a 4x5-kilometre cross-country relay race. On the first

day of competition, each of the four team members takes two jumps from the normal hill. The team's score in the jumping portion is the total score of the eight jumps. On the second day of competition, the teams contest a 4x5km cross-country race, again in freestyle. The start order is determined by the results of the ski jumping, with the leading team starting first and the others as per the individual event (note that in the team event, 9 points is equal to 1 minute). The first team to cross the finish line is the winner.

SCORING SKI JUMPING

Each jump is judged on distance and style. Distance points are related to the event's K Point. In the normal hill competition, the K Point is at 90 metres, while on the large hill, it is at 120 metres. A jump to the K point on either hill is worth 60 points, with each metre beyond or under that distance earning an increase or decrease of 2.0 points if it is a normal hill competition, and 1.8 points if it is a large hill competition. Thus, if the jumper covers 96 metres on the normal hill, his distance points are 72 ie 60 + 12. (The K Point is the point on the ski jumping hill that is the same distance from the takeoff of the jump as the height of the jump. It is 90 metres from takeoff on the normal hill and 120 metres on the large hill.) Style points are judged out of 20 by each of five judges, with deductions for style faults, and the highest and lowest scores are discarded. The judges assess the power and style of the take-off, the time taken to adopt the flight position, form throughout the flight, the style and smoothness of the landing - which must be done in the telemark position, i.e. with the front leg bent at the knee and forward of the rear leg - and the position and form through the out run.

THE VENUE

Located at 7,350 feet, Utah Olympic Park is the highest of any World Cup venue in the world. Competitors will have to not only negotiate sometimes-gusty winds whipping up the run, but also must remain aloft in the thin air. - 46km east of Salt Lake City will also host the bobsleigh, luge, skeleton and ski jumping.

Spectator capacity - Seated: 11,000; Standing: 10,000

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

1960

60m jump	Hal Nerdal	33rd
Combined	Hal Nerdal	31st

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

Individual

1924	Thorleif Haug, Norway
1928	Johan Grottnumsbraten, Norway
1932	Johan Grottnumsbraten, Norway
1936	Oddbjorn Hagen, Norway
1948	Heikki Hasu, Finland

1952	Simon Slattvik, Norway
1956	Sverre Stenersen, Norway
1960	Georg Thoma, Germany
1964	Tormod Knutsen, Norway
1968	Franz Keller, Germany
1972	Ulrich Wehling, GDR
1976	Ulrich Wehling, GDR
1980	Ulrich Wehling, GDR
1984	Tom Sandberg, Norway
1988	Hippolyt Kempf, Switzerland
1992	Fabrice Guy, France
1994	Fred Borre Lundberg, Norway
1998	Bjarte Engen Vik, Norway

Team Competition

1988	Germany
1992	Japan
1994	Japan (Takanori Kono, Masashi Abe, Kenji Ogiwara)

1998 Norway (Halldor Skard Jr., Kenneth Braaten, Bjarte Engen Vik, Fred Boerre Lundberg)

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES NAGANO

Individual

- 1 Bjarte Engen Vik, NOR
- 2 Samppa Lajunen, FIN
- 3 Valery Stolyarov, RUS

Team

- 1 Norway (Halldor Skard Jr., Kenneth Braaten, Bjarte Engen Vik, Fred Boerre Lundberg)
- 2 Finland (Samppa Lajunen, Jari Mantila, Tapio Nurmela, Hannu Manninen)
- 3 France (Sylvain Guillaume, Nicolas Bal, Ludovic Roux, Fabrice Guy)

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lahti, Finland
February 16-24, 2001

Men's 15km

- 1 Bjarte Engen Vik NOR
- 2 Samppa Lajunen FIN
- 3 Felix Gottwald AUT
- 4 Hannu Manninen FIN
- 5 Kristian Hammer NOR
- 6 Ladislav Rygl CZE
- 7 Kenji Ogiwara JPN
- 8 Marco Baacke GER
- 9 David Kreiner AUT
- 10 Jaako Tallus FIN

Individual 7.5km sprint

- 1 Marco Baacke GER
- 2 Samppa Lajunen FIN
- 3 Ronny Ackermann GER
- 4 Jaako Tallus FIN
- 5 Kenji Ogiwara JPN
- 6 Hannu Manninen FIN
- 7 Kristian Hammer NOR
- 8 Felix Gottwald AUT
- 9 Bjarte Engen Vik NOR
- 10 David Kreiner AUT

Team 4 x 5km

- 1 Norway (Braaten, Rotevatn, Vik, Hammer)
- 2 Austria (Eugen, Stecher, Kreiner, Gottwald)
- 3 Finland (Mantilla, Manninen, Tallus, Lajunen)

2001 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

1	Felix Gottwald	AUT	1785
2	Ronny Ackermann	GER	1342
3	Bjarte Engen Vik	NOR	1209
4	Kristian Hammer	NOR	1195
5	Samppa Lajunen	FIN	1010
6	Ladislav Rygl	CZE	900
7	Marco Baacke	GER	851
8	Todd Lowick	USA	848
9	Christoph Eugen	AUT	752
10	Sebastien Haseney	GER	733

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (at Dec 20)

Overall

1	Ronny Ackermann	GER	845
2	Felix Gottwald	AUT	795
3	Todd Lodwick	USA	645
4	Samppa Lajunen	FIN	635
5	Kristian Hammer	NOR	413
6	Mario Stecher	AUT	369
7	Jaako Tallus	FIN	360
8	Bjoern Kircheisen	GER	351
9	Hannu Manninen	FIN	311
10	Daito Takahashi	JPN	295

Sprint

1	Ronny Ackermann	GER	405
2	Samppa Lajunen	FIN	330
3	Felix Gottwald	AUT	315
4	Todd Lodwick	USA	220
5	Hannu Manninen	FIN	185
6	Mario Stecher	AUT	178
7	Kristian Hammer	NOR	143
8	Bjoern Kircheisen	GER	140
9	Mikko Keskinarkaus	FIN	132
10	Christoph Eugen	AUT	131

Who to watch

Ronny Ackermann, 24, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: 1999: 9th sprint, 24th individual; 2001 3rd sprint, 16th individual

WC: 1999 23rd overall; 2000 5th; 2001 2nd overall, 2nd sprint - 6 WC wins

Ackermann led the 2002 overall standings at the start of January after winning three of the seven events and collecting silver medals in three others. He was runner up in the 2001 World Cup overall behind Gottwald, and also in the sprint standings. At the 2001 World Championships he took the bronze medal in the sprint.

Felix Gottwald, 26, Austria

OWG: 4th team event

WCH: 1999 7th individual, 26th sprint; 2001 3rd Individual, 8th sprint

WC: 1998 3rd overall; 1999 4th overall; 2000 7th; 2001 1st overall, 1st sprint - 9 WC wins (to Jan 1, 2002)

Gottwald won his first overall World Cup title last season, and also took the sprint honours, winning six events and a further five minor medals in a commanding performance. He also won the bronze medal in the 15km at the 2001 world championships. In the 2002 season he had added three more victories and two podium places to ranks second behind Ackermann at the Christmas break

Kristian Hammer, 29, Norway

OWG:

WCH: 2001 5th Individual, 7th Sprint, 1st Team

WC: 2000 11th overall; 2001 4th overall, 3rd sprint

Hammer had his best season in 2001, finishing fourth overall and third in the sprint. He started the 2002 World Cup season with two bronze medals and two other top six places, and should threaten for a podium place in Salt Lake.

Samppa Lajunen, 22, Finland

OWG: 1998 Silver Individual, Silver Team

WCH: 1999 2nd Individual, 5th sprint; 2001 2nd Individual, 2nd sprint, 2nd Team

WC: 1999 5th overall; 2000 1st; 2001 5th overall, 4th sprint - 11 WC wins (to Jan 1, 2002)

The Nagano silver medallist had his best World Cup season in 2000, taking the overall title, then had his major success in 2001 at the world championships, collecting individual, sprint and team silver medals. This season he had won just one event to the Christmas break, but a minor medal and three fifth placings indicate he will be a major medal threat again.

Todd Lodwick, 25, USA

OWG: 1992: 13th; 1994: 20th; 1998:

WCH: 1999: 14th Individual, 13th Sprint; 2001: 17th Individual, 25th sprint

WC: 1998: 4th overall; 1999 8th overall; 2000 4th overall; 2001 8th overall, 8th sprint - 4 WC wins

The great American nordic hope, Lodwick won his first World Cup event in Steamboat in 1996.

Two wins in 1998 - including the famous Holmenkollen - gave him his best World Cup finish, fourth on the end of season rankings, a performance he equalled in the 2000 season.

Hannu Manninen, 23, Finland

OWG: 1998 11th

WCH: 1999 4th Sprint; 2001 4th Individual, 6th sprint,

WCp: 1998 5th overall; 1999 2nd overall; 2000 9th overall; 1st Team; 2001 11th overall, 10th sprint - 9 WC wins

The Team silver medallist in Nagano, Manninen had a relatively poor 2001 World Cup season, finishing 11th overall with two podiums and a fourth in Salt Lake City. But he impressed at the world championships, placing fourth and sixth. In the first part of the 2002 season, his best placing has also been a fourth, in Reit Im Winkl.

Kenju Ogiwara, 32, Japan

OWG: 2 medals

WCH: 2001 5th Sprint, 7th Individual - 5 WCH medals

WCp: 2001 15th overall - 19 WC wins

With 19 World Cup wins, Ogiwara has been one of the most successful nordic combined athletes of recent years, but his results in 2001 and 2002 indicate that he is not the force he once was. Still, he finished fifth in the sprint and seventh in the individual at the 2001 world championships, so he can't be discounted.

TEAM 4 x 5km

With Bjarte Engen Vik, the anchor of the Norwegian team for many years, now retired, the Team competition is an open book. But watch for Finland, Germany and the Austrians

Short Track

Wednesday 13 February	18:00 - 21:30	Ladies' 1500m: Final Men's 1000m: Preliminaries Men's 5000m Relay: Preliminaries
Saturday 16 February	18:00 - 21:00	Ladies' 500m: Preliminaries and Final Ladies' 3000m Relay: Preliminaries Men's 1000m: Final
Wednesday 20 February	18:00 - 21:00	Men's 1500m: Final Ladies' 3000m Relay: Final Ladies' 1000m: Preliminaries
Saturday 23 February	18:00 - 21:00	Men's 500m: Preliminaries and Final

Short track speed skating races began to occur in Europe shortly after speed skating became an established international sport, but it took until 1992 for the sport to be included in the Olympic program. The United States and Canada organized short track competitions as far back as 1906 and an annual international short track championship was held in 1921. In the 1920s and 1930s, popularity increased and organizers for the 1932 Olympic Winter Games even changed the format of the long-track speed skating competition to pack-style races to simulate the strategy and excitement of short track racing. Official ISU championships began in 1978, but the first ISU World Championships didn't occur until 1981 in Meudon-la-Forêt, France

Short track speed skating was introduced to the Olympic program at the Albertville Games in 1992, with one individual and one relay event for men and women, after being a demonstration sport in 1988.

Short track differs in several ways from conventional speed skating, particularly in the obvious differences in the size of the track and the nature of the competition, but also in the competitor's equipment. A relay is also staged. Although the aim is still to be the first across the line, speed takes a second place to tactics, especially in the heats. For Salt Lake City, men's and women's 1500m events have been added to the program.

THE SPORT

Races take place on an oval track measuring 111.12 metres. Competitors race anti-clockwise, so that the inside of the track is always on their left. In the individual competitions, four participants race in each heat in the 500m and the 1000m, with the top two qualifying for the next round. In the 1500m, six racers take part in each heat. Racers line up side by side and start together. Other competitors can be passed at any time, but the overtaking skater is responsible for any collisions that might occur. Competitors who are lapped complete the race in the outermost lane, but competitors lapped twice are normally required to retire. The relay also has four teams in each heat, with the first two nations proceeding to the next round.

The Events

Various distances are raced, and there are initial heats plus a final. The women's distances are: 500 metres; 1000 metres; 1500 metres; 3000 metres relay. The men's distances are: 500m, 1000m, 1500m and 5000m relay. A relay team comprises four members plus a reserve. In general, skaters contest one and a half to two laps apiece in the relay and take multiple turns on the ice in any order. Each of the four skaters on a team must skate at least once. The number of laps each athlete takes is up to the team. The only requirement is that the last two laps are taken by the same person. If a racer falls in the relay, a teammate can take over as long as the skaters touch. Changeovers can occur anywhere on the course by touch or push. The 500m race covers 4.5 laps, the 1000m requires nine, the 1500m 13.5, the 3000m 27 and the 5000m 45.

Each event (except the relays) has an A final and a B final. The A final determines the medallists. The B final, or consolation final, determines fifth through eighth place. However, it is possible for a B finalist to earn a medal if, for example, fewer than three athletes complete the A final without disqualification.

COMPETITORS

Each nation is allowed two men and two women in each distance plus one relay team (if qualified). No nation may bring more than six men and six women to compete. Each event features 32 participants. Qualification took place in October at the Olympic venue. Only eight nations could qualify for the relay, including the host nation's place by right.

EQUIPMENT

To prevent injury, skaters must wear helmets, gloves, and protective pads on elbows and knees. The gloves are especially important when going around a curve because the hand is placed on the ice to help maintain balance. Safety mats are used to protect skaters who fall to the outside walls. Short track skates have been especially adapted over the years to provide maximum stability and speed around the tight oval. To grip the ice around turns, short track blades are extremely sharp and are bent in at an arc that mirrors the direction of the turn. In addition, short track blades are placed off-center to the left so the boot does not touch the ice when the skater leans into the turn.

Short track boots lace higher up the ankle than traditional skates and are constructed from customised foot molds and with heavier materials to help stabilise the foot and ankle around corners. Socks are rarely worn.

They are also taller than those of other speed skates to keep the boot from contacting the ice when banking around a curve, thus avoiding spills.

THE VENUE

Salt Lake Ice Center

Located in downtown Salt Lake City, the Salt Lake Ice Center was built in 1991 and will host the figure skating and short track events at the 2002 Olympics.

The 4-hectare/10-acre venue features a six-story indoor facility for sports and entertainment and is home to the Utah Jazz of the National Basketball Association. It can accommodate more than 15,000 spectators.

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1992		
1000m	Andrew Murtha	19th
	Richard Nizielski	21st
5000m relay		7th
	(Kieran Hansen, John Kah, Andrew Murtha, Richard Nizielski, Steven Bradbury (res))	
1994		
500m	Steven Bradbury	8th
	Richard Nizielski	10th
	Kieran Hansen	23rd
1000m	Richard Nizielski	12th
	Kieran Hansen	13th
	Steven Bradbury	24th
5000m relay		3rd
	(Steven Bradbury, Kieran Hansen, Andrew Murtha, Richard Nizielski)	
1998		
500m	Steven Bradbury	19th
1000m	Steven Bradbury	21st
5000m relay		8th
	(Steven Bradbury, Richard Goerlitz, Kieran Hansen, Richard Nizielski)	

WOMEN

1992		
500m	Felicity Campbell	20th
	Karen Gardiner	DSQ
1994		
500m	Karen Kah	12th
1000m	Karen Kah	11th
1998		
500m	Janet Daly	27th
1000m	Janet Daly	29th

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

500m	Steven Bradbury	8th (1994)
1000m	Kieran Hansen	12th (1994)
5000m relay		3rd (1994)
	(Steven Bradbury, Kieran Hansen, Andrew Murtha, Richard Nizielski)	

WOMEN

500m	Karen Kah	12th (1994)
1000m	Karen Kah	11th (1994)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

500m		
1994	Chae Ji-Hoon, Korea	
1000m		
1992	Kim Ki-Hoon, Korea	
1994	Kim Ki-Hoon, Korea	
5000m relay		
1992	South Korea	
1994	Italy	

WOMEN

500m		
1992	Cathy Turner, USA	
1994	Cathy Turner, USA	
1000m		
1994	Chun Lee-Kyung, Korea	
3000m relay		
1992	Canada	
1994	South Korea	

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

Men's 500m

- 1 Takafumi Nishitani, JPN 42.862
- 2 An Yulong, CHN 43.022
- 3 Hitoshi Uematsu, JPN 43.713

Men's 1000m

- 1 Kim Dong-Sung, KOR 1:32.375
- 2 Li Jiajun, CHN 1:32.428
- 3 Eric Bedard, CAN 1:32.661

Men's 5000m Relay

- 1 Canada 7:06.075 (Eric Bedard, Derrick Campbell, Francois Drolet, Marc Gagnon)
- 2 Korea 7:06.776 (Chae Ji-Hoon, Kim Dong-Sung, Lee Ho-Eung, Lee Jun-Hwan)
- 3 China 7:11.559 (An Yulong, Feng Kai, Li Jiajun, Yuan Ye)

Women's 500m

- 1 Annie Perreault, CAN 46.568
- 2 Yang Yang (S), CHN 46.627
- 3 Chun Lee-Kyung, KOR 46.335

1000m
 1 Chun Lee-Kyung, KOR 1:42.776
 2 Yang Yang (S), CHN 1:43.343
 3 Won Hye-Kyung, KOR 1:43.361

Women's 3000m relay
 1 Korea 4:16.260 (An Sang-Mi, Chun Lee-Kyung, Kim Yun-Mi, Won Hye-Kyung)
 2 China 4:16.383 (Sun Dandan, Wang Chunlu, Yang Yang (A), Yang Yang (S))
 3 Canada 4:21.205 (Christine Boudrias, Isabelle Charest, Annie Perreault, Tania Vicent)

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jeonju City, Korea
 March 30, 2001

Women's 500m
 1 Chunlu Wang CHN 45.779
 2 Yang Yang (A) CHN 45.872
 3 Yang Yang (S) CHN 45.949
 4 Evgenia Radanova BUL 46.003

Women's 1000m
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 1:45.664
 2 Chunlu Wang CHN 1:45.734
 3 Yang Yang (S) CHN 1:45.773
 4 Evgenia Radanova BUL 1:45.902

Women's 1500m
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 2:40.448
 2 Evgenia Radanova BUL 2:40.625
 3 Marie-Eve Drolet CAN 2:40.643
 4 Tania Vicent CAN 2:41.522
 5 Chunlu Wang CHN 2:42.307
 6 Yang Yang (S) CHN 2:48.623

Women's 300m
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 5:43.454
 2 Chunlu Wang CHN 5:43.549
 3 Evgenia Radanova BUL 5:43.650
 4 Yang Yang (S) CHN 5:44.111
 5 Tania Vicent CAN 5:45.553

Women's 3000m relay
 1 China 4:25.927
 2 Republic of Korea 4:25.976
 3 Bulgaria 4:27.597
 4 Japan 4:27.638

Women's overall
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 123
 2 Chunlu Wang CHN 81

3 Evgenia Radanova BUL 50
 4 Yang Yang (S) CHN 37
 5 Tania Vicent CAN 13
 6 Marie-Eve Drolet CAN 13

Men's 500m
 1 JiaJun Li CHN 43.433
 2 Jonathan Guilmette CAN 43.465
 3 Maurizio Carnino ITA 44.691
 4 Marc Gagnon CAN 1:12.603

Men's 1000m
 1 JiaJun Li CHN 1:32.034
 2 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 1:32.160
 3 Ryoung Min KOR 1:32.269
 4 Rusty Smith USA 1:32.449

Men's 1500m
 1 Marc Gagnon CAN 2:20.325
 2 Ryoung Min KOR 2:20.677
 2 Satoru Terao JPN 2:20.677
 4 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 2:20.897
 5 Seung-Jae Lee KOR 2:28.432
 DQ JiaJun Li CHN

Men's 3000m
 1 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 5:36.664
 2 Marc Gagnon CAN 5:36.831
 3 Jonathan Guilmette CAN 5:37.322
 4 Satoru Terao JPN 5:37.346
 5 Rusty Smith USA 5:37.483
 6 Ryoung Min KOR 5:37.782
 7 Maurizio Carnino ITA 5:38.449

DQ JiaJun Li CHN
 Men's 5000m relay
 1 United States 7:15.885
 2 Canada 7:16.458
 3 China 7:25.312
 DQ Italy

Men's overall
 1 JiaJun Li CHN 68
 2 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 63
 3 Marc Gagnon CAN 6
 4 Jonathan Guilmette CAN 34
 5 Ryoung Min KOR 33
 6 Satoru Terao JPN 25
 7 Maurizio Carnino ITA 15
 8 Rusty Smith USA 13
 9 Seung-Jae Lee KOR 5

2001 OLYMPIC QUALIFYING EVENT

Salt Lake City, Utah
 October 25, 2001

Ladies 500m
 1 Evgenia Radanova BUL 44.360
 2 Yang Yang (A) CHN 44.374
 3 Alanna Kraus CAN 44.585
 4 Annie Perreault CAN 1:23.095

Ladies 1000m
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 1:33.052
 2 Gi-Hyun Ko KOR 1:33.139
 3 Chikage Tanaka JPN 1:33.253
 4 Yang Yang (S) CHN 1:33.345

Ladies 1500m
 1 Gi-Hyun Ko KOR 2:27.709
 2 Evgenia Radanova BUL 2:27.764
 3 Yang Yang (A) CHN 2:27.891
 4 Yang Yang (S) CHN 2:29.254
 5 Mara Zini ITA 2:29.286
 6 Min-Jin Joo KOR 2:30.669

Ladies 3000m Relay
 1 Korea 4:15.598
 2 China 4:16.026
 3 Canada 4:21.064
 4 Japan 4:21.119

Men's 500m
 1 Takafumi Nishitani JPN 41.821
 2 JiaJun Li CHN 41.970
 3 Eric Bedard CAN 42.058
 4 Seung-Jae Lee KOR 42.074

Men's 1000m
 1 Dong-Sung Kim KOR 1:28.947
 2 JiaJun Li CHN 1:29.133
 3 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 1:29.309
 DQ Marc Gagnon CAN

Men's 1500m
 1 Apolo Anton Ohno USA 2:25.795
 2 Dong-Sung Kim KOR 2:26.257
 3 Nicola Rodigari ITA 2:26.334
 4 Marc Gagnon CAN 2:26.399
 5 Takafumi Nishitani JPN 2:27.019
 6 JiaJun Li CHN 3:07.063

Men's 5000m Relay
 1 Korea 6:58.719
 2 United States 6:59.265
 3 Canada 6:59.463
 4 China 7:12.244

2001/2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS

(As at December 20, 2001)

(Note that standings do not fully represent the true calibre of all competitors as many have missed a significant number of World Cups this season, especially in the wake of September 11)

Men's Overall
 1 Dong-Sung Kim KOR 99
 2 Seung-Jae Lee KOR 92
 3 JiaJun Li CHN 90
 4 Ryoung Min KOR 82
 5 Fabio Carta ITA 78
 6 Satoru Terao JPN 75
 7 Kai Feng CHN 73
 8 Yulong An CHN 65
 9 Cees Juffermans NED 62
 10 Takafumi Nishitani JPN 61

Women's Overall
 1 Yang Yang (A) CHN 99
 2 Evgenia Radanova BUL 88
 3 Yang Yang (S) CHN 87
 4 Min-Jin Joo KOR 87
 5 Chikage Tanaka JPN 80
 6 Gi-Hyun Ko KOR 73
 7 Eun-Kyung Choi KOR 70
 8 Joanna Williams GBR 62
 9 Mara Zini ITA 62
 10 Sarah Lindsay GBR 62

Who to watch

Fabio Carta, 24, Italy

OWG: 1998: 4th 5000m relay

WCH: 1997: 11th Overall, 3rd 5000m relay; 1998: 2nd Overall, 4th 5000m relay; 1999: 3rd Overall, 4th 5000m relay

Fabio Carta is Europe's best skater, having won the European Championship Overall title every year from 1997 and 2000. His form at the 2001 Olympic Qualifiers was not up to his usual standard, and he failed to make the final in any of the three events. However, he is a hardened competitor capable of producing results against the best in the world.

Marc Gagnon, 26, Canada

OWG: 1994: Bronze 1000m; 1998: Gold 5000m relay

WCH: 1993: 1st Overall; 1994: 1st Overall; 1995: 2nd Overall; 1996: 1st Overall; 1997: 2nd Overall; 1998: 1st Overall, 1st 5000m relay; 2001: 3rd Overall, 1st 1500m, 2nd 3000m

Gagnon always cuts an impressive figure on the ice, usually the tallest in the field at 184 cm. His record is no less imposing. For the period 1993 to 1998 he was the sport's dominant performer. His form slipped for a few years but in recent times he has returned to top form. He will be looking to produce his best at Salt Lake as previous Games have not gone to script. At the 2001 Olympic Qualifier, Gagnon had more bad luck, being disqualified in the final of the 1000 metres, knocked out in the quarters of the 500 metres and finishing 4th in the 1500m.

Li JiaJun, 26, China

OWG: 1998: Silver 1000m, Bronze 5000m relay

WCH: 1996 3rd Overall, 1st 1000m; 1998 3rd 5000m relay; 1999 1st Overall, 1st 500m, 3rd 1500m, 1st 3000m, 1st 5000m relay; 2000 3rd Overall, 1st 1000m, 2nd 3000m, 1st 5000m relay; 2001 1st Overall, 1st 500m, 1st 1000m

At 26, Li JiaJun is considered one of the veterans of the sport and one of its best exponents. Since taking a silver and bronze in Nagano in 1998, the Chinese skater has been the dominant force in the sport, notching up 10 World Championship gold medals. At the 2001 Olympic qualifier he demonstrated great speed and composure, taking silvers in both the 500m and 1000m events and finishing sixth in the 1500m.

Apolo Anton Ohno, 19, USA

OWG: The 2002 Games are his first Olympics

WCH: 1999: 4th Overall, 2nd 500m, 1st World Junior Championships; 2000: 9th Overall (competed when ill); 2001: 2nd Overall, 2nd 500m, 1st 1000m, 1st super 1500m, 1st 5000m relay

At the 2001 Olympic qualifier at Salt Lake in October, 2001, Ohno won the 1500m, finished third in the 1000m and was a semi-finalist in the 500m. A former inline skater, he possesses great skill on the ice, capable of incredibly quick acceleration to avoid difficulties or create opportunities. The USA national champion in 1997 (youngest ever), 1999 and 2001, Ohno was also the youngest American ever to win an overall World Cup (China 1999). Raised alone by his father, Yuki, an immigrant from Japan, Ohno is well placed to capture medals, and the hearts of his countrymen, at the 2002 Games.

Kim Dong Sung, 22, Korea

OWG: 1998: Gold 1000m, silver 5000m relay

WCH: 1997: 1st Overall, 1st 1000m, 2nd 500m, 1st 500m relay; 1998: 3rd Overall, 3rd 1500m, 1st 3000m; 1999: 5th Overall, 2nd 1000m; 2000: 8th Overall

Kim, who turned 22 on February 9, 2002, became the first skater to win both the world senior and world junior titles in the one year, back in 1997. At the 2001 Olympic Qualifier, he confirmed his status as one of the top contenders for medals in 2002 by winning the 1000m, finishing second in the 1500 and making the semis in the 500m. Kim is the current 3000-metre world record holder.

Satoru Terao, 26, Japan

OWG: 1998: Semis 1000m, quarters 500m

WCH: 1997: 3rd Overall; 1998: 4th Overall, 2nd 1000m; 1999: 2nd Overall, 1st 1000m 2000: 3rd Overall, 3rd 500m, 3rd 1500m; 2001: 6th Overall, 2nd 1500m

Terao is Japan's top skater and has experienced success on the international scene for many years. He has collected a number of World Championship and World Cup medals although success at the Olympic Games eluded him in Nagano. At the Olympic qualifier, the results also didn't flow, and he failed to make any final. But he is exceptionally fast and skilful on the ice and his opponents rate him as one of the toughest and best going around.

Men's 5000m Relay

USA, Canada, Korea

The competition in the men's relay is really hot, with all teams capable of a medal and many with a shot at the gold. Korea won the Olympic qualifier in October and was the number one team on the World Cup rankings at the end of last season. But the USA team didn't compete at all the World Cups after the events of September 11, and they are the reigning World Champions. Don't count out the Canadians or Chinese either!

WOMEN

Min-Jin Joo, 18, Korea

WCH: 2000: 3rd 1500m, 4th 500m, 3rd 1000m

Dominated the World Junior Championship in 1998 and 1999 and is considered one of the rising stars of the sport. She finished the 2000/2002 World Cup season ranked third in the 1500 metres, fourth in the 500 metres and fifth in the 1000 metres.

Gi-Hyun Ko, Korea

World Junior Championships: 2001: 2nd 500m, 1st 1000m

Ko is one of the rising young Koreans. She proved her class at the 2001 Olympic Qualifier where she won the 1500 metres and finished second in the 1000m.

Alanna Kraus, 24, Canada

OWG: -

WCH: 2000: 3rd 3000m relay

Kraus produced a strong performance at the 2001 Olympic Qualifier, taking the bronze in the 500m.

Eugenia Radanova, 24, Bulgaria

OWG: 1994: 23rd 500m, 21st 1000m; 1998: 11th 500m, 14th 1000m

WCH: 1998: 4th Overall; 1999: 4th Overall, 2nd 500m, 3rd 3000m relay; 2000: 4th Overall, 1st 500m; 2001: 3rd Overall, 2nd 1500m, 3rd 3000m

Radanova has pioneered the sport of short track in Bulgaria and is now Europe's top performer. At the 2001 Olympic Qualifier she showed outstanding form to win the 500 metres and finish second in the 1500 metres. Radanova is the current world record holder over 500 metres.

Yang Yang (A), 25, China

OWG: 1998: Silver 3000m relay

WCH: 1997: 1st Overall, 1st 500m, 1st 1000, 3rd 3000m; 1998: 1st Overall, 1st 1000m, 1st 1500, 2nd 3000m, 1st 3000 metre relay; 1999: 1st Overall, 1st 500m, 1st 1000, 2nd 1500m, 1st 3000m, 1st 3000m relay; 2000: 1st Overall, 3rd 500m, 1st 1000, 1st 1500m, 2nd 3000m; 2001: 1st Overall, 2nd 500m, 1st 1000, 1st 1500, 1st 3000m

The dominant skater of the past five years, Yang Yang (A) has reach 19 of the possible 20 finals at the past five world championships and won 12 of them. At the 2001 Olympic Qualifier, she finished third in the 1500m, second in the 1000m and won the 500m event.

Yang Yang (S), 24, China

OWG: 1998: Silver 500m, Silver 1000m, Silver 3000m relay

WCH: 1997: 4th Overall, 3rd 1500m; 1998: 8th Overall, 1st 3000m relay; 1999: 2nd Overall, 3rd 500m, 2nd 1000m, 1st 1500m, 3rd 3000m relay; 2000: 3rd Overall, 2nd 500m, 2nd 1000m

Had a brilliant 1998 Olympic Games winning three silvers. Has been a consistent performer at world championships and world cups ever since. At the 2001 Qualifier, she finished 4th in the 1500m and the 1000m and will be a contender again.

WOMEN'S 3000m RELAY

China, Korea

The women's hunt for gold is really a two horse race between the teams from Korea and China. The Koreans won in Salt Lake at the Olympic qualifier but the Chinese had their measure at the 2001 World Championships. At the end of the five-round 2001 World Cup season, only one point separated the two. That's the sort of competition it is.

Skeleton

Wednesday 20 February

09:00 - 12:00

Men's and Women's

Skeleton has been a part of the Winter Olympics just twice, in 1928 and 1948, and both times in St Moritz, the Swiss town which was the birthplace of the sport back in the 1800s. The first competition was held in 1884, and the sport acquired its name several years later when a mainly metal sled – which resembled a skeleton - was introduced. In Salt Lake City, women will compete for the first time.

THE SPORT

Skeleton is held on the same course as the bobsleigh and luge, with competitors descending the track on a small sled, face down and head first. It is a two run event, with the gold medal going to the competitor with the best aggregate time.

At the start, the competitor may accelerate the sled by pushing it; but any other help during the starting procedure is prohibited. Only the prone position (on the stomach) is allowed, although competitors who come off the sled temporarily, are not disqualified if they cross the finish line back on the sled.

Only the top 20 competitors in the men's and the top 12 in the women's after the first run can start in the second run. Competitors start the second run in reverse order of finishing time in the first run.

PARTICIPANTS

Each nation may enter a maximum of three athletes in the men's competition and a maximum of two athletes in the women's competition, with the precise number of competitors determined by a nation's place in World Cup and Challenge Cup rankings. All competitors must turn at least 18 years old during the Olympic year.

THE EQUIPMENT

The sport of skeleton utilises sleds with two runners. The frame must be constructed of steel, and there are specifications governing the dimensions and the maximum weight of the sled.

In the men's competition, the maximum weight of sled and driver, including equipment, is 115 kilograms. The sled alone may not weigh more than 43 kg. If the weight of the sled and the driver, including equipment, does exceed 115 kg, the maximum weight of the sled alone must not exceed 33 kg. The sled must be between 80 to 120 cm long and 8 to 20cm high.

In the women's event, the weight of sled and driver, including equipment, may not be more than 92 kg. The maximum weight of the sled alone is 35 kg. If the weight of the sled and the driver, including equipment, does exceed 92 kg, then the maximum weight of the sled alone must not exceed 29 kg. The dimensions of the women's sled is the same as for the men.

Ballast may be added to the sled until it reaches the maximum weight, but the ballast cannot be attached to the driver's body.

The parts

The runners must be made of a solid piece of steel, and no plating or coating is allowed. It is not permitted to warm up the runners or use any substance that improves sliding. At the start of the race, the temperature of the runners must be within 4 degrees Celsius of the temperature of a reference runner, exposed to the open air for one hour before the start of the competition. Devices to assist steering or braking are prohibited.

There are also regulations governing shoes - a maximum of eight spikes are allowed on the base of the shoe, and the spikes may not be longer than 7mm. All competitors must wear helmets with chin guards.

THE VENUE

The Olympic skeleton competition will be held at Utah Olympic Park, 24 miles east of Salt Lake City, on the same course as the bobsleigh and luge competition. The track consists of 17 curves and measures 1316m in length (1140m for women and doubles).

Spectator capacity - Seated: 3600; Standing: 12,000

AUSTRALIA'S OLYMPIC RECORD

No Australians have competed in skeleton

ALL-TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

1924

Event not held

1928

- 1 Jennison Heaton, USA 3:01.
- 2 John Heaton, USA 3:02.8
- 3 David Northesk, GBR 3:05.1

1932-1936

Event not held

1948

- 1 Nino Bibbia, ITA 5:23.2
- 2 John Heaton, USA 5:24.6
- 3 John Crammond, GBR 5:25.1

1952-1998

Event not held

2001 World Championships February 10-11, 2001

Men

1	Martin Rettl	AUT	3:48.06
2	Jeff Pain	CAN	3:48.94
3	Lincoln DeWitt	USA	3:49.25

4	Jim Shea	USA	3:49.83
5	Christian Auer	AUT	3:50.22
6	Gregor Stähli	SUI	3:50.44
7	Kazuhiro Koshi	JPN	3:50.61
8	Duff Gibson	CAN	3:50.80
9	Kristan Bromley	GBR	3:50.81
10	Chris Soule	USA	3:51.02

Women

1	Maya Pedersen	SUI	3:55.56
2	AlexCoomber	GBR	3:55.63
3	Tricia Stumpf	USA	3:55.87
4	Steffi Hanzlik	GER	3:56.56
5	Ekatarina Mironova	RUS	3:57.40
6	Lea Ann Parsley	USA	3:58.60
7	Monique Riekewald	GER	3:59.30
8	Melissa Hollingsworth	CAN	3:59.45
9	Diana Sartor	GER	3:59.46
10	Deanna Panting	CAN	3:59.52

2000/2001 WORLD CUP FINAL STANDINGS

Men

1	Lincoln DeWitt	USA	201
2	Kazuhiro Koshi	JPN	199
3	Jim Shea	USA	194
4	Jeff Pain	CAN	169
5	Gregor Stähli	SUI	143
5	Martin Rettl	AUT	143

7	Philippe Cavoret	FRA	138
8	Chris Soule	USA	136
9	Kristan Bromley	GBR	123
10	Pascal Richard	CAN	118

Women

1	Alex Coomber	GBR	139
2	Steffi Hanzlik	GER	124
3	Maya Pedersen	SUI	101
4	Tricia Stumpf	USA	99
5	Michelle Kelly	CAN	85
6	Lea Ann Parsley	USA	84
7	Monique Riekewald	GER	81
8	Deanna Panting	CAN	62
9	Diana Sartor	GER	59
10	Ursi Walliser	SUI	54

2001/2 World Cup Standings (as at Jan1 2002)

Men

1	Gregor Stähli	SUI	200
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2	Chris Soule	USA	168
3	Jim Shea	USA	144
4	Jeff Pain	CAN	126
5	Martin Rettl	AUT	122
6	Philippe Cavoret	FRA	103
6	Willi Schneider	GER	103
8	Kazuhiro Koshi	JPN	99
9	Duff Gibson	CAN	98
10	Christian Auer	AUT	90

Women

1	Alex Coomber	GBR	97
2	Maya Pedersen	SUI	94
3	Lindsay Alcock	CAN	86
4	Steffi Hanzlik	GER	82
5	Lea Ann Parsley	USA	79
6	Diana Sartor	GER	61
7	Michelle Kelly	CAN	60
8	Ekatarina Mironova	RUS	52
9	Monique Riekewald	GER	51
10	Tristan Gale	USA	42

Who to watch

MEN

Jeff Pain, 31, CAN

WCH: 2nd 2001

World Cup: 4th 2000; 4th 2001

Pain won his second World Cup event and took the silver medal in the 2001 world championships, the best of his career. He started this season with a bronze medal in the opening World Cup event, and was sitting in fourth place on the standings at the Christmas break.

Martin Rettl, 28, Austria

WCH: Won 2001

World Cup: Equal 5th 2001

Rettl shocked the skeleton world by winning the world championship in 2001 despite never having finished higher than fifth in a ten-year, on-again, off-again World Cup career. Committing himself to the sport fully in 2000/2001, he finished the World Cup season in equal fifth place. In the 2002 season, he has taken silver medals behind Stahli in two events, and was lying fifth in the standings at the break.

Chris Soule, 29, USA

WCH: 3rd 1997; 7th 1998; 10th 2001

World Cup: 2nd 2000; 8th 2001

Soule was lying in second place on the 2002 points table at the Christmas break, with four straight podium results, a silver and three bronze. That is the best World Cup return of his career - in his

previous best season, 1999/2000, he collected three podiums on the way to a second place finish on the standings. Soule will go to his home country track with enormous confidence. He will turn 29 three days before the Opening Ceremony

Gregor Stähli, Switzerland

WCH: 3rd 1990, 2nd 1992, 3rd 1993, Won 1994, 2nd 2000; 6th 2001
World Cup: 2nd 1992; 3rd 1993; Eq 5th 2001

Stähli had won all four events of the 2002 World cup season when it paused for the Christmas break, and only needed a 14th place finish in the final event in mid January to clinch the title. The season has capped a remarkable comeback for a man who retired from the circuit at the end of 1994 after capturing the world championship crown. Last season, his second back, he took the silver medal at the world titles and finished equal fifth on the World Cup, after winning one event and picking up a bronze medal on the Olympic track in the test event. He placed sixth in the 2001 world championships, but posted the fastest time at the third interim point in three of the four runs before fading.

THE AMERICANS

Lincoln DeWitt, 34 , USA

WCH: 3rd 2001
World Cup: Won 2001

DeWitt had a stellar season in 2001 taking the World Cup title - the first American to do so - and finishing third in the world championships. In World Cup, he strung together three podium places before taking his first gold medal in the final event of the season on the Park City Olympic track. He has had a disappointing 2002, however, a fifth place his best finish leading up to Christmas.

Jim Shea Jr, 33, USA

WCH: 2nd 1997; Won 1999; 3rd 2000; 4th 2001
World Cup: 3rd 1999, 3rd 2001

Shea was the first United States sliders to win a world title, and has been one of the world's best for the past five years. He finished third on the World Cup standings last season, winning one event, and was also third on the 2002 standings at Christmas, with one silver medal to his credit. Shea is a third generation Olympian - his grandfather Jack won gold medals in the 500m and 1500m speed skating events at the 1932 Lake Placid Games, and his father James competed in nordic combined and cross country events in the 1964 Innsbruck Games.

WOMEN

Lindsay Alcock, 24, Canada

WCH: -
World Cup: -

Alcock has come out of nowhere this season to win one event - in her home town of Calgary - and take a bronze medal in Igl. Prior to the current season, she had absolutely no results of note, but could challenge for a medal.

Alex Coomber, 28, Great Britain

WCH: 4th 2000; 2nd 2001
World Cup: Won 2000, 2001

Coomber has been one of the absolute stars of the sport over the past three years, the winner of the 2000

and 2001 World Cup titles with seven victories and three podiums in the eleven events - including the test event on the Park City track. She was also runner up in the 2001 world championship. At the start of January, with four of the five events of the season already decided, the Belgian-born slider was again leading the World Cup standings.

Steffi Hanzlik, 26, Germany

WCH: Won 2000; 4th 2001
World Cup: Won 1997; 2nd 1998; Won 1999

Hanzlik won the World Cup title in 1997 and 1999, sweeping all five events in the latter season, and also won the 2000 world championships. In the 2001 season she won two races and finished second in another to finish runner-up in the World Cup title race to Coomber. In the current season, she notched another victory in Konigsee, and with one event left, was in fourth place on the points table.

Maya Pedersen, 29, Switzerland

WCH: Won 2001
World Cup: 9th 2000, 3rd 2001

One of Coomber's major rivals, Pederson took the 2001 world championship crown from the British slider last February. She finished third in the 2001 World Cup and, at the end of the past year, trailed her Coomber by just three points in the 2002 World Cup title race after four of the five events.

THE AMERICANS

Lea Ann Parsley, 33, USA

WCH: 6th 2001
World Cup: 4th 2000; 6th 2001

Parsley finished fifth in the 2001 World Cup season with one podium result, and occupies the same place after four rounds of the 2002 season, again with one podium to her credit, She was sixth in the 2001 world championships.

Tricia Stumpf, 31, USA

WCH: 3rd 2000; 3rd 2001
World Cup: 4th 2001

Stumpf had her best season last year, finishing in fourth place on the World Cup standings after two podium places, and taking the bronze medal in the world championships. This season she missed the first two events and has not posted impressive results in the next two.

Ski Jumping

08 February	09:00 - 11:30	Individual K90: Qualification
10 February	08:30 - 11:00	Individual K90: Finals
12 February	08:30 - 11:00	Individual K120: Qualification
13 February	08:30 - 11:00	Individual K120: Finals
18 February	08:30 - 11:30	Team K120: Finals

Ski jumping has been on the program of every Winter Games since the first one in Chamonix in 1924. The longest jump on that occasion was 49 metres. In 1964 the event was split into small hill and large hill competitions, and a team contest was added in 1988. Since 1992, the three events included on the program have been the Individual Normal Hill (90m), the Individual Large Hill (120m) and the Team Large Hill (120m). No Australian has competed in the ski jump, although in 1960, Hal Nerdal took part in the 60m jump as part of the Nordic Combined event. The ski jumping competition has been dominated by the Scandinavian countries, befitting its origins, with 18 of the 34 gold medals awarded going to Norway or Finland.

THE SPORT

Jumping competitions are decided by a combination of points for distance and style. Each competitor jumps twice, with the gold medal going to the jumper with the greatest aggregate points.

Distance

Points for distance are determined by the length reached in relation to the jump's critical (K) point. Speed should be high enough for the best performers to come close to this point. In the small hill the K point is 90 metres, and jumping the full length gives 60 distance points. Competitors forfeit 2.0 points for each metre they land short of the critical point. The K point on the large hill is set at 120 metres and the deduction for landing short here is 1.8 points per metre. Competitors can maintain flight for around 3 seconds on the large hill and around 2 seconds on the small hill.

Style

Five judges award each jumper up to 20 points for style. After excluding the lowest and highest scores, the total points are added to the length points. The judges assess whether the jump is performed with energy, daring and precision, whether body and skis adopt an optimal aerodynamic position in the air, whether the jumper makes a high and wide curve over the outrun, whether the body leans forward over the skis in a relaxed position, whether the transition from flight to landing position is smooth and whether flight, landing and finish create an aesthetic overall impression. A maximum of four points can be deducted if the skier does not land in the telemark position with one leg before the other, and a maximum of ten points for a fall. The outrun area for the purposes of judging the landing stretches 20m from the end of the landing area.

Rule changes

Ski jumpers traditionally kept their skis more or less parallel, but since 1988/89 have adopted a V-formation with the skis for extra lift. V-style increases the surface area available for lift allowing

for longer flight. Following the 1994 Lillehammer Games, ski jumping rules were amended to reduce the danger of these jumps. Ski jumpers are disqualified for breaking any of the following rules:

Ski Length: Maximum ski length is the height of the jumper plus 80 cm, changed from the previous maximum of 270cm. Since longer skis provide more lift, ski jumpers with shorter skis are now placed at a disadvantage.

Binding Placement: Bindings must be placed so that the distance from toe to ski tip is no more than 57% of the total length of the ski. Previously ski jumpers could place the bindings in the most advantageous place for them.

Ski Suit Thickness and Permeability: Maximum thickness for ski suit is 5mm, reduced from the previous 8mm, further limiting the amount of air trapped inside the suit, and reducing the advantage this gives in lift and distance.

COMPETITION

Up to four competitors from each nation can participate in the individual events on each of the two jumping hills. Each competitor has two jumps, with the winner being the competitor who scores the highest points aggregate from both runs. There is no women's competition (though women are not forbidden by rules from competing in the men's event). Each team has four members, who all jump twice. The result is calculated by totalling the points for the three best jumpers from each country after each round of jumping.

THE VENUE

Located at 2098m, Utah Olympic Park is the highest of any World Cup venue in the world. Competitors will have to not only negotiate sometimes-gusty winds whipping up the run, but also must remain aloft in the thin air.

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

K90 Individual

1924	Jacob Tullin Thams, Norway
1928	Alf Andersen, Norway
1932	Birger Ruud, Norway
1936	Birger Ruud, Norway
1948	Petter Hugsted, Norway
1952	Arnfinn Bergmann, Norway
1956	Anti Hyarinen, Finland
1960	Helmut Recknagel, Germany
1964	Veikko Kankkonen, Finland
1968	Jiri Raska, Czechoslovakia
1972	Yukio Kasaya, Japan
1976	Hans-Georg Aschenbach, GDR
1980	Anton Innauer, Austria
1984	Jens Weissflog, GDR
1988	Matti Nykanen, Austria
1992	Ernst Vettori, Austria
1994	Espen Bredesen, Norway
1998	Jani Soininen, Finland

K 120 Individual

1964	Toralf Engan, Norway
1968	Vladimir Belousov, USSR
1972	Wojciech Fortuna, Poland
1976	Karl Schnabl, Austria
1980	Jouko Tormanen, Finland
1984	Matti Nykanen, Finland
1988	Matti Nykanen, Finland
1992	Toni Nieminen, Finland
1994	Jens Weissflog, Germany
1998	Kazuyoshi Funaki, Japan

Team

1988	Finland
1992	Finland
1994	Germany
1998	Japan (Takanobu Okabe, Hiroya Saito, Masahiko Harada, Kazuyoshi Funaki)

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

Individual normal hill

1	Jani Soininen	FIN	234.5
2	Kazuyoshi Funaki	JPN	233.5
3	Andreas Widhoelzl	AUT	232.5

Individual large hill

1	Kazuyoshi Funaki	JPN	2	72.3
2	Jani Soininen	FIN		260.8
3	Masahiko Harada	JPN		258.3

Team large hill

1	Japan 933.0 (Takanobu Okabe, Hiroya Saito, Masahiko Harada, Kazuyoshi Funaki)
2	Germany 897.4 (Sven Hannawald, Martin Schmitt, Hansjoerg Jaekle, Dieter Thoma)
3	Austria 881.5 (Reinhard Schwarzenberger, Martin Hoellwarth, Stefan Horngacher, Andreas Widhoelzl)

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lahti, Finland
February 16-25

K116 Individual

1	Martin Schmitt	GER	276.3
2	Adam Malysz	POL	273.5
3	Janne Ahonen	FIN	267.4
4	Martin Hoellwarth	AUT	251.4
5	Stefan Horngacher	AUT	238.9
6	Sven Hannawald	GER	236.9
7	Alexander Herr	GER	234.5
8	Henning Stensrud	NOR	226.6
9	Villee Kantee	FIN	225.3
10	Jani Soininen	FIN	222.4

K-90 Individual

1	Adam Malysz	POL	246.0
2	Martin Schmitt	GER	233.0
3	Martin Hoellwarth	AUT	223.0
4	Stefan Horngacher	AUT	219.0
5	Masahiko Harada	JPN	217.5
6	Andreas Goldberger	AUT	216.5
7	Janne Ahonen	FIN	216.5
8	Noriaki Kasai	JPN	215.5
9	Matti Hautamaeki	FIN	214.0
10	Villee Kantee	FIN	212.5

Team jump k-116

1	Germany	939.8
	Hannawald, Uhrmann, Herr, Schmitt	
2	Finland	900.2
	Jussilainen, Soininen, Kantee, Ahonen,	
3	Austria	880.2
	Loitzl, Goldberger, Horngacher, Hoellwarth	
4	Japan	837.9
	Miyahira, Okabe, Kasai, Harada	

Team Jump k-90

1	Austria AUT 953.5
2	Finland FIN 951.5
	Hautamaeki, Jussilainen, Kantee, Ahonen,
3	Germany GER 911.5
	Hannawald, Uhrmann, Herr, Schmitt
4	Japan JPN 886.5
	Miyahira, Okabe, Kasai, Harada

2001 WORLD CUP FINAL STANDINGS

1	Adam Malysz	POL	1531
2	Martin Schmitt	GER	1173
3	Risto Jussilainen	FIN	938
4	Noriaki Kasai	JPN	728
5	Janne Ahonen	FIN	686
6	Matti Hautamaeki	FIN	648
7	Wolfgang Loitzl	AUT	614
8	Stefan Horngacher	AUT	566
9	Sven Hannawald	GER	462
10	Jani Soininen	FIN	394

2002 World Cup Standings (as at Dec 21 - after 8 events)

1	Adam Malysz	POL	1531
2	Sven Hannawald	GER	462
3	Stephan Hocke	GER	324
4	Martin Schmitt	GER	1173
5	Martin Hoellwarth	AUT	281
6	Matti Hautamaeki	FIN	261
6	Kazuyoshi Funaki	JPN	261
8	Risto Jussilainen	FIN	250
9	Andreas Goldberger	AUT	239
10	Andreas Widhoelzl	AUT	218

Who to watch

Simon Ammann, 20, Switzerland

OWG: 1998: 35th k90, 39 k120

WCH: 1999 26th k90

World Cup: 69th 1998

Swiss ski jumper Simon Ammann leapt into podium contention with two silver medals and two bronze in the last four events of calendar 2001, after sitting out most of the 1999, 2000 and 2001 seasons.

Kazuyoshi Funaki, 26, Japan

OWG: 1998: Gold k120; Silver k90

WCH: 1995: 5th k120; 1997 4th k120; 1999 Won k90, 5th k120; 2001 32nd k90

World Cup: 1995 4th, 1997 3rd, 1998 2nd, 1999 4th, 2000 14th 2001 27th - 14 wins

The Japanese take their ski jumping very seriously, but a repeat of the 1998 home Games heroics, where they won individual gold, silver and bronze, as well as the Team gold, is unlikely. The best performed could be the veteran Kazuyoshi Funaki, who sat out most of the 2001 season, but who was in good form in the early part of this season with two bronze medals and three other top six placings. Funaki won gold on the large hill in Nagano and silver on the normal hill, as well as clinching the team gold as the final Japanese jumper.

Sven Hannawald, 26, Germany

OWG: 1998: 14th k90, 48th k120, 2nd k120 Team

WCH: 1999: 2nd k120, 8th k90; 2001, Won k120 Team: 6th k116, 36th k90, Won k116 Team, 3rd k90 Team

World Cup: 6th 1998; 6th 1999; 4th 2000; 9th 2001 - 8 WC wins

Hannawald is having one of the best seasons of his career, lying in second place on the World Cup standings at the end of December with two wins, a silver medal and four top five placings from nine events. He has a career total of eight World Cup victories, and after a disappointing 2001 season, where he finished ninth, seems to have regained his best form. **NOTE:** At the beginning of January, Hannawald became the first person in ski jumping history to win all events in the revered Four Hills competition - taking the gold medals in Oberstdorf, Garmisch, Innsbruck and Bischofshofen.

Matti Hautamaeki, 20, Finland

OWG: -

WCH: 2001: 9th k90

World Cup: 17th 2000, 6th 2001. One WC win, 4 podiums

Hautamaeki had one win and two podiums last season to finish in sixth place on the World Cup standings. This season he has strung together a silver medal, a bronze and three fourth places to sit in fifth place on the standings and move into minor medal contention.

Stephan Hocke, 18, Germany

OWG: -

WCH: -

World Cup: One WC win, one podium

Eighteen-year-old Hocke has been a revelation in his first World Cup season, winning the k120 in Engelberg and collecting bronze in Neustadt on the large hill, as well as two other fifth placings. He sat in fourth place on the 2002 standings as at the end of the year, but needed to continue performing well to convince he was a medal prospect.

Martin Hoellwarth, 27, AUT

OWG: -1992: 2nd k90, 2nd k120; 1998: 43rd k120

WCH: 1999: 5th k90, 14th k120; 2001: 3rd k90, 4th k116

World Cup: 18th 1999, 16th 2000, 12th 2001 - 3 WC wins, the latest in Feb 97

Although it is four years since he won a World Cup event, Hoellwarth claimed the k90 bronze in the 2001 world championships and fourth place in the k116, further indications that the Albertville dual silver medallist can perform in the major events. He had two podium results in the 2002 season up to the end of the year and six other top eight placings, putting him in third place on the standings.

Adam Malysz, 24, Poland

OWG: 1998: 51st k90, 52nd k120;

WCH: 2001: Won k90, 2nd k116; 1999: 27th k90, 37th k120

World Cup: 46th 1999, 28th 2000, Won 2001 (10 wins in the season)

Malysz (pr. Mar-wish) is one of the nearest things to a certain medallist there will be in Salt Lake City. In six seasons from 1995 to 2000, he had won just three events, but then suddenly found the secret to ski jumping in Innsbruck in January 2001. He won that event and started a chain of performances that - to December 31, 2002 - had seen him win 16 of 24 events (missing the podium just three times). He also won the gold medal in the k90 at the 2001 world championships in Finland in February and the silver medal in the k116.

Martin Schmitt, 24, Germany

OWG: 1998: 19th k90, 14th k120, 2nd k120 Team;

WCH: 1999: Won k120, 7th k90; 2001, Won k120 Team: Won k116, 2nd k90, Won k116 Team

World Cup: 26th 1998; Won 1999, Won 2000, 2nd 2001 (26 career wins)

Until Adam Malysz came along, Martin Schmitt was the new big thing in ski jumping. In the 1999 season he won 10 World Cup events, tying the record of the legendary Matti Nykanen and Andreas Goldberg. He also won the k120 at the 1999 world championships. The following season, he took an unprecedented 11 World Cup events on his way to his second straight World Cup title. In the 2001 season, up against Malysz, he added five victories to finish in second place on the points table, but this season, he was win-less up to Christmas. However it would be foolhardy to write him off.

Andreas Widhoelzl, 25, Austria

OWG: 1998: bronze k90, 4th k120

WCH: 1999 9th k90, 12th k120

World Cup: 3rd 1998, 7th 1999, 2nd 2000, 11th 2001 - 13 WC wins

The k90 bronze medallist from Nagano had an ordinary season in 2001, but may be coming back to form with two bronze medals and three other top six placing in the first part of the 2002 season.

Snowboarding

Sunday 10 February	10:00 - 14:00	Women's Halfpipe: Qualification and Finals
Monday 11 February	10:00 - 14:00	Men's Halfpipe: Qualification and Finals
Thursday 14 February	10:00 - 11:00	Women's Parallel Giant Slalom: Qualification
	13:00 - 14:00	Men's Parallel Giant Slalom: Qualification
Friday 15 February	10:00 - 12:00	Men's/Women's Parallel Giant Slalom: Finals

Snowboarding was introduced to the Games as an official event at the 1998 Nagano Games with alpine and freestyle events on the program. In Salt Lake City, halfpipe will again be the freestyle event contested, but the alpine event of parallel giant slalom will replace the giant slalom that was on the 1998 bill.

Each nation can send up to 14 athletes in snowboarding, with a maximum of eight males or eight females. A nation may have no more than four athletes competing in any one event. A maximum of 125 athletes has been established for the Olympic competition.

The men's and women's PGS and the men's halfpipe are limited to 35 competitors each, while the women's halfpipe is restricted to 20 riders.

THE SPORT

Alpine - PGS

The parallel GS is a two stage competition, with an initial qualification round based on a timed run through the gates, followed by head to head elimination finals series between the 16 top qualifiers.

In the elimination series, the fastest qualifier is drawn against the slowest qualifier and so on. The riders race against each other in a timed, two-run elimination format, alternating courses (there is a red course and a blue course) after the first run.

If one rider wins both races, he or she advances. If the riders split the two races, the best total time in the two races determines who advances. If a competitor does not finish or is disqualified in the first run, he is assigned his opponent's time plus 5 per cent of the best qualifying time. If a competitor does not finish or is disqualified in his second run and his opponent completes the course, the competitor who completes the second run advances, regardless of what happened in the first run. If both competitors fail to finish the second run, the competitor who completed the most number of gates in the second run advances.

Freestyle - Halfpipe

The halfpipe competition is performed on a course shaped like a cylinder cut lengthwise down the slope of the hill. Using speed gained on the slope, snowboarders come up over the rim of the pipe to perform jumps, rotations and other mid-air manoeuvres. The object is to perform difficult manoeuvres with perfect form.

Five judges assess the performance, one judge scoring standard manoeuvres, one judge scoring rotations,

one judge scoring amplitude and two judges responsible for overall impression. Each judge gives a score ranging from 0.1 to 10.0.

All athletes compete in the first run. The top six men and the top six women from the first run advance directly to the finals.

The athletes who did not qualify in the first run do a second qualifying run. The top six men and top six women from this run advance to the 12 person final. In the finals, each competitor contests two runs.

The gold medal is awarded not to the person who has the best total score of the two runs, but the one who has the best individual run score.

THE VENUE

All the snowboard events will be held at the Park City Mountain Resort, with the halfpipe course being demolished after the completion of that event, and the parallel GS set on the same slope. With a base of 2,117 metres and a summit of 2,530 metres, Park City has held numerous alpine skiing and snowboarding World Cups since it opened in 1963.

Parallel giant slalom

Start: 2300 m

Finish: 2120 m

Vertical drop: 180 m

Halfpipe

Start: 2161 m

Finish: 2125 m

Spectator capacity (approximate): Halfpipe: 10,000; Parallel Giant Slalom: 17,000

AUSTRALIA'S OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1998

Giant slalom

Zeke Steggall

28th

WOMEN

1998

No Australian women competed

1998 NAGANO OLYMPICS

Men's GS

1 Ross Rebagliati, CAN

2 Thomas Prugger, ITA

3 Ueli Kestenholz, SUI

Women's GS

1 Karine Ruby, FRA

2 Heidi Renoth, GER

3 Brigitte Koeck, AUT

Men's halfpipe

1 Gian Simmen, SUI

2 Daniel Franck, NOR

3 Ross Powers, USA

Women's halfpipe

1 Nicola Thost, GER

2 Stine Brun Kjeldaas, NOR

3 Shannon Dunn, USA

2001 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Women's PGS

1 Ursula Bruhin SUI

2 Rosey Fletcher USA

3 Manuela Riegler AUT

4 Heidi Renoth GER

- 5 Karine Ruby FRA
- 6 Sondra Van Ert USA
- 7 Dagmar Mair Unter Der Eggen ITA
- 8 Sara Fischer SWE
- 9 Steffi Von Siebenthal SUI
- 10 Nina Schlegel AUT

Men's PGS

- 1 Nicolas Huet FRA
- 2 Mathieu Chiquet FRA
- 3 Anton Pogue USA
- 4 Daniel Biveson SWE
- 5 Mathieu Bozzetto FRA
- 6 Dieter Krassnig AUT
- 7 Werner Ebenbauer AUT
- 8 Mathias Behounek GER
- 9 Markus Ebner GER
- 10 Andreas Prommegger AUT

Women's Halfpipe

- 1 Doriane Vidal FRA
- 2 Stine B. Kjeldaas NOR
- 3 Sari Grönholm FIN
- 4 Fabienne Reuteler SUI
- 5 Minna Hesso FIN
- 6 Lori Glazier CAN
- 7 Janet Jonsson SWE
- 8 Romina Masolini ITA
- 9 Kelly Clark USA
- 10 Sabine Wehr-Hasler GER

Men's Halfpipe

- 1 Kim Christiansen NOR
- 2 Daniel Franck NOR
- 3 Markus Hurme FIN
- 4 Xaver Hoffmann GER
- 5 Iker Fernandez SPA
- 6 Jan Michaelis GER
- 7 Magnus Sterner SWE
- 8 Guillaume Morisset CAN
- 9 Daniel Nordin SWE
- 10 Brett Carpentier CAN

2001 WORLD CUP FINAL STANDINGS

Women's Parallel

(Note: in 2001 the standings included PGS and PSL)

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----|------|
| 1 | Carmen Ranigler | ITA | 8850 |
| 2 | Karine Ruby | FRA | 7970 |
| 3 | Rosey Fletcher | USA | 7540 |
| 4 | Margherita Parini | ITA | 5050 |
| 5 | Isabelle Blanc | FRA | 5050 |

- | | | | |
|----|---------------|-----|------|
| 6 | Sara Fischer | SWE | 4840 |
| 7 | Marion Posch | ITA | 4650 |
| 8 | Nina Schlegel | AUT | 4190 |
| 9 | Lidia Trettel | ITA | 4082 |
| 10 | Heidi Renoth | GER | 3670 |

Men's Parallel

(Note: in 2001 the standings included PGS and PSL)

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|
| 1 | Mathieu Bozzetto | FRA | 6785 |
| 2 | Nicolas Huet | FRA | 6750 |
| 3 | Richard Rikardsson | SWE | 6510 |
| 4 | Dejan Kosir | SLO | 5650 |
| 5 | Markus Ebner | GER | 5020 |
| 6 | Alexander Maier | AUT | 4478 |
| 7 | Dieter Krassnig | AUT | 4396 |
| 8 | Werner Ebenbauer | AUT | 4310 |
| 9 | Jasey Jay Anderson | CAN | 4290 |
| 10 | Felix Stadler | AUT | 4000 |

Women's Halfpipe

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|
| 1 | Sabine Wehr-Hasler | GER | 4650 |
| 2 | Stine B. Kjeldaas | NOR | 3800 |
| 3 | Lesley Mckenna | GBR | 3610 |
| 4 | Michiyo Hashimoto | JPN | 2613 |
| 5 | Yoko Miyake | JPN | 2604 |
| 6 | Anna Olofsson | SWE | 2480 |
| 7 | Anna Hellman | SWE | 2460 |
| 8 | Doriane Vidal | FRA | 2367 |
| 9 | Fabienne Reuteler | SUI | 2260 |
| 10 | Kelly Clark | USA | 2216 |

Men's Halfpipe

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-----|------|
| 1 | Magnus Sterner | SWE | 4685 |
| 2 | Stefan Karlsson | SWE | 3662 |
| 3 | Jan Michaelis | GER | 3620 |
| 4 | Heikki Sorsa | FIN | 2609 |
| 5 | Brett Carpentier | CAN | 2184 |
| 6 | Tommy Czeschin | USA | 2068 |
| 7 | Daisuke Murakami | JPN | 1976 |
| 8 | Markus Jonsson | SWE | 2955 |
| 9 | Daniel Nordin | SWE | 2227 |
| 10 | Sebastien Vassoney | FRA | 1812 |

2002 WORLD CUP STANDINGS (Jan. 1, 2002)

Women's PGS

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----|------|
| 1 | Karine Ruby | FRA | 3240 |
| 2 | Doris Guenther | AUT | 2840 |
| 3 | Steffi Von Siebenthal | SUI | 2750 |
| 4 | Isabelle Blanc | FRA | 2110 |
| 5 | Rosey Fletcher | USA | 1880 |

6 Julie Pomagalski	FRA	1830	3 Yoko Miyake	JPN	1420
7 Heidi Renoth	GER	1830	4 Janet Jonsson	SWE	1292
8 Lisa D. Kosglow	USA	1640	5 Lesley Mckenna	GBR	1260
9 Aasa Windahl	SWE	1540	6 Kjersti Buaas	1140	
10 Manuela Riegler	AUT	1370	7 Alessandra Pescosta	ITA	1080
Men's PGS			8 Lori Glazier	CAN	1040
1 Dejan Kosir	SLO	3490	9 Natasza Zurek	CAN	1000
2 Mathieu Bozzetto	FRA	2450	10 Dominique Vallee	CAN	990
3 Nicolas Huet	FRA	1980	Men's Halfpipe		
4 Markus Ebner	GER	1890	1 Sami Tuoriniemi	FIN	1000
5 Stephen Copp	SWE	1770	1 Jukka Eratuli	FIN	1000
6 Stefan Kaltschuetz	AUT	1715	3 Jens Anselstetter	GER	800
7 Jasey Jay Anderson	CAN	1680	3 Risto Mattila	FIN	800
8 Walter Feichter	ITA	1610	5 Antti Autti	FIN	600
9 Dieter Krassnig	AUT	1430	5 Tuomo Ojala	FIN	600
10 Siegfried Grabner	AUT	1390	7 Christoph Weber	GER	500
Women's Halfpipe			7 Josh Chapman	CAN	500
1 Nicola Pedersolli	AUT	2720	9 Matevz Pristavec	SLO	450
2 Sabine Wehr-Hasler	GER	1620	9 Jesse Fox	CAN	450

Who to watch

MEN'S PGS

Jasey Jay Anderson, 26, Canada

OWG - 1998: GS 16th

WCH - 2001: GS 1st, PSL 5th; 1999: PGS 11th

The overall 2000/2001 World Cup champion would probably prefer a discipline other than PGS, although he has had success in the event. He has won twice in this discipline on the World Cup and his best result in the pre-New Year World Cups was a second at Whistler.

Mathieu Bozzetto, 28, France

OWG - 1998: GS 5th

WCH - 2001: PGS 5th, PSL 8th, 1999 PSL 2nd, PGS 13th, 1997 GS 4th

The overall World Cup champion in 1999 and 2000, Bozzetto did not have such a successful run last season by his exalted standards. But he still finished second on the parallel standings and fifth overall in World Cup. Has started off 2001/2002 season well with three wins by the New Year, including one in PGS.

Nicolas Huet, 26, France

OWG - Did not compete

WCH - 2001: PSL 1st; 1999 PSL 1st

Huet was the World Cup parallel champion and third overall last season, as well as the parallel slalom gold medallist at the 2001 world championships (successfully defending the crown he had won in 1999). The shorter gate discipline is probably his best, but he has won at PGS as well, and he will be a major medal threat. Won the PGS World Cup in Ischgl in December to get the Olympic season off to a good start.

Stefan Kaltschuetz, 23, Austria

WCH - 2001: PSL 3rd; 1999: PGS 2nd

Won in PGS on the World Cup in 1999 and this season in Tignes in December. Finished third in the pre-Olympic World Cup PGS in Park City last season. Very consistent rider who will carry the hopes of Austria.

Alexander Maier, 28, Austria

Hermann Maier's little brother has decided snowboarding, not alpine skiing, is his go, and he is good at it as well! At the pre-Olympic PGS in Park City in March 2001, Maier broke through for his first World Cup win. He has won only twice on tour but who would write off a Maier at an Olympic Games.

Richard Richardsson, 28, Sweden

OWG - 1998: GS 24th

WCH - 2001: PSL 10th, PGS 22nd; 1999: PGS 1st, GS 5th; 1997, SL 4th

The 1999 PGS world champion finished last season ranked third in the World Cup in the parallel events. He won two PGS events last year but his early 2001/2002 season form has not been good.

WOMEN'S PGS

Ursula Bruhin, 32, Switzerland

Bruhin joined the FIS World Cup last season for the first time, starting six times for a best placing of fifth in Tignes, but she put it all together for the world championship, taking the PGS gold. On the ISF circuit, she finished second in alpine in 2001.

Rosey Fletcher, 26, USA

OWG - 1998: 25th GS

WCH - 2001: PGS 2nd; 1999: PGS 2nd

The Alaskan rider was third on the World Cup parallel standings last season, and took the silver medal in the PGS at the world championships. Two years before in Berchtesgaden, she had won the silver in the PGS as well. As of the start of 2002 she had never won a PGS on the circuit, but during her career has seven WC wins in other disciplines to her credit.

Heidi Renoth, 23, GER

OWG - 1998: GS 2nd

WCH - 2001: PGS 4th, GS 9th; 1999: PGS 23rd; 1997: GS 2nd, SL 1st; 1996: PSL 4th

The giant slalom silver medallist in Nagano was fourth in PGS at the world championships last season. Best this season is a silver in the opening PGS of the season in Vallen Nevado. Her past Olympic experience will be a big advantage.

Manuela Riegler, 27, AUT

WCH - 2001: PGS 3rd, 1999: PGS 6th, GS 5th, 1997: SBX 2nd, 1996: GS 2nd

The younger of the two Riegler sisters on the circuit, Manuela took the bronze medal in the PGS at the 2001 world championship in Madonna. Her only PGS World Cup victory came in 1999 but she has been on the podium many times and has grown in confidence as a competitor.

Karine Ruby, 23, FRA

OWG - 1998: GS 1st

WCH - 2001: PSL 1st, SBX 1st, GS 1st, PGS 5th; 1999: PGS 4th; 1997: SBX 1st; 1996: GS 1st

Karine Ruby is the undisputed giant of world snowboarding, men or women. The GS gold medallist in Nagano is a five time world champion across the disciplines. During her career she has notched up an amazing 61 wins, four in PGS (until 1/1/02). Has already won twice this season (prior to 1/1/02) in PGS and is definitely the one to beat in SLC.

MEN'S HALFPIPE

Kim Christiansen, 25, Norway

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 20th

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 1st

The 2001 World Champion from Norway competes only occasionally on the FIS circuit but produced a great result in Madonna.

Daniel Franck, 27, Norway

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 2nd

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 2nd

Ranked third in the 2001 ISF rankings. Competes occasionally on the FIS circuit, but with great success, having won silver at the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

Xaver Hoffmann, Germany

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 17th

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 4th

Finished fourth at the 2001 FIS World Championships, although he competes mostly on the ISF circuit, where he finished season 2001 ranked fourth.

Markus Hurme, 24 Finland

OWG - 199: Halfpipe 13th

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 3rd; 1997 Halfpipe 2nd

Another halfpiper who turns up to the FIS circuit just before the Olympic year. In 1997 he finished second in the World Championships and last year took the bronze.

WOMEN'S HALFPIPE

Stine Brun-Kjeldaas, Norway

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 2nd

Followed up a second placing at the World Champs with a strong third at the opening World Cup of the season in Chile.

Sari Groenholm, 22, Finland

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 3rd

Has been on the FIS World Cup circuit since 2000 and had her best result when she finished third at the 2001 World Championships. This was out of the blue, as it was her first podium on the world stage. She is the Finnish champion.

Nicola Pederzoli, 28, Austria

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 9th

Has made a sensational start to the 2001/2002 World Cup season, winning the halfpipe at both Whistler and Tignes. Is a real medal chance for the Austrians.

Sabine Wehr-Hasler, 34, Germany

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 15th

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 10th; 1999: Halfpipe 6th; 1997: Halfpipe 3rd

One of the veterans on the FIS tour! Has had good results over a number of years and she finished calendar year 2001 in great shape, with two wins in February and then a third and a fourth in December. A medal would be a fairytale end to a long career.

Doriane Vidal, 25, France

OWG - 1998: Halfpipe 12th

WCH - 2001: Halfpipe 1st; 1999: Halfpipe 2nd; 1997: Halfpipe 15th

The French woman won the 2001 FIS World Championship title, going one better than her 1999 result. Competes on the FIS circuit although not at all competitions. When she does compete she has great success, having won five World Cup events and been on the podium on numerous occasions. Rarely is she out of the top 3.

Speed Skating

Saturday 09 February	12:00 - 15:30	Men's 5000m
Sunday 10 February	13:00 - 15:30	Ladies' 3000m
Monday 11 February	13:00 - 14:30	Men's 500m: Day 1
Tuesday 12 February	13:00 - 14:30	Men's 500m: Day 2
Wednesday 13 February	17:00 - 18:30	Ladies' 500m: Day 1
Thursday 14 February	17:00 - 18:30	Ladies' 500m: Day 2
Saturday 16 February	13:00 - 15:00	Men's 1000m
Sunday 17 February	17:15 - 19:15	Ladies' 1000m
Tuesday 19 February	13:00 - 15:30	Men's 1500m
Wednesday 20 February	13:00 - 15:00	Ladies' 1500m
Friday 22 February	12:00 - 15:15	Men's 10,000m
Saturday 23 February	13:00 - 14:45	Ladies' 5000m

Speed skating has been on the Olympic program since the first Games in 1924. Women's events were added to the program at the 1960 Games in Squaw Valley.

THE SPORT

All races are run on a 400-metre circuit, with the skaters going round anti-clockwise so that the inside of the track is always on their left. Competitors start in pairs and change between the inner and outer lanes every 400 metres. During the race, competitors are forbidden to go inside the line marking the innermost edge of the track. The skater coming from the inside lane is responsible for avoiding collision during a cross over. A competitor who makes two false starts is disqualified for that distance.

THE COMPETITION

Races are run over five distances: 500, 1000, 1500, 5000 and 10,000 metres for men and 500, 1000, 1500, 3000 and 5000 metres for women.

500m

At high speed, centrifugal force pushes the skater outward. This force is especially strong on the second curve in the 500m event, causing the skater starting in the inner lane to experience conditions different from those of the skater in the outer lane. Skaters in this event race twice, once in the inner lane, and once in the outer lane, both starting from the same start line. The result is determined by the total aggregate time of the two races.

Other distances

All other speed skating races feature a staggered start, with the two competitors on opposite sides of the track. Every lap, the skater on the inside lane crosses over to the outside lane and vice versa.

Right of way is given to the skater switching from the outer to the inner lane. Parings in each heat are determined by draw based on World Cup and World Championship points, and qualifying times.

EQUIPMENT

The introduction of hinged skates - referred to alternately as clap skates - for the 1997/98 season led to the re-writing of the record book in speed skating. Unlike conventional skates, the heel of the clap-skate blade is not attached to the boot, and the toe of the blade is attached to the boot with a hinged apparatus. At the end of each stride, as the skater picks up the skate, the blade briefly disconnects from the heel of the boot, keeping the blade on the ice longer and increasing the skater's pushing power. When the blade has fully extended, a spring mechanism mounted on the front of the boot snaps the blade back up to the boot, resulting in the clapping sound that gives the skate its name.

THE RECORDS

Speed skating is one of the few Winter Olympic sports where time and speed records are significant (in that in many other sports, the variety of terrain and the conditions of the competition track render time or speed records meaningless). The speed skating records as at December 13, 2001 were:

Men

500m:	34.32	Hiroyasu Shimizu	JPN	Salt Lake City	10.3.2001
1000m:	1.07.72	Jeremy Wotherspoon	CAN	Salt Lake City	1.12.2001
1500m:	1.45.20	Kyu-Hyuk Lee	KOR	Calgary	15.3.2001
3000m:	3.42.75	Gianni Romme	NED	Calgary	11.8.2000
5000m:	6.18.72	Gianni Romme	NED	Calgary	30.1.2000
10,000m:	13.03.40	Gianni Romme	NED	Heerenveen/Thialf	26.11.2000

Ladies

500m:	37.22	Catriona LeMay Doan	CAN	Salt Lake City	9.12.2001
1000m:	1.14.06	Sabine Völker	GER	Salt Lake City	2.12.2001
1500m:	1.54.38	Anni Friesinger	GER	Calgary	4.3.2001
3000m:	3.59.26	Claudia Pechstein	GER	Calgary	2.3.2001
5000m:	6.52.44	Gunda Niemann-Stirnemann	GER	Salt Lake City	10.3.2001

PARTICIPANTS

Only skaters who have achieved qualifying times set by the International Skating Union may enter in the Olympic Winter Games. For the men's and women's 500m, 1000m and 1500m, a country may enter a maximum of four competitors in each event. For the women's 3000m and 5000m and the men's 5000m and 10,000m, a country may enter a maximum of three competitors in each event. For the ladies' 3000m and the men's 5000m, a maximum of 32 competitors are permitted in each.

The total number of competitors from any country may not exceed 10 women and 10 men.

THE VENUE

With a projected capacity of more than 6,000, the Utah Olympic Oval will be home to speed skating at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. The Utah Olympic Oval is the world's highest-altitude indoor skating oval.

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RECORD

MEN

1924 - 1932

No Australians competed.

1936

500m	Kenneth Kennedy	29th
1500m	Kenneth Kennedy	33rd
5000m	Kenneth Kennedy	33rd

1948

No Australians competed.

1952

500m	Colin Hickey	Equal 9th
1500m	Colin Hickey	30th
5000m	Colin Hickey	28th

1956

500m	Colin Hickey	7th
1500m	Colin Hickey	7th
5000m	Colin Hickey	14th
10000m	Colin Hickey	27th

1960

500m	Colin Hickey	13th
	Roy Tutty	35th
1500	Colin Hickey	14th
	Roy Tutty	37th

1964

No Australian speed skaters competed

1968

500	Colin Coates	41st
1500	Colin Coates	49th

1972

500	Colin Coates	36th
	Jim Lynch	35th
1500	Colin Coates	24th
	Jim Lynch	39th
5000	Colin Coates	23rd
10000	Colin Coates	18th

1976

500	Colin Coates	25th
1000	Colin Coates	11th
1500	Colin Coates	8th
5000	Colin Coates	10th
10000	Colin Coates	6th

1980

500	Michael Richmond	32nd
1000	Colin Coates	29th
	Michael Richmond	34th
1500	Michael Richmond	32nd
5000	Colin Coates	19th
10000	Colin Coates	18th

1984

500	Michael Richmond	22nd
1000	Michael Richmond	27th
1500	Michael Richmond	34th
	Colin Coates	37th
5000	Colin Coates	25th
10,000	Colin Coates	22nd

1988

500	Michael Richmond	23rd
1000	Michael Richmond	14th
	Phillip Tahmindjis	31st
1500	Michael Richmond	12th
	Danny Kah	14th
	Phillip Tahmindjis	32nd
5000	Danny Kah	10th
10,000	Colin Coates	26th

1992

1000	Danny Kah	34th
	Phillip Tahmindjis	38th
1500	Danny Kah	23rd
	Phillip Tahmindjis	38th
5000	Danny Kah	20th
	Phillip Tahmindjis	25th
10,000	Danny Kah	12th

1994

1000	Phillip Tahmindjis	37th
1500	Danny Kah	15th
	Phillip Tahmindjis	36th
5000	Danny Kah	25th

1998

No Australians competed

LADIES

Australia has never been represented by lady speed skaters at the Olympic Winter Games.

BEST AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC RESULT

MEN

500m	Colin Hickey	7th (1956)
1000m	Colin Coates	11th (1976)

1500m	
Colin Hickey	7th (1956)
5000m	
Colin Coates	10th (1976)
Danny Carr	10th (1988)
10,000m	
Colin Coates	6th (1976)

ALL TIME GOLD MEDALLISTS

MEN

500m	
1924	Charles Jewtraw, USA
1928	Bernt Evensen, Norway and Clas Thunberg, Finland
1932	John A Shea, USA
1936	Ivar Ballangrud, Norway
1948	Finn Helgesen, Norway
1952	Kenneth Henry, USA
1956	Evgenij Grisjin, USSR
1960	Evgenij Grisjin, USSR
1964	Richard McDermott, USA
1968	Erhard Keller, Germany
1972	Erhard Keller, Germany
1976	Evgenij Grisjin, USSR
1980	Eric Heiden, USA
1984	Serjei Fokitsjev, USSR
1988	Uwe-Jens Mey, GDR
1992	Uwe-Jens Mey, Germany
1994	Aleksandr Golubev, Russia
1998	Hiroyasu Shimizu, Japan
1000m	
1976	Peter Muller, USA
1980	Eric Heiden, USA
1984	Gaetan Boucher, Canada
1988	Nikolaj Guljajev, USSR
1992	Olaf Zinke, GER
1994	Dan Jansen, USA
1998	Ids Postma, Netherlands
1500m	
1924	Clas Thunberg, Finland
1928	Clas Thunberg, Finland
1932	John A. Shea, USA
1936	Charles Mathiesen, Norway
1948	Sverre Farstad, Norway
1952	Hjalmar Andersen, Norway
1956	Evgenij Grisjin, USSR & Jurij Mikhailov, USSR
1960	Road Aas, Norway & Evgenij Grisjin, USSR

1964	Ants Antson, USSR
1968	Cornelius Verkerk, Netherlands
1972	Ard Schenk, Netherlands
1976	Jan Egil Storholt, Norway
1980	Eric Heiden, USA
1984	Gaetan Boucher, Canada
1988	Andre Hoffman, GDR
1992	Johann Olav Koss, Norway
1994	Johann Olav Koss, Norway
1998	Aadne Sondraal, Norway
5000m	
1924	Clas Thunberg, Finland
1928	Ivar Ballangrud, Norway
1932	Irving Jaffee, USA
1936	Ivar Ballangrud, Norway
1948	Reidar Liaklev, Norway
1952	Hjalmar Andersen, Norway
1956	Boris Sjilkov, USSR
1960	Viktor Kositsjkin, USSR
1964	Knut Johannesen, Norway
1968	Fred A Maier, Norway
1972	Ard Schyenk, Netherlands
1976	Sten Stensen, Norway
1980	Eric Heident, USA
1984	Tomas Gustafsson, Sweden
1988	Tomas Gustafsson, Sweden
1992	Geir Karlstad, Norway
1994	Johann Olav Koss, Norway
1998	Gianni Romme, Netherlands
10,000m	
1924	Julius Skutnabb, Finland
1928	(Cancelled)
1932	Irving Jaffee, USA
1936	Ulvar Ballangrud, Norway
1948	Ake Seyffarth, Sweden
1952	Hjalmar Andersen, Norway
1956	Sigvard Ericsson, Sweden
1960	Knut Johannesen, Norway
1964	Johnny Nilsson, Sweden
1968	Johnny Hoglin, Sweden
1972	Ard Schenk, Netherlands
1976	Piet Kleine, Netherlands
1980	Eric Heiden, USA
1984	Igor Malkov, USSR
1988	Tomas Gustafsson, Sweden
1992	Bart Veldkamp, Netherlands
1994	Johann Olav Koss, Norway
1998	Gianni Romme, Netherlands
OVERALL MEN	
1924	Claus Thunberg, Finland

LADIES

500m	
1960	Helga Hasse, Germany
1964	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1968	Ludmilla Titova, USSR
1972	Anne Henning, USA
1976	Sheila Young, USA
1980	Karin Enke, GDR
1984	Christa Rothenburger, GDR
1988	Bonnie Blair, USA
1992	Bonnie Blair, USA
1994	Bonnie Blair, USA
1998	Catriona LeMay-Doan, Canada
1000m	
1960	Klara Guseva, USSR
1964	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1968	Carry Geysen, Netherlands
1972	Monica Pflug, Germany
1976	Tatjana Averina, USSR
1980	Natalia Petrusjeva, USSR
1984	Karin Enke, GDR
1988	Christa Rothenburger, GDR
1992	Bonnie Blair, USA
1994	Bonnie Blair, USA
1998	Marianne Timmer, Netherlands
1500m	
1960	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1964	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1968	Kaija Mustonen, Finland
1972	Dianne Holum, USA
1976	Galina Stepankaia, USSR
1980	Annie Borckink, Netherlands
1984	Karin Enke, GDR
1988	Yvonne van Gennip, Netherlands
1992	Jacqueline Borner, Germany
1994	Emese Hunyady, Austria
1998	Marianne Timmer, Netherlands
3000m	
1964	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1964	Lydia Skoblikova, USSR
1968	Johanna Schut, Netherlands
1972	Christina Baas-Kaiser, Netherlands
1976	Tatjana Averina, USSR
1980	Bjorg Eva Jensen, Norway
1984	Andrea Mitscherlich Schone, GDR
1988	Yvonne van Gennip, Netherlands
1992	Gunda Niemann, Germany
1994	Svetlana Bazhnova, Russia
1998	Gunda Niemann, Germany
5000m	
1988	Yvonne van Gennip, Netherlands
1992	Gunda Niemann, Germany

1994	Claudia Pechstein, Germany
1998	Claudia Pechstein, Germany

1998 OLYMPIC GAMES

MEN

500m	
1	Hiroyasu Shimizu, JPN 71.35
2	Jeremy Wotherspoon, CAN 71.84
3	Kevin Overland, CAN 71.86
1000m	
1	Ids Postma, NED 1:10.64
2	Jan Bos, NED 1:10.71
3	Hiroyasu Shimizu, JPN 1:11.00
1500m	
1	Aadne Sondraal, NOR 1:47.87
2	Ids Postma, NED 1:48.13
3	Rintje Ritsma, NED 1:48.52
5000m	
1	Gianni Romme, NED 6:22.20
2	Rintje Ritsma, NED 6:28.24
3	Bart Veldkamp, BEL 6:28.31
10,000m	
1	Gianni Romme, NED 13:15.33
2	Bob de Jong, NED 13:25.76
3	Rintje Ritsma, NED 13:28.19
WOMEN	
500m	
1	Catriona LeMay-Doan, CAN 76.60
2	Susan Auch, CAN 76.93
3	Tomomi Okazaki, JPN 77.10
1000m	
1	Marianne Timmer, NED 1:16.51
2	Chris Witty, USA 1:16.79
3	Catriona LeMay-Doan, CAN 1:17.37
1500m	
1	Marianne Timmer, NED 1:57.58
2	Gunda Niemann, GER 1:58.66
3	Chris Witty, USA 1:58.97
3000m	
1	Gunda Niemann, GER 4:07.29
2	Claudia Pechstein, GER 4:08.47
3	Anna Friesinger, GER 4:09.44
5000m	
1	Claudia Pechstein, GER 6:59.61
2	Gunda Niemann, GER 6:59.65
3	Lyudmila Prokasheva, KAZ 7:11.14

2001 World Single Distances Championships Salt Lake City, March 9-11, 2001

Men 500m

1	Hiroyasu Shimizu JPN	68.96	WR
2	Jeremy Wotherspoon CAN	69.29	
3	Casey FitzRandolph USA	69.76	
4	Manabu Horii JPN	69.82	
5	Kyu-Hyuk Lee KOR	70.07	
6	Sergey Klevchenya RUS	70.23	
7	Toyoki Takeda JPN	70.24	
8	Joey Cheek USA	70.26	
9	Michael Ireland CAN	70.42	
10	Janne Hänninen FIN	70.44	

Men 1000m

1	Jeremy Wotherspoon CAN	1:08.28	WR
2	Ådne Søndrål NOR	1:08.50	
3	Sergey Klevchenya RUS	1:08.59	
4	Kyu-Hyuk Lee KOR	1:08.61	
5	Garard van Velde NED	1:08.70	
6	Erben Wennemars NED	1:08.76	
7	Yosuke Imai JPN	1:08.78	
8	Michael Ireland CAN	1:08.86	
9	Casey FitzRandolph USA	1:09.10	
10	Jan Bos NED	1:09.24	

Men 1500m

1	Ådne Søndrål NOR	1:46.10	
2	Derek Parra USA	1:46.20	
3	Erben Wennemars NED	1:46.22	
4	Aleksandr Kibalko RUS	1:46.42	
5	Yusuke Imai JPN	1:46.94	
6=	Vadim Sayutin RUS	1:46.99	
6=	Petter Andersen NOR	1:46.99	
8	Hiroyuki Noake JPN	1:47.04	
9	Sergey Tsybenko KAZ	1:47.14	
10	KC Boutiette USA	1:47.30	

Men 5000m

1	Bob de Jong NED	6:19.58	
2	Carl Verheijen NED	6:22.43	
3	Gianni Romme NED	6:25.00	
4	Vadim Sayutin RUS	6:25.60	
5	Keiji Shirahata JPN	6:26.04	
6	Frank Dittrich GER	6:28.34	
7	Lasse Sætre NOR	6:29.54	
8	KC Boutiette USA	6:31.93	
9	Aleksandr Kibalko RUS	6:32.56	
10	Dustin Molicki CAN	6:33.56	

Men 10,000m

1	Carl Verheijen NED	13:12.49	
2	Bob de Jong NED	13:13.81	
3	Vadim Sayutin RUS	13:17.83	

4	Frank Dittrich GER	13:19.09	
5	Lasse Sætre NOR	13:19.33	
6	Keiji Shirahata JPN	13:19.92	
7	Jochem Uytdehaage NED	13:23.02	
8	Bart Veldkamp BEL	13:32.81	
9	Øystein Grødum NOR	13:33.53	
10	Stian Bjørge NOR	13:38.75	

Ladies 500m

1	Catriona LeMay Doan CAN	74.72	WR
2	Monique Garbrecht-Enfeldt GER	75.20	
3	Svetlana Zhurova RUS	75.24	
4	Sabine Völker GER	75.34	
5	Andrea Nuyt NED	76.35	
6	Yukari Watanabe JPN	76.52	
7	Susan Auch CAN	76.55	
8	Sayuri Osuga JPN	76.58	
9	Marianne Timmer NED	76.63	
10	Tomomi Okazaki JPN	76.66	

Ladies 1000m

1	Monique Garbrecht-Enfeldt GER	1:14.13	WR
2	Sabine Völker GER	1:14.14	
3	Catriona LeMay Doan CAN	1:14.50	
4	Chris Witty USA	1:14.59	
5	Anni Friesinger GER	1:14.75	
6	Svetlana Zhurova RUS	1:15.16	
7	Cindy Klassen CAN	1:15.27	
8	Marianne Timmer NED	1:15.36	
9	Jennifer Rodriguez USA	1:15.44	
10	Aki Tonoike JPN	1:15.49	

Ladies 1500m

1	Anni Friesinger GER	1:54.58	
2	Maki Tabata JPN	1:54.76	
3	Cindy Klassen CAN	1:55.08	
4	Renate Groenewold NED	1:55.68	
5	Jennifer Rodriguez USA	1:55.73	
6	Li Song CHN	1:55.79	
7	Barbara de Loor NED	1:55.83	
8	Chris Witty USA	1:56.05	
9	Natalya Polozkova RUS	1:56.25	
10	Varvara Barysheva RUS	1:56.32	

Ladies 3000m

1	Gunda Niemann-Stirnemann GER	4:00:34	
2	Anni Friesinger GER	4:01.98	
3	Claudia Pechstein GER	4:02.13	
4	Cindy Klassen CAN	4:02.41	
5	Maki Tabata JPN	4:03.74	
6	Barbara de Loor NED	4:04.56	
7	Renate Groenewold NED	4:05.64	
8	Varvara Barysheva RUS	4:05.73	
9	Jennifer Rodriguez USA	4:06.63	
10	Li Song CHN	4:07.01	

Ladies 5000m

1	Gunda Niemann-Stirnemann GER	6:52.44	WR
2	Claudia Pechstein GER	6:58.11	
3	Maki Tabata JPN	7:05.49	
4	Renate Groenewold NED	7:06.53	
5	Wieteke Cramer NED	7:09.29	
6	Lyudmila Prokashva KAZ	7:09.42	
7	Kristina Groves CAN	7:10.52	
8	Eriko Seo JPN	7:12.16	
9	Tonny de Jong NED	7:13.60	
10	Nami Nemoto JPN	7:13.86	

2002 World Cup standings (as at Jan. 1 2002)

Men 500m

1	Jeremy Wotherspoon CAN	370
2	Casey Fitzrandolph USA	276
3	Michael Ireland CAN	260
4	Gerard Van Velde NED	194
5	Jan Bos NED	174
6	Manabu Horii JPN	170
7	Joey Cheek USA	154
8	Toyoki Takeda JPN	147
9	Kyu-Hyuk Lee KOR	112
10	Janne Hänninen FIN	107

Men 1000m

1	Jeremy Wotherspoon CAN	260
2	Michael Ireland CAN	230
3	Casey Fitzrandolph USA	195
4	Ådne Søndrål NOR	155
5	Toyoki Takeda JPN	136
6	Erben Wennemars NED	136
7	Jan Bos NED	132
8	Joey Cheek USA	121
9	Janne Hänninen FIN	107
10	Gerard Van Velde NED	86

Men 1500m

1	Derek Parra USA	258
2	Petter Andersen NOR	246
3	Jakko Jan Leeuwangh NED	206
4	Ådne Søndrål NOR	204
5	Erben Wennemars NED	200
6	Martin Hersman NED	195
7	Dustin Molicki CAN	193
8	Christian Breuer GER	142
9	Jan Friesinger GER	137
10	Aleksandr Kibalko RUS	117

Men 5000/10000m

1	Gianni Romme NED	300
2	Bob De Jong NED	270

3	Frank Dittrich GER	208
4	Jochem Uytdehaage NED	185
5	Lasse Sætre NOR	178
6	Vadim Sayutin RUS	165
7	Carl Verheijen NED	163
8	Pawel Zygmunt POL	150
9	Øystein Grødum NOR	145
10	Stian Bjørge NOR	145

Ladies 500m

1	Catriona LeMay-Doan CAN	400
2	Sabine Völker GER	310
3	Sayuri Osuga JPN	232
4	Svetlana Zhurova RUS	210
5	Anzhela Kotyuga BLR	182
6	Andrea Nuyt NED	171
7	Eriko Sanmiya JPN	148
8	Monique Garbrecht-Enfeldt GER	143
9	Manli Wang CHN	133
10	Tomomi Shimizu JPN	113

Ladies 1000m

1	Sabine Völker GER	270
2	Jennifer Rodriguez USA	220
3	Catriona LeMay-Doan CAN	190
4	Monique Garbrecht-Enfeldt GER	156
5	Aki Tonoike JPN	140
6	Svetlana Zhurova RUS	100
7	Chris Witty USA	92
8	Chiara Simionato ITA	81
9	Annamarie Thomas NED	79
10	Eriko Sanmiya JPN	78

Ladies 1500m

1	Anni Friesinger GER	400
2	Claudia Pechstein GER	260
3	Cindy Klassen CAN	245
4	Maki Tabata JPN	206
5	Jennifer Rodriguez USA	205
6	Sabine Völker GER	150
7	Tonny De Jong NED	126
8	Renate Groenewold NED	122
9	Emese Hunyady AUT	98
10	Annamarie Thomas NED	94

Ladies 3000/5000m

1	Anni Friesinger GER	400
2	Claudia Pechstein GER	320
3	Maki Tabata JPN	230
4	Tonny De Jong NED	208
5	Renate Groenewold NED	199
6	Cindy Klassen CAN	196
7	Marja Vis NED	144
8	Valentina Yakshina RUS	121
9	Nami Nemoto JPN	114
10	Daniela Anschütz GER	108

Who to watch

As in athletics, competitors in speed skating tend to be either sprint or distance specialists, with some cross-over in the 1500m distance.

MEN

Jan Bos, Netherlands

Bos is at his best over the 1000 metres and 1500 metres. In Nagano he took the Olympic silver medal in the 1000m and narrowly missed the podium in the 1500m, finishing fourth. He was the winner of the 1999 World Single Distance 1000m title but had a poor 2000-2001 season. He has started the Olympic year well, showing good World Cup form over his pet 1000m distance as well as some form in the 500 metres.

Bob De Jong, 25, Netherlands

De Jong is another of the tremendously strong Norwegian contingent at the Games. At Nagano, then just 21, he took the silver medal behind his countryman, Gianni Romme. His career has continued to blossom in the years since. At the 2001 World Single Distance Championships, held at the Olympic venue, he won the 5000m and was second in the 10,000 metres.

Casey FitzRandolph, 27, USA

The USA skaters will be out to make a big impact at their home Games. Casey FitzRandolph will be one to watch in the sprints. In the December 2001 World Cups he was in good form finishing on the podium in two of the three World Cup 1000 metre races and he has been second three times in the 500 metres. He was a member of the 1998 US Olympic Team (6th in 500m, 7th in 1000m), was third overall at the 1997 World Sprint Championships, bronze medallist in the 500m at the 2001 World Single Distance Championships and the 1995, 1996, 1997 and 2001 U.S. Sprint Champion.

Michael Ireland, 28, Canada

Ireland is another to watch in the sprints. He is the 2001 World Sprint Champion and was second overall at the 2000 World Sprint Championships and second overall in the 500m at the 2000 World Single Distances Championships. Has started the Olympic season well with a number of podiums in December World Cup race,s including a win in the 1000m in Calgary.

Rintje Ritsma, Netherlands

Ritsma holds the hopes of many in his country to beat the Norwegian great, Gianni Romme, for the distance golds in Salt Lake. In 1998 at Nagano, the Dutch skater took the silver behind Romme in the 5000 metres. He also won bronze medals in the 1500 and 10,000. These three, added to the two medals he won in Lillehammer (1500m silver, 5000m bronze), bring his Olympic medal tally to five. He would love to break the gold medal drought and is certain to be a danger across all three distances in 2002.

Gianni Romme, Netherlands

Romme is the giant in long-distance speed skating. The fact that the Norwegian holds the 3000, 5000 and 10,000m world records (as at 1/1/02) demonstrates his dominance in the sport. He was the

gold medallist in Nagano in both the 5000m and 10,000m and could easily repeat the performance in Salt Lake if his form in the December 2001 World Cup races is any indication. Of the three distance races contested he was undefeated.

Aadne Sondraal, Norway

The Norwegians have always been particularly strong over 1500m. In 1992 Aadne Sondraal finished second to the great Johann Koss at the Games, and while Koss won the 1500m again in 1994, Sondraal had to wait until 1998 to grab his gold medal over the distance. The World Single Distance Championships (same format as OWG) has been conducted for the past six years and Sondraal has never missed a top-three finish in the 1500, winning twice along the way. He also won two World Single Distance titles in the 1000m as well as two silvers. The Norwegian has been ranked #1 or #2 every year in the World Cup 1500 metre standings from 1998-2001.

Jeremy Wotherspoon, 25, Canada

Definitely one of the men to watch in the sprint events. The Canadian has started off the Olympic year in fine form, winning three of the first four 500m World Cup races of the season (and finishing second in the other) and two of the three 1000m races. He is the 1000m world record holder (as at 1/1/02), won the Olympic silver in 500m at Nagano, was the World sprint champion in 1999 and 2000, World Cup champion in the 500m in 1998, 1999, 2000 and World Cup champion in the 1000m in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001.

WOMEN

Anni Friesinger, 25, Germany

Friesinger is considered a multiple medal threat in Salt Lake. The German was crowned the 2001 World All-Around Champion and took the 1500m gold and 3000m silver at the 2001 World Single Distance Championships, held on the Olympic track in Salt Lake City. In Nagano, Friesinger was the bronze medallist over 3000m and was fifth in the 1500m.

Catriona LeMay-Doan, 31, Canada

The Canadian is one of the world's top women sprinters as her record indicates. In 2001 she was the 500m gold medallist at both the World Sprint Championships and the World Single Distance Championships. 1998 was a great year for her. Besides winning the Olympic gold in 500 metres and the bronze in the 1000 metres, LeMay-Doan was also the World Sprint Champion. She is the Canadian record holder in 500m and 1000m and, as at 1/1/02, the world record holder over 500 metres as well.

Claudia Pechstein, Germany

With country woman Niemann-Stirnemann (the defending Olympic 3000 champion and 5000 silver medallist) pregnant and not able to compete in Salt Lake, Pechstein will be hoping for a clean sweep in 2002. In Nagano she defeated Niemann-Stirnemann in the 5000m but had to settle for the silver behind her teammate in the 3000m. It will be Pechstein's fourth Olympics. In six Olympic races to date, she has won five medals (two golds, one silver and two bronze).

Jennifer Rodriguez, 25, USA

A lot of the USA hopes for a medal in women's speed skating will rest on the shoulders of the team's top distance skater, Jennifer Rodriguez. At the last Games in Nagano, the American finished fourth in the 3000 metres and would love to go at least one better. She had an early win on the World Cup circuit over the distance in December, so she is capable of winning and will get great home crowd support.

Sabine Voelker, Germany

Voelker has been one of the top sprinters on the world scene for a decade, but she has yet to win an Olympic medal. Maybe 2002 will see the breakthrough. At the 2001 World Single Distance Championships, held at the 2002 Olympic Venue, Voelker took the silver in the 1000m and finished fourth in the 500m. In the opening rounds of the 2001/2002 World Cup (prior to 1/1/02) the German has been in top form, twice winning over 1000 metres and three times finishing second to the ever-dominant Catriona LeMay-Doan.

Chris Witty, 26, USA

Witty will be hoping for glory in 2002 in front of her home crowd. At the 1998 Games she was the silver medallist over 1000m and took the bronze in the 1500m. She has been in the sport for some time, having success right back in 1996 as the World Sprint Overall Champion. At the 2000 World Sprint Championships she was second overall, having been third overall at the 1997 and 1998 Championships. Witty is an exceptional athlete. In between the Nagano Games and the Salt Lake Games she represented the USA at the Sydney Summer Games as a member of the US track cycling team, placing fifth overall in 500 metre time trial.

LEADING MEDAL WINNERS

NATIONS

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Norway	73	77	64	214
Soviet Union (1956-88)	78	57	59	194
United States	53	56	37	146
Austria	36	48	44	128
East Germany (1956-88)	43	39	36	118
Finland	36	45	42	123
Sweden	39	26	34	99
Italy	25	21	21	67
Germany (1928-36, 1992)	23	21	17	61

INDIVIDUALS

Men

Medals		Gold	Silver	Bronze	
9	Sixten Jernberg, Sweden	Cross country	4	3	2
8	Bjorn Daehlie, Norway	Cross country	5	3	0
7	Clas Thunberg, Finland	Speed skating	5	1	1
7	Ivar Ballangrud, Norway	Speed skating	4	2	1
7	Veikko Hakulinen, Finland	Cross Country	3	3	1
7	Eero Maentyranta, Finland	Cross country	3	2	2
7	Bogdan Musial, Germany	Bobsled	1	5	1
6	Gunde Svan, Sweden	Cross country	4	1	1
6	Johan Grottnumsbraten, Norway	Nordic combined	3	1	2
6	Eugenio Monti, Italy	Bobsleigh	2	2	2
6	Vladimir Smirnov, EUN	Cross country	1	4	1
6	Roald Larsen, Norway	Speed skating	0	2	4
5	Eric Heiden, USA	Speed skating	5	0	0
5	Johann Koss, Norway	Speed skating	4	1	0
5	Alberto Tomba, Italy	Alpine skiing	3	2	0
5	Kjetil Andre Aamodt, Norway	Alpine skiing	1	3	1

Women

Medals		Gold	Silver	Bronze	
10	Raisa Smetanina, EUN	Cross country	4	5	1
9	Lyubov Egorova, Soviet Union	Cross country	6	3	0
8	Galina Kulakova, Soviet Union	Cross country	4	2	2
8	Karin Kania, Germany	Speed skating	3	4	1
7	Andrea Ehrig, Germany	Speed skating	1	5	1
6	Lydia Skoblikova, Soviet Union	Speed skating	6	0	0
6	Bonnie Blair, USA	Speed skating	5	0	1
6	Elena Valbe, Soviet Union	Cross country	2	0	4
5	Vreni Schneider, Switzerland	Alpine skiing	3	1	1
5	Marja Hamalainen, Finland	Cross country	3	0	2
5	Gunda Niemann, Germany	Speed skating	2	2	1
5	Helena Takalo, Finland	Cross country	1	3	1
5	Alevtina Kolchina, Soviet Union	Cross country	1	1	3

GOLD MEDALS

Men

			Gold	Silver	Bronze
5	Clas Thunberg, Finland	Speed skating	5	1	1
5	Eric Heiden, USA	Speed skating	5	0	0
5	Bjorn Daehlie, Norway	Cross country	5	3	0
4	Sixten Jernberg, Sweden	Cross country	4	3	2
4	Ivar Ballangrud, Norway	Speed skating	4	2	1
4	Gunde Svan, Sweden	Cross country	4	1	1
4	Yevgeny Grishin, Soviet Union	Speed skating	4	1	0
4	Matti Nykanen, Finland	Ski jumping	4	1	0
4	Nikolai Zimyatov, Soviet Union	Cross country	4	1	0
4	Aleksandr Tikonov, Soviet Union	Biathlon	4	0	0
4	Thomas Wassberg, Sweden	Cross country	4	0	0
4	Johan Olaf Koss, Norway	Cross country	4	1	0

(Although Clas Thunberg, Eric Heiden and Bjorn Daehlie are tied for the lead in career gold medals for men, Heiden won his in a single Olympics, 1980 in Lake Placid. Thunberg spread his wins over two Games, 1924 and '28, as did Daehlie. One of Daehlie's gold medals was won in the relay.)

Women

			Gold	Silver	Bronze
6	Lydia Skoblikova, Soviet Union	Speed skating	6	0	0
6	Lyubov Egorova, Soviet Union	Cross country	6	3	0
5	Bonnie Blair, USA	Speed skating	5	0	1
4	Raisa Smetanina, EUN	Cross country	4	5	1
4	Galina Kulakova, Soviet Union	Cross country	4	2	2

Eight women are tied with three gold

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

COUNTRY CODES

AHO	Netherlands Antilles
ALG	Algeria
AND	Andorra
ARG	Argentina
ARM	Armenia
ASA	American Samoa
AUS	Australia
AUT	Austria
AZE	Azerbaijan
BAH	Bahamas
BEL	Belgium
BER	Bermuda
BLR	Belarus
BOL	Bolivia
BIH	Bosnia-Herzegovina
BRA	Brazil
BUL	Bulgaria
CAM	Cambodia
CMR	Cameroon
CAN	Canada
CAF	Central African Republic
CHI	Chile
CHN	People's Republic of China
COL	Colombia
CRC	Costa Rica
CRO	Croatia
CUB	Cuba
CYP	Cyprus
CZE	Czech Republic
DEN	Denmark
ECU	Ecuador
ESA	El Salvador
ESP	Spain
EST	Estonia
EUN	Unified Team*
FIJ	Fiji Islands
FIN	Finland
FRA	France
FRG	West Germany*
GAM	Gambia
GBR	Great Britain
GDR	East Germany*
GUM	Guam
GEO	Georgia
GER	Germany
GRE	Greece
GUA	Guatemala
GBS	Guinea-Bissau
HAI	Haiti
HON	Honduras
HUN	Hungary
IND	India
IRI	Islamic Republic of Iran
ISL	Iceland
ISR	Israel
ISV	Virgin Islands
ITA	Italy
JAM	Jamaica
JPN	Japan
KAZ	Kazakhstan
KEN	Kenya
KOR	Korea
KUW	Kuwait
KGZ	Kyrgyzstan
LAO	Lao People's Democratic Republic
LAT	Latvia
LIB	Lebanon
LIE	Liechtenstein
LTU	Lithuania
LUX	Luxembourg
MKD	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
MAR	Morocco
MEX	Mexico
MGL	Mongolia
MDA	Moldova
MON	Monaco
NED	Netherlands
NGR	Nigeria
NOR	Norway
NZL	New Zealand
PAR	Paraguay
PER	Peru
PHI	Philippines
POL	Poland
POR	Portugal
PRK	Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea
PUR	Puerto Rico
ROM	Romania

RSA	South Africa
RUS	Russian Federation
SEN	Senegal
SIN	Singapore
SVK	Slovakia
SLO	Slovenia
SMR	San Marino
SVK	Slovak Republic*
SUD	Sudan
SUI	Switzerland
SWE	Sweden
SWZ	Swaziland
TCH	Czechoslovakia*
THA	Thailand
TPE	Chinese Taipei
TRI	Trinidad and Tobago
TUR	Turkey
UKR	Ukraine
URS	Soviet Union*
URU	Uruguay
USA	United States of America
UZB	Uzbekistan
VEN	Venezuela
ISU	Virgin Islands
YUG	Yugoslavia
ZIM	Zimbabwe

* - Historical terms

ABBREVIATIONS

C	Classical cross country skiing
F	Freestyle cross country skiing
SL	Slalom
GS	Giant Slalom
SG	Super Giant Slalom
DH	Downhill
CMB	Combined
HP	Half-pipe
WC	World Cup
WCH	World Championships
WR	World Record
OR	Olympic Record
DNF	Did not finish
DNQ	Did not qualify
DNS	Did not start
RETD	Retired

TIME DIFFERENCES SALT LAKE CITY AND AEST

SALT LAKE CITY	AEST
9:00am	3:00am
10:00am	4:00am
11:00am	5:00am
12:00 noon	6:00am
1:00pm	7:00am
2:00pm	8:00am
3:00pm	9:00am
4:00pm	10:00am
5:00pm	11:00am
6:00pm	12noon
7:00pm	1:00pm
8:00pm	2:00pm
9:00pm	3:00pm
9:30pm	3:30pm
10:00pm	4:00pm
11:00pm	5:00pm
12:00midnight	6:00pm

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