



## Halifax Regional Speed Skating Club Review of 2014-15 Season

In no particular order:

1. Very busy year for our club, as it was a Canada Winter Games year. 11 of the 12 Speed Skating athletes from Nova Scotia were from our club. Four of the coaches/managers were also from our club. This is good and bad. The good is obvious however the bad is that it stretched our coaches to the limit and meant that our CWG athletes had a very hectic schedule
2. Under the leadership of our Short Track Rep, Bert Losier, we hosted our second annual meet. Due to the CWG, the competition was moved to the end of the year and the volume of competitors was limited because of the games. It was decided that moving forward, the club would try to get on the calendar towards the end of the year.
3. A number of new parents stepped up to qualify as competition officials and participated as officials at our meet.
4. In conjunction with SSNS, our club purchased padding that will bring us to level IV, which is the highest level of protection available in Atlantic Canada. This ensures that for any future competitions (regional or national) we host, the club will not require padding from other clubs.
5. This year, we gained a coach in Chris Gallant to start the season bringing our total to six. We have received the resignation of two of our awesome coaches, which will require us to make some adjustments next year.
6. For the Sports Nova Scotia Ricoh Sports Awards, the Speed Skating winners from our club include Cooper Emin – Male Individual Athlete of The Year, Rachel Murphy – Female Athlete of The Year, Connor Cameron – Male Team Athlete of The Year, Emma Thompson – Female Team Athlete of the Year, Jonathan McNeil – Coach of The Year, Paula Arruda – Official of The Year, and Ginnette Bowering of Cora's Burnside – Corporate Sponsor of The Year.
7. Our membership is not growing and what is even more concerning is the age distribution. We need to recruit new skaters. We had a few new skaters this year and even more inquiries. We need to attract more skaters considering the number of people who use the oval in the run of a year.