



## **SPORTS DIRECTOR/HEAD COACH – SPEED SKATING**

The Finnish Speed Skating Association is the speed skating member of International Skating Union (ISU) and the national governing body of speed skating, short track, inline skating and trip skating. In 2000's, speed skating has been one of the most successful winter sports in Finland, and the Finnish speed skater compete at the highest international level.

The term of employment of the current Sports Director/Head Coach will expire during Spring 2014, after the Sochi Winter Olympics, and The Finnish Speed Skating Association is now publicly seeking applicants for the next 4-year period. The duration of the fixed term contract may be tailored, but the nature of the position is 2+2 years.

The role of the Sports Director / Head coach consists of organizing the activities of national team(s), coaching the national team in ISU World Cup and ISU Championships, maintaining contacts with the sponsors and partners of the national team, maintaining contacts with the media (including some own media production of the national team). The candidate will be responsible for the budget of the national team(s) within the guidance of the Board of the Skating Association, and the person will supervise other full-time speed skating coaches of the country. The Finnish speed skating is being developed by "athlete in the center" principles, and we target to tailor each athlete the best possible opportunities for high performance, and the successful candidate is expected to drive this principle.

The Finnish speed skating has two main training centers (Seinäjoki, Helsinki), with a professional full-time coach in both locations. The activities of juniors and young adults have been organized around ISU Development Programs. The successful candidate is expected, in addition to national senior team, to ensure the continuity and development of these two centers and activities around ISU Development Programs. The position requires intensive travelling, in particular during winter-time.

The successful candidate is expected to have the following personal characteristics and experience:

- Excellent knowledge about top-level speed skating, through own skating career, education and/or through a successful career as a coach.
- The ability to maintain and develop relationships with sponsors, partners and coaches in other countries.
- The ability to independently run the activities within the agreed budget, and to report to the Board of the Skating Association, as required and instructed by the Board.
- The ability to cooperate and help all skaters to improve their performance.

The interested candidates should submit their written application to the Finnish Skating Association, Mr. Sauli Pollari, at Radiokatu 20, 00240 Helsinki, Finland (sauli.pollari@luisteluliitto.fi) by Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

**SUOMEN LUISTELULIITTO**  
FINNISH SPEED SKATING ASSOCIATION