

OLYMPIC BOBSLEIGH/LUGE/SKELETON TRACK

The Design:

Construction of the track began in the fall of 1984 and was completed in the spring of 1986. The design of the track has a strikingly delicate balance between course safety and speed. One of the few combined facilities in the world today, the track features a unique tuning-fork layout. Constructed with reinforced concrete, the track is comprised of 48 sections and the design has five separate starting points to accommodate all sliding sports and abilities.

The Track:

The two most technical turns are Kreisel and Omega. The Omega corner is the combination of corners six, seven and eight that resembles the Greek letter Omega. This is one of the most difficult sections on the track due to its steep grade and quick transition from corners. The long straightaway from the exit of Omega corner leads into Kreisel corner, which is where athletes reach top speeds. At this point athletes will reach gravitational forces of four times their body weight.

The Ice:

The artificially cooled track, which contains more than 100 kilometers of refrigeration pipe, is capable of holding ice at air temperatures up to 30 degrees Celsius. Sunscreens were also installed on curves directly exposed to the sun. This prevents hazardous bumps forming on the surface of the track as a result of ice melting drain-off freezing in shaded areas down the track.

Control Tower:

The Control Tower functions as the nerve centre for all activities on the track. Its primary duties include controlling the sliding sessions and producing results that can assist coaches and athletes with their training. Timing and results computers, 38 camera monitors, an extensive public address system, and other pieces of communications equipment assist with this function. The room can be operated with as few as one person or as many as 25 during a major competition. The cameras provide selected surveillance of the track for safety.

Bobsleigh/Skeleton Start House:

One of five start houses on the track, this building is used by the athletes, coaches and officials prior to and during competition and training sessions as a change room and warming area. A separate room for start control officials, a Canadian team room and washrooms are also included within the start house. Adjacent to the start house is a shale 50-metre warm-up track for the athletes.

Men's, Women, Junior and Tourist Start Houses:

The men's, women's and junior start houses are essentially the same as the bobsleigh/skeleton start. The tourist start building is a mechanical/electrical room only. The covered start area provides introductory or entry-level luge and skeleton athletes access to the track.

Spectator Viewing Areas:

Spectator pathways, which also serve as service vehicle routes, follow the length of the track on both sides and provide excellent vantage points for up to 25,000 spectators. Underpasses located at several locations along the track connect the pathways.

Electronic Time Boards:

The facilities main electronic scoreboard is located outside curve 12 to provide information to spectators in the track interior and at the daylodge. Running time boards are located at each start house and brake-line.

Track Lighting:

The track is artificially lit to extend its operating hours and to allow for track resurfacing during the night. The lights are strategically positioned, both to prevent shadows and glare from distracting competitors, and to avoid interfering with television camera sight lines.

Scalehouse, Sled Repair and Sled Storage:

Centrally located adjacent to the off-loading ramp of the track. The scalehouse is part of the off-loading ramp and provides adequate space for maneuvering the sleds into and out of the area. The larger building is divided into two halves; one half is used by Bobsleigh Canada to build their own bobsleighs; while the other half is used for bobsleigh storage. CODA and the Canadian Luge Association utilize the smaller building for sled maintenance.

TRACK RECORDS

LUGE

Men's	44.516	Armin Zoeggeler	ITA Nov 30/02
	44.55	<i>Tyler Seitz</i>	CAN Nov 30/02
Women's	46.543	Sylke Otto	GER Dec 9/05
	47.005	<i>Regan Lauscher</i>	CAN Dec 8/06
Doubles	43.564	Grimmette/Martin	USA Nov 29/02
	43.655	<i>Albrecht/Pothier</i>	CAN Nov 29/02

SKELETON

Men's	55.72	<i>Jeff Pain</i>	CAN Feb 21/05
50 Meter	4.77	Alexander Tretiakov	RUS Nov 10/05
	4.89	<i>Rashaam Francis</i>	CAN Nov 2/02
Women's	56.93	<i>Michelle Kelly</i>	CAN Mar 11/07
50 Meter	5.30	<i>Lindsay Alcock</i>	CAN Nov 29/03

BOBSLEIGH

Two-Man	54.54	<i>Pierre Lueders/Giulio Zardo</i>	<i>CAN Nov 21/03</i>
50 Meter	5.01	Christoph Langen/ Markus Zimmerman	GER Feb 16/96
	5.07	<i>Pierre Lueders/ Giulio Zardo</i>	<i>CAN Feb 07/03</i>
Four-Man	53.16	Andre Lange/Rene Hoppe Kevin Kuske/Martin Putze	GER Feb 27/05
	53.24	<i>Pierre Lueders/Ken Kotyk Lascelles Brown/Morgan Alexander</i>	<i>CAN Feb 26/05</i>
50 Meter	4.95	Christoph Langen Markus Zimmerman Sven Ruhr / Olaf Hampel	GER Feb 23/96
	4.99	<i>Pierre Lueders/ Ken Kotyk Lascelles Brown/Morgan Alexander</i>	<i>CAN Feb 26/05</i>
Women's	55.44	Shauna Rohbock Valerie Fleming	USA Feb 25/05
	56.06	<i>Lesa Mayes-Stringer Jaime Cruickshank</i>	<i>CAN Feb 25/05</i>
50 Meter	5.60	Shauna Rohbock Valerie Fleming	USA Feb 25/05
	5.57	<i>Helen Upperton Heather Moyse</i>	<i>CAN Nov 9/05</i>