

Future Ice Conferences

What time of the year are we to meet?

History

- Ice conferences have been held since the middle of the 1980's
- Most often, they have been held in January or February – peak season
- A few times the conference has been held in November, December, or March – non-peak season

Background for the discussion

- At the 2010 conference in Västerås, one of the parallel sessions stated that the peak-season was a bad choice of time
- The session proposed to have the conference in October instead

Alternatives

Mainly, there are three alternatives for the time to arrange the ice conference:

1. Pre-season, late autumn
2. Peak-season
3. Post-season, early spring

Pre-season

- Can be difficult to engage participants
- Chance for skating in new premiere areas
- Low risk of collision with interesting skating opportunities

Peak-season

- Many skaters "think ice" this time of the year, easier to engage people
- Increased chance of skating in new areas
- Increased risk of collision with interesting skating opportunities

Post-season

- Can be difficult to engage participants
- Increased risk for problems related to spring-ice (if skating is to be included)

General

- The level of ambition does not need to be increased each time the conference is held
- The club hosting the conference must also have a say in this issue
- Difficulties to have skaters reply to mails (and register) during the summer and early autumn

Aspects given, 1

Representatives from the following clubs prefer pre-season:

1. SSSK
2. Östhammars skinnare, ÖS
3. Södra Vättern Långfärdsskridsko, SVL

Main argument is the risk for collision with interesting skating opportunities

Aspects given, 2

Representatives from the following clubs prefer peak-season:

1. Västgötaskrinnarna, VGS
2. Eskilstuna Långfärdsskridskoåkare, ELS
3. Hollands Långfärdsskridskoklubb, HLSK

A strong reason is the appreciation for skating in new areas