



# USSPEEDSKATING PRESS RELEASE

5662 South Cougar Lane | Kearns UT 84118

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, May 20, 2015

**Contact:** Jenna Politi ([jpoliti@usspeedskating.org](mailto:jpoliti@usspeedskating.org))

## **Brittany Bowe Wins the 2015 Oscar Award**

**KEARNS, Utah** - US speed skater Brittany Bowe wins the Oscar Award of Speed Skating for the season 2014-15 for her outstanding 1000-meter race during the World Single Distances Championships in Heerenveen, the Netherlands on Feb. 13, 2015.

In the previous pair, the season's best sprinter so far, Heather Richardson, had snatched the lead by a wide margin with a track record time of 1.14,49. When the bell rang for her last lap, Bowe had a lead of just 7/100 seconds on her American rival. Following a phenomenal last lap of 28,8 seconds, however, Brittany won the event by as much as 6/10 of a second.

Recording a time of 1.13,90, she became the first skater below 1.14 minutes on a European track, improving Ireen Wüst's track record at Thialf Ice Stadium by three quarters of a second. The gap down to bronze medal winner Karolina Erbanova of The Czech Republic was 1,4 seconds, while Ireen Wüst, herself an Oscar Award winner in 2013, was beaten by 1,6 seconds on her fourth place.

Brittany Bowe (27) will be awarded a miniature of the statue of Norwegian speed skating legend Oscar Mathisen (1888-1954), created by the sculptor Arne Durban. The statue itself is placed outside Frogner Stadium in Oslo, the venue of many of Oscar Mathisen's most memorable victories.

The prize is awarded annually, for each season's most outstanding achievement in speed skating. In the 57-year history of the Oscar Mathisen Memorial Award, Brittany Bowe becomes the fifth US speed skater ever to win the Oscar Award, and the second female winner from USA.

The members of the Oscar Mathisen Award Committee for 2014-15 are Laila Andresen, Tron Espeli, Hasse Farstad, Ådne Søndrål and Magne Teigen.

###

### **About US Speedskating**

From Pond to Podium, we are US Speedskating. We grow and nurture a sport where all ages can experience the thrill of speed and the camaraderie of the skating community. US Speedskating is responsible for the development of speed skating from grassroots to the highest elite racing programs. US Speedskating is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Skating Union as the governing body for the sport of speed skating in the United States. The Organization has won 86 Olympic medals to-date, making it one of the most successful sports in U.S. Olympic history. US Speedskating is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), on [Facebook](#) and at [www.usspeedskating.org](http://www.usspeedskating.org).