

SEASON 2019-2020

SAT 21.3. SEASON IS NOW OVER, THANKS FOR THE SEASON!

Routes have been checked and the situation is now that route is closed and no further inspections will not be made - spring is early and forecast is very warm. Many thanks for the season, it was a strange winter! Hopefully next winter is more normal.

TUE 17.3. ROUTE CLOSED

Routes closed now due to warm weather, there might be skating on weekend. Hopefully there is then skating. Last days of season ahead.

SAT 14.3. ROUTES OPEN

Routes to Kaarnalahti and Valkilampi are in a good condition to skate. The weather is beautiful and sunny but windy on the ice.

TUE 10.3. ROUTES CLOSED

Routes closed, lot of water on top the ice. Warm day and forecast, we will tell updates if situation changes.

MON 9.3. AT 14.50

Today still good skating conditions, very unsure/bad forecast for following days (from tuesday to friday) as there is no cold nights forecasted.

SAT 7.3. AT 8.30 ROUTES OPEN AGAIN! 10 KM OPEN

Last night's freeze was enough to frozen the track. The tracks has been skated this morning. The weather looks beautiful today, especially in the morning it is best to skate. Welcome!

Equipments sat-sun 10-16 (can be returned to restaurant), restaurant open sat until 20.00, sun until 18.00. Waffle cafe open along the route every day 11-16.

FRI 6.3. ROUTES CLOSED TODAY, TOMORROW A POSSIBILITY

We expect the routes to be open tomorrow and sunday - conditions should be good in the mornings. Situation is still unsure (the night has to be at least around -4 degrees), new update in the morning.

THU 5.3. AT 10.00 ROUTES CLOSED TODAY

Routes closed today due to snowfall and wet conditions. **We hope and expect the routes to re-opened for saturday 7.3.** (small possibility of routes being open tomorrow), re-opening needs a cold night at least of 5-6 degrees.

WED 4.3.

Bit difficult conditions today, ice in many parts really good, but also really many spots with soft "top ice". So skate with caution. Too warm night.

TUE 3.3. AT 9.00 ROUTES OPEN (WET CONDITIONS), TOMORROW GOOD

Routes checked, conditions start to be quite wet but ice is still skatable, at least in the morning. Cold night forecasted for next night.

MON 2.3. AT 10.15 SNOW IS FALLING, ICE IS GOOD - USE THE BRIDGE

Good ice although warm day! 10+5 km open. The crack of ice near Vaahersalo bridge is recommended to go over the bridge we built, check the previous posts.

This week we go (again) day-by-day, as the forecasted cold in the nights is limited. Situations will be informed in the mornings.

SUN 1.3. AT 10.45

Routes were cleared from snow between 9-10. Conditions are good as the previous days!

SAT 29.2. GREAT SKATING DAY AHEAD, 10 KM OPEN

Tracks are good and so is the weather! Approx. 10 km open: 2 km to kaarnalahti, 2 km to valkialampi and 6 km to Siplahti via Kruunupuisto (where is waffle cafe). You can skate over the crack safely after Vaahersalo bridge, its now frozen to thick ice. There is also "opened" the route to Haataansaari island (5 km back and forth), but this route is not very good ice quality.

Waffle cafe open every day from 11-16 (until 15.3.), equipment rental open daily between 10-16, you can return the equipments to our restaurant. Welcome!

FRI 28.2. AT 9.45 GREAT CONDITIONS, GOOD WEEKEND COMING

Overall condition of tracks is good/great! Check the details of last days updates. The crack mentioned below is (in the morning) frozen, but we recommend to go over it via the bridge we built. Starting point of tracks is 900m from rental, in southpoint of Tuunaansaari island. Further info from rental.

Today is the torch skating event 18-22: Restaurant open until 22.00, equipment rental until 21.30.
Welcome!



THU 27.2. KLO 16 NOW 9 KM OPEN, "BRIDGE "IS BUILT!"

Now 9 km of routes open! To Siplahti via Kruunupuisto (4 km route). Before Kruunupuisto, after the big Vaahersalo bridge, there is this "crack" at the ice, which is frozen in the mornings but have water on top of it during afternoons.

As a safety measure we built a special bridge over it because conditions change daily, we will monitor the situation. You can bypass this part of the routes by land, [click the skating map open from here.](#)

WED 26.2. AT 12.30 5 KM OPEN, TOMORROW 4 KM MORE

Finally good news! Valkialampi route (2 km), Kaarnalahti route (2 km) and until Vaahersalo bridge (1km) open. Tomorrow we are able to open 4 km of more routes (to Kruunupuisto shore and to Siplahti). Ice in good/great shape mostly.

Equipments rented every day between 10-16, waffle cafe in Kruunupuisto shore open every day 11-16.
Warmly welcome!

TUE 25.2. 1 KM OPEN, TOMORROW MORE

Starting from tomorrow we expect to have more routes open - we have to patient with the ice, as the several warm weeks have made the ice conditions different than usually. Start of tracks from souhtpoint of the island.

Forecast looks good so we assume things get better everyday, our friday Torch Skating is happening!

MON 24.2. STILL CLOSED, RE-OPENING TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY

Route still closed, we expect re-opening tomorrow or wednesday of the routes as the weather forecast finally promises cold!

FRI 21.2. AT 9.50 ROUTE CLOSED

Unfortunately the routes are still closed. Water sections at the routes on many spots. New check during next weeks start, we need cold nights now.

This winters nature conditions are like never before, the ice behaves very differently than normally - big cause of this winters problems (in addition of very warm weather) is that the Saimaa-lake area's water level is rising every day on a record phase (up to 50cm during fall/winter), this makes the water to come on top of the ice especially when warm weather/when its few degrees of cold.

THU 20.2. 9.45 ROUTE CLOSED TODAY, TOMORROW SKATING CONDITIONS!

Finally some minus temperatures. Routes still closed today, although we are near to re-open the tracks. We expect the routes to be open tomorrow friday!

Equipments on friday between 10-16, waffle cafe is open every day in Kruunupuisto shore (along the skating route) 11-16. Otherwise we go day by day with the skating route, as temperatures goes up and down.

SAT 15.2. AT 9.10 NOT ENOUGH FREEZING TEMPERATURES, ROUTE CLOSED

It would have required only few more degrees of cold / few hours of cold temperatures. The routes are covered with water that is freezing, but did not freeze enough for skating. I did a 1 km skating from south point of the island, basically in every section the surface ice didnt last so the ice is unskatable (as it will be a warm day)

We have to go day-by-day with the skating tracks re-opening. Right now we estimate that the re-opening of skating track need few days of cold temperatures (few degrees below zero at least) OR just even one night of really cold temperature (around -8 to 10 degrees minimum). The forecast doesnt unfortunately promise these for the following days, end of next week is a possibility. But the forecasts change daily, so we will monitor the situation. **Snow situation** is also not good due to sundays-

tuesdays crazy weather and heavy rain. It is what it is.



FRI 14.2. TOMORROW IS UNSURE, A NEW CHECK IN MORNING

We did a check at the ice, today still closed, tomorrow is possible: It depends on the night temperature which hopefully is cold. Right now the forecast is that there is a 50% chance for the route to be open tomorrow, it needs a freezing temperature in order the water sections to freeze.

Tomorrow the check will be made between 8-10 in the morning.

WED 12.2. UPDATE OF ROUTE, WAFFLE CAFE OPENS

Routes are still closed due to warm weather which causes snow on ice to melt = lot of water on top of ice. There is possibility of the routes to be re-opened during weekend, if the freezing temperatures come as forecasted. We will monitor the situation and inform as soon as possible we have an update to tell. Next weeks forecast looks good: Usually cold night temperature means re-opening of the tracks.

Waffle Cafe along the skating route (in the shore of Kruunupuisto) opens on the following weekend is open every day for the weeks 8,9 and 10!

One of the strangest winters we have seen - this is usually the most coldest weeks of the year, now there has been really warm and also rain and limited amount of snowfall. Some snow left for snowshoing and cross-country skiing.

FRI 7.2 AT 13.30 ALL ROUTES ARE CLOSED TODAY!

All routes unfortunately closed. Tracks were opened in morning partially, but lot of water comes on top of the ice at large areas - extremely rare thing to happen considering its -12 degrees cold temperature. Usually water starts coming to tracks when temperature is around zero, which is the case for following 3-4 days.

Difficult to tell an estimate right now, but we hope/we estimate that skating conditions are back for the next weekend 15.2.-->. **It is possible that the situation changes sooner and if so, we will give an update.**

Good news is that all cross-country skiing routes are open!

THU 6.2. 4 KM OPEN, TOMORROW CONTINUES

Right now 4 km of routes open, we expect that tomorrow we can re-open 5-8km of other routes. Ice is mostly in ok shape. Forecast for Saturday looks good.

In short, very challenging conditions to keep ice routes open, now we have lot of snow in Punkaharju. :)

TUE 4.2. 11 KM OF ROUTES

11 km of routes open. Two kilometers is in really good shape but conditions have changed to difficult for many sections, so rest of routes a combination of good/decent parts, as normally is on natural ice. :) Weather forecast good for following week. Also now lot of snow!

Routes are worked daily.



SUNDAY 2.2 ROUTES ARE OPEN AND ICE IS GOOD

Last night was snowing quite hard. Opened now all routes. Equipments and tickets in the restaurant!

SATURDAY 1.2 ROUTES ARE OPEN

Ice is quite good for skating! Little bit water on the ice in Kaarnalahti (about 10m). Starting still from southpoint from Tuunaansaari-island.

Rental is open today 10-16 and tomorrow Sunday 10-15

FRIDAY 31.1. 11 KM OF ROUTES OPEN

Lot of snow but 11 km of routes now open and ice is quite good for skating! Start still from southpoint from Tuunaansaari-island, 900m from Rental - further instructions from rental. Rental open on saturday between 10.-16 and on sunday 10-15. Welcome!



WED 29.1

Over 20 cm of snowfall in the past days! trouble on the ice route, now 6 km open but tomorrow a new check of situation.

SATURDAY 25.1. AT 15 TOMORROWS ROUTE OPENING

Great skating conditions! Snowfall forecasted for tomorrow, the routes will be cleared from snow before 10 a.m and around 12.00, so come skating in the morning or midday.

FRIDAY 24.1. KLO 10.25 DREAM CONDITIONS

Snow at last! Dream conditions, ice is perfect and tracks have been cleared from snow. 15 km of tracks open. Start point is from southpoint of Tuunaansaari, 900m from rental.

Rental open between 10-15 on saturday and sunday, you can return the equipments to our restaurant also. Warmly welcome!

WED 22.1. AT 12.45 ROUTES RE-OPENED

We skate again! Perfect ice. So tracks are now re-opened due to cold nights, Valkialampi route closed, but other routes are open (13 km). Quite good forecast for following days.

SAT 18.1. AT 10.50 TRACKS CLOSED, RE-OPENING NEEDS COLD TEMPERATURES

Tracks closed. Ice finally, unfortunately started to get soft on the 6th warm day (usually happens much sooner). Tracks will be re-opened when freezing temperatures (at least in the nights) come back, forecasted for next weeks wednesday/thursday.

FRIDAY 17.1. AT KLO 15.30 ICE IS GOOD BUT UNSURE FORECAST

Bizarre conditions: Although not cold days, ice is still really good to skate (not normally like this). :)
Cannot make a forecast for weekend as no cold temperatures forecasted, new check tomorrow.

We have measured today 15 cm of ice in the route, although many shores have little bit of ice. Walking ramp to ice from start point. 13 km of tracks open, equipments from restaurant during weekend between 10-15.

THU 16.1. AT 13 SUPRISINGLY GOOD ICE

Suprisingly good ice conditions! Warm days and nights, but ice has stayed good, which is suprising. Situation will be checked daily, because no cold nights forecasted.

MON 13.1. GOOD AGAIN

After enough cold in the night, ice is again in great shape and good to skate!

SUN 12.1. AT 9.40 WET CONDITIONS

Yesterdays perfect conditions have changed to rain, water on top of ice (from little amount to few centimeters). Ice is skatable, but take spare socks with you. :)

Snow conditions are unfortunately bad, as the nice amount of snow we had melted in these rainy weeks. Usually there is plenty of snowfall in end of January and start of February!

FRIDAY 10.1 KLO 11.45 ALL ROUTES OPEN, TOP ICE

Perfect ice one again! All routes now marked. Snow has unfortunately melted due to rainy days, the track is marked with red sticks on the ice. 15 km of routes.

- Kaarnalahti route 2 km
- Valkialampi route 2 km
- Haataansaari route 5 km
- Start point- Siplahti bay n. 6 km (back and forth)

Rental open between saturday 10-15, restaurant open from 9.00. Sunday rentals from restaurant between 10-15. Warmly welcome!

FRI 10.1. AT 9.30

Skating tracks are open and ice is perfect for skating!

Tomorrow rental is open 10-15, welcome!

THU 9.1. AT 9.30 SKATING TRACK CLOSED TODAY

Today the track is closed due to the weather. Waiting for the water to freeze on the ice today and tonight. Tomorrow might be good conditions for skating. Follow the diary, we check the ice on tomorrow morning again.

WED 8.1. AT 11.30 STORMY DAY

BAD CONDITIONS TODAY DUE TO STORM, TOMORROW A NEW CHECK

TUE 7.1. AT 13.20

Although warm, ice still really good for this day!

MON 6.1. AT 9.20 TODAY AND WEEKLY FORECAST

Ice in really good shape, overall 12 km of tracks marked now. Rental is open today between 10-15,

The following week is quite warm temperatures so telling a forecast is difficult, we will make updates daily if/when the situation changes. Cold night temperatures help the issue but doesn't always guarantee the ice to be skatable.

SAT 4.1. GREAT SKATING DAY

Snow has melted but ice is perfect! Amazing skating conditions today and especially tomorrow. Rental open sat and sun 10-15, on weekdays equipments from restaurant.

THU 2.1. UPDATED 12.20 7+5 KM OPEN

Now is overall open 7 km of tracks, during the day additional 5 km will be marked. Start point from southpoint of Tuunaansaari island (900m from rental), from rental you will get guidance. A parking spot next to start point. There is snow on the ice, the tracks are marked with red sticks - follow those.

It was a warm night and following one is also, good skating still possible today! Friday is a storm day, forecast looks good for saturday and sunday.. So skating possible today, saturday and sunday!

WED 1.1. AT 11.30 SEASON OPENED

Ice looks great today, first tracks marked and are safe! Forecast for weekend looks nice. Season has started!



TUESDAY 31.12. LOOKS PROMISING!

Situations change rapidly. Yesterday checking the ice thickness. Snow went away but it helped the skating part - if we are lucky and no further snowfall next night, tomorrow might be the first skating day! Stay tuned for more info tomorrow.



SUNDAY 29.12.2019

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Warm start of winter. Just in past few days the lakes have went completely frozen, so on some locations ice is thick enough for skating. On monday we will check that whats the forecast for the following week - it will most likely be difficult to take any track making equipment to ice before enough cold days.

MONDAY 18.11.2019

Winter approaching! After some cold weeks and promising weather, right now quite warm weeks. Forecast shows cold temperatures for next week, lets hope for steady amounts of cold so the skating could start earlier than normally.

Plan for this winter is the same regarding the routes and services: Rental opens when the skating season starts, waffle cafe along the route around start of february.