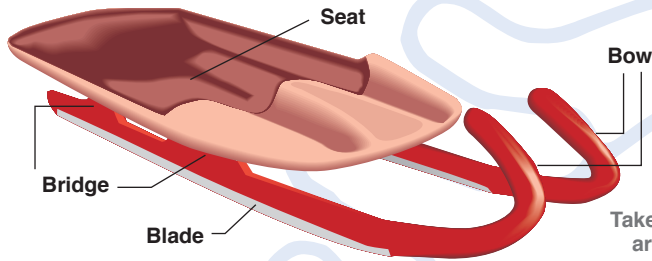


Luge

Luge includes three events: men's singles, women's singles and doubles. Men's, women's singles involve four runs over two days; racer with lowest combined time from all four runs wins. Four-run format, unique to Olympic Winter Games, is designed to test racers' consistency and endurance. Doubles event consists of two runs in one day, with fastest total time determining winner.

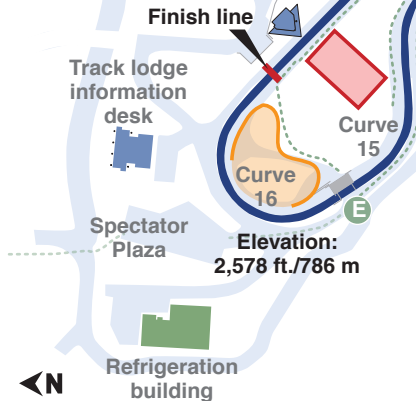
The sled

- Sleds custom-made to fit racers, have strict weight limits
- May not include cushioning and/or suspension; blades must be solid, nonflexible; only uplifted bow sections of runners are flexible for steering
- Doubles luge sled is longer, about 10 lbs. heavier than singles sled



Viewing

- E** Entrance to spectator underpass
- Access
- Red rectangle** Grandstand seating
- Orange shape** General admission standing areas



(Elevation: 3,077 ft/938 m)

Events

- Men's singles**
Feb. 13, 14
- Women's singles**
Feb. 15, 16
- Doubles**
Feb. 17

Lower start
• Women's luge
• Double luge

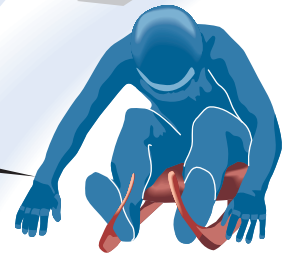
Upper start
• Men's luge

The race
Strong start is crucial, can determine outcome

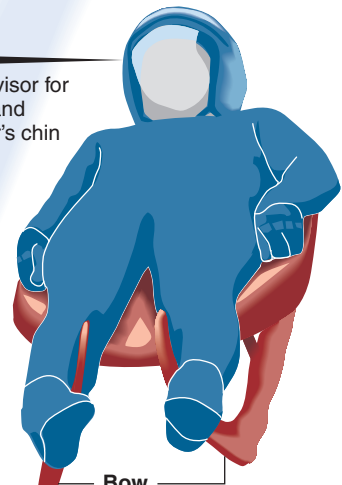


- Sitting on sled, racer holds onto fixed handles, rocks back and forth
- After start, racer uses gloves on ice surface to accelerate

Gloves
have spikes embedded in fingertips or knuckles for extra acceleration at start; max. length is 4 millimeters



Helmet
has clear, rounded visor for maximum visibility and extends under racer's chin to increase aerodynamics



- Racer shoots down track on back with feet stretched out in front, keeping head back to improve aerodynamics; can reach speeds of 90 mph or more and forces over 5Gs when going through turns

Steering
Racer uses legs to apply pressure to runner bows to steer; also steer by shifting weight with small head, shoulder movements