



Derek Parra

Derek Parra was born in San Bernadino, CA and grew up with a love and talent for the sport of inline skating. On roller skates, Parra was a two-time World Champion and won three US Championships. He became the most decorated athlete in the history of inline skating.

A Mexican-American, Derek followed the lead of KC Boutiette and Jen Rodriguez and transitioned to the ice at the age of 16. As a long track speed skater, he won two silver medals at the World Championships, a silver in the 1,500 at the Single Distance Championships in 2001, and silver in the 1,500 at the 2002 World Allrounds. He was also third overall at the 2002 World Allrounds, his best year, as he won his Olympic gold medal in the 1,500 and silver in the 5,000 in Salt Lake City. Parra continued to compete through the 2006 Winter Olympics and retired as a skater after the Torino Games.

Since making history as the first US Hispanic male to win a medal at the Winter Olympics, Parra has remained active in the sport as a coach. He now serves as the Sport Program Manager for the Utah Olympic Legacy Foundation.

Derek's book, *Reflections in the Ice*, chronicles his inspiring journey from his humble beginnings to Olympic glory. Through his moving and emotional presentation, he shares his recipe for success, including the mindset, strategies, and beliefs he mastered on his path to the top of the podium.