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WINTER OLYMPICS 2010: Leap of faith from Shelley Rudman in ill-fated luge event

By [Neil Wilson](#) in Vancouver

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Safety first: Shelley Rudman insists she'll be all right on the luge run

Shelley Rudman has convinced herself that the infamous track at the Whistler Sliding Centre is safe.

The 29-year-old, who was Britain's only medallist in Turin four years ago, will reach speeds of 85mph when she competes in the skeleton tomorrow and on Friday on the same track which claimed Nodar Kumaritashvili's life last week.

But Rudman, mother of a two-year-old daughter, insisted she had no concerns after three training runs. 'The accident was very freaky,' she said yesterday. 'I have never seen anything like it in our sport. I think everything has been done to make it as safe as possible and training proved it is safe.'

'If you are not wholly on the ball or you're a little bit tight, it will catch you out, every track will. But this track is safe. I am safe and I have got to perform on it.'

'There are no guarantees, but that's the same on other tracks.'