

TECHNICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

JUDGING AND MARKING

- Performances will be judged from an entertainment standpoint, for theatrical and artistic qualities.
- Technical skating skills and difficulty will not be rewarded as such; however, skating must be the major element of the performance and be of sufficient quality to support the selected theatrical elements.
- Unintended falls, poorly executed skating elements and obvious losses of control will negatively affect the competitor's/team's marks.
- Jump difficulty is not rewarded in showcase; therefore jumps, if choreographed, should be performed with style, flow and confidence.
- Theatrical elements evaluated will include are but not limited to:
 - Reflection of the musicality as it pertains to the concept of the program
 - Projection
 - Energy
 - Timing
 - Acting
 - Skating skills that relate to the music
 - Age appropriateness to skater
 - Use of props and scenery
 - Interaction (Duets and Ensembles only)
 - Note: Prolonged pauses to express lyrics are discouraged
- The 6.0 judging system will be used. One mark will be awarded by each judge for each performance. No technical skating mark will be awarded.
- Deductions will apply for negligence relating to: costumes, props, program times. If there is more than one infraction, each will be deducted from the single mark.

Deduction	Description
-0.1	Hair or accessory falls to ice
-1.0	Prohibited size or type of prop
-0.1	For each 10 seconds over maximum time

COSTUMES

- Costuming and make-up for showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating programs should enhance the feeling created by the performance, and reflect the meaning of the story or theme.
- Costume rules for competition free skate programs do not apply for Showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating. Ornaments and hair accessories must be secure.
- No bobby pins, feathers, hair accessories, or anything else that may fall to the ice and be hazardous to the skaters are allowed. A 0.1 deduction will be taken.
- Figure skating blades must be used, no hockey or other blades. The blades must be sharpened to produce a flat to concave cross section without change to the width of the blade as measured between the two edges. However, a slight tapering or narrowing of the cross section of the blade is permitted.

RULES OF EVENTS

Skaters may enter any or all singles events for which they are qualified by test level. Skaters cannot skate in different levels of the same event (example: event-Light Entertainment Level Junior skater would not be allowed to skate Light Entertainment Junior and Senior).

Singles events are as follows:

- **Dramatic Entertainment:** Programs should express intense emotional connection and investment in the music, choreography and theme concept through related skating movements, gestures and physical actions. The entire gamut of emotions may be expressed including intense joy and/or introspectiveness. Props and Scenery ARE permitted.
- **Light Entertainment:** Programs should express a carefree concept or storyline designed to uplift and entertain the audience through related skating movements, gestures and physical actions. Props and Scenery ARE permitted.
- **Interpretive:** The program will be a performance choreographed by the competitor, unaccompanied and unassisted, to music that is supplied by the LOC. Programs should incorporate various elements of expressive movement and skating moves, to enhance the skater's interpretation of the music, rather than technical elements. The music will be played continuously during a 30-minute off ice session in a room. The room will be attended only by the adult monitor assigned to play the music, and the competing skaters. The music will be played twice during a warm-up on full ice. After the warm up skaters will go back to the room, with no music being played. Skaters will be brought to the ice when the previous skater finishes. All competitors in an event will interpret the same music. Props are permitted but must be brought into the room prior to listening to the music, and be taken to the ice only when the skater is called to perform. Props may not be pre-positioned on the performance surface.

Duet & Ensemble events are as follows:

- **Duets:** are theatrical performances by any two competitors. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Skaters may enter only one duet, one mini production ensemble and one production ensemble each.
- **Mini Production Ensembles:** are theatrical performances by three to seven competitors. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Programs are performed under full arena lighting. Skaters may enter only one duet, one mini production ensemble and one production ensemble each.
- **Production Ensembles:** are theatrical performances by eight or more competitors. NOTE: Skaters may enter only one duet, one mini production ensemble and one production ensemble each. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Programs are performed under full arena lighting.

WARM UP TIMES

Interpretive events will warm up for four minutes on performance ice under full house lighting. Warm-up groups for interpretive will not exceed 10 skaters. No props are allowed on the ice during warm up.

Singles, duets, mini-production and production ensembles will warm up for a minimum of three minutes backstage when curtains and spotlights are used.

PERFORMANCE TIMES

Interpretive:

- Preliminary and Pre-Juvenile: 1:00 max
- Juvenile thru novice: 1:30 max
- Junior and senior: 1:30 max

Teen and young adult: 1:30 max
All adult events: 1:30 max

Light and Dramatic Entertainment:

- Preliminary and pre-juvenile: 1:40 max
- Juvenile thru novice: 2:10 max
- Junior and senior: 2:40 max
- Teen and Young adult: 2:10 max
- All Adult Events: 1:40 max

Ensembles:

- Duets: Same as for Light and Dramatic Entertainment (entries according to the level of the higher test skater)
- Mini Production ensembles: 3:10 max
- Production ensembles FS: 6:15 max

TIMING

Timing of the program will begin with the first purposeful movement of any competitor or member of a team. For performances that are over the time allotment, standard time deductions will apply as per U.S. Figure Skating's current rulebook. Timing will cease when the last skater comes to a complete stop.

SCENERY / PROPS RULES

Props and scenery must be placed and removed:

- Unaided, by the singles and duets competitors within one minute total on and off.
- Unaided, by the ensemble teams within two minutes maximum for setup and two minutes maximum for removal. Anyone not skating is not allowed to step on the ice.

General:

- The inclusion of scenery and/or props is not mandatory.
- All scenery will be portable and not require any mechanical means for transportation (i.e. forklift, etc.). Its movement will be the responsibility of the skater or teams.
- A mandatory deduction of 1.0 may be applied by each judge as instructed by the referee for the following violations:
 - Scenery may not exceed 7'6" in height
 - For insurance reasons no propulsion devices will be permitted. This includes items such as cannons and trampolines. Apparatus such as these, which could be used to assist skaters with jumping into the air, are NOT permitted.
 - The use of smoke, fire, dry ice, liquids, live animals, feathers, bubble machines or any substance that may harm the ice surface and/or skaters is not permitted.
 - No projectiles.
 - All props must be under the control of the skater; for example, no remotely controlled images or objects.
 - No mirrors or glass of any kind is allowed on the ice.
 - People may not be used as props.
- For ensemble set ups (2:00 max): An announcement will be made after 1 minute has elapsed. Another announcement will be made when 30 seconds are remaining. At the 2-minute mark, an announcement is made that set up time is over. Set-up must be complete and skaters must be in their starting position before the 2-minute announcement is made. A 0.1 deduction will be taken for every 10 seconds over.
- There will be no countdown of timing announced for Single skaters or Duets.
- If a competitor has any doubt concerning the safety of his/her performance, the Chief Referee should be consulted.

Scenery Break Down (Ensembles):

At the completion of the performance, and after the team has taken their bows, teams will be permitted two minutes to remove all scenery/props. When removing the scenery/props from the ice the skaters may not step off the ice until all scenery is removed.

A 0.1 deduction will be assessed by the referee against each judges' mark for each ten seconds in excess of the time allowed.

SPECIFICS

- There is no minimum time requirement for any event program.
- Events will not be segregated by gender.
- There will be a 0.1 deduction for each 10 seconds in excess of the maximum performance time.
- There will be a 0.1 deduction for each 10 seconds in excess of the maximum prop placement
- There will be a 0.1 deduction for each 10 seconds in excess of the maximum prop break down time.
- Timing starts with the first purposeful motion of the body and ends when motion stops.
- Spotlights and curtains are not required for showcase events at nonqualifying competitions.

GROUP SIZES AND FINAL ROUNDS

Maximum sizes of initial rounds will be 18 contestants. In adult events, groups larger than 18 participants will be split by age. Final rounds may be held at the discretion of the referee and the local organizing committee.

SINGLE ENTRY EVENTS AT NATIONAL SHOWCASE

If an event (singles, pairs, duet or ensemble) is comprised of only one entry, the LOC will contact the single entrants following the close of events and offer them one of the following options:

- The entry can withdraw and receive a full refund from the LOC.
- The entry will be given the option to skate up one level if applicable.
- The referee will offer the single entry in singles, pairs, duet or ensembles the option to skate. If the competitor chooses to skate, judges will award their marks according to the rules and the applicable scoring system used. The competitor will receive first place and advance to the Parade of Champions.

THE PARADES OF CHAMPIONS

- Parade of Champions (Showcase Final round) will be held for the Intermediate and higher plus masters champions from each Dramatic and Light Entertainment event together.
- Parade of Champions (Showcase Final round) will be conducted for the champions of Preliminary through juvenile, teen, young adult and adult bronze, silver and gold events.
- Champions will compete using their winning program.
- Competitors appearing in the Parade of Champions (Showcase Final round) from both a light and a dramatic event may skate both performances but will be awarded only the higher of the two placements.
- A random skating order will be used in all rounds except the singles Parades of Champions (Showcase Final round). Those parades will skate in an order approved by the referee set as follows:
 - Similar events will not be clustered and time for needed costume changes will be considered.
- A separate Parade of Champions will be held for Interpretive Champions. Champions will compete using new interpretive music that will be provided.
- A separate Parade of Champions will be held for Duet Champions. Champions will compete using their winning program.
- Ensemble finals will be held at the discretion of the organizers.

EVENT LEVELS, AGES, TEST REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE TIMING

Except for Adult events, skaters must compete at the highest level for which they qualify.

	Event	Must meet requirements* Must have passed Free Skating or Dance test (solo or partnered standard track)	Must not have passed Free Skate or Dance (solo or partnered) Test	Age	Time
Singles or Duets (Duets must compete at the highest test level of the two skaters and both members of a duet must meet at least the minimum test prerequisite for Preliminary Free Skating or Adult Bronze Level.)	Preliminary	Preliminary Free Skate	Pre Juvenile Free Skate OR Juvenile Free Dance	No minimum age (max age 20)	1:40 max
	Pre Juvenile	Pre Juvenile Free Skate	Juvenile Free Skate OR Juvenile Free Dance	No minimum age (max age 20)	1:40 max
	Juvenile	Juvenile Free Skate OR Juvenile Free Dance	Intermediate Free Skate OR Intermediate Free Dance	13 and under	2:10 max
	Teen	Juvenile Free Skate OR Juvenile Free Dance	Intermediate Free Skate OR Intermediate Free Dance	14-17	2:10 max
	Intermediate	Intermediate Free Skate OR Intermediate Free Dance	Novice Free Skate OR Novice Free Dance	17 and under	2:10 max
	Young Adult	Juvenile Free Skate OR Juvenile Free Dance	Novice Free Skate OR Novice Free Dance	18-20	2:10 max
	Novice	Novice Free Skate OR Novice Free Dance	Junior Free Skate OR Junior Free Dance		2:10 max
	Junior	Junior Free Skate OR Junior Free Dance	Senior Free Skate OR Senior Free Dance		2:40 max
	Senior	Senior Free Skate OR Senior Free Dance			2:40 max
		Event	Must meet requirements* Must have passed Free Skate, Figure, or Dance Test (solo or partnered, standard,	Must not have passed Free Skate, Figure or Dance Test (solo or partnered; standard, adult, or masters track)	
	Adult Bronze	Adult Bronze Free Skate Preliminary Free Skate Juvenile Free Dance OR Pre-Bronze Dance Test (prior to 4/30/17)	Adult Silver Free Skate Pre-Juvenile Free Skate Adult Silver Free Dance Intermediate Free Dance Preliminary Free Dance (prior to 9/2/2000) OR 3rd Figure (prior to 10/1/77)	Age 21 and older	1:40 max

	Adult Silver	Adult Silver Free Skate Juvenile Free Skate (prior to 10/1/94) Pre-Juvenile Free Skate Adult Silver Free Dance Intermediate Free Dance Preliminary Free Dance (prior to 9/2/2000) OR 3 rd Figure (prior to 10/1/77)	Adult Gold Free Skate Juvenile Free Skate (On/after 10/1/94) Adult Gold Free Dance Novice Free Dance Bronze Free Dance (prior to 9/2/2000) OR 4 th Figure (prior to 10/1/77)	21 and older	1:40 max
	Adult Gold	Adult Gold Free Skate Juvenile Free Skate Adult Gold Free Dance Novice Free Dance OR 3 rd Figure (prior to 10/1/77)	Intermediate Free Skate (on/after 10/1/91) Junior Free Dance Silver Free Dance (Prior to 9/2/2000) OR 5 th Figure Test (prior to 10/1/77)	21 and older	1:40 max
	Masters	Intermediate Free Skate Adult Gold Free Dance Junior Free Dance Silver FD (Prior to 9/2/2000) 3 rd Figure Test (prior to 10/1/77) OR 8 th Figure Test (10/1/77-9/30/79)		21 and older	1:40 max
Mini Production	Open			Open	3:10 max
Production	Open			Open	6:15 max

* For the US Adult Championships and adult sectional championships, skaters must meet the test requirements for the level at which they want to compete, rules 2540-2552 apply, and the same level must be chosen for all showcase events at the competition (for example, a skater may not compete in Masters Dramatic Entertainment and Adult Gold Light Entertainment events at the same competition). Adult athletes wishing to be grandfathered into a higher level based on participation at the Adult Championships or National Showcase prior to 4/30/17 may make this request to the National Vice Chair for National Showcase. For all other competitions, skaters must compete at their test level or one level higher, per the above chart. For Basic Skills levels and events, please refer to the U.S. Figure Skating Compete USA Competition Manual for Showcase event levels, elements, qualifications, program lengths and descriptions. For events offered, refer to the competition announcement.