



Skate Houston – Compete USA September 3rd, 2018 Hosted by Texas Gulf Coast Figure Skating Club

The Skate Houston – Compete USA will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the current rulebook, as well as any pertinent updates which have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating website.

This competition is open to all eligible, restricted, reinstated or readmitted persons as defined by the Eligibility Rules, and is a currently registered member of a U.S. Figure Skating member club, a collegiate club or an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. Please refer to the current rulebook for non-U.S. Citizens.

ELIGIBILITY RULES: The competition is open to ALL skaters who are currently eligible (ER 1.00) members of either the Learn to Skate USA program and those who are full members of U.S. Figure Skating. To be eligible, skaters must have submitted a membership application or be a member in good standing. Members of other organizations are eligible to compete but must be registered with Learn to Skate USA or a member of a club. There will be no more than six competitor's maximum in an event and all six should receive an award. If you are not a member of US Figure Skating you may join through US Figure Skating, through your skate school, or through Texas Gulf Coast FSC by visiting our membership page (http://texasgulfcoastfsc.org/membership/).

Eligibility and Test Requirements:

Eligibility will be based on skill level as of closing date of entries. All **Snowplow Sam and Basic Skills 1-6** skaters must skate at highest level passed or one level higher and NO official U.S. Figure Skating tests may have been passed, including Moves in the Field or individual dances.

For the **Pre-Free Skate and Free Skate 1-6** eligibility will be based only upon highest free skate test level passed (Moves in the Field test level will not determine skater's competitive level). Skaters may skate at highest level passed OR one level higher, but not both levels in the same event during the same competition. Skaters may not compete at more than one level in the same type event at the same competition.

It is very important to the success of the competition that skaters are placed in the correct divisions. If, for whatever reason, the Local Organizing Committee discovers that a skater has been placed in a category that is below his/her class level, the chairman and referee will have the option to move the skater into the proper division, even if this has to be done the day of the competition. This will ensure that every event is as fair as possible to the competitors. It is an ethical violation for coaches to sandbag an event.

ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR INSTRUCTORS/COACHES

When hosting a Compete USA competition, it is important that you verify the credentials of each coach/instructor who plans to work on-site at the event. You can verify the status of coaches/instructors by checking the lists on the U.S. Figure Skating website. This report can be found on www.usfigureskating.org by going to the "Coaches" page and clicking on the "Information for Clubs" or "Learn to Skate USA Instructor Registration" pages.

At a minimum, instructors/coaches 18 years and older must have a cleared background check and must be a current member of either Learn to Skate USA and/or full U.S. Figure Skating member.

If a coach/instructor attempts to work at your event without the proper credentials, he or she is in violation of U.S. Figure Skating ethics and code of conduct rules and, as such, is subject to disciplinary action. Please consult the Coach Compliance Toolkit for further information and the forms to report the violation.

ENTRIES: Registrations will be processed using EntryEeze online registration. To access EntryEeze, please visit www.texasgulfcoastfsc.org. No paper entries will be permitted. Online registrations will be accepted through **July 21th**, **2018**. Only complete entries, including all signatures and US Figure Skating number will be accepted (if number is pending, please write PENDING). Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the competition committee and chief referee, but must include a late fee of \$25 for Basic Skills. The competition committee reserves the right to limit entries to any event or to cancel an event based upon time restrictions. Any entry form changes made after the closing date will be assessed at \$25 fee and must be approved by the competition referee.

NOTE (Skaters/Parents/Coaches): There will be a **\$25.00 change fee** assessed for each change to an event or level after the closing date of entries.

ENTRY FEES:

Basic Skills 1st event (including Basic adult)	\$60.00
Each additional event	\$30.00

REFUND POLICY: Entry fees will not be refunded **after entry deadline** unless no competition exists or is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals. **The online processing fees are not refundable.** Checks returned for non-sufficient funds and contested credit card charges will be assessed a \$35 fee. Payment of the fee will be required before skater is allowed to participate in practice ice or events. Notification of competition and practice ice times will be available by email and on the club/EntryEeze website. There will be no refund for prepaid practice ice sessions that are not used.

LIABILITY: U.S. Figure Skating, Texas Gulf Coast FSC, and Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in this competition. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

JUDGING SYSTEM: All Compete USA events will utilize the 6.0 system of judging

FACILITIES: Skate Houston – Compete USA will be held at the dual ice surface, Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center, 16225 Lexington Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77479. Each ice surface is 200' X 85' with rounded corners. The Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center contains a pro shop and locker rooms for changing skating outfits. The Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center is a free-standing facility and can be chilly. Please be sure to dress accordingly.

<u>MUSIC:</u> **UPLOAD/SUBMISSION-**Online music submission is the ONLY acceptable method to submit program music. The uploaded program MUST conform to the following specifications:

Competition music for all events that require music must be submitted electronically via the online registration system, EntryEeze, by the music deadline of **August 11th**, **2018** at 11:59 pm CST.

- Only one piece of competition program music (e.g. Short Program, Free Skate, etc.) per file is allowed.
- The uploaded file must be an **MP3** File. Simply changing the file extension to "mp3" from another file format is not acceptable.
- Bit Rate of 192 kbps or higher is requested.
- The file should not contain any ID3 metadata (tags). Especially NO embedded images such as album cover art, picture of the skater, etc.
- Leaders and trailers (the silence or "dead space" before and after the actual start and end of the program

music) may not exceed two (2) seconds. We prefer that there be **NO leaders or trailers** at all. Excessive leaders and trailers may disrupt the playing of the music during competition. After you have registered and paid for your events in EntryEeze, the system will prompt you to upload your music for eachevent that requires music. If your music is not available at that time, you can logout of your account and return later toupload your music by going to the "competition" tab and then selecting "My Music".

Please have separate CDs for practice.

Music issues during a performance - In most situations, the event referee will NOT stop a performance due to music skipping, poor quality, music stops completely, incorrect tempo or similar issues. For such situations during a performance, the skater should immediately approach the event referee for resolution. Please note rule 1403 C of the USFS rulebook: If the tempo or quality of the music is deficient, the competitor/couple/team must stop skating and notify the event referee.... Backup music must be readily available at rinkside.

Administrative Fee for Incorrect Music or Failure to Upload Music

The LOC may assess each competitor/team an additional charge, up to \$35.00 per event segment, to manually handle a team's music, if the competitor/team: 1) fails to submit their music prior to the close of online music submission, 2) submits files that do not follow the specifications above, or 3) uploads the incorrect music for a given event segment (e.g. uploads short program music instead of the free skate). In the event the LOC decides to assess an administrative fee, the competitor/teams will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the fee and turn in their music on CD, conforming to the requirements above.

<u>REGISTRATION:</u> The registration table will be located in the lobby. It will open for Compete USA starting on Friday August 31st, 2018. We encourage early registration.

PRACTICE ICE: A limited amount of practice ice will be available in the mornings before competition begins. Depending on the size of the competition we may offer Friday evening sessions. Skaters may only pre-purchase one session of practice ice. Rates are \$15.00 per 20-minute session for Compete USA competitors. To reserve practice ice, purchase sessions online with your EntryEeze registration. If available, additional 20 minute practice ice sessions may be purchased when practice ice sales open. Any additional open slots will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis at the Practice Ice Table at a rate of \$20.00. Using the online registration system you may pay for your practice ice at time of registration. Once the competition schedule has been finalized you will receive an e-mail notifying you that it is time to select your specific practice ice days and times. As stated, additional practice ice sessions may become available for purchase at a later date or at the event. This will depend on a variety of factors including number of events, ice availability, and schedule constraints. NO MUSIC is played during the Compete USA practice ice sessions.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY: DVD's, awards photographs, and action photographs will be available through the official event photographer(s). A photographer will also be available to take individual photographs by appointment. Orders for DVDs, awards photographs, action photographs, and individual photographs may be placed at the video / photography tables. Hand-held personal video equipment for personal use only will be permitted in the bleacher areas only. Personal video equipment may not be plugged into arena outlets or extension cords. Flash or artificial lighting is not allowed during competition events or practice sessions. The competition committee reserves the right to restrict personal video taping to your skater's events only. Photos of skaters on the awards podium are available through the official competition photographer. Personal photographs are not permitted to be taken while skaters are on the awards podium.

<u>AWARDS:</u> In all events medals will be given to the first, second, third, and fourth place. Ribbons will be presented to fifth and sixth placements. Awards will be presented off-ice at the photographer's table after the results for the event are posted.

OFFICIAL HOTEL:

Springhill Suites by Marriott 13434 Southwest Freeway Sugar Land, TX 77478 713-234-7997 TBD / night and includes a breakfast buffet.

NOTE: Hotel links can be found on the EntryEeze web site for the competition registration page.

<u>ADMISSION:</u> The competition is open to the general public for viewing at no charge. Absolutely NO flash photography!

<u>OFFICIAL NOTICES:</u> Prior to the competition, notices will be posted on the EntryEeze registration page. Please visit this site on a regular basis. An official bulletin board will be maintained in the lobby of Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center throughout the competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information. Skaters are requested to arrive 60 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

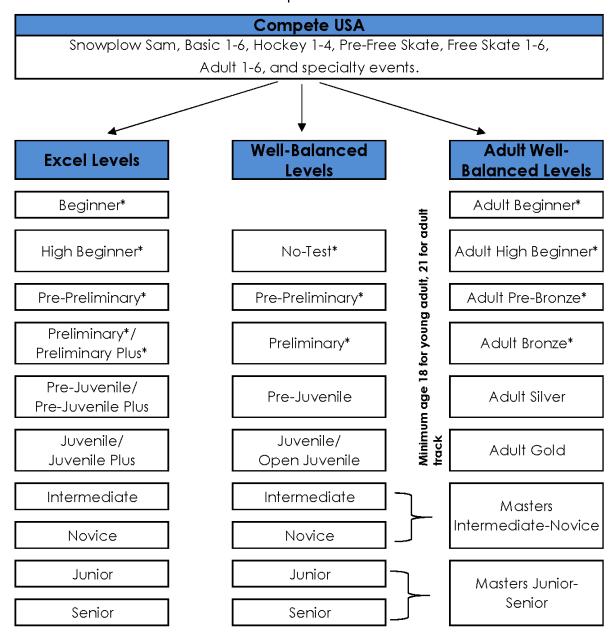
<u>PLUSH TOYS/PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENTS:</u> Plush toys are allowed to be thrown on the ice. Please keep amount of toys thrown at a minimum. This is for the safety of the skater and to keep delays to the competition at a minimum. Please do not throw live flowers on the ice. The flowers can leave petals and leaves that can freeze on the ice causing delays. Forms to advertise in the program are in this announcement. Don't forget to wish your skater or club good luck, or to thank a coach for all they've done!





COMPETITIVE PROGRESSION THROUGH THE LEVELS OF U.S FIGURE SKATING

Singles athletes begin with Compete USA competitions. Once athletes begin the official U.S. Figure Skating test structure, they can choose to enter the Excel, Well-Balanced or Adult levels as appropriate for their ability, test level, and age. Test requirements are the same for the Excel and Well-Balanced levels. It is completely the choice of the athlete which track to follow; athletes may switch between tracks as best suits their development, but may not enter the same type of event in multiple tracks. Competitive level is determined by highest free skate test passed.



*Indicates an introductory level that may be held at Compete USA competitions. Beginner and High Beginner require a current Learn to Skate USA and/or U.S. Figure Skating full membership; all other levels require a current full U.S. Figure Skating membership.



SNOWPLOW SAM – BASIC 6 ELEMENTS

Two format options for the Elements Event:

- 1. Each skater will perform each element when directed by a judge/referee OR
- 2. Skater will perform one element at a time in the <u>order listed below</u> (no excessive connecting steps or choreography)
 - Judge/referee directed example: all skaters perform first element before moving on to the next and so on, or each skater performs all of the required elements before moving on to the next skater.
- To be skated on 1/3 to 1/2 ice (determined by the LOC)
- No music
- Divide Snowplow Sam skaters by level (1-4), if registrations warrant
- All elements must be skated in the order listed.

Level	Time	Skating rules/standards		
		March followed by a two-foot glide and dip		
Snowplow	1:00 max.	Forward two-foot swizzles, 2-3 in a row		
Sam		Forward snowplow stop		
		Backward wiggles, 2-6 in a row		
		Forward two-foot glide and dip		
Basic 1	1:00 max.	Forward two-foot swizzles, 6-8 in a row		
		Beginning snowplow stop on two-feet or one-foot		
		Backward wiggles, 6-8 in a row		
		Forward one-foot glide (no variations), either foot		
Basic 2	1:00 max.	 Scooter pushes, right and left foot, 2-3 each foot 		
		Moving snowplow stop		
		Two-foot turn in place, forward to backward		
		Backward two-foot swizzles, 6-8 in a row		
		Beginning forward stroking showing correct use of blade		
Basic 3	1:00 max.	• Forward ½ swizzle pumps on a circle, either clockwise or counterclockwise, 4-6		
		consecutive		
		Forward slalom		
		 Moving forward to backward two-foot turn on a circle 		
		Beginning backward one-foot glide, either foot		
		Forward outside edge on a circle, clockwise or counterclockwise		
Basic 4	1:00 max.	 Forward crossovers, 4-6 consecutive, clockwise and counterclockwise 		
		Backward ½ swizzle pumps on a circle, either clockwise or counterclockwise, 4-6		
		consecutive		
		Backward one-foot glides (no variations), right and left		
		Beginning two-foot spin, maximum 4 revolutions		
		Backward outside edge on a circle, clockwise or counterclockwise		
		Backward crossovers, 4-6 consecutive, clockwise and counterclockwise		
Basic 5	1:00 max.	Forward outside three-turn, right and left		
		Advanced two-foot spin, minimum 4 revolutions		
		Hockey stop		
		Forward inside three-turn, right and left		
Basic 6	1:00 max.	Bunny Hop		
		Basic forward spiral on a straight line (no variations), right or left		
		Beginning one-foot spin, maximum 3 revolutions, optional free leg held position and		
		entry		
		T-stop, right or left		



SNOWPLOW SAM – BASIC 6 PROGRAM WITH MUSIC

Format: The skating order of the required elements is optional. The elements are not restricted as to the number of times the element is executed or length of glides, number of revolutions, etc., unless otherwise specified.

- To be skated on full ice with music.
- The skater may use elements from a previous level.
- A 0.2 deduction will be taken for each element performed from a higher level. Bonus skills from the same level or below are allowed but will not be judged elements.
- Divide Snowplow Sam skaters by level (1-4), if registrations warrant

Level	Time	Skating rules/standards			
		March followed by a two-foot glide and dip			
Snowplow	1:10 max.	Forward two-foot swizzles, 2-3 in a row			
Sam		Forward snowplow stop			
		Backward wiggles, 2-6 in a row			
		Forward two-foot glide and dip			
Basic 1	1:10 max.	Forward two-foot swizzles, 6-8 in a row			
		Beginning snowplow stop on two-feet or one-foot			
		Backward wiggles, 6-8 in a row			
		Forward one-foot glide (no variations), either foot			
Basic 2	1:10 max.	 Scooter pushes, right and left foot, 2-3 each foot 			
		Moving snowplow stop			
		Two-foot turn in place, forward to backward			
		Backward two-foot swizzles, 6-8 in a row			
		Beginning forward stroking showing correct use of blade			
Basic 3	1:10 max.	Forward ½ swizzle pumps on a circle, either clockwise or counterclockwise, 4-6			
		consecutive			
		Forward slalom			
		 Moving forward to backward two-foot turn on a circle 			
		Beginning backward one-foot glide, either foot			
		Forward outside edge on a circle, clockwise or counterclockwise			
Basic 4	1:10 max.	 Forward crossovers, 4-6 consecutive, clockwise and counterclockwise 			
		Backward ½ swizzle pumps on a circle, either clockwise or counterclockwise, 4-6			
		consecutive			
		Backward one-foot glides (no variations), right and left			
		Beginning two-foot spin, maximum 4 revolutions			
		Backward outside edge on a circle, clockwise or counterclockwise			
		Backward crossovers, 4-6 consecutive, clockwise and counterclockwise			
Basic 5	1:10 max.	Forward outside three-turn, right and left			
		Advanced two-foot spin, minimum 4 revolutions			
		Hockey stop			
		Forward inside three-turn, right and left			
Basic 6	1:10 max.	Bunny Hop			
		Basic forward spiral on a straight line (no variations), right or left			
		Beginning one-foot spin, maximum 3 revolutions, optional entry and free leg position			
		T-stop, right or left			



PRE-FREE SKATE - FREE SKATE 1-6 COMPULSORY

Format: In simple program form, using a limited number of connecting steps, the skating order of the required elements is optional.

- To be skated on ½ ice.
- No music
- The skater must demonstrate the required elements listed
- Bonus skills from the same level or below are allowed but will not be judged elements.
- A 0.2 deduction will be taken for each element performed from a higher level.
- Time: 1:15 maximum

Level	Time	Skating rules/standards
Pre-Free Skate	1:15 max.	 Forward inside open Mohawk from a standstill position (R to L and L to R) Two forward crossovers into a forward inside Mohawk, step down and cross behind, step into one backward crossover and step to a forward inside edge, clockwise and counterclockwise Basic one-foot upright spin, optional entry and free-foot position -
		minimum 3 revolutions Mazurka Waltz jump
Free Skate 1	1:15 max.	 Forward stroking, 4-6 consecutive powerful strokes Backward outside three-turns, right and left One-foot upright spin, entry from backward crossovers, with free foot in crossed leg position (scratch spin) - minimum 4 revolutions Toe loop Half flip jump
Free Skate 2	1:15 max.	 Alternating forward outside spiral (right and left) and forward inside spiral (right and left) on a continuous axis Backward inside three-turns, right and left Beginning back spin- maximum 2 revolutions Half Lutz Salchow jump
Free Skate 3	1:15 max.	 Alternating Mohawk/crossover sequence, right to left and left to right Waltz three-turns, 2 sets clockwise and 2 sets counterclockwise Advanced back spin with free foot in crossed leg position- minimum 3 revolutions Loop jump Waltz jump/toe loop or Salchow/toe loop jump combination
Free Skate 4	1:15 max.	 Forward power 3's, 2-3 consecutive sets, right or left Sit spin - minimum 3 revolutions Half loop jump Flip jump
Free Skate 5	1:15 max.	 Backward outside three-turn, Mohawk (backward power three-turn), both directions Camel spin - minimum 3 revolutions Waltz jump-loop jump combination Lutz jump
Free Skate 6	1:15 max.	 Forward power pulls, minimum 3 on each foot Camel, sit spin combination - minimum of 4 revolutions total Waltz jump, ½ loop, Salchow jump sequence Beginning Axel jump



PRE-FREE SKATE - FREE SKATE 1-6 PROGRAM WITH MUSIC

Format: The skating order of the required elements is optional. The elements are not restricted as to the number of times an element is executed, length of glides, number of revolutions, etc., unless otherwise stated. Connecting steps and transitions should be demonstrated throughout the program.

- To be skated on full ice.
- The skater must demonstrate the required elements and may use but is not required to use any additional elements from previous levels.
- Bonus skills from the same level or below are allowed but will not be judged elements.
- A 0.2 deduction will be taken for each element performed from a higher level.
- Time 1:40 max.

• Time 1:40 max.				
Level	Time	Skating rules/standards		
Pre-Free Skate	1:40 max.	 Two forward crossovers into a forward inside Mohawk, step down and cross behind, step into one backward crossover and step to a forward inside edge, clockwise and counterclockwise 		
		 Basic one-foot upright spin, optional entry and free-foot position- minimum 3 revolutions 		
		Mazurka		
		Waltz jump		
		NOT ALLOWED -Waltz jump, side toe hop, waltz jump		
		 Forward stroking, 4-6 consecutive powerful strokes 		
Free Skate 1	1:40 max.	One-foot upright spin, entry from backward crossovers, with free foot in		
		crossed leg position (scratch spin) - minimum 4 revolutions		
		Toe loop jump		
		Half flip jump		
		NOT ALLOWED – Waltz jump/toe loop combination		
		 Alternating forward outside spiral (right and left) and forward inside spiral 		
Free Skate 2	1:40 max.	(right and left) on a continuous axis		
		Beginning back spin- maximum 2 revolutions		
		Half Lutz		
		Salchow jump		
		NOT ALLOWED – Salchow/toe loop combination		
		 Alternating Mohawk/crossover sequence, right to left and left to right 		
Free Skate 3	1:40 max.	 Advanced back spin with free foot in crossed leg position, minimum 3 		
		revolutions		
		Loop jump		
		Waltz jump/toe loop or Salchow/toe loop jump combination		
		NOT ALLOWED – Waltz/loop combination		
		 Forward power 3's, 2-3 consecutive sets, right or left 		
Free Skate 4	1:40 max.	Sit spin – minimum 3 revolutions		
		Half Loop jump		
		Flip jump		
		NOT ALLOWED – Waltz/half-loop/Salchow sequence		
		Backward outside three-turn, Mohawk (backward power three-turn), both		
Free Skate 5	1:40 max.	directions		
		Camel spin – minimum 3 revolutions		
		Waltz-loop jump combination		
		Lutz jump		
		Creative step sequence using a variety of three turns, Mohawks and toe steps		
Free Skate 6	1:40 max.	Camel, sit spin combination - minimum of 4 revolutions total		
		Waltz jump/ half-loop/Salchow jump sequence		
		Beginning Axel jump		



ADULT 1-6 COMPULSORY

- The skating order of the elements is optional. Element may only be attempted once.
- To be skated in simple program format with limited connecting steps, ½ ice.
- A 0.2 deduction will be taken for each element MISSING, REPEATED or from a higher level

Level	Time	Elements					
		Forward Marching					
Adult 1	1:30	Forward two-foot glide					
	Max.	Forward swizzle (4-6 in a row)					
		Forward snowplow stop – two feet or one foot					
		Forward skating across the width of the ice					
Adult 2	1:30	Forward one-foot glides					
	Max.	Forward slalom					
		Backward skating					
		Backward swizzles, 4-6 in a row					
		Forward stroking using the blade properly					
Adult 3	1:30	Forward half-swizzle pumps on the circle, 6 to 8 in a row, clockwise and counterclockwise					
	Max.	Forward chasses on a circle, clockwise and counterclockwise					
		Backward skating to a long two-foot glide					
		Backward snowplow stop, Right and Left					
		Forward outside edge on a circle, right and left					
Adult 4	1:30	Forward inside edge on a circle, right and left					
	Max.	Forward crossovers, clockwise and counterclockwise					
		Hockey stop, both directions					
		Backward one-foot glides, right and left					
		Backward outside edge and backward inside edge on a circle, right and left					
Adult 5	1:30	Backward crossovers, clockwise and counterclockwise					
	Max.	Forward outside three-turn, right and left					
		Beginning two-foot spin (min 2 revs)					
		Forward stroking with crossover end patterns					
Adult 6	1:30	Backward stroking with crossover end patterns					
	Max.	Forward inside three-turn, right and left					
		• T-stop					
		• Lunge					
		Two-foot spin into one-foot spin (min 2 revs on 1 foot)					



ADULT 1-6 FREE SKATE WITH MUSIC

General event parameters:

- The skating order of the required elements is optional.
- The elements are not restricted to the number of times element is executed, or length of glides, number of revolutions, etc. unless otherwise stated. Connecting moves and steps should be demonstrated throughout the program.
- To be skated on full ice
- The skater must demonstrate the required elements and may use, but is not required to use, any additional elements from previous (lower) levels.
- A 0.2 deduction will be taken for each required element MISSING and for those elements performed from a higher level.

Level	Time	Elements		
		Forward Marching		
Adult 1	1:40 Max	Forward two-foot glide		
		 Forward swizzle (4-6 in a row) 		
		 Forward snowplow stop – two feet or one foot 		
		 Forward skating across the width of the ice 		
Adult 2	1:40 Max	 Forward one-foot glides 		
		Forward slalom		
		Backward skating		
		Backward swizzles, 4-6 in a row		
		 Forward stroking using the blade properly 		
Adult 3	1:40 Max	 Forward half-swizzle pumps on the circle, 6 to 8 in a row, clockwise 		
		and counterclockwise		
		 Backward skating to a long two-foot glide 		
		 Forward chasses on a circle, clockwise and counterclockwise 		
		Backward snowplow stop, Right and Left		
		 Forward outside edge on a circle, right and left 		
Adult 4	1:40 Max	 Forward inside edge on a circle, right and left 		
		Forward crossovers, clockwise and counterclockwise		
		Backward one-foot glides, right and left		
		Hockey stop, both directions		
		 Backward outside edge on a circle, right and left 		
Adult 5	1:40 Max	 Backward inside edge on a circle, right and left 		
		Backward crossovers, clockwise and counterclockwise		
		 Forward outside three-turn, right and left 		
		Beginning two-foot spin		
		 Forward stroking with crossover end patterns 		
Adult 6	1:40 Max	 Backward stroking with crossover end patterns 		
		 Forward inside three-turn, right and left 		
		• T-stop		
		• Lunge		
		 Two-foot spin into one-foot spin (min 2 revs on 1 foot) 		



SHOWCASE EVENTS

Showcase events are open to skaters in Basic and Free Skate. Groups will be divided by number of entries and ages if possible. Skaters must enter at the same level as their free skate event or highest test level of skater's in the group ensemble or production number. If a free skate event is not being entered, skaters must enter at their current test level or one level higher. Vocal music is permitted.

Show costumes are permitted, as long as they do not touch or drag on the ice. Costuming and make-up for showcase programs should enhance the feeling created by the performance, and reflect the meaning of the story or theme. 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. Props and scenery must be placed and removed by unaided singles and duet competitors within one minute on and off and by unaided ensemble contestants within two minutes for setup and two minutes for removal. A 0.1 deduction will be assessed by the referee against each judge's mark for each ten seconds in excess of the time allowed for the performance, for handling props and scenery and for scenery assistance.

Performances will be judged from an entertainment standpoint, for theatrical 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 reduce contestant'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 energy, poise, acting, pantomime, eye contact, choreography, form/extension and the use of props and ice.

6.0 Judging will be used. Deductions will be made for skaters including technical elements not permitted in the event description.

* For specific guidelines regarding the conduct of Showcase competitions, refer to the Nonqualifying Showcase Guidelines posted on www.usfigureskating.org.

Showcase categories may include:

- Levels can be subdivided, if necessary, depending on entry numbers and event set up
- 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.
 Dramatic programs should not be depressing. Even if the emotion is sadness, there should be an
 enlivened feeling given to the audience.
- 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.



SHOWCASE EVENTS

LEVEL	ELEMENTS	QUALIFICATIONS	PROGRAM LENGTH
Basic 1-6	Elements only from Basic 1-6 curriculum	May not have passed any higher than Basic 6 level.	Time: 1:00 max.
Pre-Free Skate-Free Skate 6/ Adult 1-6	3 jump maximum. ½ rotation jumps only, plus the following full rotation jumps: Salchow and toe loop.	May not have passed any official U.S. Figure Skating free skate or free dance tests.	Time: 1:30 max.