

*The Skating Club of Morris
Presents
The 2017 Morris Open
Solo Ice Dance Competition*



*April 2, 2017
William G. Mennen Sports Arena
161 Hanover Ave., Morristown, New Jersey*



The 2017 Morris Open is a participating competition within the
2017 U.S. Figure Skating Solo Dance Series.

2017 Morris Open Dance Competition

Dates: Sunday, April 2, 2017
Location: William G. Mennen Sports Arena, (a facility of the Morris County Parks Commission)
161 East Hanover Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 326-7651

Website: www.scomnj.org

General Questions: morrisopen@gmail.com

Chairperson: Katherine Roekaert Davis

Chief Referee: Patricia J. Lynch

Dance Referee: Diana Wisner

Chief Accountant: Joanne Nipple



Rules: The solo pattern dance event, combined event and shadow dance events are being offered as part of the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Solo Dance Series and will be conducted in accordance with the 2017 Solo Dance Series Handbook found at <http://www.usfsa.org/content/2017%20SDS%20Handbook%20PDF.pdf> Information contained in this announcement is current as of the date of publication. **PLEASE REFER TO THE 2017 SOLO DANCE SERIES HANDBOOK FOR THE MOST CURRENT SERIES RULES, LEVELS AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL BE IN EFFECT FOR THIS COMPETITION. THE INFORMATION ON THE USFSA WEBSITE SUPERCEDES ANY INFORMATION IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.**

Eligibility: All entrants must be members in good standing of clubs having membership in U.S. Figure Skating or be an individual member of U.S. Figure Skating. Test requirements are as of February 27, 2017 and/or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, *whichever date is earliest.*

Entries: Enter online at www.entryeeze.com. Deadline for online entries, without late fees, is no later than **11:59 PM EST February 27, 2017**. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) reserves the right to limit entries in each category and the right to combine, divide or cancel groups. **Entries received March 2 - March 6, 2017 will be accepted solely at the discretion of the LOC and will require an additional late fee of \$40 per event.**

Entry Fees:	Solo Pattern Dance	\$ 110.00	Solo Combined Event	\$130
	Solo Shadow Dance	\$ 120.00 per team		

PLEASE NOTE: Although the Solo Dance Series is being held during the Morris Open, it is a separate competition and therefore, requires a separate registration and entry fees. All participants must have previously registered with U.S. Figure Skating and paid the required fee to participate in the Solo Dance Series. Your registration number is required to enter this competition as a Series participant and accrue points.

No refunds will be granted for any reason except events cancelled by the LOC (USFS# 3235)

Register online for the 2017 Morris Open Dance Competition at www.entryeeze.com. Payment via a secured credit card transaction. Simply follow the links for competition information and use the link to register for the competition and pay with a credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, and DISCOVER preferred).

If you need assistance please email us: morrisopen@gmail.com. Paper entries not accepted but we will help you register.

Deadline for entries: 11:59 PM February 27, 2017

Sanctioned by U. S. Figure Skating
Hosted by the Skating Club of Morris



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Liability: U.S. Figure Skating, the Skating Club of Morris, the William G. Mennen Sports Arena and Morris County Park Commission accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in these championships. The athlete and parent or guardian, agree to sign the US Figure Skating Waiver at registration.

Limitations: *We may not be able to accommodate all entries.* If limits must be placed on any event, entries will be based on the entry date. Anyone closed out of an event will be notified and the applicable portion of the fee returned. Under no other circumstances will a refund be given. This includes: conflicting family activities, injuries, illness or deaths in the family (USFS# 3047). Once entries have closed, entry fees are only refundable if the competition is not held). Should there be only one applicant for any category, the event may be cancelled and the skater will receive a refund for the cancelled event (USFS# 3045). If, on the day of competition, only one skater shows for an event, the event may be cancelled and the skater will receive a refund for that event.

*Request for changes of event/level: No changes to the schedule will be allowed to accommodate personal or family conflicts. Any requests for event/level changes, (not due to an LOC error), after the entry has been received will be processed upon receipt of a \$25.00 change fee. No changes will be made after the entries are sent to the chief referee.

Schedules: Schedules will be available approximately 7 days prior to the start of the competition and will be posted on the EntryEeze Morris Open page. Please do not send a self addressed stamped envelope. All information will be posted on the website. Please note that the schedule is prepared by the Referee after the close of entries and is based strictly on the number of events and competitors and the availability of judges.

Awards: Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners in all events.

Facility: The ice surface at Mennen Arena measures 200' by 85'. First aid facilities are available at the rink at all times.

Practice Ice: Practice ice may be available and will be announced on the website after the close of entries.

Registration: The registration desk will open one hour before the first event. Competitors are advised to be in the arena and prepared to skate, at least one hour before their event in case the competition is running early.

Coaches Information: All coaches must comply with U.S. Figure Skating Rule MR 5.11. All coaches must check in at the registration desk upon arrival at the rink. The LOC will have a list of compliant coaches who are cleared for a credential at the competition. Upon checking in, coaches will have to show a photo ID to receive a credential. If a coach cannot provide a photo ID, and is not known to the LOC, and is not on the list or cannot produce the necessary documents, he or she will not be allowed a credential—no exceptions. We strongly urge all coaches to have their cards with them. Please allow ample time to check in prior to your skater's event. Non-credentialed coaches will not be permitted in the designated coaching area at rink side during events, including practice sessions. Coaching at U.S. Figure Skating events without compliance is an ethics violation which is reported to U.S. Figure Skating and PSA.

For more information regarding Coach Compliance, please refer to:

<http://www.usfigureskating.org/Content/Coaching%20Compliance%20Toolkit.pdf>

Judging: All Solo Dance Series Events will be judged under the 6.0 system. All dance events may be double paneled at the discretion of the referee. Ladies will skate the ladies' steps and men will skate the men's steps, no exceptions.

Group Size:

Preliminary through Pre-Silver—Pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters per group. If more than 10 skaters are entered in a solo pattern dance event at the preliminary through pre-silver levels, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

Silver through International—Pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters. If more than 10 skaters are entered into one level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

Combined Event & Short Dance — Groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters. If more than 10 skaters are entered into one level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

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Group Size (continued):

Shadow Dance — Groups will consist of not more than 10 duos (2 side-by-side skaters) per group. If more than 10 duos are entered into a level, the duos will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 duos total.

Pattern Dance Music: Music for the Pattern Dance events will be chosen from the Standardized music of the International Skating Union, per rule 6030, and will be provided by The Skating Club of Morris. If EntryEze prompts you to upload pattern dance music, or if you receive a reminder to upload your music and it is only pattern dance music, ignore the prompts. All pattern dance music will be provided by the LOC.

Free Dance Music: For the 2017 Morris Open Dance Competition, online music submission is the ONLY acceptable method to submit music for the Solo Combined Event Free Dance music. After you have paid for your events, the system will prompt you to upload your music for each event that requires music. If your music is not available at that time, you can log out of your account and return later to upload your music by going to the “competition” tab and then selecting “my music.”

The uploaded program music MUST conform to the following specifications:

- Programs per file: One [1] - Only one piece of competition program music (e.g. short dance, free dance, etc) per file is allowed.
- File Format: MP3—The uploaded file music must be an MP# file (MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 Audio Layer III) Simply changing the file extension to “mp3” from another file format is not acceptable.
- Bit Rate: 192 kbps is requested (bit rates between 128 and 320 kbps will be accepted).
- Maximum file size: 10 MB
- Maximum run time: Five [5 minutes]
- ID3 Metadata [tags]: None—The Chief Music Coordinator strongly recommends that mp3 files DO NOT contain any ID3 metadata, commonly called tags. This is especially true of any embedded images such as album cover art, picture of the skater, etc. Please, NO embedded images!
- Maximum leader: Two [2] seconds] - The leader is the silence between the start of the track and the actual start of the program music. The Chief Music Coordinator recommends that there be NO leader.
- Maximum trailer: Two [2] seconds] - The trailer is the silence between the end of the program music and the end of the actual track. The Chief Music Coordinator recommends that there be NO trailer.

Backup Music at Event [CDs]

In addition to submitting the music on line, all competitors must also have at least one [1] backup copy of their competition music on CD AT RINKSIDE during the actual competition event. CDs must meet the following requirements:

- In standard Audio CD format (Compact Disc Digital Audio). Other formats, including gmp3 are NOT acceptable.
- Clearly marked with a permanent marker (e.g. Sharpie, do NOT use a label or tape) as follows: First Name, Last Name, Event, Event Segment and Music Length (e.g. Jane Smith, Novice Ladies, Free Skate, 3:10)
- Each CD may have only ONE [1] music track on it. In the case where a skater competes in both a short program/dance and a free skate/free dance, two[2] separate discs must be available. Any disc with more than one [1] track is NOT acceptable.
- Lead in time (time before the music begins) on CDs may not exceed two [2] seconds.
- Due to the compatibility and reliability reasons, music may NOT be submitted on re-recordable “CDRW” discs.

The LOC and the competition officials and volunteers are not responsible for damage to or loss of any CDs. CDs not picked up by the end of the competition are not the responsibility of the LOC and will be destroyed.

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Penalty For Incorrect Music or Failure To Upload Music

The LOC may assess each competitor an additional charge of \$25 per event segment if the competitor 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 determines to assess a penalty, the competitors will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the penalty fee and turn in their music on CD, conforming to the requirements above.

Sequences/Patterns: Competitors will perform the specified number of patterns for each dance in accordance to the Rules as described in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. The number of sequences skated for Pattern Dance events will be based upon Rule 6075.

In the initial or final round of all dance competitions the number of sequences of the dance to be danced shall be as follows:

- A. Two sequences: Swing Dance, European Waltz, American Waltz, Tango, Starlight Waltz, Westminster Waltz, Argentine Tango, Austrian Waltz, Cha Cha Congelado, Yankee Polka, Ravensburger Waltz, Tango Romantica, Silver Samba, Golden Waltz, Midnight Blues and Finnstep.
- B. Three sequences: Dutch Waltz, Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues, Cha Cha, Fiesta Tango, Hickory Hoedown, Willow Waltz, Ten Fox, Blues, Paso Doble and Viennese Waltz.
- C. Four sequences: Fourteenstep, Foxtrot, Rocker Foxtrot, Quickstep and Rhumba.
- D. Six sequences: Kilian.

All pattern dances should start on the judges' side unless directed otherwise by the referee.

Ties: In the event of a tie, FOR MEDAL PURPOSES ONLY, the second dance shall be the tiebreaker and the medal shall be awarded to the skater scoring highest on the second dance.

FOR NATIONAL SOLO DANCE SERIES PURPOSES, ties in Factored Places (overall finish) in the solo pattern dance event will not be broken at the participating Series season competitions. In the case of a tie, skaters will share the available points.

For example, if competitors are tied for first place following both pattern dances, the skaters will share the points for first and second place based upon the following process: To calculate their point earning in a group of four or more skaters, we will take the nine points for first place plus the eight points for second, add these numbers together; then divide by two so that each athlete would earn eight-and-one-half points (8.5 points) for their shared first place finish.



Hotel: The official hotel of the 2017 Morris Open is Hyatt Morristown, 3 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ 973-647-1234.

Please check the website for schedule and updates: www.scomnj.org

Competition questions? Email: morrisopen@gmail.com
Do not email for schedule information!
Please save this announcement for your reference

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COACHES AND PARENTS **IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!**

Time Frame	What Needs to be Done	Who's Responsible?
Entry deadline: February 27, 2017 11:59 PM	Complete online entry using EntryEeze at www.entryeeze.com . Please make sure you enter your coach's correct email as he/she will be receiving a list of his/her competitors and is required to verify that the skaters are entered in the correct level/event.	Parent or skater (if over 18 years old)
Entry deadline <u>with late fee</u> February 28 th – March 4 th 11:59 PM	Late entries accepted at discretion of LOC – an additional late fee of \$40 PER EVENT will be required.	Parent or skater (if over 18 years old)
March 5 th – March 8 th 11:59 PM	Check your email and on EntryEeze at www.entryeeze.com to verify that skaters are entered in the correct event/level. If there are any corrections that need to be made, email Katherine Roekaert Davis at morrisopen@gmail.com by the deadline.	Coach/parent/skater
MARCH 9th	 NO CHANGES ALLOWED  AFTER THIS DATE	
Week of March 20 th	Tentative schedule will be posted on EntryEeze website: www.entryeeze.com . You will receive an email regarding the date and time of your event(s). Check the Morris Open competition link on EntryEeze www.entryeeze.com for updates or changes to the schedule.	Parent/skater/coach responsible for checking the website for updates

2017 Morris Open Dance Competition

2017 U.S. Figure Skating Solo Dance Series Events

The 2017 Morris Open Dance Competition is a participating competition within the 2017 Solo Dance Series.

The solo pattern dance event, combined event and shadow dance events are being offered as part of the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Solo Dance Series and will be conducted in accordance with the 2017 Solo Dance Series Handbook found at <http://www.usfsa.org/content/2017%20SDS%20Handbook%20PDF.pdf>. **PLEASE REFER TO THE 2017 SOLO DANCE SERIES HANDBOOK FOR THE MOST CURRENT SERIES RULES, LEVELS AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS THAT WILL BE IN EFFECT FOR THIS COMPETITION. THE INFORMATION ON THE USFSA WEBSITE SUPERCEDES ANY INFORMATION IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.**

SOLO PATTERN DANCE EVENT

The solo pattern dance event is comprised of two pattern dances at each level. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. At this competition, this event is offered at the Preliminary, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Pre-Silver, Silver, Pre-Gold, Gold and International solo dance levels.

The solo pattern dance competitors will compete two dances at each level, with the result from both dances being combined to create a final, overall result. Points will be awarded based upon the skater's combined, overall placement of the two pattern dances. [Refer to the Awarding of Points section in the 2017 Solo Dance Series Handbook.]

MUSIC: Dance music selections for Pattern Dance events will be provided by the LOC.

LEVEL	DANCES	TESTING QUALIFICATION
Preliminary	1. Canasta Tango 2. Rhythm Blues	No test or passed Preliminary
Pre- Bronze	1. Cha-Cha 2. Fiesta Tango	Passed Preliminary or Pre-Bronze
Bronze	1. Willow Waltz 2. Ten Fox	Passed Pre-Bronze or Bronze
Pre-Silver	1. European Waltz 2. Foxtrot	Passed Bronze or Pre-Silver
Silver	1. Tango 2. Rocker Foxtrot	Passed Pre-Silver or Silver
Pre-Gold	1. Kilian 2. Blues	Passed Silver or Pre-Gold
Gold	1. Westminster Waltz 2. Argentine Tango	Passed Pre-Gold or Gold
International	1. Rhumba 2. Yankee Polka	Passed Gold or International

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SOLO COMBINED DANCE EVENT

The combined dance event is comprised of the following two events (as applicable by level):

- 1.) **Juvenile, Intermediate & Novice**—One of two solo pattern dances *drawn at the competition* from the two designated solo pattern dances selected by U.S. Figure Skating, as listed below.

Pattern Dance Selections for Juvenile: Willow Waltz and Ten Fox

Pattern Dance Selections for Intermediate: Fourteenstep and European Waltz

Pattern Dance Selections for Novice: American Waltz and Rocker Foxtrot

Junior & Senior—One solo short dance and,

- 2.) **Juvenile through Senior**—One solo free dance.

The pattern dances competed in the Combined Dance event are separate from those in the solo pattern dance event and the results will not count towards the solo pattern dance event or results. This event is offered at Juvenile through Senior levels.

The points awarded in the combined event will be based upon the skaters' combined overall factored placement from the pattern or short dance (depending on the level entered) and the free dance. Refer to page 21, Awarding of Points in the 2017 Solo Dance Series Handbook.

Refer to the 2017 Solo Dance Series Complete Handbook found at <http://www.usfsa.org/content/2017%20SDS%20Handbook%20PDF.pdf> for the most complete, current combined event rules and details.

SHADOW PATTERN DANCE EVENT

The shadow pattern dance event is offered for the preliminary through senior levels. It is comprised of one dance at each level. The specific dance at each level has been chosen by the LOC and is listed below.

Refer to the 2017 Solo Dance Series Complete Handbook found at <http://www.usfsa.org/content/2017%20SDS%20Handbook%20PDF.pdf> or the most complete, current shadow pattern dance event rules and details.

LEVEL	DANCE	TESTING QUALIFICATION
Preliminary	Rhythm Blues	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-bronze test.
Juvenile	Cha-Cha	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-silver test.
Intermediate	Fourteenstep	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete silver test.
Novice	Rocker Foxtrot	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-gold test.
Junior	Kilian	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete gold test.
Senior	Quickstep	Open