



Test Refresh: Timeline & FAQs



Summary of What Passed at the 2017 Governing Council

Beginning November 1, 2017: The technical skating requirements to pass a standard singles free skate test, or Adult Gold free skate test, will align with the Well Balanced Program competition rules. This allows the skater more flexibility in the elements they choose, which may be current minimum, or higher. (This applies to tests taken in a regular stand-alone test session).

In addition, skaters may choose to take the pre-preliminary FS and adult bronze FS tests in a program to music, or as isolated elements.

Beginning November 1, 2017: Skaters who have achieved minimum scores will be able to submit their protocol from a non-qualifying competition, run under IJS, to receive test credit for the following tests:

- a) Singles Free Skate: Juvenile – Senior and Adult Gold
- b) Pairs: Juvenile – Senior
- c) Free Dance: Juvenile – Senior

Beginning September 2, 2018: The evaluation of all U.S. Figure Skating tests, taken as stand-alone tests, will be adjusted to replace the “6.0” system, with an evaluation on a scale of “-3 to +3”.

Beginning September 2, 2018: Skaters will have the opportunity to earn “Pass”, “Pass with Honors” or “Pass with Distinction” as a test result.

IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Fact Sheet

In order to be eligible to receive Test Credit through a non-qualifying competition, the candidate:

1. Must have met the prerequisites for that test, as of the date of the competition.
2. Must “skate up” and compete in the level they are wishing to “pass.”
3. If competing in the qualifying system, may not use a competition between the close of entries for Regionals / Sectionals and their last qualifying event.

Example: A skater wishes to receive credit for the Intermediate FS test by competing in a non-qualifying competition held December 1st. He/she must have passed a) the Intermediate MITF test AND the Juvenile FS test prior, and enter the Intermediate FS portion of the competition.

*If this skater had qualified for the U.S. Championships in Juvenile, he/she would **not** be eligible to use the December 1st competition for test credit, since his/her qualifying competitive season as a Juvenile would not have ended yet. (A skater that didn't advance would be eligible.)*

IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Fact Sheet

The candidate is eligible, achieved the minimum scores and wants test credit – how does it work?

- 1. When results are posted, the accountant will generate a list of all skaters in the particular event that achieved the minimum scores.**
- 2. The skater obtains a copy of this list, in addition to:**
 - a) The overall event results with the signature of the Event Referee and the Technical Controller.*
 - b) Their individual protocol sheet.*
 - c) A note from their coach verifying these results are valid.*
- 3. The skater submits these documents to their Test Chair, along with the appropriate fees, within 365 days of the competition.**
- 4. The Test Chair enters the information through the Members Only site, officially “passing” the test, just as they would at a test session.**

IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Minimum Scores Singles

In order to receive Test Credit, a candidate must meet ALL minimum scores, in addition to having no “no value” elements on their protocol:

JUVENILE FREE SKATE			INTERMEDIATE FREE SKATE	
Minimum TES	8.00		Minimum TES	10.20
Minimum PCS	14.06		Minimum PCS	18.00
Minimum TSS	22.06		Minimum TSS	28.20
<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>			<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>	
NOVICE LADIES FREE SKATE			NOVICE MEN FREE SKATE	
Minimum TES	14.20		Minimum TES	14.90
Minimum PCS	22.80		Minimum PCS	27.60
Minimum TSS	37.00		Minimum TSS	42.50
<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>			<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>	

Note: Minimum scores to be posted on www.usfigureskating.org officially by Aug. 1st.
Pairs & Free Dance coming soon!



IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Minimum Scores Singles

In order to receive Test Credit, a candidate must meet ALL minimum scores, in addition to having no “no value” elements on their protocol:

JUNIOR LADIES FREE SKATE			JUNIOR MEN FREE SKATE	
Minimum TES	18.30		Minimum TES	19.20
Minimum PCS	28.00		Minimum PCS	35.00
Minimum TSS	46.30		Minimum TSS	54.20
<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>			<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>	
SENIOR LADIES FREE SKATE			SENIOR MEN FREE SKATE	
Minimum TES	22.30		Minimum TES	23.60
Minimum PCS	32.00		Minimum PCS	40.00
Minimum TSS	54.30		Minimum TSS	63.60
<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>			<i>+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.</i>	

Note: Minimum scores to be posted on www.usfigureskating.org officially by Aug. 1st.
Pairs & Free Dance coming soon!



IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Minimum Scores Singles

In order to receive Test Credit, a candidate must meet ALL minimum scores, in addition to having no “no value” elements on their protocol:

ADULT GOLD FREE SKATE (LADIES & MEN)	
Minimum TES	8.70
Minimum PCS	13.50
Minimum TSS	22.20

+ No elements may have received no value, represented by “- - -” on the judges scores.

Note: Minimum scores to be posted on www.usfigureskating.org officially by Aug. 1st.
Pairs & Free Dance coming soon!



IJS Protocol for Test Credit – Minimum Scores

Skaters must achieve ALL THREE minimums for their level, in addition to no “no value” elements, represented by “ - - - ” on the protocol where judges’ scores should be. Example –a Novice Ladies’ Free Skate, where the minimums are: TSS = 37.00 TES = 14.2 PCS = 22.8

Total Segment Score	Total Element Score	Program Component Score	Total Deductions
44.52	25.52	21.00	1.0

Result: Test credit NOT achieved.

Total Segment Score	Total Element Score	Program Component Score	Total Deductions
38.00	13.8	26.20	2.0

Result: Test credit NOT achieved.

Total Segment Score	Total Element Score	Program Component Score	Total Deductions
36.90	16.00	22.90	2.0

Result: Test credit NOT achieved.

Total Segment Score	Total Element Score	Program Component Score	Total Deductions
43.05	20.05	24.00	1.0

Result: Congratulations! The skater met ALL three minimum marks and may request test credit for the Novice FS test, assuming that no elements received ‘no value’.

IJS Protocol for Test Credit - FAQs

Question: Will the minimum scores change?

Answer: The respective discipline committee and test committee will evaluate the scores annually, in mid-summer. Changes may be made to reflect adjustments in the principles of calculation, SOV, component factors or other IJS related scoring. Any changes will be handled via Technical Notification.

Question: Will the officials know I'm "testing?"

Answer: No! Competitions are competitions, will be judged as such, and will not change in any way. Skaters decide after-the-fact (within one year) whether or not to submit a qualifying protocol.

Question: Can I use any competition?

Answer: Yes. As long as the competition uses IJS and you compete "up" to the level you want to pass, there are no restrictions.

Question: What if I lose my documents?

Answer: Skaters (or their parents/coaches) are responsible for collecting, saving and not losing their OWN documents. We suggest you take a picture of everything with your phone just in case.

Question: Can I receive test credit if I compete in a Test Track competition?

Answer: Most likely, no. This is because Test Track is currently conducted under the 6.0 system, so a protocol is not generated. If, in the future, a Test Track event is conducted under IJS, that result would count as well. Also realize that the requirements to enter Test Track and Well Balanced Program events are the same. A skater who typically competes Test Track is welcome to compete in a standard IJS competition at the level they wish to achieve.

IJS Protocol for Test Credit - FAQs

Question: What are the fees involved? How will I pay?

Answer: Skaters pay their home club to process the test. U.S. Figure Skating charges the club the standard test fee of \$6.00 (if registered online), and the club may add an administrative fee for processing the test. In addition, non-qualifying competitions may charge athletes for a paper copy of the results sheets.

Question: What about the 28-day waiting period after re-trying a test?

Answer: The wait period does not apply because the IJS protocol for test credit program would effectively eliminate official “retry” results. In addition, if a skater takes a test at a stand-alone session, and does not pass, they don’t need to wait to enter a competition. However, non-qualifying competitions have entry deadlines to abide by. Skaters should NOT expect a competition to allow a late entry because a skater wants a chance to test sooner.

Question: Can I submit a protocol from a competition prior to November 1, 2017?

Answer: No. Everything starts November 1st.

Question: If I achieve the minimum scores in a masters intermediate / novice event, can I receive credit for my standard intermediate FS test?

Answer: No. The event must be the same. A skater only receives credit for the Intermediate FS test if they compete and achieve the minimum score in an Intermediate FS competition event.

Question: Can I still test at a test session?

Answer: Yes. This is an additional option. Tests taken at a test session must follow the test rules and will receive a score that results in a pass or retry result, as in the past.

New Test Requirements for Singles Free Skate

Beginning on November 1, 2017, the rules for test requirements for standard singles free skate tests and adult gold FS will change to align with the WBP.

- ✓ The test requirements have moved to the 4000s section of the 2017-18 U.S. Figure Skating rulebook, in the chart with the comparable competition rules.
- ✓ Each level now has a *minimum* technical requirement that is comparable to the old requirement, however they may perform more difficult elements. (*i.e., a candidate for the Juvenile FS test must do either a single or double Axel*).
- ✓ Skaters will follow the WBP rules for their level, while making sure to demonstrate at least the minimum required.
- ✓ The test requirements are now more flexible, allowing skaters to perform their competition program, if they wish.
- ✓ These tests will still be judged under the 6.0 system until September 2, 2018.
- ✓ New test sheets will be distributed prior to the start date.

Move from 6.0 to -3 to +3 Evaluation System

Beginning September 1, 2018, judges will evaluate tests using a -3 to a +3 system instead of 6.0. In addition, skaters earning marks well above the passing expectation have the opportunity to earn “Pass with Honors” or “Pass with Distinction”

- ✓ This will apply to all tests, except those currently marked on a “Retry / Fail” basis.
- ✓ The Judges Committee is working on a plan to educate judges throughout the skating season.
- ✓ The system will provide more feedback and standardization to skaters.
- ✓ Skaters greatly exceeding the minimum requirements may earn “Pass with Honors” or “Pass with Distinction.”
- ✓ There are no plans to create special pins or emblems. The designation will be noted on the skater’s certificate only.
- ✓ See sample test sheet on the following slides for illustration.



Three Marks: Elements, Skating, Program

Program Tests (Free Skate, Free Dance, Pairs)

U.S. FIGURE SKATING FREE SKATE TEST JUDGING FORM SENIOR (SRF)



Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____
 Candidate's Club _____
 Host Club _____ Date _____

The candidate must give an excellent performance displaying power, strong edge control and depth, extension and precise footwork control in all aspects of the selected elements. The program should fully utilize the ice surface, have a change of pace and superbly express the mood and rhythm of music. Harmonious steps and connecting movements in time to the music should be maintained throughout the program.

	MARK	COMMENTS
Technical Merit	4.5	<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Current Test Sheet </div>
Presentation	4.6	
Total	9.1	Pass Retry

Passing Average 4.5 Duration: Ladies: 4:00 +/- 10 sec; Men 4:30 +/- 10 sec Passing Total 9.0

The following elements are required:

JUMPS: Recommended eight jump elements for men and seven jump elements for ladies, which must include:

- _____ 1. Four different double or triple jumps, one of which must be a double Lutz (each as a solo jump, not in combination or sequence)
- _____ 2. Two different jump combinations consisting of two double jumps or a double and a triple jump (in either order, no turn or change of foot between jumps).
- _____ 3. One single Axel or one double Axel.

Note: If the skater elects to perform triple jumps, only one may be repeated in a combination or jump sequence.

SPINS: Recommended three spins, which must include:

- _____ 1. One flying spin (minimum 8 revolutions in position)
- _____ 2. One spin combination consisting of all three positions and one change of foot (minimum 2 revolutions in each position and minimum 5 revolutions on each foot)
- _____ 3. One spin in one position (minimum 8 revolutions in position)

STEPS: For the following requirements, patterns are not restricted. See rules 4104 and 4105 for descriptions.

- _____ **Men:** One step sequence of advanced difficulty, fully utilizing the ice surface, and either a second step sequence of advanced difficulty, fully utilizing the ice surface, or a choreographic sequence.
- _____ **Ladies:** One step sequence of advanced difficulty, fully utilizing the ice surface, and either one spiral sequence or one choreographic sequence.

Extra elements may be added without penalty. Two different elements may be retried, if necessary.

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging Panel Required	Three-Judge Panel (test result determined by majority)	Single-Judge Panel
	Three gold singles/pairs test judges	N/A

U.S. FIGURE SKATING FREE SKATE TEST JUDGING FORM SENIOR (SRF)



Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____
 Candidate's Club _____
 Host Club _____ Date _____

The candidate must give an excellent performance displaying power, strong edge control and depth, extension and precise footwork control in all aspects of the selected elements. The program should fully utilize the ice surface, have a change of pace and superbly express the mood and rhythm of music. Harmonious steps and connecting movements in time to the music should be maintained throughout the program.

Recommended # of jump elements: Men: 8, Ladies: 7			COMMENTS
#	MIN. ELEMENTS	EXECUTED	Elements / Skating / Program
1	1A		<div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> Draft of Test Sheet Sept. 2018 </div>
2	2Lz		
3	2		
4	2		
5	2		
6	2+2 (+SEQ)		
7	2+2 (+SEQ)		
8			
SPINS	1	(F)(C) CoSp 8 revs	
	2	(F)(C) FSp 8 revs	
	3	(F)(C) Sp 6 revs	
SEQ	1	StSq	DED: _____
	2	ChSq	
Duration: Ladies: 4:00 ±10 sec; Men: 4:30 ±10 sec • For up to every ±10 sec. in excess: penalty of one point (-1) deduction.			Elements (-3 to +3) 0
• All required elements must be of different type. • Extra elements may be added without penalty. • Two different elements may be reskated, if necessary.			Skating (-3 to +3) 0
			Program (-3 to +3) +1
Circle Test Result	Retry ≤ -9 to -1	Pass 0 to +3	Total (max: +9) +1

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging Panel Required	Three-Judge Panel (test result determined by majority)	Single-Judge Panel
	Three gold singles/pairs test judges	N/A

Three Marks: Technique, Timing, Expression Pattern Dance

U.S. FIGURE SKATING PRE BRONZE DANCE JUDGING FORM CHA CHA



Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____
Candidate's Club _____
Host Club _____ Date _____

Test is (circle one):
Standard (CC) or Standard Solo (ZCC); Adult (ACC) or **Adult Solo (AZCC)** Masters (MCC) or Masters Solo (MZCC)

Number of Patterns: 2
Pattern: Set
Technique: accuracy, placement, unison, form, cleanliness, and sureness
Timing/Expression: correct timing, expression of the character of the music

	MARK	COMMENTS
Technique	2.3	Current Test Sheet
Timing/Expression	2.6	
Total	4.9	Pass Retry

Passing Average Passing Total

Standard or Standard Solo 2.5 5.0
Adult or Adult Solo 2.4 4.8
Masters or Masters Solo 2.3 4.6

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging panel required: Standard, adult & masters - Three bronze or higher rank dance judges; or one silver or higher rank dance judge. Solo tests - One or three bronze or higher rank dance judge(s).

U.S. FIGURE SKATING PRE BRONZE DANCE JUDGING FORM CHA CHA



Test is (circle one):
Standard (CC) or Standard Solo (ZCC); Adult (ACC) or **Adult Solo (AZCC)** Masters (MCC) or Masters Solo (MZCC)

Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____
Candidate's Club _____
Host Club _____ Date _____

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of the steps and correct timing of the dance. Attention should be given to depth of edges and proper curvature of lobes, although complete accuracy is not expected. The dance should be skated with some degree of expression. For masters and adult categories, see TR 46.05 and TR 46.06.

	MARK (-3 to +3)	COMMENTS
Technique Accuracy Placement Style Unison (partnered)	-1	Draft of Test Sheet Sept. 2018
Timing	0	
Expression	+2	
TOTAL (-9 to +9)	+1	Circle Test Result Retry -9 to -1 Pass 0 to +3 Honors +4 to +6 Distinction +7 to +9

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging Panel Required (standard, adult & masters)	Three-Judge Panel (test result determined by majority)	Single-Judge Panel
Partnered	Three bronze or higher rank dance judges	One silver or higher rank dance judge
Solo		One bronze or higher rank dance judge

Incentive & Recognition: Honors & Distinction

U.S. FIGURE SKATING MOVES IN THE FIELD JUDGING FORM PRE-JUVENILE (PJM)



The fundamentals of ice skating must be demonstrated, although not necessarily mastered. Good edges, flow, power, extension and posture are required and must be strongly emphasized.

Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____

Candidate's Club _____

Host Club _____ Date _____

ELEMENT	MARK (-3 to +3)	TEST STANDARDS / EXPECTATIONS	COMMENTS
Forward & Backward power stroking Move begins w/ skater performing 4 alternating fwd crossovers separated by strong FI edge transitions. End pattern consists of 2 fwd crossovers followed by a LFO open stroke, then a RFI open mohawk followed by 1 or 2 bkwd crossovers. End pattern steps should be performed w/ even cadence except the LFO open stroke, which should be held for 2 counts. The 2nd side of pattern resumes w/ 4 bkwd crossovers separated by 2-foot transitions, aka power push. Should take care to perform transitions on 2 solid inside edges. 2nd end pattern consists of 3-5 bkwd crossovers.	3.0	Focus: (fwd) power, extension, (bkwd) power, edge quality	Current Test Sheet
FO-BI three-turns in the field Fwd three-turns alternating to bkwd three-turns covering the length of arena. One length of arena will start with RFO-LBI 3-turns. Number of sets of three-turns will depend on length of arena and strength of skater. On second length of arena skater performs LFO-RBI three-turns. End sequence and introductory steps are optional. Move may start with either foot.	2.8	Focus: edge quality	
FI-BO three-turns in the field First length of arena skater will perform RFI-LBO three-turns. On second length of arena skater will perform LFI-RBO three-turns. Number of sets of three-turns will depend on length of arena and strength of skater. End sequence and introductory steps are optional. Move may start with either foot.	2.8	Focus: edge quality	
Fwd & Bkwd power change of edge pulls Skater will perform consecutive power change of edge pulls - FIO to FOI - for full length of arena followed by bkwd change of edge pulls - BOI to BIO - for the second length of arena. Skater will change feet at center of arena. End sequence and intro steps are optional.	3.0	Focus: power	
Backward circle 8 Begins w/ skater pushing from standing start onto a BO edge & completing one BO figure 8. Upon returning to center at completion of 2nd circle, a BI figure 8 by pushing onto BI, repeating the previously skated circle. Circles should be equal in size & approx. 3 times skater's height. May mark center. Move may start with either foot.	2.7	Focus: edge quality	
Five-step mohawk sequence Skater will perform alternating fwd inside mohawks skated in consecutive half circles. Each series consists of a 5-step sequence. The skater will skate one length of the ice with four to five lobes.	2.9	Focus: edge quality, extension	
Total	17.2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Retry	

Passing Average 2.7

Passing Total 16.2

Only one element may be retried at the end of the test, if necessary.

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging panel required: Three bronze or higher rank singles/pairs or dance judges who are certified to judge MIF tests.

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U.S. FIGURE SKATING MOVES IN THE FIELD JUDGING FORM PRE-JUVENILE (PJM)



Candidate's Name _____ Member # _____

Candidate's Club _____

Host Club _____ Date _____

The fundamentals of ice skating must be demonstrated, although not necessarily mastered. Good edges, flow, power, extension and posture are required and must be strongly emphasized.

ELEMENT	MARK (-3 to +3)	TEST STANDARDS / EXPECTATIONS	COMMENTS
1. Fwd & Bkwd power stroking Focus: (Fwd) power, extension (Bkwd) power, edge quality	+3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All crossover of same quality Good ice coverage w/ solid edge pushing Stepping on axis to set proper lobes Extension step must be an inside edge 	Draft of Test Sheet Sept. 2018
2. FO-BI three-turns in the field Focus: edge quality	+1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper edge the moment the foot takes the ice Ability to maintain control of the body Controlled flowing edges (no major sub curves) Control into and out of three-turns Adherence to a common or continuous axis Control and edge quality 	
3. FI-BO three-turns in the field Focus: edge quality	+1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proper edge the moment the foot takes the ice Ability to maintain control of the body Controlled flowing edges (no major sub curves) Control into and out of three-turns Adherence to a common or continuous axis Control and edge quality 	
4. Fwd & Bkwd power change of edge pulls Focus: power	+3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hear the "rip" Rhythmic knee action Maintaining or increasing speed throughout Pull at 1/4 of circle 	
5. Backward circle 8 Focus: edge quality	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No introductory steps Round circles similar in size Sense of organization in technical repetition Proper use of blade during push off Backward push-offs perpendicular to axis 	
6. Five-step mohawk sequence Focus: edge quality, extension	+2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good ice coverage Steps fairly equal on lobe with an even beat - rhythm Correct edges with a nicely extended free leg Mohawks should be placed at approx. the 1/3 point on the lobe 	
Total	+10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Circle Test Result <input type="checkbox"/> Retry -18 to -1 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass 0 to +6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Honors +7 to +12 <input type="checkbox"/> Distinction +13 to +18	

Only one element may be reskated at the end of the test, if necessary.

Judge's Signature _____ Member # _____

Judging Panel Required	Three-Judge Panel (test result determined by majority)	Single-Judge Panel
	Three bronze or higher rank singles/pairs or dance judges who are certified to judge moves in the field tests	N/A

Rev 0/00

Still Have Questions?

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