



Technical Notification 260

Dated: December 10, 2020

Re: Partnered Pattern Dance Tests

Effective **January 1, 2021**, this technical notification replaces Technical Notification 254.

Rule 8216 (A) requires that all tests within a level must be taken and passed as partnered pattern dance tests to complete a partnered pattern dance test level.

To allow testing of partnered pattern dances to continue in areas where skaters are **unable to skate with their coach or partner due to local rink, city, county or state restrictions, or general comfort level of skating that close to someone during the COVID-19 pandemic**, the Board of Directors has approved the following exceptions to this rule 8216 (A) from January 1, 2021, through May 31, 2021:

To complete any level partnered pattern dance test from preliminary through gold, candidates may elect to take one or two pattern dances within a level without a partner and receive partnered credit.

1. Candidates completing a level under this exception must have already taken and passed at least one partnered pattern dance within the level with a partner prior to the test date for the solo dance(s) receiving partnered credit.
2. Candidates beginning a new level under this exception may take one or two partnered pattern dances solo during this time period, prior to taking the partnered test(s). Remaining tests must be taken with a partner at a future test date when partnering will be allowed by the candidate's rink/city/county/state.
 - i. If partnering continues to be unavailable by their rink/city/county/state, candidates may continue testing up to two pattern dances without a partner at the next level but will not be awarded completion of a given level until the remaining dances are taken with a partner. For example, a skater may test two silver partnered pattern dances and continue to test two pre-gold partnered pattern dances solo but will not be awarded the complete silver partnered pattern dance test until the final silver partnered pattern test is taken and passed with a partner.

To register tests taken under this exception select the appropriate **partnered pattern dance test code**, and then enter the partner as First Name = Pandemic and Last Name = Partner. The Membership # is 2042042.

Examples:

- If a skater has passed the American Waltz and Tango (silver dances) with a partner, this waiver allows the skater to test the Rocker Foxtrot using this Pandemic Partner exception to complete the silver partnered pattern dance test.

- If a skater has passed the American Waltz and Tango (silver dances) under this Pandemic Partner exception but is not able to safely test the Rocker Foxtrot with a partner, the skater may test two pre-gold pattern dances (for example, the Paso Doble and Starlight Waltz) also using this Pandemic Partner exception but will not be awarded the complete silver partnered pattern dance test until the Rocker Foxtrot is taken and passed with a partner.

Candidates using this Pandemic Partner exception must perform the same number of sequences as required in the partnered portion of the test, and the judging panel must meet the requirements for the partnered test. (For example, if a candidate is testing the Rocker Foxtrot, three sequences must be performed. If a candidate is testing the Kilian, four sequences must be performed.)

IMPORTANT: Taking some tests using this Pandemic Partner exception and others with a coach/partner at the same test session is a violation of this exception and will result in the Pandemic Partner tests being revoked. If a skater is allowed to skate with a partner and is comfortable doing so, then all the tests must be taken with a partner.

It is the skater's responsibility to provide documentation to the test chair that shows the number of tests taken with this Pandemic Partner exception at a given level. Any tests taken with the Pandemic Partner exception beyond the maximum number allowed will result in those tests (and possibly the completion of a test level) being revoked.

Implementation date: January 1, 2021