



# HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION HANDBOOK

**2018-19 Season**  
(as of 10/15/2018)

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## SECTION 1: GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

### A. COMPETITION INFORMATION, RULES, ELIGIBILITY AND TEST LEVEL SPECIFICS:

High school competitions are run as U.S. Figure Skating, sanctioned nonqualifying competitions.

Athletes participating in these events are considered to be student-athletes. Their education is of the highest priority, and in all decision making matters, the Program Development Committee and the local organizing committee (LOC) have a responsibility to minimize the days missed from school.

1. Athletes must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating, and may be members of the figure skating club of their choice or be individual members of U.S. Figure Skating by December 1 yearly.
2. A minimum of two (2) skaters are required to form a team.
3. Competitors must be currently enrolled in a high school as a full-time student, as defined by the institution that they attend. This includes both traditional and home school students.
4. Athletes may compete either for the high school they are attending, or for area high school team formed either as:
  - Athletes from a single school, representing that school, OR
  - Athletes representing two or more area high schools combining to form a single team.
  - NOTE: Competitors may not represent more than ONE high school team.
5. Home-schooled students may join a school team with permission from the school Athletic Director of the team they are joining.
6. High schools may combine as per state specific High School Athletic Association (HSAA) rules, if applicable. All combined teams must be listed on the team application form.
  - i. If combined teams are not from the same school district, the following rules apply: An administrator from each school must sign the team entry form. All skaters from the combined schools must be allowed to skate on the team. Combined teams not adhering to these guidelines will be disqualified.
7. Team members may include both ladies and men.
8. All skaters who enter must be in at least 9th grade and be enrolled as a student in the high school as per state specific HSAA rules, if HSAA rules are applicable.
9. A skater will not be allowed to participate unless they have a signed Skater Entry Form on file with the LOC at least one week prior to the competition.
10. A skater may not accept prize money in any amount or merchandise having a value greater than \$25 for any skating competition.
11. Team or individual byes will not be granted for any competition including the High School Final, as per state specific HSAA rules (if HSAA rules are applicable). Except in the case of injury, a skater must have competed in at least one regular season team event in order to be eligible to skate in the team event at the High School Final competition.

12. No skaters may be added after the competitions' deadline, except with special permission of the registrar, national vice chair of School Programs and the U.S. Figure Skating programs manager.
13. A competition will not be canceled unless there is a state of Emergency declared in the area where the rink is located, even if school districts of participating teams have closed or cancelled events. Points will be awarded based on teams participating.
14. Team banners are encouraged.
15. No food is allowed in the locker rooms. Some ice arenas have rules regarding outside food. Please check with the ice arena before bringing in food for your team.
16. Unsportsmanlike conduct & foul language will not be tolerated at any competition and is grounds for disqualification.

## **B. ENTRIES AND ENTRY FEES**

Entry fees MUST accompany entry form(s). Schools/teams are required to submit one collective check payable as determined by the LOC.

- Applications not submitted with the correct funds will be returned and NOT accepted.

Checks returned for any reason will carry a handling charge and payment of this fee will be required before the team is allowed to participate in practice ice or events. No refunds will be made for any reason, unless the event is eliminated by the LOC or chief referee. Late entries will not be accepted.

The LOC reserves the right to limit the number of entries, eliminate events due to insufficient entries and combine or divide groups as necessary.

## **C. SCHOOL AFFILIATED CLUB (SAC) TEAM MEMBERSHIPS:**

All High School Teams participating in high school competitions must register with U.S. Figure Skating by filling out the [School Affiliated Club \(SAC\) Membership and Team Registration Form](#) and paying required annual membership dues prior to their first competition. Teams are required to submit a copy of their SAC application or SAC Certificate for proof of membership with their competition application.

SACs are required to have a designated Safesport contact listed on their registration. The designated Safesport contact must be over 18 years old and must complete the Safesport training; they do not need to be a member of U.S. Figure Skating. Instructions on completing Safesport training can be found [here](#).

## **D. REFUND POLICY**

Entry fees will not be refunded after the entry deadline, unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdraws. The online processing fees are not refundable. In the event that events are cancelled, the LOC will refund the appropriate entry fees in the manner specified within the competition announcement.

## **E. MUSIC**

CDs are the only acceptable media. Music for free skate may have vocals and should have at least one change of tempo (speed). Music for short program may have vocals. The competitor's program must be the only music on the CD and it must start

at the beginning.

Music should be clearly marked with the athlete's name, high school name and event. Music must be turned into the registration desk one hour before the event. Skaters are responsible for bringing a back-up copy.

## **F. LIABILITY**

U.S. Figure Skating, the host figure skating club, high school team and hosting ice arena will not accept any responsibility for injury or damage sustained by participants in the high school competition. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

## **G. JUDGING SYSTEM**

The 6.0 Majority judging system will be used for all events and levels at high school competitions. The ISU judging system will not be used.

## **H. AWARDS**

Medals will be awarded to places 1 – 3 in each event. Medals/ribbons for 4th and 5th place are at the discretion of the LOC. Team awards that account for overall total points earned by a team in individual events are at the discretion of the LOC.

## **I. OFFICIAL NOTICES**

An official bulletin board will be maintained at the competition arena. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent, team and coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information. Skaters are requested to arrive 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

## **J. INFORMATION REGARDING COACHES**

U.S. Figure Skating Rule MR 5.11 Coach Compliance

In order to be granted access to work within U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned activities, each coach must complete the following requirements on an annual basis by July 1, 2018.

- A. Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating - either through a member club or as an individual member.
- B. If 18 years of age or older, must submit the proper payment of \$20.00 through the U.S. Figure Skating Members Only website, and submit information for and successfully pass a background check.
- C. Must complete the CER SafeSport training course and any additional courses are required in rule MR 5.12.
- D. Must submit proof of current general liability insurance with limits of \$1 million per occurrence/\$5 million aggregate.

The local organizing committee/club will have a list of compliant coaches (maintained and updated frequently by U.S. Figure Skating) who are cleared for a credential at the competition.

- Coaches will need to check in at the arena event Registration Table and show a government-issued photo I.D. to receive a credential.
- If a coach cannot provide a photo I.D. and is not on the list or cannot produce the necessary documents, he or she will not be allowed a credential – NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. We strongly urge all coaches to have their Coach Registration cards and other relevant certifications with them.

- Skating events without compliance is an ethics violation which is reported to U.S. Figure Skating and PSA.

Non-credentialed coaches will not be permitted in the designated coaching area, at rink side during events including practice sessions. This is absolutely a rule we must abide by for the safety of our skaters through US Figure Skating and Safesport rules.

## **SECTION 2: HIGH SCHOOL TEAM COMPETITION RULES, ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY RESTRICTIONS**

### **A. COMPETITION RULES**

Host clubs reserve the right to eliminate events if necessary to accommodate the amount of ice time available.

Men's and ladies' events in singles free skating will be separate events, but men and ladies may compete in the same event in solo dance. Well-balanced junior and senior events may be combined with the standard free skate events, at the discretion of the referee, and only in the event of a single entry in one of the categories.

### **B. TEST LEVEL:**

**Skaters must register to compete at their level or one level up for all events as of the competition entry deadline.** Note: It is permissible for an athlete to enter the free skate and short program at different levels if skating up qualifies them for both.

Team maneuvers: Athletes may skate up one level, but they may not compete on a team at a lower level than the highest Free skate and Moves in the Field test they have passed.

### **C. WARM-UP GROUPS:**

Warm-up groups for events will be posted at the start of the competition, but are subject to change up to 15 minutes prior to the start of an event, due to withdraws.

### **D. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARTICIPATING TEAMS:**

It is each participating team's responsibility to review the competition schedule for accuracy within 72 hours of receipt and notify the competition chair of any errors.

### **E. GROUP SIZE:**

No group will consist of more than 14 skaters. If more than 14 skaters are entered into one level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as necessary to keep each group no larger than 14 skaters.

### **F. LENGTH OF COMPETITION:**

If the number of entries exceeds the available ice time for the competition, the LOC chair, in conjunction with the chief referee and with approval from the national vice chair for School Programs on the Program Development Committee and the chair of the Program Development will choose one or more of the following methods to reduce the length of the competition. The choice may be in any order:

1. Eliminate the optional dance in the solo dance event.
2. Reduce the number of starts per team.
3. Eliminate ladies events with only one entry. (Men's events will not be eliminated.)

### SECTION 3: EVENTS OFFERED:

Events offered within the High School Competitions may include the following:

<a href="#"><u>Team maneuvers:</u></a>	Low team, Intermediate team, and High team maneuvers.
<a href="#"><u>Excel Free Skate:</u></a>	Beginner, high beginner, pre-preliminary, preliminary, preliminary plus, pre-juvenile, pre-juvenile plus, juvenile, juvenile plus, intermediate, novice, junior, senior
<a href="#"><u>Free skate (Well-Balanced):</u></a>	No test, pre-preliminary, preliminary, pre-juvenile, juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior, senior
<a href="#"><u>Compulsory:</u></a>	Beginner, high beginner, pre-preliminary, Preliminary, pre-juvenile
<a href="#"><u>Short program:</u></a>	Juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior and senior
<a href="#"><u>Showcase:</u></a>	Light entertainment, dramatic entertainment, interpretive, duets
<a href="#"><u>Solo dance:</u></a>	Preliminary, juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior, senior, gold, international
<a href="#"><u>Moves in the field to music:</u></a>	Pre-preliminary, preliminary, pre-juvenile, juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior and senior

Requirements for each level can be found by clicking the links above.

## SECTION 4: AWARDING OF THE INDIVIDUAL/TEAM POINTS:

Points will be earned for the first five places in each category as follows:

First place	5 Points
Second place	4 Points
Third place	3 Points
Fourth place	2 Points
Fifth place	1 Point

If only **one skater/team** enters a category and that skater skates a demonstration/exhibition, one (1) point will be awarded.

If only **two skaters/teams** enter a category, points will be awarded as follows:

First place	2 Points
Second place	1 Points

If **three skaters/teams** enter a category, points awarded will be as follows:

First place	3 Points
Second place	2 Points
Third place	1 Point

If **four skaters/teams** enter a category, points awarded will be as follows:

First place	4 Points
Second place	3 Points
Third place	2 Points
Fourth place	1 Point

### Team Scoring:

Teams will receive points for each event based on the number of teams competing with the first place team receiving the highest number of points and the last place team receiving one point.

### Ties:

In the case of a tie, skaters will share the available points. For example, competitors tied for first place will share the 5 points for first plus the four points for second, so that each athlete would earn four-and-one-half (4 ½) points.

### Adjustments in available points due to withdraws:

The number of athletes in an event will be based on entries as of **seven days prior to the start of the event**. Withdraws after this date will not affect the number of available points to the athletes who actually complete the competition.

### Substitutions, additions and changes to the team:

With the exception of documented medical reasons or documented lost luggage there will be no substitutions to a team's roster and/or competitive events within the six days prior to the start of the competition. Substitutions may only be made into the level originally entered, and only by a replacement skater who is qualified for that level. Additions to the roster are not permitted after the close of entries. Points will only be awarded to athletes who complete the competition. No points will be awarded to an athlete who withdraws for any reason, under any circumstances.

## SECTION 6: QUALIFICATION FOR THE 2019 HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL FINAL COMPETITION

Any registered High School team with current U.S. Figure Skating School-Affiliated Club membership is eligible to enter the 2019 High School Final Competition.



## **Event information for the 2019 High School Final competition:**

The 2019 National High School Final will be held March 30-31, 2019, in Brighton, Michigan. The Final will be hosted by the Ice House Skating Academy; check [their website](#) for additional information.

### **SECTION 7: CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### ***National Vice Chair, School Programs, U.S. Figure Skating Program Development Committee:***

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#### ***Chair, Program Development Committee:***

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