



**October 8 - 10, 2021**

National Sports Center, 1700 105<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Blaine MN 55449

Hosted by: Northern Blades NSC Figure Skating Club

[www.northernblades.org](http://www.northernblades.org)

Sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating

Chief Referee: Carolyn Clausius

Chief Accountant: Christine Hills

Chief Technical Accountant: Carolyn Marker

Chairs: Danel Edminster, Jane Schaber, Ryan Herrick

E-Mail: [risingstars@northernblades.org](mailto:risingstars@northernblades.org)

**Deadline for entry is Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Northern Blades Rising Stars Figure Skating Competition 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 that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating [website](#).

**ELIGIBILITY:**

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

**TEST LEVEL:** Competition level is the highest test passed as of the entry deadline in the discipline the skater is entering. Entrants may skate one level above that for which they qualify, but they may not skate down in any event and must compete at the same level for all events.

**AGE RESTRICTIONS/REQUIREMENTS:** Singles free skate events (well-balanced program) have the following requirements:

Juvenile: Girls – 12 years or younger; Boys – 13 years or younger

Open Juvenile: Girls – 13 years or older; Boys – 14 years or older

Skaters entering pre-juvenile and lower events will be divided as closely as possible by age should the number of entries warrant more than one group.

**COMPETITION REGISTRATION:**

Online entry only with secure credit card payment supplied by The EMS system. The entry fee is \$155 for all IJS events, \$140 for 6.0 events. Late entries will be accepted only at the discretion of the Competition Chief Referee, and must be accompanied by a \$25.00 late fee. NOTE: A fee of \$25.00 will also be charged for any changes to entries, competition level, age, events entered, etc. made after September 9, 2021.

**EMS REGISTRATION:**

Entries will be accepted via [EMS](#) with credit card only.

Each transaction includes a 3% credit card fee.

**Registration Deadline: 09/08/2021 at 11:59pm ET**

1. Go to <https://m.usfigureskating.org>
2. Enter your U.S. Figure Skating or if Compete USA events are offered, your Learn to Skate USA member number and password
  - a. If you need assistance with your member number and password, contact Member Services at [memberservices@usfigureskating.org](mailto:memberservices@usfigureskating.org).
3. Click EMS then "Competition Registration"
4. Choose "Northern Blades Rising Stars Figure Skating Competition" from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
  - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).

### **FOREIGN SKATERS:**

Non-U.S. skaters intending to register for this competition must set up a non-member account prior to registering for the competition ([click here for HOW TO](#)). This can be done by choosing the "Create Account (Non-Member)" option on the [Members Only](#) login page.

**REFUND POLICY:** Entry fees will not be refunded after entry deadline unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals. The online processing fees are not refundable. Payment of the fee will be required before the skater is allowed to participate on practice ice or in events.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Any scheduled event may be canceled or combined if there are fewer than three (3) entrants or if the Referee determines that insufficient ice time is available to complete all events in an orderly manner. Skaters will be notified regarding cancellations and event combinations.

**SCHEDULE:** Competitors may be scheduled on any day or time during the announced dates of the competition. The competition and practice ice schedule will be available after the close of entries. Once posted, the schedule is viewable through the [EMS competition portal](#). All participants will be notified via email once available.

**FACILITIES:** The competition will be held at the National Sports Center located at 1700 105th Avenue NE, Blaine, Minnesota. Rink size is 200' x 100'. Admission is free.

### **EMS MUSIC UPLOAD:**

**DEADLINE: 09/22/2021**

Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to [EMS competition portal](#) no later than **September 22, 2021, at 11:59pm ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

### **EMS SKATER MUSIC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)**

***If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)***

All music must meet the following criteria. If you have questions about what format you have, please contact your coach and get a new version of your music that meets the criteria listed below.

### **MUSIC CRITERIA:**

- File Format: MP3
- Bit Rate: 192 kbps or higher and Sample Rate: 44,100 kHz
  - This will be verified by the music chair and they may request you upload a corrected file.
- 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.

Competitors must also bring a copy of their competition music on CD or digital copy (if you are accepting digital back up such as on a phone or memory stick) as a backup in case of technical difficulties and must be available rink side during the competition. Only CDs (standard CD-R format only) will be accepted for

backups and must be clearly marked with the competitor's name, event, and running time.

**EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) – IJS EVENTS ONLY:**

**DEADLINE: 09/22/2021**

Competitors participating in IJS events are required to submit PPC within [EMS competition portal](#) no later than **September 22, 2021, at 11:59pm ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

**EMS PPC UPLOAD HOW TO:** [CLICK HERE](#)

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

**LIABILITY:** U.S. Figure Skating, Northern Blades NSC Figure Skating Club and the National 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.

**ONSITE CHECK-IN:** Location to be determined. An email will go out to all coaches and competitors prior to the event.

**LOCKER ROOMS:**

Locker rooms and changing areas will not be available this competition. All athletes are expected to arrive to the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with an area to put skater on but will not be permitted to change in public restrooms.

**PRACTICE ICE:** Official practice ice is not being offered, but practice ice will be available for purchase on-line within the skater's [competition portal](#) after the schedule has been posted and will be sold on a first-come basis. Skater's music will not be played during practice sessions. A maximum of 20 skaters will be scheduled on practice ice. Unsold practice ice may be purchased at the Registration Desk on a first-come basis.

**AWARDS/VIDEO:** Awards will be presented to all skaters placing 1st through 4th. The awards will be presented to competitors (location to be determined) immediately following the result posting. More information regarding video coming soon.

**Note, per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of any one other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL COACHES:**

To be a credentialed coach at a sanctioned nonqualifying competition, coaches must meet the compliance requirements listed below and verified by the U.S. Figure Skating.

Coach/Choreographer (domestic/non-foreign):

- ✓ Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating either through a member club or as an individual member.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check. \*

- The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must complete annual SafeSport Training. \*
- The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification.
- ✓ Must complete the Professional Coach/Choreographer Coaching Education Requirement (CER) through the [Professional Skaters Association \(PSA\)](#).
- ✓ Must submit proof of general liability insurance with limits of \$1 million per occurrence/ \$5 million aggregate.
- ✓ Must agree to the U.S. Figure Skating Code of Ethics. \*
- ✓ Must complete three waivers: 1) Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release and Indemnification Agreement, 2) Medical Consent and 3) Name and Likeness Release and Consent Agreement. \*
- ✓ If attending a qualifying competition or traveling as a part of Team USA and/or International Selection Pool (ISP), must be a full member of the [Professional Skaters Association \(PSA\)](#).

#### Learn to Skate USA Coach:

- ✓ Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating either through a member club or as an individual member OR Learn to Skate USA instructor membership
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check. \*
- The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must complete annual SafeSport Training. \*
- The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification.
- ✓ Learn to Skate USA Instructor Certification completed OR U.S. Figure Skating compliance coach (details above)

\* Accessible via U.S. Figure Skating Members Only Website:

[www.usfsaonline.org](http://www.usfsaonline.org) → Person Icon  or Account → Member Profile → Compliance

#### Foreign Coach/Choreographer:

- ✓ Required to present the LOC with a letter from their federation verifying they are a member in good standing.

For more information regarding Coach Compliance, please visit the [Coach Compliance](#) page.

#### **VOLUNTEER COMPLIANCE:**

Reminder: compliant positions at all U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned events include key LOC members, locker room monitors and ALL medical event personnel. To be considered compliant, an approved volunteer serving in one of these positions must:

- ✓ Must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check\*
- The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional
- ✓ Must complete annual SafeSport Training

- The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification \*

\* Accessible via U.S. Figure Skating Members Only website:

[www.usfsaonline.org](http://www.usfsaonline.org) → Person Icon → Account → Member Profile → Compliance

**COVID-19 INFORMATION:** \*Please note these are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated via email after the entry deadline.\* More detailed information regarding entering and exiting the building will be provided closer to completion.

EFFECTIVE MONDAY, AUGUST 2, face coverings are required to be worn indoors by ALL persons (including fully vaccinated persons) attending any U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned event or activity despite of local, state or facility policies. Review the full update here. Exceptions:

- Athletes practicing or competing on the ice.
- Warming up outside.

#### **EVENTS OFFERED:**

- The International Judging System (IJS) will be used for the following events:
  - Well Balanced Program free skate events: Preliminary – Open Juvenile
  - Excel Free skate Program events: Excel Plus Preliminary, Excel Plus Pre-Juv, Excel Plus Juv, Excel Plus Intermediate & Juvenile – Senior Excel.
- The 6.0 Majority Judging System will be used for:
  - Well Balanced Program free skate events: No Test – Pre-Preliminary - Excel Beginner, Excel High Beginner, Excel Pre-Preliminary, Excel Preliminary and Excel Pre-Juvenile.
  - Free Skate events only, there will be NO specialty singles Spins & Jumps, Adult, Compulsory, Artistic/Spotlight etc., events this year.

SEE CURRENT [RULEBOOK](#) OR [U.S. FIGURE SKATING WEBSITE](#) FOR RULES/REQUIREMENTS.

U.S. FIGURE SKATING EVENTS				
SINGLES	IJS/6.0	1 <sup>st</sup> EVENT	2 <sup>nd</sup> EVENT	3 <sup>rd</sup> + EVENT
<a href="#">Excel Free Skate</a> (valid through September 2021) Excel Plus events, Excel Juvenile – Excel Senior	IJS	\$155	NA	NA
<a href="#">Well Balanced Free Skate</a> Preliminary – Open Juvenile	IJS	\$155	NA	NA
<a href="#">Excel Free Skate</a> (valid through September 2021) Beginner, High Beginner, Excel Pre-Preliminary, Excel Preliminary, Excel Pre-Juvenile,	6.0	\$140	NA	NA
<a href="#">Well Balanced Free Skate</a> No Test – Pre-Preliminary	6.0	\$140	NA	NA