

# **US Figure Skating**

## **TECHNICAL PANEL CODE OF ETHICS**

### **1. Persons Subject to this Code**

The Code of Ethics for the Technical Panel applies to all individuals certified by U.S. Figure Skating to serve as members on Technical Panels in events in which the International Judging System (IJS) is used. Members of the Technical Panel include: Technical Specialists, Assistant Technical Specialists, Technical Controllers, Data Operators and Video Replay Operators.

### **2. Application and Purpose**

The Code of Ethics applies to all certified technical panel officials who serve as technical panel members in U.S. Figure Skating activities.

The purpose of the Code is to:

- declare the highest standards of ethics, fairness, honesty and integrity govern individuals certified by U.S. Figure Skating to be eligible to participate as members of the Technical Panel in U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned events
- assure compliance by all such persons with the fundamental policies and values of U.S. Figure Skating,
- inspire the confidence of the participating athletes, the public and U.S. Figure Skating's members
- demonstrate the intent of U.S. Figure Skating to require no less than the highest standards of ethics, fairness, honesty and integrity of those individuals certified by U.S. Figure Skating to be eligible to participate as members of the Technical Panel in U.S. Figure Skating events.

### **3. Personal Ethical Commitment to U.S. Figure Skating**

All individuals certified by U.S. Figure Skating to serve as Technical Panel officials in U.S. Figure Skating events shall adhere to the following Code of Ethics.

1. I agree to read and become familiar with the Bylaws and Rules of U.S. Figure Skating as they pertain to the ethics and conduct of officials generally. I agree to comply fully with these Bylaws and Rules, and to exemplify by my conduct and my oral and written expressions, the highest standards of integrity, honesty, respect, truth, fairness, ethical behavior and sporting attitude.
2. I accept that my participation in any U.S. Figure Skating event is an honor and privilege that carries important responsibilities. I agree to maintain the highest level of personal behavior and respect for all skaters, coaches, parents

of skaters, officials, volunteers, individuals assisting in the conduct of events in any capacity and employees of U.S. Figure Skating.

3. I agree that my performance, conduct and comments occurring or made in my capacity as an individual certified by U.S. Figure Skating to be eligible to participate as members of the Technical Panel in U.S. Figure Skating events, should genuinely stimulate trust and confidence among skaters, coaches, officials, media and the public at large. I understand that my actions can reflect on U.S. Figure Skating and skating generally in both a positive and a negative manner. I recognize that even the appearance of misconduct, impropriety, insincere attitude or purpose can be damaging.
  
4. I agree not to participate in any U.S. Figure Skating competition event, directly or indirectly, in which I may have a possible conflict of interest or an appearance of a possible conflict of interest, either personal or financial. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - Participating as a member of the Technical Panel in a qualifying competition event in which I (or my parent, sibling, child, spouse, skating or life partner) have accepted any monies during the previous one year for teaching, choreographing or consulting for (directly or indirectly) any competitor in the event.
  
  - Participating as a member of the Technical Panel in a non-qualifying competition event in which I (or my parent, sibling, child, spouse, skating or life partner) have accepted any monies during the previous one (1) year for teaching, choreographing or consulting for (directly or indirectly) any competitor in the event.
  
  - Participating as a member of the Technical Panel in a competition event in which I (or my parent, sibling, child, spouse, skating or life partner) has served in an unremunerated position during the previous year (1) year as teacher, choreographer or consultant for (directly or indirectly) any competitor in the event.
  
5. Additionally I agree to:
  - Disclose promptly to the Technical Controller of the event(s) in question, any personal, family or financial interest that could reasonably be thought by myself or others to give rise to a conflict of interest or to the appearance of a conflict of interest. In the case of conflict or the appearance of a conflict involving the technical controller, disclosure should be made to the Chief Referee and the team captain of the Technical Panel (if applicable) of the competition.

- Recuse myself from serving on the event in question, if after disclosure the Technical Panel Team Captain (if applicable), Technical Controller and/or Chief Referee of the competition agrees that a conflict or the appearance of a conflict does exist and precludes me from serving as a member of the Technical Panel on the event.
- Abstain from making or influencing any decision involving personal, family or financial interests.
- Conduct myself with absolute independence and neutrality at all times, and show no favoritism for, or prejudice against, any skater, coach, judge, official, volunteer or other individuals involved in a U.S. Figure Skating event.

I agree that U.S. Figure Skating properties, funds, services and influence, including, but not limited to, any use of my position or identity as an individual certified by U.S. Figure Skating to be eligible to participate as a member of the Technical Panel in U.S. Figure Skating events, are not to be appropriated or misused for my private gain. I understand that this includes the use of any reference to my status as a certified technical panel member to advertise or market myself in commercial figure skating endeavors.

I agree that all activities of U.S. Figure Skating are to be conducted in compliance with all applicable laws and U.S. Figure Skating rules and regulations.

I agree not to accept cash or other benefits and favors for my participation in any U.S. Figure Skating competition. I understand that expenses authorized and incurred in performance of U.S. Figure Skating business will be reimbursed according to the U.S. Figure Skating expense rules and guidelines.

I agree that my failure to abide by this Code may result in my suspension for a definite period of time or forever exclude me from all U.S. Figure Skating events and activities.

#### **4. Monitoring and Modification of the Code**

For effectiveness, the Code looks to the honesty and integrity of the persons to whom it applies. Claimed violations of the Code shall be brought to the attention of U.S. Figure Skating for consideration and possible action. U.S. Figure Skating reserves the right to modify the Code at any time.