

Compete With U.S. Basic Skills Competition

An Introductory Skating Competition

Mission Statement: The purpose of all USFSA Basic Skills Competitions is to promote a fun, introductory, competitive experience for the beginning skater.

USFSA Compete With U.S. Basic Skills Competitions incorporate moves from the Basic Skills curriculum into a competition format that can be easily and successfully conducted by USFSA registered Basic Skills Programs and/or Member Clubs. Any group hosting a Compete With U.S. competition must be registered with the USFSA as an official Basic Skills Program. The competition is open to all beginner skaters who are enrolled in a USFSA Basic Skills Program and/or are current full members of USFSA. Basic Skills competitions are designed to promote competition experience at the introductory level.

GENERAL RULES FOR CONDUCTING A BASIC SKILLS COMPETITION (See USFSA Rulebook CR 91.00 for more information)

Any group hosting a Compete With U.S. Competition must be registered with the USFSA as an official Basic Skills Program.

Compete With U.S. Competitions may be:

- A. “in house” – the competition is only available to those skaters who are members of the club or group conducting the competition, or
- B. “open” the competition is available to any registered USFSA Basic Skills member or full USFSA member.

A USFSA sanction is not required for a Compete With U.S. Competition. However, an approval number obtained from the appointed Basic Skills Representative, Basic Skills Committee Chairman, or USFSA Basic Skills Director is required.

Skaters who have passed no higher than the Preliminary Free Skating, Preliminary Dance or Adult Bronze Free Skating Tests may skate in a Compete With U.S. Competition.

For Compete With U.S. Competitions three judges are required for each event. Judges may be:

- A. Any official USFSA or Skate Canada Judge.
- B. Any qualified eligible or ineligible person in skating whom is a USFSA member and/or Basic Skills member appointed by the organization conducting the Compete With U.S. Competition.
- C. For Pre-pre and Preliminary events, a panel consisting of three USFSA certified or prospective judges is strongly recommended.

For Compete With U.S. Competitions, all judges and other officials shall be approved by the Organizing Committee sponsoring and conducting the competition.

ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR PARTICIPANTS

The competition is open to ALL skaters who are current eligible (ER 1.00) members of either the USFSA Basic Skills Program and/or are full members of USFSA. Eligibility will be based on skill level as of the designated closing date for entries. ALL BASIC SKILLS SKATERS, LEVELS 1 THROUGH 8 MUST SKATE AT CURRENT LEVEL. Skaters in other events may skate at current level or one level higher but not both levels.

Please note: If a skater competes in a non-qualifying competition in a “Beginner or No Test” category, then that skater must compete at the equivalent or higher level in a Basic Skills approved competition.

Obtaining Approval for Hosting a USFSA Basic Skills Competition

To improve the quality and uniformity of the Skate With U.S. Basic Skills Competitions, the USFSA Basic Skills Committee and Area Representatives now **require** all Basic Skills Competitions to follow the guidelines as set forth in the Compete With U.S. Manual. The Basic Skills Area Representatives, Basic Skills Committee Chairman or USFSA Basic Skills Director must approve these competitions.

1. Fill out the Basic Skills Competition approval request form.
2. Mail a copy of your competition announcement, your competition application and approval request form to the Area Representative for your area. (Area Representative list can be obtained from Headquarters)
3. The Area Representative will issue your Program an official approval certificate.
4. Display the certificate throughout the duration of the competition.
5. Requests for approvals must be mailed to the Area Representative 30 days prior to the distribution of competition materials.

Once approved, the competition announcement will be posted on the USFSA web site.

Suggested Events

- ◆ ELEMENTS – Basic 1-8 (one skill at a time designated by the referee)
- ◆ BASIC PROGRAM A, B, C, D- Basic Level Programs with music (vocal music allowed)
- ◆ FREESKATE COMPULSORY PROGRAMS- Freeskate levels 1-6 (1/2 ice, no music)
- ◆ FREESKATE PROGRAMS 1-6 with music
- ◆ PRE-PRE and PRELIMINARY- Compulsory Program & Freeskate Program
- ◆ HOCKEY EVENTS
- ◆ DANCE- Solo or Couple
- ◆ SYNCHRONIZED TEAM 1-6
- ◆ SPINS
- ◆ ARTISTIC EVENTS
- ◆ INTERPRETIVE
- ◆ TEAM COMPULSORIES

Organization of the Competition

A few suggestions to help you get started:

Organizing Committee- is the group of people who will be responsible for organizing and running the competition.

Set the date- take into consideration other competitions and community events going on in tandem around the dates you have chosen. Pick several dates that work for your committee and then contact the arena to tentatively book the ice.

Write your announcement- it needs to include all of the necessary information for the skaters and instructors to prepare for your competition. Include everything!

Judges/Officials- Have a meeting before your competition to organize and educate your judges on the specific events, elements and deductions in each level.

Write a Budget- set up a tentative budget of income and expenses.

Treasurer- this person is responsible for maintaining the budget, accounts receivable and accounts payable.

Committees-

- Accounting
- Announcing
- Music
- Ice Monitors
- Runners
- Awards
- Promotion and Publicity
- Sponsors
- Program
- Souvenir Sales
- Medical
- Registration
- Event Time Scheduling
- Hospitality

This is just an outline for hosting a Compete With U.S. Basic Skills competition. Please call Headquarters for a copy of the manual and more details. These events should be a positive, fun way to encourage competitive skating and assure a feeling of accomplishment among the skaters. Best of luck and happy planning.