

Nonqualifying Competition Showcase Guidelines

When showcase is included in a sanctioned nonqualifying competition, no additional sanction is required as long as the events are included in the original official application. However, the guidelines for showcase events must be followed in order for the skaters to qualify for National Showcase.

A. OFFICIALS FOR SHOWCASE EVENTS:

Officials will be selected by the Local Organizing Committee from the current list of U.S. Figure Skating officials. Non-Official judges may only be used if the competition is granted a "Special Competition Sanction".

Chief Accountants / LOC: For all nonqualifying showcase competitions (or those competitions that include showcase, interpretative, extemporaneous improvisation, light entertainment, dramatic entertainment, artistic or ensemble events) the competition results must be sent by the chief accountant to:

- Melissa Bowman *National Vice Chair for Showcase* at patinage.tx@gmail.com and
- Brenda Glidewell, U.S. Figure Skating, *Director, Skating Programs* at bglidewell@usfigureskating.org, or U.S. Figure Skating, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

The method for submission will be electronically or by mail to individuals named above. These results will be used to invite the eligible skaters to the National Showcase competition.

B. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE, INVITATIONS AND NATIONAL SHOWCASE:

1. Required age and test qualifications must be in effect at the date entries are closed. Subsequent changes will not affect eligibility. **(With the exception of Adult Championships and Adult Sectionals)** Skaters representing another governing body must meet that body's closest possible equivalent to the specified U.S. Figure Skating test requirement. The referee's decision will be final. For Duets, entries must be according to the age and level of the highest test skater.

2. Invitation: Competitors will receive an invitation to compete at National Showcase, if they placed first, second, third or fourth (1) in a contested nonqualifying showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating event held from the close of entries for National Showcase in the current skating year back to the close of entries for National Showcase in the preceding year; or (2) in the immediately preceding National Showcase.

3. National Showcase is scheduled, annually, each August.

C. JUDGING AND MARKING:

1. Performances will be judged from an entertainment standpoint, for theatrical and artistic qualities.

2. Technical skating skills and difficulty will not be rewarded as such; however, skating must be the major element of the performance and be of sufficient quality to support the selected theatrical elements.

3. Unintended falls, poorly executed skating elements and obvious losses of control will negatively affect the competitor's/team's marks.

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4. Jump difficulty is not rewarded in showcase; therefore jumps, if choreographed, should be performed with style, flow and confidence.

5. Theatrical elements evaluated will include are but not limited to:

- a. Reflection of the musicality as it pertains to the concept of the program
- b. Projection
- c. Energy
- d. Timing
- e. Acting
- f. Skating skills that relate to the music
- g. Use of props and scenery
- h. Interaction (Duets and Ensembles only)
- i. Note: Prolonged pauses to express lyrics are discouraged

6. The 6.0 judging system will be used. One mark will be awarded by each judge for each performance. **No technical skating mark will be awarded.**

7. Deductions will apply for negligence relating to: costumes, props, program times.

D. COSTUMES:

1. Costuming and make-up for showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating programs should enhance the feeling created by the performance, and reflect the meaning of the story or theme.

2. Costume rules for competition free skate programs do not apply for **showcase/theatrical/interpretive skating**. Ornaments and hair accessories must be secure.

3. No bobby pins, feathers, hair accessories, or anything else that may fall to the ice and be hazardous to the skaters are allowed. A 0.1 deduction will be taken.

E. RULES OF EVENTS:

Singles events are:

1. **Dramatic Entertainment:** Programs should express intense emotional connection and investment in the music, choreography and theme concept through related skating movements, gestures and physical actions. **Props and Scenery ARE permitted.**

2. **Light Entertainment:** Programs should express a carefree concept or storyline designed to uplift and entertain the audience through related skating movements, gestures and physical actions. **Props and Scenery ARE permitted.**

3. Interpretive:

The program will be a performance choreographed by the competitor, unaccompanied and unassisted, to music that is supplied by the LOC. Programs should incorporate various elements of expressive movement and skating moves, to enhance the skater's interpretation of the music, rather than technical elements. The music will be played continuously during a 30-minute off ice session in a room. The room will be attended only by the adult monitor assigned to play the music, and the competing skaters. The music will be played twice during a warm-up on full ice. **Skaters after the warm up will go back to the room, with no**

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music being played. Skaters will be brought to the ice when the previous skater finishes. All competitors in an event will interpret the same music. Props are permitted but must be brought into the room prior to listening to the music, and be taken to the ice only when the skater is called to perform. Props may not be pre-positioned on the performance surface.

4. Duets are theatrical performances by any two competitors. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Skaters may enter only one each duet, mini production ensemble or production ensemble.

5. Mini production ensembles are theatrical performances by three to seven competitors. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Programs are performed under full arena lighting. Skaters may enter only one each duet, mini production ensemble or production ensemble.

6. Production ensembles are theatrical performances by eight or more competitors. NOTE: Skaters may enter only one each duet, mini production or production event. Props and Scenery ARE permitted. Programs are performed under full arena lighting. Skaters may enter only one each duet, mini production ensemble or production ensemble.

Skaters may enter any or all singles events for which they are qualified by test level. Skaters cannot skate in different levels of the same event (example: event-Light Entertainment Level Junior skater would not be allowed to skate Light Entertainment Junior and Senior).

F. WARM-UP TIMES:

Interpretive events will warm up for four minutes on performance ice. Warm-up groups for interpretative will not exceed 10 skaters.

Singles, duets, mini-production and production ensembles will warm up for a minimum of three minutes backstage.

G. PERFORMANCE TIMES:

1. Interpretive:

1. Pre-juvenile and below: 1:00 max
2. Juvenile thru novice: 1:30 max
3. Junior and senior: 1:30 max
4. Teen and young adult: 1:30 max
5. All adult events: 1:30 max

2. Light and Dramatic Entertainment:

1. Limited beginner, beginner, no test, pre-preliminary (these levels do not qualify for National Showcase): 1:30 max
2. Preliminary and pre-juvenile: 1:40 max
3. Juvenile thru novice: 2:10 max
4. Junior and senior: 2:40 max
5. Teen and Young adult: 2:10 max
6. All Adult Events: 1:40 max

3. Ensembles:

1. Duets: Same as for Light and Dramatic Entertainment (entries according to the level of the higher test skater)
2. Mini Production ensembles: 3:10 max
3. Production ensembles FS: 6:15 max

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H. TIMING:

Timing of the program will begin with the first purposeful movement of any competitor or member of a team. For performances that are over or under the time allotment, standard time deductions will apply as per U.S. Figure Skating's current rulebook. Timing will cease when the last skater comes to a complete stop.

Upon taking their position on the ice, a member of the team should raise and one arm to signify that the team is ready to begin their performance. This movement does not count as the "purposeful movement" as noted above.

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I. SCENERY / PROPS RULES:

1. Props and scenery must be placed and removed:

- Unaided, by the Singles and Duets competitors within one minute total on and off.
- Unaided, ensemble teams within two minutes maximum for setup and two minutes maximum for removal. Anyone not skating is not allowed to step on the ice

2. General:

- The inclusion of scenery and/or props is not mandatory.
- All scenery will be portable and not require any mechanical means for transportation (i.e. forklift, etc.). Its movement will be the responsibility of the skater or teams.
- For insurance reasons no propulsion devices will be permitted. This includes items such as cannons and trampolines. Apparatuses such as these, which could be used to assist skaters with jumping into the air are NOT permitted. A 0.2 deduction will be taken.
- The use of smoke, fire, liquids, live animals, feathers, bubble machines or any substance that may harm the ice surface and/or skaters is not permitted.
- No mirrors or glass of any kind is allowed on the ice.
- For ensemble set ups (2:00 max): An announcement will be made after 1 minute has elapsed. Another announcement will be made when 30 seconds are remaining. At the 2 minute mark, an announcement is made that set up time is over. Set-up must be complete and skaters must be in their starting position before the 2 minute announcement is made. A 0.1 deduction will be taken for every 10 seconds over.
- There will be no countdown of timing announced for Single skaters or Duets.
- If a competitor has any doubt concerning the safety of his/her performance, the Chief Referee should be consulted.
- See also "Scenery Break Down"

3. Scenery Break Down (Ensembles):

At the completion of the performance, and after the team has taken their bows, teams will be permitted two minutes to remove all scenery/props. When removing the scenery/props from the ice the skaters may not step off the ice until all scenery is removed.

A 0.2 deduction will be assessed by the referee against each judges' mark for each five seconds in excess of the time allowed.

SPECIFICS:

- A.** There is no minimum time requirement for any event program.
- B.** Events will not be segregated by gender.
- C.** There will be a 0.2 deduction for each 5 seconds in excess of the maximum performance time.
- D.** There will be a 0.2 deduction for each 5 seconds in excess of the maximum prop placement
- E.** There will be a 0.2 deduction for each 5 seconds in excess of the maximum prop break down time.
- F.** Timing starts with the first purposeful motion of the body and ends when motion stops.
- G.** Spotlights and curtains are not required for showcase events at nonqualifying competitions.

**EVENT LEVELS, AGES, TEST REQUIREMENTS AND PERFORMANCE TIMING
SKATERS MUST COMPETE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL FOR WHICH THEY QUALIFY**

	Event	Must have passed(dance tests refer to solo or partnered standard track)	Must not have passed(dance tests refer to solo or partnered standard track)	Age	Time	
Singles or Duets (Duets must compete at the highest test level of the two skaters)	Preliminary	Preliminary Free Skate	Pre-Juvenile Free Skate	No minimum age (max age 20)	1:40 max	
	Pre Juvenile	Pre Juvenile Free Skate 2 Preliminary Dances	Juvenile Free Skate or Complete Pre-Bronze Dance	No minimum age (max age 20)	1:40 max	
	Juvenile	Juvenile Free Skate Complete Preliminary Dance	Intermediate Free Skate Any Silver Dance	13 and under	2:10 max	
	Teen	Juvenile Free Skate Complete Preliminary Dance	Intermediate Free Skate Any Silver Dance	14-17	2:10 max	
	Intermediate	Intermediate Free Skate Complete Bronze Dance	Novice Free Skate Any Gold Dance	17 and under	2:10 max	
	Young Adult	Juvenile Free Skate Complete Preliminary Dance	Novice Free Skate Any Gold Dance	18-20	2:10 max	
	Novice	Novice Free Skate One Silver Dance	Junior Free Skate Any Gold Dance	No age restriction	2:10 max	
	Junior	Junior Free Skate Two Pre-Gold Dances	Senior Free Skate Completed Gold Dance		2:40 max	
	Senior	Senior Free Skate Complete Gold Dance			2:40 max	
		Event	Must meet requirements for*	Must not have passed	Age	Time
		Adult Bronze	Adult Bronze Free Skate or Pairs Events or have passed the complete Pre-Bronze Dance Test	Any Pre-Silver Dance Test	21 and older	1:40 max
		Adult Silver	Adult Silver Free Skate or Pairs Events or have passed one Pre- Silver Dance Test	Any Pre-Gold Dance Test	21 and older	1:40 max
		Adult Gold	Adult Gold Free Skate or any Masters Pairs event or have passed one Pre-Gold Dance Test	Complete Pre- Gold Dance Test	21 and older	1:40 max
		Masters	At least the Masters Intermediate or any Masters Pairs Event or have passed the complete Pre-Gold Dance Test		21 and older	1:40 max
Mini Production	Open			Open	3:10 max	
Production	Open			Open	6:15 max	

**The determination of level will be based upon test requirements at the entry deadline. For the U.S. Adult Championships and adult sectional championships, skaters must meet the test requirements for the level at which they want to compete, and rules 2540-2552 apply. For all other competitions, skaters must compete at their test level or one level higher, per the above chart For Basic Skills levels and events, please refer to the U.S. Figure Skating Basic Skills Competition Manual for Showcase event levels, elements, qualifications, program lengths and descriptions. For events offered, refer to the competition announcement.*