

## Junior and Senior Virtual Competition Information – updated Dec. 21

### OVERVIEW

[As announced on Nov. 2](#), the 2021 U.S. Championship Series presented by Toyota in person events will now pivot to a virtual format. All senior and junior athletes previously registered for the Series and not already qualified for the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships will be offered the opportunity to virtually compete for the remaining entry positions **without needing to earn a minimum technical element score**. Additionally, singles athletes, novice and below, in either the Athlete High Performance Development Pool (AHPDP) or International Selection Pool (ISP) are eligible to participate.

Juvenile, intermediate and novice athletes not identified above that were registered for the Series will be offered the opportunity to participate in high-level virtual programming and virtual events. For more information, please click [here](#).

### EVENTS TO BE SKATED – FREE SKATE/FREE DANCE ONLY

The following events will be skated: junior men, junior ladies, junior pairs, junior ice dance, senior men, senior ladies, senior pairs. Senior ice dance will not compete as all registered teams in the country have already advanced.

See the [2020/2021 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#) for Free Skate requirements.

- Senior Singles Free Skate 6412
- Senior Pairs Free Skate 7412
- Junior Free Skate 6422
- Junior Pairs Free Skate 7422
- Junior Free Dance 8422

### VIRTUAL SERIES TIMELINE (Subject to Change)

Nov. 13 – Registration Opens via [EMS](#) (details below)

Nov. 20 – Registration Deadline (no late entries will be accepted)

Nov. 23 – Mandatory Athlete/Coach Call, Pre-Register [Here](#)

- Performance dates will be provided after this call

**Nov. 17 – Dec. 8: [Self-Scheduled Performance Dates](#) (\*\*UPDATED\*\*)**

Dec. 9-20 – Ongoing Scoring (Protest window of 12 hours. Athlete receives PDF protocol.)

Week of Dec. 21 – Notification of results for all events and confirmation of advancement to 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION VIA [EMS](#)

All athletes must register for the junior and senior virtual events via U.S. Figure Skating Event Management System (EMS). In the case of pairs and dance teams, only one athlete (female) needs to register for the team. Registration will open Nov. 13 and close Nov. 20. **No late entries will be accepted under any circumstance.**

1. Log on to [www.usfsaonline.org](http://www.usfsaonline.org).
2. Select the Event Management System (EMS).

3. Choose COMPETITION REGISTRATION.
4. Click REGISTER NOW on “2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series – Junior/Senior Virtual”
  - a. \*\*If you need assistance completing your registration, contact [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).

**ENTRY FEE:** \$225/entry. No refunds will be allowed.

*Please be aware that your previous Championship Series entry fee(s) and practice ice fee(s) will be refunded by U.S. Figure Skating starting the week of Nov. 9. Please allow up to three weeks for all refunds to be processed.*

**NOTE:** [Music upload \(including copyright information\)](#) and your [Planned Program Content \(PPC\)](#) are required via EMS by Nov. 30. No late submissions will be allowed.

## PROCTOR

In order to guarantee the integrity of the virtual event environment, athletes must confirm a proctor for their performance. The proctor must be an impartial person of authority (i.e. Rink Management, Skating School Director or Local Skating Official) but may NOT be a coach/choreographer who has worked with the athlete, training mate or a parent/guardian (of the athlete or any training mates). Athletes are responsible for choosing the proctor and setting up the logistics.

Proctors must watch the program performance, verify that the full performance was completed on the date and time indicated in the athlete’s recording and complete the [Performance Affidavit](#), verify that the performance was attempted only one time, and verify that the submitted video has not been altered and is the stated performance.

The [Performance Affidavit](#) is the responsibility of the athlete, coach and proctor and must be submitted on the same day of the performance recording.

## VIDEO

### Video Submission & Upload Overview

Athletes are only permitted to submit one Free Skate video performance. Equipment for filming can either be a professional camera or a cell phone with high definition video recording capability. Please review the recording and upload instructions [here](#).

## PANELS OF OFFICIALS & SCORING PROCESS

Officials will consist of sectional, national and international officials assigned by the Domestic Selections committee.

## EVENT JUDGING

Judging of videos will take place by event after all videos are submitted by the athletes. Athletes will be assigned skate order based on a random skating order generated by the event accountant.

## QUALIFIERS

For the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships the following revised process was implemented due to COVID-19 and replace rules 2500-2505 and Bye Rules 2510-2512 as published in the [2020/2021 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#). Rule 2513 (Medical Byes) is still in effect.

## SENIOR

Athletes who placed in the top-five (5) in the same event at the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships will receive an automatic bye to the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships per rule 2501 (B)(2)(a).

The top four (4) scores from U.S. Figure Skating's International Selection Pool (ISP) Points Challenge (less the top 5 byes listed above) will receive a bye.

The top scores (Sr. Ladies (9), Sr. Men (9), Sr. Pairs (6) from the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Senior Virtual Series presented by Toyota (less byes/ISP Points Challenge) will advance to fill out the entries to the maximum as listed below. All Sr. Ice Dance teams who registered for the in-person qualifying season will advance to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, no virtual event is required.

## JUNIOR

The top scores (Jr. Ladies (12), Jr. Men (12), Jr. Pairs (8), Jr. Dance (10) from the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Junior Virtual Series will advance to the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

## VIRTUAL RESULTS

Results will be posted publicly the week of Dec. 21. The top scores in the nation as outlined below will advance to the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships:

Senior Ladies – Top nine scores

Senior Men – Top nine scores

Senior Pairs – Top six scores (\*updated 12/16)

Senior Ice Dance – Not Applicable; no virtual event due to entry numbers

Junior Ladies – Top 12 scores

Junior Men – Top 12 scores

Junior Pairs – Top eight scores

Junior Ice Dance – Top 10 scores

## ALTERNATES

For the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships, there are no alternates for the championship level (senior events). Alternates for the junior events are designated as follows:

Junior singles skaters placing 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the virtual competition will be designated as first and second alternates to the U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

Junior pairs teams placing 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the virtual competition will be designated as first and second alternates to the U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

Junior ice dance teams placing 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in the virtual competition will be designated as first and second alternates to the U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

***Junior alternates as identified above should continue to train and will be invited to replace an official withdraw athlete/team up to 10 days prior (Jan. 8, 2021) to the start of the bubble at the U.S. Championships.***

## VIRTUAL CHECKLIST

- Register via [EMS](#).
  - Deadline: Nov. 20 at 11:59 pm ET
- Submit [Planned Program Content](#) & [Music](#) (file and copyright information) via EMS.
  - Deadline: Nov. 30 at 11:59 pm ET
- Participate in the mandatory Athlete/Coach call on Monday, Nov. 23 at 7:30pm ET.
  - Register for the webinar: [HERE](#).
- Identify Proctor - must meet requirements as outlined in this document.
- Submit Performance Details [HERE](#).
  - Athletes are responsible for self-scheduling their recording date and time AND must submit in advance of their performance/upload (at least eight hours prior). We understand there may be a variation in the submitted time (i.e. 2:30 pm vs. 3:00 pm) but any recording date changes must be submitted to [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org) prior to the original date.
    - *Performances may be conducted from Nov. 17 – December 8*
- Mock run-through with recording device to ensure you meet all requirements (outlined [here](#)).
  - Tip: use the same videographer you plan to use for your performance.
- **DAY OF PERFORMANCE:**
  - Record Performance
    - Requirements [here](#).
  - Submit [Performance Affidavit](#)
    - Must be completed by Athlete(s), Coach and Proctor on ONE form.
  - Upload to Hightail and confirm submission via email (cc: coach):
    - Senior Ladies
      - Video Upload link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/usfigvideo1>
      - Email: [video1@usfigureskating.org](mailto:video1@usfigureskating.org)
    - Junior Ladies
      - Upload link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/usfigvideo2>
      - Email: [video2@usfigureskating.org](mailto:video2@usfigureskating.org)
    - Senior Men/Junior Dance/Junior Pairs
      - Upload link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/usfigvideo3>
      - Email: [video3@usfigureskating.org](mailto:video3@usfigureskating.org)
    - Junior Men/Senior Pairs
      - Upload link: <https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/usfigvideo4>
      - Email: [video4@usfigureskating.org](mailto:video4@usfigureskating.org)

**2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships**  
**Orleans Arena, Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Senior events will be conducted Jan. 11-17, 2021**

(Schedule to be released once available)

At this time, no unofficial practice ice will be offered due to a single-rink environment.

**Junior events will be conducted Jan. 19-21, 2021**

(Schedule to be released once available)

At this time, no unofficial practice ice will be offered due to a single-rink environment

**“Bubble” Environment**

The Orleans Arena and hotel complex allows U.S. Figure Skating to implement a bubble environment for each of the junior and senior Championships.

Athletes advancing to the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships will be required to adhere to strict health and safety protocols within the event bubble. The event bubble requires all persons at the Championships to live within a defined footprint that is restricted to your hotel room, a designated walking path and the arena. Athletes under 18 years of age will be allowed to have one chaperone (parent/legal guardian) attend. All other athletes will not be allowed to have chaperones.

**Note:** All programming is subject to change. U.S. Figure Skating leadership will continue to monitor the feasibility of all opportunities with the goal to keep all members safe.

For additional information, visit the Championship Series website:

[www.usfigureskatingchampionshipseries.com](http://www.usfigureskatingchampionshipseries.com) or email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org)

**Junior & Senior Virtual FAQs**

**Can an athlete who did NOT register for the 2021 U.S. Championship Series now register for the virtual competition?**

No. Only athletes who previously registered to participate in the U.S. Championship Series events will have the opportunity to participate in the virtual competition.

**Who can video my free skate performance?**

There are no restrictions on who can video your performance (unlike the proctor role). Any individual you are comfortable with can record your performance (i.e. coach, parent).

**Does my free skate video need to be recorded on private ice?**

Videos can be recorded on private ice, sessions dedicated for individual performances or freestyle sessions; however, if recording on a freestyle session, ensure there are no obstructions in the recording and all elements are identifiable by the technical panel (i.e. not blocked by another skater or the boards). It is strongly recommended that if an athlete or team is using a training session with multiple people on the ice, the other skaters stop skating and allow the performance to be recorded without others skating through the performance.

**Can I receive test credit for my virtual performance?**

No, test credit is not available via the virtual performance.

**If I have already received a bye to the 2021 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships, can I participate?**

No. This virtual competition is reserved for those looking to secure a spot at the 2021 Toyota U.S. Championships. Senior athletes who have already received byes (i.e. 2020 Top-5 or ISP Points Challenge) are not eligible to participate. Additional details about the 2021 Toyota U.S. Championships will be sent to all qualifiers via email in mid-December.

**I was entered in the 2021 U.S. Championship Series presented by Toyota and want a refund. What do I need to do?**

All entry fees and practice ice fees for the in-person Championship Series will be refunded for all beginning the week of Nov. 9 (regardless if participating in virtual opportunity). Please allow up to three weeks for all refunds to be processed. A confirmation email will be sent once processed.

**Can I enter the virtual competition twice?**

No. Each athlete/team is only allowed to upload one free skate/free dance for advancement.

**What If my rink is closed and I can't train or upload my free skate on the designated day?**

If you are facing extenuating circumstances (rink closure, athlete is COVID positive), email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org) **IN ADVANCE** of your scheduled performance and each situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

**Will athletes be able to skate-up in the junior event?**

Only athletes who are either in the Athlete High Performance Development Pool (AHPDP) or the International Selection Pool (ISP) will be eligible to skate-up and compete at the junior level. NO other skate-up opportunities will be allowed.

**I registered for the virtual event but injured myself prior to the video submission deadline. Who do I contact to withdraw, and can I receive a refund?**

To withdraw, email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org). Refunds will be honored if withdrawn prior to the close of entries on Nov. 20.

**Where can I view my results?**

Results will be posted on [www.usfigureskatingfanzone.com](http://www.usfigureskatingfanzone.com) upon conclusion of the virtual series (the week of Dec. 21).

**Will the video submissions be posted online?**

Video submissions will be available on public formats including [www.usfigureskatingfanzone.com](http://www.usfigureskatingfanzone.com) and NBC Peacock Premium.

**How many will advance to the U.S. Championships?**

See above for advancement.

#### **FAQ - IF I ADVANCE TO THE 2021 TOYOTA U.S. FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LAS VEGAS**

##### **Do I have to stay at the official hotel? What if I am local?**

All participants (athletes, coaches, chaperone, officials and staff) are required to stay at the official hotel to ensure the safety of the bubble environment. Each attendee is responsible for the cost of their accommodations, meals and COVID-19 test onsite. Final information will be provided upon conclusion of all virtual events.

##### **Can my parents attend?**

If you are under 18, you will be allowed to designate only ONE parent/legal guardian to accompany you in the bubble. Unfortunately, no other chaperone/persons will be allowed to attend.

##### **Will I be required to take a COVID-19 test and, if so, who is responsible for the cost?**

Yes. All persons attending the 2021 Toyota U.S. Championships will be required to take a COVID-19 test upon arrival to the U.S. Championships and will be responsible for the cost.