

2021 TOYOTA U.S. FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS
ATHLETE BYE & ADVANCEMENT CRITERIA
As of August 25, 2020 (subject to change)

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline the approved criteria for which a registered competitor may receive a bye to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. These criteria are an exception for the 2021 qualifying competition season and take into consideration the impact of COVID-19 to this season.

The following bye criteria and junior advancement rules were reviewed and approved by U.S. Figure Skating's International Committee, Competitions Committee, Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC) and U.S. Figure Skating's Board of Directors as required under U.S. Figure Skating rule 2511.

SENIOR BYES AND ADVANCEMENT SINGLES

- 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 three (3) total combined scores from each section in 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series (less byes/ISP Points Challenge) will advance.
- The next best six (6) total combined scores from the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series (less byes/ISP Points Challenge) will advance.

PAIRS

- Teams placing in the top five (5) in the same event at the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships will receive a bye per rule 2502 (B)(2)(a).
- The top four (4) scores from the [ISP Points Challenge](#) (less top 5 byes) will earn a bye.
- The top nine (9) total combined scores from the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series (less byes/ISP Points Challenge) will advance.

ICE DANCE

- Teams placing in the top five (5) in the same event at the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships will receive a bye per rule 2503 (B)(2)(a).
- The top four (4) combined total scores from [ISP Points Challenge](#) (less top 5 byes) will receive a bye.
- The top nine (9) total combined scores from the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series (less byes/ISP Points Challenge) will advance.

Notes:

Per rule 2500 (see below) Athletes/teams receiving a bye **are required to register for the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series AND register for at least one competition prior to the deadline of Sept. 25, 2020.**

Additionally, all are highly encouraged to participate in the Championship Series and if skating, entry WILL NOT prohibit advancement for Series athletes. Failure to register in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships Series and one competition will result in the athlete not being eligible to compete in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and will forfeit any bye if applicable.

Rule 2500 - Qualifying for the U.S. Figure Skating Championships

To qualify for the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, all competitors must be entered to compete in a regional singles challenge, sectional pairs challenge or sectional ice dance challenge, respectively, through the online registration process as described in rule 2401 by the deadline of Sept. 1. Failure to do so will result in the competitor(s) not being entered nor allowed to compete at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships for the current season.

JUNIOR ADVANCEMENT SINGLES

- The top three (3) total combined scores from each section in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series will advance to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.
- The next three (3) highest combined scores from across the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series will advance.
- The top two (2) novice combined scores from each section in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series will advance to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and compete as Juniors.

PAIRS

- The top 12 total combined scores from across the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series will advance to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

ICE DANCE

- The top 12 total combined scores from across the nation in the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championship Series will advance to the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

Junior Note(s):

- At this time, no junior skaters/teams will receive byes from the [ISP Points Challenge](#). The points challenge would be reviewed IF live competitions could not happen however this decision was made to encourage these skaters/teams to compete live.

Required Minimum Score

The required minimum score for all senior skaters/teams to compete at the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships is under review for all disciplines and will be addressed in Fall 2020.

Other Circumstances

No medical byes will be granted for the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and that is consistent with the existing rule 2513

Consideration for additional byes based on international-type events (i.e. Skate America) will be reviewed on a case by case basis. All information is subject to change based on current information and feasibility of live competitions.

Once approved, this document shall supersede the relevant bye rules within the 2020-21 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook unless specifically mentioned (ex. Medical Byes).

Only the skater and/or team may submit an appeal to U.S. Figure Skating via Events Department at events@usfigureskating.org. The headquarters liaison will share the appeal with the Athletes Advisory, Competitions and International Committee chairs. The liaison will coordinate a review of and vote on the matter within 48 hours of receiving the appeal, and communicate the results to the skater/team.

Contact Information

U.S. Figure Skating; events@usfigureskating.org