

**U.S. FIGURE SKATING  
REPORT OF ACTION  
taken by the  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
November 9, 2019**

The Board of Directors took the following actions:

1. **APPROVED** the budget timeline for the 2020-21 budget year.
2. **APPROVED** the updates to the Strategic Plan for 2018-2022.
3. **APPROVED – Adult Skating Committee**  
Amend **rule 6561 (page 203, rulebook)** to allow a two-foot spin to receive credit in the adult pre-bronze well-balanced free skate:

**6561 Elements for the Adult Pre-Bronze Free Skate and Free Skate Test**

<b>ADULT PRE-BRONZE WELL-BALANCED FREE SKATE &amp; TEST 1:40 maximum time</b>		
<b>PROGRAM</b>	Competition: Must contain the following elements in any order.	Test: Must follow competition requirements, in addition to the minimum requirements below. Note: The skater may choose to complete the elements in a program (with or without music), or as isolated elements.
<b>SPINS</b>	A maximum of two spins of a different character <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spins with a flying entry are not permitted</li> <li>• Spins must have a minimum of three revolutions</li> <li>• <u>A two-foot spin is permitted as one of the spins at this level and is of a different character than a one-foot spin</u></li> <li>• The skaters have freedom to select the kinds of spins they intend to execute within the spin types allowed</li> </ul>	Two spins: Same as competition requirements  Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A two-foot spin is of a different character than a one-foot spin and would meet the requirements for one of the spins on this test.</li> <li>• For this test only, a backward upright one-foot spin is considered of a different character than a forward upright one-foot spin, so both may be performed.</li> <li>• For this test, if a skater performs a sit spin or a camel spin, the spin must be in a recognizable position but does NOT need to achieve a basic position as defined in rule 6103 (A).</li> </ul>

**The following information will be added to the Adult Skating Calling Clarifications:**

**Two foot spin:** Receives credit in adult pre-bronze only. If the spin has at least three consecutive revolutions on two feet, it will be called confirmed; otherwise, it will receive no value.

**Implementation date:** November 18, 2019

4. **APPROVED – Competitions Committee**  
Amend **rules 7500, 7530, 7540, 7550, 8501, 8520, 8530, 8560, 8570, 8580, 8590 (pages 226, 228-230 and 275-278 Rulebook)** as follows:

**7500 Adult Pairs Competition Requirements and Pair Test Elements**

- A.** Adult pair events are open to couples in which each partner has reached 21 years of age as of the closing date for entries.

B. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice pairs, junior pairs, or senior pairs:

1. May not compete in the adult gold, adult silver or adult bronze pairs events.
2. May compete in the championship masters, masters and centennial pairs events.

#### **7530 Adult Gold Pairs**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries:

A. Both partners must have passed at least one of the following tests:

1. The adult silver or adult gold pair test;
2. The adult gold free skate test;
3. The standard juvenile, intermediate or, prior to 1989, bronze pair test;
4. The standard juvenile free skate test or the adult or standard intermediate or novice free skate test.

B. Neither partner may have passed:

1. Higher than the intermediate pair test;
2. Prior to 1989, higher than the standard bronze pair test;
3. Higher than the standard novice free skate test.

C. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice pairs, junior pairs or senior pairs will be ineligible to compete in this event.

#### **7540 Adult Silver Pairs**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries:

A. Both partners must have passed at least one of the following tests:

1. The adult bronze or adult silver pair test;
2. The adult silver or adult gold free skate test;
3. The standard preliminary, pre-juvenile or juvenile pair test;
4. The standard pre-juvenile or juvenile free skate test.

B. Neither partner may have passed:

1. Higher than the adult silver pair test;
2. Higher than the standard juvenile pair test;
3. Higher than the standard juvenile free skate test.

C. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice pairs, junior pairs or senior pairs will be ineligible to compete in this event.

#### **7550 Adult Bronze Pairs**

Test requirements as of the closing date for entries:

A. Both partners must have passed at least one of the following tests:

1. The adult bronze pair test;
2. The adult bronze or adult silver free skate test;
3. The standard preliminary or pre-juvenile pair test;
4. The standard preliminary or pre-juvenile free skate test.

B. Neither partner may have passed:

1. Higher than the adult bronze pair test;
2. Higher than the adult silver free skate test;
3. Higher than the standard pre-juvenile pair test;
4. Higher than the standard pre-juvenile free skate test.

C. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice pairs, junior pairs or senior pairs will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8501 Adult dance events:**

- A. Adult dance events are open to skaters who are at least 21 years of age at closing date for entries. See rules 2212 and 2543. For the centennial dance event, both partners must be at least 50 years of age at closing date for entries.
- B. The pattern dances are selected by the Dance Development and Technical Committee and announced no later than the spring Board of Directors meeting.
- C. The draws shall be conducted according to rules 2722 and 2723. The number of sequences of each dance shall be as specified in rule 8075.
- D. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance, or senior dance:
  - 1. May not compete in the adult gold, adult pre-gold, adult silver, adult pre-silver, adult bronze, or adult pre-bronze dance events.
  - 2. May compete in the championship adult, masters open and centennial dance events.

**8520 Adult Gold Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: One partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered gold dance; the other partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-gold dance. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8530 Adult Pre-Gold Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: One partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-gold dance; the other partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered silver dance. Neither partner may have completed the standard, adult 21+ or adult 50+ gold dance test. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8560 Adult Silver Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: One partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered silver dance; the other partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-silver dance. Neither partner may have completed the standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-gold dance test. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8570 Adult Pre-Silver Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: One partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-silver dance; the other partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered bronze dance. Neither partner may have completed the standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered silver dance test. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8580 Adult Bronze Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: One partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered bronze dance; the other partner must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-bronze dance. Neither partner may have completed the standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-silver dance test. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**8590 Adult Pre-Bronze Dance Event**

Test qualifications as of the closing date for entries: Both partners must have passed at least one standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered pre-bronze dance test but no higher than the standard or adult (adult 21+ or adult 50+ passing average) partnered bronze dance test. Any skater who has competed in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Figure Skating Championships, the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, an ISU Grand Prix event, an ISU Junior Grand Prix event, an ISU Challenger Series event or the Olympic Winter Games in novice dance, junior dance or senior dance will be ineligible to compete in this event.

**Implementation date:** November 9, 2019

**5. APPROVED – Competitions Committee**

Amend **rule 2116 (page 120, Rulebook)** as follows:

- 2116** A judge, referee or accountant assigned to a qualifying competition (see rule 1022) may not skate as a competitor in any event of said competition ~~except the nonqualifying adult events.~~
- A. This includes both qualifying and nonqualifying events held at the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships (see rules 2055.A and 2055.B).
- B. A judge, referee or accountant invited to an adult sectional championships (see rule 2055 (A)) may compete in the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with the same adult sectional championships. A judge, referee or accountant invited to serve at the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with an adult sectional championships may compete in a championship event (see rule 2055 (A)) at the same adult sectionals.

**Implementation date:** November 9, 2019

**6. APPROVED – Competitions Committee**

Amend **rule 2060 (page 119 Rulebook)** as follows:

**2060 Qualifying Competitions – Announcements**

**2061** The rules for qualifying competitions will be those in this rulebook unless stated otherwise in the announcement.

The announcement and entry form for:

- A. The U.S. Figure Skating Championships must be approved by the chair of the Competitions Committee;
- B. The U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships must be approved by the national vice chair of the Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee;
- C. The U.S. Pairs Final, U.S. Ice Dance Final, sectional singles finals, sectional pairs challenges, sectional ice dance challenges, regional singles challenges, and National Qualifying Series events must be approved by the appropriate sectional vice chairs of the Competitions Committee;
- D. Synchronized skating sectional championships must be approved by both the appropriate sectional vice chair and the national vice chair of the Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee;
- E. The U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships and adult sectional championships must be approved by the national vice chair of the Adult Competitions Subcommittee.

**Implementation date:** November 9, 2019

7. **APPROVED** a new perpetual trophy for the championship masters pairs event at the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships.

8. **APPROVED – Judges Management Subcommittee**  
Remove **rule DOR 4.63 (page 59, Rulebook)**:

~~**DOR 4.63 (JR 8.02)** Persons seeking appointment as a synchronized skating judge must obtain at least a bronze singles test judge or bronze dance test judge appointment before being appointed as a synchronized skating judge.~~

**Implementation date:** November 18, 2019

9. **APPROVED – Judges Management Subcommittee**  
Amend **rule 3046 (page 151, Rulebook)** to reflect that singles/pairs and dance competition judges may judge nonqualifying synchronized competitions (all levels) as a one-judge minority of the panel.

**Implementation date:** November 18, 2019

10. **APPROVED – Judges Training Subcommittee**  
Amend **rule DOR 4.71 (page 60, Rulebook)** as follows:

~~For candidates applying for any test appointment or a national singles/pairs, dance or synchronized skating competition appointment, a written exam, composed of a multiple choice portion and an essay portion, must be taken, and each section must be passed to qualify for promotion. The exam is to be completed and returned as instructed within 30 days of being emailed by headquarters.~~

For national singles/pairs, dance or synchronized skating competition appointments, a national exam will be conducted on-site during the trial judge program at the appropriate U.S. Figure Skating Championships and U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. All other requirements as set forth in the Judges Committee Guidelines must be met.

**Implementation date:** November 18, 2019

11. **APPROVED** a new perpetual trophy for the championship masters intermediate-novice men's event at the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships.

12. **APPROVED** a final sanction for the 2021 Midwestern & Pacific Coast Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships; Jan. 19-24, 2021; Notre Dame, Indiana; University of Notre Dame (collegiate club).

13. **APPROVED – Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management Committee**

The following national appointments:

- **National Singles/Pairs Judge:** Danielle Rey, Colleyville, Texas
- **National Theatre On Ice Judge:** Barbara Buch, Silver Spring, Md.

14. **ACCEPTED – Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management Committee**

The following national resignations:

- Albert Beard, Lake Oswego, Ore. (National Accountant) – Resigned Sept. 6, 2019
- Maxine Ganter, Oakdale, Pa. (National Accountant) – Resigned July 17, 2019
- Joan Gruber, Wyomissing, Pa. (National Singles/Pairs Judge) – Resigned June 30, 2019

**15. ACKNOWLEDGED – Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management Committee**

The following vacated national appointments:

- Marilyn Guilfoyle, Manchester, N.J. (National Singles/Pairs and Dance Judge) – Passed away June 11, 2019
- Margie Jones, Fountain Valley, Calif. (National Music Coordinator) – Passed away June 29, 2019

**16. APPROVED – Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management Committee**

The following honorary national appointments:

- Albert Beard, Lake Oswego, Ore. – Honorary National Accountant
- Maxine Ganter, Oakdale, Pa. – Honorary National Accountant
- Marilyn Guilfoyle (posthumously), Manchester, N.J. – Honorary National Judge
- Joan Gruber, Wyomissing, Pa. – Honorary National Judge
- Margie Jones (posthumously), Fountain Valley, Calif. – Honorary National Music Coordinator
- C. Peter Zurlinden (posthumously), La Crescenta, Calif. – Honorary National Music Coordinator

**17. APPROVED – SafeSport Committee**

Add new **rule GR 1.05 (page 38, Rulebook)** as follows:

**GR 1.05 Retaliatory Conduct**

- A. Retaliatory conduct is prohibited toward any person who in good faith (i) reports, or bears witness to, an action that is a possible violation of the rules or bylaws of U.S. Figure Skating or (ii) participates in the grievance, disciplinary or SafeSport processes of U.S. Figure Skating.
- B. Retaliatory conduct includes threatening, intimidating, harassing, coercing, or any other conduct that would discourage a reasonable person from (i) reporting, or bearing witness to, an action that is a possible violation of the rules or bylaws of U.S. Figure Skating or (ii) participating in the grievance, disciplinary or SafeSport processes of U.S. Figure Skating, when the conduct is reasonably related to the report or engagement with the grievance, disciplinary or SafeSport processes of U.S. Figure Skating. Retaliation may be present even when there is a finding that no violation of the rules or bylaws of U.S. Figure Skating occurred. Retaliation does not include good faith actions lawfully pursued in response to a report of a violation of the rules or bylaws of U.S. Figure Skating.
- C. Retaliatory conduct must be reported to the chair of the Ethics, Grievance or SafeSport Committee. Any member engaging in retaliatory conduct will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Article XXV, Section 1, of the U.S. Figure Skating bylaws.

*Current rules GR 1.05 (Jurisdiction) and GR 1.06 (Enforcement) will be renumbered accordingly.*

**Implementation date:** November 11, 2019

**18. APPROVED – SafeSport Committee**

Amend **rule GR 1.03 (page 38, Rulebook)** as follows:

- GR 1.03** U.S. Figure Skating will not tolerate or condone any form of harassment (including sexual harassment), misconduct, (including sexual, physical and emotional misconduct), bullying or hazing of any of its members including coaches, officials, directors, employees, parents, athletes and volunteers — or any other persons — while they are participating in or preparing for a figure skating activity or event conducted under the auspices of U.S. Figure Skating. The U.S. Figure Skating Policy Statement on Harassment and Abuse may be found in its entirety online at usfigureskating.org. Harassment of such nature between or among U.S. Figure Skating members ~~shall~~ **must** be reported to the chair of the Ethics, ~~or~~ Grievance ~~or~~ **SafeSport** Committee as soon as is practicably possible, per rules ECR 2.00, ~~and~~ GCR 2.00 ~~and~~ SFCR 3.00.
- A. If any form of child abuse is observed or suspected, the observer should immediately contact either local law enforcement or a public child welfare agency and make a report.
- B. Any person who violates this rule, who fails to appropriately report or who makes a false report or otherwise violates U.S. Figure Skating's Policy on Harassment and Abuse will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Article XXV, Section 1, of the U.S. Figure Skating bylaws.

**Implementation date:** November 11, 2019

19. **APPROVED – Grievance Committee**

Amend **rule GCR 3.05 (page 92, Rulebook)** as follows:

**GCR 3.05 Hearing Guidelines:**

- A. The Grievance Committee chair, after consultation with the parties, ~~shall will~~ determine if how the hearing will be conducted ~~by writing, telephone conference, hearing or any combination thereof~~, and provide written notification of such decision to the parties. The hearing or completion of the investigation must occur within 90 days of the appointment of a Hearing Panel unless the Hearing Panel chair and the Grievance Committee chair concurrently decide that there are reasonable grounds for a delay, in which case they will grant a reasonable delay, and notify the parties of the delay, ~~and the reasons for it in writing~~.
- B. The Grievant and Respondent may represent themselves throughout the grievance process, or may be represented by a person of their choice.
- C. The Hearing Panel chair will provide the Grievant, the Respondent and the panel members with written procedures and guidelines to be followed.
- D. All communications with the Hearing Panel before and after the hearing must be in writing and directed to the chair of the Hearing Panel. Communications during the hearing proceedings need not be in writing.
- E. The Hearing Panel chair must ensure that a record of the hearing is made.
- F. All parties must be given a reasonable opportunity to present oral or written evidence, to cross-examine witnesses, and to present such factual or legal claims as desired. The rules of evidence will not be strictly enforced; instead, rules of evidence generally accepted in administrative proceedings will be applicable. The Hearing Panel will determine admissibility, relevance and materiality of the evidence offered and may exclude evidence deemed by the Hearing Panel to be cumulative or irrelevant. The Hearing Panel has the right to question witnesses or parties to the proceeding at any time.
- G. The Grievant has the burden of supporting the Grievance by a preponderance of the evidence.
- H. Within 20 days of the conclusion of a hearing, the Hearing Panel must issue a written decision including findings of fact, the bylaws or rules upon which the decision is based and the reasoning behind the decision. The decision must be sent to the Grievance Committee chair, Grievant, Respondent and the U.S. Figure Skating president, secretary and Administrative/Legal Group coordinator by any expeditious delivery system that provides reasonable evidence of delivery.
- I. The jurisdiction of the Hearing Panel ceases, and Hearing Panel members will be discharged when the written decision is issued.

**Implementation date:** November 11, 2019

20. **APPROVED** the updated U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport Program Handbook, dated November 2019.