

**U.S. FIGURE SKATING
REPORT OF ACTION
taken by the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 7, 2020**

The Board of Directors took the following actions:

1. **APPROVED** the election and reappointment of Paul Wylie to serve as a U.S. Figure Skating trustee of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation, and concurred with the trustees' election and reappointment of Anne Coco Gram Shean, for three-year terms.
2. **APPROVED – Tests Committee**
Trying virtual judging on an interim basis from January 1, 2021, through June 30, 2021, with the following qualifications and requirements:

Qualification to Apply for Virtual Test Credit

In lieu of taking a free skate, moves in the field, patterned dance or free dance test at an in-person test session, candidates may elect to submit a video of the test for evaluation. Tests will be subject to the protocols as defined in the following requirements. Skaters must have met the prerequisites for the test by the date the test was skated.

- A. Test Proctor - In order to guarantee the integrity of the virtual test 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.
- B. Prior to the test candidate starting the test, the videographer will announce the test candidate's name, home club name, test name, and date the test was skated.
- C. A performance affidavit stating that the video is in its original format and has not been altered in any way must be signed by the test candidate, the test candidate's coach, the videographer, and the test proctor, must accompany the video submission.
- D. The video, performance affidavit and applicable payment must be submitted to the test chair or duly authorized representative of their home club.
 1. Individual members may submit these documents to any member club that has announced a submission deadline.
- E. The video and supporting documents must be submitted by the deadline set by the test chair. Video must have been taken within 30 days of the submission deadline.
- F. Results of the test submission must be returned to the skater and coach within one week of the video submission deadline.
- G. Figures are excluded from virtual test credit.

Requirements for Virtual Testing

The following requirements must be followed for a virtual test to receive credit:

- A. Each test must be executed in one continuous videotaped sitting without stopping the video.
- B. The test candidate must be clearly identifiable in the video and free from other skaters interfering with the test.
- C. Restarts are not allowed.
- D. Reskates are not allowed.
- E. For purposes of virtual testing only, there will be no judge-in-charge.
- F. Virtual tests are not eligible for trial judge credit.
- G. Moves in the field tests:
 1. The skater may stop between moves briefly (no more than 10 seconds); however, the videographer must continue to record.

- 2. Background music is not allowed for virtual tests.
- H. Free skate, pairs, pattern dance and free dance tests:
 - 1. Music must be played loud enough to be captured on the video.
- I. Any video submitted that is found to have been edited or modified from its original format will invalidate the test, but the 28-day retry rule will still apply
- J. All other test rules will remain intact.

Implementation date: January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021

- 3. **DID NOT APPROVE** moving the dates of the 2021 adult sectional championships and 2021 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships as proposed
- 4. **APPROVED** the updates to [Technical Notification 254](#) – including changing the number to Technical Notification 260 – regarding exceptions to rule 8216 (A), completion of partnered pattern dance tests, from January 1, 2021, through May 31, 2021, as presented.
- 5. **APPROVED** the extension of [Technical Notification 255](#) regarding exceptions to rule 8216 (C), beginning solo pattern dance tests, through May 31, 2021.
- 6. **APPROVED – Dance Development & Technical Committee**
To change implementation date of Item 105 in the 2019-20 Combined Report of Acton from June 1, 2021, to June 1, 2022.

2475 Dance competitors qualify for the U.S. Ice Dance Final by:

- A. Placing in the top six at a sectional ice dance challenge;
- B. For junior or senior events, any member of the United States Figure Skating Team, defined in rule ICR 3.05, that has been assigned to an international competition at the junior or senior level, and competes in that event; regardless of whether it conflicts with their sectional challenge;
- C. For junior and senior events, having two or fewer entries in their event at a sectional ice dance challenge, or having 18 or fewer entries in all their events, nationwide (see rule 2476);
- D. Having won the U.S. Figure Skating Championships at the junior level in the previous season, if competing at the junior level this season;
- E. Having won the U.S. Ice Dance Final at the senior level the previous season;
- F. Competitors qualifying under this rule 2475 (D) or (E) have the choice to compete at their sectional ice dance challenge but do not lose their bye to the U.S. Ice Dance Final, regardless of placement, nor displace a team who might place in the top six if said team was not entered.
- G. Competitors qualifying under this rule 2475 (C) will be given the option to compete at a different sectional ice dance challenge but not lose their bye to the U.S. Ice Dance Final, regardless of placement, nor displace a team who might place in the top six if said team was not entered.

2476 Two/18 or Fewer Rule: Ice dance competitors at a sectional challenge, in the junior or senior events only, may progress directly to the U.S. Ice Dance Final if, at the closing date for entries, there are two or fewer competitors in their event within their section or 18 or fewer competitors in their event nationwide. The chair of the Competitions Committee may also invoke this rule after the closing date for entries if international byes and/or withdrawals reduce an event to two or fewer competitors. Competitors in the juvenile through novice events must compete at their sectional challenge as long as there are two or more competitors.

- A. **Fill-up Rule:** Additional competitors from the same event in other sections will be permitted to enter in order to bring the number of competitors qualifying through the sectional challenge events up to a maximum of 18 (or more, if ties make it necessary). These additional competitors will be selected in the order of their placement. Should this result in two or more competitors qualifying for one additional place, all will be included, even if this causes the total number of competitors in the event to exceed 18 qualifying through the sectional challenge events.

Implementation date: June 1, ~~2021~~ 2022