

**U.S. FIGURE SKATING
REPORT OF ACTION
taken by the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 12, 2023**

The Board of Directors took the following actions:

1. APPROVED – Dance Development & Technical Committee

Amend **rule 8400** to change the restrictions on the competitive levels for ice dance couples:

8400 Ice Dance Test Qualifications and Age Requirements

For test qualifications and age requirement deadlines for qualifying competitions, see the National Qualifying Series Athlete Handbook.

Level	Minimum Test Qualifications
Senior	Both partners must have passed the gold skating skills test, the standard partnered gold dance test and the gold partnered free dance test.
Junior	Both partners must have passed the pre-gold skating skills test or higher, at least two standard partnered pre-gold dances and the ore-gold partnered free dance test or higher. Athletes may not have competed <u>as a team</u> in a qualifying competition at the senior level.
Novice	Both partners must have passed the silver skating skills test or higher, at least one dance of the standard partnered silver dances and the silver partnered free dance test or higher. Athletes may not have competed <u>as a team</u> in a qualifying competition at the junior level or higher.
Intermediate	Both partners must have passed the pre-silver skating skills test or higher, the standard partnered bronze dance test and the pre-silver partnered free dance test or higher. Athletes may not have competed <u>as a team</u> in a qualifying competition at the novice level or higher.
Juvenile	Both partners must have passed the bronze skating skills test or higher, the standard partnered preliminary dance test and the bronze partnered free dance test or higher. Athletes may not have competed <u>as a team</u> in a qualifying competition at the intermediate level or higher.
Pre-Juvenile	Both partners must have passed the preliminary skating skills test or higher and two standard partnered preliminary dances or higher. Athletes may not have competed <u>as a team</u> in a qualifying competition.

Implementation date: Immediate

2. APPROVED – Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee

Amend **rules 2921 and 2922, add rule 2926, and delete rules 2931, 2932 and 2933** to change the way the starting order is determined for the synchronized free skate for events that have a short program:

2920 Draws for Starting Orders and Resurface Groups – Synchronized Skating Competitions

2921 At the synchronized sectional championships:

- A. All draws for starting order in the first segment of each event will be drawn in a closed draw by the chief referee or chief accountant in the presence of at least two other officials at any convenient time

after the closing of entries. The drawn starting orders for each event must be posted no less than 12 hours before the start of the first event of the competition.

- B. The starting order for the junior, senior elite 12, and senior free skate will be a reverse placement skating order from the result of the short program segment. When competitors have the same total segment score, the tie will be broken as set forth in rule 1072 (D). In the case where the tie can't be broken, there will be a closed draw to determine the skate order of the tied competitors. The closed draw will follow the procedure outlined in this rule 2921 (A). As soon as possible following the determination and certification of the results of the preceding segment, the starting orders for each event will be posted. Draws following the short program for the senior and junior levels may be an open draw at the discretion of the chief referee. Promptly following these draws, the starting order for the free skate will be posted.

2922 At the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships:

- A. All draws for starting order in the first segment of each event will be drawn in a closed draw by the chief referee or chief accountant in the presence of at least two other officials at any convenient time after the closing of entries. The drawn starting orders for each event must be posted no less than 12 hours before the start of the first event of the competition.
- B. The starting order for the junior, senior elite 12, and senior free skate will be a reverse placement skating order from the result of the short program segment. When competitors have the same total segment score, the tie will be broken as set forth in rule 1072 (D). In the case where the tie can't be broken, there will be a closed draw to determine the skate order of the tied competitors. The closed draw will follow the procedure outlined in this rule 2922 (A). As soon as possible following the determination and certification of the results of the preceding segment, the starting orders for each event will be posted. Draws following the short program for the senior and junior levels will be an open draw announced in advance. The referee will designate someone to draw for teams not attending. Promptly following these draws, the starting order for the free skate will be posted.

2923 Size of resurface groups:

Number of Teams	Short Program and Free Skate (If Ties)	Free Skate	Number of Teams	Short Program and Free Skate (If Ties)	Free Skate
	Maximum of 6	Maximum of 5		Maximum of 6	Maximum of 5
2	2	2	12	6+6	4+4+4
3	3	3	13	4+4+5	4+4+5
4	4	4	14	4+5+5	4+5+5
5	5	5	15	5+5+5	5+5+5
6	6	3+3	16	5+5+6	4+4+4+4
7	3+4	3+4	17	5+6+6	4+4+4+5
8	4+4	4+4	18	6+6+6	4+4+5+5
9	4+5	4+5	19	4+5+5+5	4+5+5+5
10	5+5	5+5	20	5+5+5+5	5+5+5+5
11	5+6	3+4+4	21	5+5+5+6	4+4+4+4+5

- 2924** In senior, senior elite 12 and junior events only, the ice should be resurfaced after six teams perform the short program and after five teams (six in the case of ties) perform the free skate.

- 2925** In novice and lower events, the number of teams performing between ice resurfaces is at the discretion of the referee.

- 2926** If the maximum number of teams allowed in a resurface group is not exceeded, the teams will skate in the same resurface group. If the maximum number of teams allowed is exceeded, the draw groups as established are the resurface groups. [Note: This was moved from rule 2932.]

2930—Draws for Subsequent Starting Orders and Resurface Groups—Synchronized Skating

2931—As soon as possible after the determination and certification of the results of the preceding segment, the officials selected by the chief referee will complete the draw. In most situations, actual draw groups are determined by the maximum number of teams permitted in a resurface group. Of course, there are situations where this is not possible:

- A. When teams are tied but are in two separate draw groups, draw groups are readjusted.
- B. When an event has the maximum or fewer teams than allowed in a resurface group.

Each of these circumstances is covered in detail within this section.

Note: Draws are tied to the starting order group when the number of teams in the event does not surpass the maximum allowed for resurface group size. When the number of teams in the event requires more than one resurface group, draws are tied to the resurface group.

C. The draw for the starting order of teams in the free skate is determined from the results of the short program.

- 1. In the event of a withdrawal after the starting order has been posted, resurface groups may be adjusted to fill the open position. The chief referee has the discretion to determine whether the original resurface group should remain, or if the resurface group may be adjusted without repeating the draw.

D. How to establish draw groups to determine a starting order:

- 1. When the number of teams does not exceed the maximum permitted in a resurface group:
 - a. The teams will be divided into two equal draw groups.
 - b. If the number of teams is not equally divisible, the last draw group (the best placed teams) must contain one more team than the first draw group.
 - c. Tied teams must be placed in the same draw group.
 - d. When teams are tied, there will be a separate draw before the main draw to determine the draw order for the tied teams.
 - e. The starting order in each draw group will be drawn in order of placement, starting with the best placed team.
 - f. The resurface group is independent of these draws (see rule 2923).
- g. Size of Draw Groups with Only One Resurface Group:

Number of Teams	Free Skate
2	1+1
3	1+2
4	2+2
5	2+3

- 2. When there are more teams than the maximum number permitted in a resurface group:
 - a. For the purpose of establishing draw groups, start with the last place team and work up to the first place team to establish the groups permitted in a resurface group. See the table in rule 2923.
 - b. If there are more teams than the maximum permitted, they will be divided into the smallest possible number of equal groups of not more than the maximum permitted.
 - c. If the number of teams is not equally divisible, the last group to skate (the best placed teams) and as many preceding groups as necessary must contain one more team than the first group to skate (the lowest placed teams).
 - d. Tied teams must be in the same draw group:
 - i. Starting with the lowest placed team, tied teams in different draw groups will be placed together in the same draw group. The draw group from which the team(s) was (were) removed is reduced accordingly.
 - ii. When one or more tied teams are included in the same draw group, the maximum number of teams permitted in a resurface group may be exceeded by one.
 - iii. If these tied teams increase the maximum group size allowed by two or more, the draw group in question will be divided into two subgroups. One subgroup will consist of these tied teams. The other subgroup will consist of the remaining teams from the group.
 - iv. The movement of tied teams in the event does not affect the other teams. Their assigned draw group does not change.
 - v. When teams are tied, there will be a separate draw before the main draw to determine the draw order for the tied teams.

~~e. Start the draw with the best placed team. The starting order in each group will be drawn in order of placement.~~

~~2932 Resurface groups:~~

~~A. If the maximum number of teams allowed in a resurface group is not exceeded, the teams will skate in the same resurface group.~~

~~B. If the maximum number of teams allowed is exceeded, the draw groups as established are the resurface groups.~~

~~2933 Promptly following these draws, the starting order will be posted.~~

Implementation date: July 1, 2023