U.S. FIGURE SKATING Can I be an Official?



- WHO can become an official?
 - Anyone (including coaches and active competitors) willing and able to uphold the ethical standards of U.S. Figure Skating can become an official. A good official is passionate about our sport, committed, responsible, and open to continuous learning and growth to support U.S. Figure Skating in serving our athletes. You must be at least 18 years old and a fully compliant official before you can apply for your first appointment. You may start trialing at 16.
- **WHAT** types of officials are there?
 - Accountants and technical accountants
 - Announcers and music coordinators
 - Judges (testing and/or competition)
 - Referees (must be a competition judge first)
 - Technical panel (technical specialists, technical controllers, data and video operators)
- **WHEN** can I become an official?
 - Skating will always be around, and U.S. Figure Skating will always need officials! You need to decide when you have the time and ability to prepare and fulfill the required activity for your desired appointment(s). Test sessions are offered year-round, but competition-specific activity is subject to the nonqualifying and qualifying seasons. Technical panel seminars are offered at least once a year. eLearning courses are also available year-round to help you get started.
- **HOW** do I get started?
 - Fill out the <u>Interest Form</u>. You will get instructions on the next steps based off your interest(s). You will then gain access to the library of official's eLearning tools under Members Only.
- WHERE can I trial or gain the necessary experience for an appointment?
 - Prospective judges can reach out to your local clubs for available test sessions to trial judge or apply to trial judge one of the available competitions.
 - Announcers, music officials and accountants should contact local competitions to get involved and gain experience.
 - Technical panel officials must attend a U.S. Figure Skating seminar to test for initial certification. Seminars are usually offered in the spring. Check the "<u>Officiate</u>" page for information on any schools being offered.

Many appointments can be earned without significant travel!

- WHY should I become an official?
 - This is the most important question! Everyone's "why" is a little different, but it is an honor and a privilege to serve as a U.S. Figure Skating Official at any level. You get the opportunity to be involved and give back to a sport you love while building long-lasting relationships with a community of your peers that share a similar passion. Whether your role is with your local clubs or as a national official, there is a place for you as a U.S. Figure Skating official.

Reserve your spot for some of the best seats in the house! Email <u>USFSRecruitment@gmail.com</u> with any questions