

COVID-19 Protocol for U.S. Figure Skating

Synchronized Skating Qualifying Competitions

As of January 18, 2022 (subject to change)

Overview

The following COVID-19 Response Protocol and Facility Access Requirements has been developed by U.S. Figure Skating in conjunction with U.S. Figure Skating's Sports Science and Medicine Committee and is based on current CDC Guidelines. Please note this document is subject to change pending updated CDC, facility, local, and/or state guidelines.

Any attendee(s), including teams, that do not follow the protocols outlined in this document may be subject to removal from the competition/facility.

Facility Access Requirement

To receive an event credential, all attendees, at their own expense, **MUST** produce at least ONE of the requirements below:

- a negative PCR (molecular) test or NAAT (nucleic acid amplification test) within 3 days of departure OR;
- an antigen test 24 hours prior to departure for the competition OR;
- a copy of your positive test OR a letter of recovery from a doctor in place of the negative test result IF a person tested positive for COVID between 11 and 90 days prior to departing for the competition and has completed an isolation period of 10-days.

If you are unable to produce one of the requirements above, you will not be issued a credential for the competition.

TEAMS

The testing status as of the time the team departed for the competition of all rostered skaters and team personnel will be attested to by the Head Coach and at least one other member of the team leadership (ex. assistant coach, team manager). Further, this attestation will state that team leadership will not allow any member of the team (or personnel associated with the team) to come to the facility if any symptoms are present for the duration of attendance at the competition. If a member of the team or personnel traveling with the team develops symptoms, they should isolate immediately and seek medical evaluation, including a negative result on a COVID test prior to re-entering the facility. It will be considered a serious ethics violation to make a false attestation.

The team attestation form will be posted on the event websites and emailed to all teams once available. This form should be signed upon departure for the competition and turned in at the time of check-in.

Teams should maintain copies of all test results for their records and may be asked to show them upon check-in to the competition. Digital test results are preferred for all test types – some rapid antigens provide a QR code for you to generate a digital result. For rapid antigen tests that do not provide an option for a digital result, a photo of the test result including the person's name and date test taken will

be accepted. Copies of test results should be maintained in alphabetical order with key information (name of skater, date of test, type of test, and test result) highlighted.

Clarification: if a member of the team arrives earlier with another team or in a different role (ex. an adult level skater arrives earlier in the week to coach a juvenile team), the testing requirement is based on the point of departure for the competition. The test result should still be included with all team's results and team leadership should make note of any exceptions of this type.

CREDENTIALLED COACHES & TEAM SERVICE PERSONNEL

Any team personnel (coaches, team managers, team service personnel) who wish to be accredited will be required to show their own negative test result and photo ID when they check-in independently of the team. Additional compliance requirements (i.e. background check, SafeSport™ Training) must also be fully completed at the time of check-in and will be verified by the LOC.

Digital test results are preferred for all test types – some rapid at-home tests have a QR code for you to generate a digital result. For rapid antigen tests that do not provide an option for a digital result, a photo of the test result including the person's name and date test taken will be accepted.

PARENTS/CHAPERONES TRAVELING AND/OR STAYING WITH TEAMS

Spectators who are traveling and/or staying with teams (i.e. parents/chaperones) must produce a negative test as of the time of departure for the competition. If you develop symptoms, you should isolate immediately and notify your team leadership. Spectators will receive a pass upon their first entrance to the facility with their name on it to use (with ID or parent/guardian attestation) at subsequent entries to the event.

- a negative PCR (molecular) test or NAAT (nucleic acid amplification test) within 3 days of departure OR;
- an antigen test 24 hours prior to departure for the competition OR;
- a copy of your positive test OR a letter of recovery from a doctor in place of the negative test result IF a person tested positive for COVID **between 11 and 90 days prior to departing for the competition** and has completed an isolation period of 10-days.

Digital test results are preferred for all test types – some rapid at-home tests have a QR code for you to generate a digital result. For rapid antigen tests that do not provide an option for a digital result, a photo of the test result including the person's name and date test taken will be accepted.

SPECTATORS NOT TRAVELING OR STAYING WITH TEAMS

Spectators who are NOT traveling and/or staying with teams must provide one of the following at the time of their first entrance to the facility:

1. Proof of full and current vaccination.
 - a. 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and the final dose is within 5 months prior to departure for the competition OR you have received a 3rd booster dose if final dose was more than 5 months ago, OR
 - b. 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine within the preceding 2 months or received a 2nd booster dose if the initial dose was more than 2 months ago

2. Proof of a negative PCR or NAAT test no more than 3 days prior to first access to the facility.
3. Proof of a negative rapid antigen test no more than 1 day prior to first access to the facility.
 - a. Digital test results are preferred for all test types – some rapid antigens provide a QR code for you to generate a digital result. For rapid antigen tests that do not provide an option for a digital result, a photo of the test result including the person’s name and date test taken will be accepted.
4. If you tested positive for COVID between 11 and 90 days prior to accessing the facility and have completed a 10-day isolation period, you may use a proof of positive tests and/or a letter of recovery from a medical professional to access the facility.

If you develop symptoms, you should isolate immediately and seek medical consultation.

Spectators will receive a pass upon their first entrance to the facility with their name on it to use (with ID or parent/guardian attestation) at subsequent entries to the event.

OFFICIALS

Officials are subject to the negative test requirement. Test expenses will be reimbursable (with receipt) via the Travel Expense Report submitted at the end of the competition.

Masking Requirement

Masks are required for all event attendees, including spectators, regardless of vaccination status. Attendees are required to use a N95, KN95, OR a 3-ply surgical mask with one additional mask layer (a cloth mask on top of the surgical mask or an additional surgical mask) at all times.

- The only exception will be for skaters who are on the ice for practice ice or competition or during off-ice warm up. During these times, skaters will be permitted to wear a single surgical mask or cloth mask.
- Masks will be required during all competitive events and award ceremonies.
- No penalty will come to teams for wearing masks on the ice unless the mask is deemed theatrical in nature and goes against the U.S. Figure Skating Costume Guidelines.

COVID-19 Response Protocol

In the case of a positive test...

If you or a member of your team’s competition roster – inclusive of team personnel (coaches, team managers, team service personnel) – within 10 days prior to departure for the competition tests positive for COVID-19 they should immediately isolate for a minimum of 10 days and enact the following protocol:

- The team must immediately complete a [COVID-19 Response Protocol Questionnaire: CLICK HERE](#).
- This form will provide U.S. Figure Skating and designated medical team member(s) with all information to fully evaluate your team’s scenario.
- Within 24 hours during the event week you will receive a response with any additional questions and/or to confirm the protocol your team should follow as directed by the details in this document. Once the scenario has been fully evaluated, an action plan will be formulated based on the parameters outlined in the next section.

- If any additional information about your scenario develops after your form is submitted but before your competition's contact reaches out to you, please email events@usfigureskating.org

Action Plan Overview

Anyone who was in close contact with this person (for teams where a skater tests positive, all skaters on the team – including swings - are considered close contact), the following protocol must be observed:

- The individual who tests positive should isolate immediately for a period of 10-days and not be permitted to travel to the competition. See CDC guidelines for isolation protocol.
- For persons who have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has tested positive:
 - o If you have completed a full vaccine series with final dose completed within 5 months of the event date OR have an additional booster dose and not showing any symptoms:
 - You are not subject to quarantine guidelines and are permitted to travel/participate in the competition.
 - You must wear your mask at all times when in public, especially indoors including on the ice and in off-ice warm-up.
 - It is asked that you limit your time in the facility during the competition as much as possible. Per the CDC guidelines it is recommended that you get tested 5 – 7 days after exposure as an additional precaution.
 - Should symptoms appear, immediately self-isolate and seek medical evaluation to include testing for COVID.
 - o If you have completed a full vaccine series with final dose completed within 5 months of the event date OR have an additional booster dose and you ARE showing symptoms:
 - You should seek medical evaluation including testing for COVID and must receive written clearance from your medical provider to travel.
 - o If you are NOT fully vaccinated regardless of whether you are displaying symptoms or not:
 - You should be quarantined at home and not travel to the competition.
 - If you are experiencing symptoms, seek medical care to include a test for COVID-19.
 - o If you have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and completed isolation period of 10-days:
 - You are not subject to quarantine guidelines and are permitted to travel/participate in the competition.
 - You must wear your mask at all times when in public, especially indoors.
 - It is asked that you limit your time in the facility during the competition as much as possible. Per the CDC guidelines it is recommended that you get tested 5 – 7 days after exposure as an additional precaution.
 - Should symptoms appear, immediately self-isolate and seek medical evaluation to include testing for COVID.
- For persons who have NOT been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has tested positive:
 - o Regardless of vaccination status, quarantine/isolation protocols do not need to be followed in this scenario, but it is recommended that you carefully monitor for

symptoms. At the sign of any symptoms, seek medical care to include a test for COVID-19.

- **NOTE: if a skater is the person who initially tests positive, all other members of the team – inclusive of any swing/alternate/cross skaters – will be considered in close contact.**
- For reference:
 - Definition of fully vaccinated:
 - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and the final dose is within 5 months prior to departure for the competition OR you have received a 3rd booster dose if final dose was more than 5 months ago, OR
 - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine within the preceding 2 months or received a 2nd booster dose if the initial dose was more than 2 months ago
 - Symptoms of COVID-19 include the following:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

In the event an attendee begins to display symptoms on-site (even after receiving a negative test prior to departing for the competition), they should isolate immediately and seek a rapid antigen test. A negative antigen test will need to be received prior to re-accessing the facility. If symptoms continue to develop or worsen, the attendee should consider remaining isolated, regardless of antigen test result, and consider seeking a more sensitive test option such as a PCR or NAAT test.

Team participation as a result of positive test(s)...

The following protocols were developed by the Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee and approved by the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors for implementation in the 2022 Synchronized Skating Qualifying Season. All exceptions outlined below expire June 30, 2022.

1. For teams entered in events in which all teams entered would advance regardless of placement based on the most recent version of the [Advancement Chart](#), if the team is unable to compete in a sectional championship due to the inability to meet COVID-19 Protocol requirements for negative tests the team will still advance to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.
2. A positive test result based on the COVID-19 protocol for attendance at the event will be considered an “on-site illness” under Rule 2823 which would permit the following exceptions. For your team to be cleared under one of these exceptions, a member of your team leadership must complete an Exemption Form on-site found at your competition’s registration desk. This

form will be delivered to the Chief Referee of the event and distributed to your officials panel so your team will be judged accordingly.

- a. Teams that drop below the minimum number of required skaters will still be eligible to compete.
- b. For teams that drop below the minimum number of required skaters to make certain level calls, TN 267 becomes enacted allowing certain calls to still be achieved.

MANDATORY Know Before You Go Calls

Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships Teams

Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 6:00 PM ET

Click here to register: https://usfigureskating-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkf-gsrTsrHNbwvNh77_vGs57woyvJzdU7

Midwestern & Pacific Coast Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships Teams

Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 8:30 PM ET

Click here to register: <https://usfigureskating-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAldu-gpkrGtZXV8mTtSCvidFZ-v7mF3g>

Assigned Officials

Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7:00 PM ET

A registration link was emailed to all assigned officials. If you did not receive this link, please email your Chief Referee.

Questions?

Events Department – U.S. Figure Skating
events@usfigureskating.org | 719-635-5200