

2022-23 National Qualifying Series (NQS) Athlete Handbook

QUALIFYING ATHLETE CHECKLIST

☑ RENEW MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022-23 SEASON
 ☑ CONFIRM COMPETITIVE LEVEL (AGE & TEST ELIGIBILITY)
 ☑ REGISTER FOR NQS VIA <u>SERIES APPLICATION</u>, **OPEN JULY 1, 2022** ☑ REGISTER FOR AN <u>APPROVED NQS COMPETITION</u> VIA <u>EMS</u>
 ☑ COMPETE WHERE/WHEN YOU CHOOSE TO POST A SERIES SCORE!

NQS Questions? Email events@usfigureskating.org

NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES HISTORY & OVERVIEW

The U.S. Figure Skating National Qualifying Series (NQS) was approved by the 2018 Governing Council and implemented in the summer of 2019. The NQS is a series of competitions hosted individually by member clubs nationwide, in which athletes enter and earn a score. They will earn a placement in the individual competition they enter, an overall national ranking in their level and a regional and sectional ranking.

Beginning with the 2022-23 season, U.S. Figure Skating is consolidating the stand-alone October qualifying competitions, Regional (singles) and Sectional (pairs and ice dance) Challenges into the National Qualifying Series from mid-July to late September, allowing athletes to advance to the November Finals – Sectional Singles, U.S. Pairs and U.S. Ice Dance Finals – and culminating with the 2023 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships and National High Performance Development Team Camp in January 2023.

QUALIFYING STRUCTURE

SINGLES, PAIRS AND ICE DANCE

JULY-SEPTEMBER		NOVEMBER		JANUARY
NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES SINGLES	\rightarrow	SECTIONAL SINGLES FINAL Eastern, Midwestern, Pacific Coast	\rightarrow	U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS OR NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM
NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES PAIRS	\rightarrow	U.S. PAIRS FINAL**	\rightarrow	U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS OR NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM
NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES ICE DANCE	÷	U.S. ICE DANCE FINAL**	\rightarrow	U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS OR NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM

*The Regional and Sectional Challenges have been combined with the National Qualifying Series (NQS). NQS is open entry and qualifies athletes/teams to a November Final. **The U.S. Pairs Final and U.S. Ice Dance Final events are held in conjunction with one of the Sectional Singles Finals.

STEP 1 – RENEW MEMBERSHIP

In order to complete qualifying registration (via the <u>Series Application</u>) and register for <u>approved NQS</u> <u>competitions</u>, ALL athletes must be current members of U.S. Figure Skating according to <u>U.S. Figure</u> <u>Skating Rule 2211</u>.

A current membership for the 2022-23 season is required to complete the series application (membership must be fully processed with home club AND U.S. Figure Skating; you can verify membership status <u>here</u>).

Given the rolling application window(s), there is time for an athlete/team to renew membership AFTER July 1 and still complete the <u>Series Application</u> prior to the start of their preferred NQS event. Note, the application must be complete prior to the <u>first day</u> of the NQS competition for the score to count in the Series Standings and advancement opportunities.

Singles athletes are automatically entered into one of the nine regions based on the location of their home club, or if an individual member, their home address.

Pairs and ice dance teams are automatically entered into one of the three sections based on the location of the home club of <u>the partner who completes registration</u>, or if an individual member, their home address. Note: only one member of the team is required to complete the series application and approved competition registration.

All registrants are bound to their geographic designation at the time of entry and <u>no changes are</u> <u>permitted</u>. Club representation stays intact for entirety of season even if athlete/team changes club.

STEP 2 – COMPETITIVE LEVEL

Meet all age requirements pertaining to the event to be entered by September 1, 2022.

• Proposal for the 2023-24 season is to move the age requirement deadline to July 1, 2023.

Meet test requirements by the conclusion of National Qualifying Series.

Athletes/teams may complete qualifying registration for <u>ONE level</u>. Registration may be at the participants current level or one level higher. If skating one level higher, test information (from club test session, virtual test or IJS competition test credit) must be fully processed with U.S. Figure Skating and reflected in the athlete's profile no later than September 30, 2022. If minimum test eligibility is not met by series close, athlete/teams will NOT be permitted to advance to November Finals.

• Can I change my level?

Athletes/teams wishing to move up a level prior to the conclusion of NQS may request the change via email at <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u>. A mid-season change will VOID all previous <u>Series Standings</u> and advancement opportunities tied to the athlete/team's original level.

 Only ONE change requested is permitted per entry AND athletes may only move UP, they are not permitted to change to a lower level after posting a score to the <u>Series</u> <u>Standings</u>.

Meet the citizen and residency requirements as stated in Rules 2230-2243.

Foreign or released athletes residing in the U.S. <u>who currently represent another ISU federation</u> other than U.S. Figure Skating may register and compete at an approved NQS competition. However, they are not eligible to complete the <u>Series Application</u> nor receive a score within the <u>Series Standings.</u>

Have you competed on behalf of another ISU federation and are looking to return and/or compete within the U.S. Figure Skating qualifying structure? Review the resources and requirements below:

- Non-Citizen: Letter, CC-01 Form
- Returning Citizen: <u>Letter</u>, <u>CC-02 Form</u>
- o <u>Request for Foreign Test Credit</u>

STEP 3 – NQS SERIES APPLICATION

Beginning July 1, athletes/teams can complete their qualifying registration via the <u>Series Application</u>. Registration will be conducted in three tiers as outlined below. For pairs and ice dance teams, only ONE member must complete the registration.

The Series Application is the key requirement for qualifying registration AND replaces regional/sectional registration traditionally from July 15 – September 1. All interested athletes (including potential and known byes) MUST complete this step prior to the start of their first approved NQS competition (first day of competition).

Timeline	Application Open	Application Close	Fee
Early Bird	July 1 at 12:00 p.m. ET	July 15 at 11:59 p.m. ET	\$35
Standard	July 16 at 12:00 p.m. ET	September 1 at 11:59 p.m. ET	\$70
Late	September 2 at 12:00 p.m. ET	September 20 at 11:59 p.m. ET	\$105

Note: the application will close on the respective deadlines at 11:59 p.m. ET and re-open the following day at 12:00 p.m. ET. During this time, the Series Status will be listed as "Registration Closed".



- Without a paid <u>Series Application</u>, NO scores will be posted to the <u>Series Standings</u> and thus athletes/team cannot advance to the November Finals and/or U.S. Figure Skating Championships and National High Performance Development Team/Camp.
 - This applies equally to known byes; they MUST complete the <u>Series Application</u> regardless of status.
- If an athlete/team competes in an approved NQS competition prior to completing their <u>Series</u> <u>Application</u>, the scores will NOT count in the Series no exceptions!

 Skater A competes at Glacier Falls at the end of July but doesn't complete their Series Application until August, their scores do NOT count (and will not count AFTER the Series Application is complete).

Online payment via credit card is the ONLY accepted form of payment for the Series Application. No cash checks or mail orders will be accepted by U.S. Figure Skating.

STEP 4 – REGISTER FOR AN APPROVED NQS COMPETITION VIA EMS

All athletes/teams must register for at least ONE approved NQS competition via U.S. Figure Skating's <u>Event Management System (EMS)</u> and compete!

Please note, many approved NQS competitions will open registration prior to July 1 when the <u>Series</u> <u>Application</u> is available via EMS. This will mean that athletes will complete step 4 prior to step 3.

★2022-2023 National Qualifying Series		
	REGISTER NOW	
	Registration deadline: 7/31/2022 11:59 PM ET	

Athletes must enter each approved NQS competition directly, in accordance with the entry deadline and entry fees set forth by the host club. It is the sole responsibility of each qualifying athlete/team to complete this step to ensure they will post a score for the series and thus the opportunity to advance to the November Finals.

Note: while there is no maximum number of competitions an athlete/team may register for, in order to post a score to the <u>Series Standings</u>, participants must compete in at least one approved NQS competition and, if applicable, complete both segments.

NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES (NQS) STANDINGS

The NQS Standings will be available for viewing in <u>EMS</u>. The standings will display a national and sectional rank for all disciplines. Singles events will also display a regional ranking.

To access the standings:

- Log in to Members Only at <u>https://m.usfigureskating.org</u>.
 Select EMS.
 - Click "Series Information."
 - Choose "2022-23 National Qualifying Series."
- Select "Standings."

At the end of each approved NQS competition, all IJS competition results will be uploaded to EMS by the chief accountant as soon as possible following the event's conclusion. Each skater's total score is transmitted to the Standings. Only a skater's current highest total score is officially recorded. If a skater finishes a competition and beats their previous high score, the score will be updated. If a skater competes but does not beat their current high score, the previous score stands.

An athlete/team will not appear on the NQS standings until they have earned a total score at an approved NQS competition for the level of their paid Series Application.

Please note, progression in the qualifying season (i.e., advancement to the November Finals) is tied to the **highest posted score** in the Series Standings, NOT from individual event placements at approved NQS competitions.

ATHLETE RECOGNITION

Digital series certificates will be provided to all participants who post a score with their final ranking(s) and pins will be sent to the **home club** of each participant for local recognition:

- Top 25% nationally gold pin
- Top 26-50% nationally silver pin
- Below top 50% will receive a "competitor" pin

SINGLES AWARDS

Regional Medals – awarded to top four highest scores per level, per region Trophy – awarded to the gold medalist for each level, per region

PAIRS & ICE DANCE AWARDS

Sectional Medals – awarded to top four highest scoring teams per level, per section Trophies – awarded to the gold medalist team for each level, per section

National Qualifying Series medals and trophies will be presented in-person, onsite at the November Finals. If unable to attend the November Finals, awards will be sent to each recipient's home address.

ADVANCEMENT TO NOVEMBER FINALS

- 2023 Eastern Sectional Singles & U.S. Ice Dance Final
 - Tuesday, November 8 Saturday, November 12, 2022
 - Norwood, Massachusetts The Skating Club of Boston
- 2023 Midwestern Sectional Singles & U.S. Pairs Final
 - Tuesday, November 8 Friday, November 11, 2022
 - Lansing, Michigan Lansing Skating Club
- <u>2023 Pacific Coast Sectional Singles Final</u>
 - Tuesday, November 8 Sunday, November 13
 - San Francisco, California The Skating Club of San Francisco

Advancement information will be sent via email, outlining the <u>EMS</u> registration process and competition details in early October. Each qualifier will be required to complete registration and pay their entry fee within 72 hours of receipt of advancement email from U.S. Figure Skating HQ. If no response, spot will be forfeited, and alternate will be invited.

Singles: \$250/entry + \$10 administration fee Pairs and Ice Dance: \$350/entry + \$10 administration fee Online payment via credit card is the ONLY accepted form of payment for the qualifying season. No cash checks or mail orders will be accepted by U.S. Figure Skating.

SINGLES

- Juvenile Novice: 24 skaters per level
 - Top 4 overall scores from each region, next best 12 overall scores from the section
- Junior Senior: 18 skaters per level plus byes
 - Top 4 overall scores from each region, next best 6 overall scores from the section

ADVANCEMENT TO NOVEMBER FINALS (continued)

PAIRS

- Juvenile Novice: 24 teams per level
 - Top 4 overall scores from each section, next best 12 overall scores from nation
- Junior Senior: 18 teams per level plus byes
 - Top 4 overall scores per section, next best 6 overall scores from nation

ICE DANCE

- Juvenile Novice: 24 teams per level
 - Top 4 overall scores from each section, next best 12 overall scores from nation
- Junior Senior: 18 teams per level plus byes
 - \circ $\$ Top 4 overall scores per section, next best 6 overall scores from nation

ADVANCEMENT TO NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT TEAM & CAMP

San Jose, California • January 2023, Exact Dates Coming Soon

SINGLES: 12 skaters per level

Top 4 athletes per section, per level in juvenile, intermediate and novice

PAIRS: 9 teams overall

Top 6 teams from the U.S. Pairs Final in novice

• Plus, 3 additional teams (juvenile – novice) per criteria approved by the Pairs Development and Technical Committee

ICE DANCE: 9 teams per level

Top 9 teams per level from the U.S. Ice Dance Final in juvenile, intermediate and novice

ADVANCEMENT TO U.S. FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

San Jose, California • January 23 - 29, 2023

CLICK HERE FOR APPROVED 2022-23 BYE CRITERIA

SINGLES

Junior: maximum of 18 entries from the Sectional Singles Final Top 4 athletes per section Top 2 novice athletes per section invited to skate up to junior

IF any athletes qualify for the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final of Figure Skating who are registered to compete junior domestically, they will receive a bye to the U.S. Championships (in addition to the 18 from the Sectional Singles Final), if they withdraw prior to or at the Championships their byed spot will not be filled as the maximum entries is 18

Senior: maximum of 18 entries inclusive of Byes and Sectional Singles Final

Athletes receiving a bye per the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook or approved bye criteria (will be published no later than July 1, 2022) Top 2 athletes per section from Sectional Singles Final Plus, next best scores nationwide until maximum is met

ICE DANCE

Junior: maximum of 12 entries from the U.S. Ice Dance Final

Top 12 teams from U.S. Ice Dance Final

IF any teams qualify for the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final of Figure Skating who are registered to compete junior domestically, they will receive a bye to the U.S. Championships (in addition to the 12 from the U.S. Ice Dance Final), if they withdraw prior to or at the Championships their byed spot will not be filled as the maximum entries is 12

Senior: maximum of 15 entries inclusive of Byes and the U.S. Ice Dance Final

Teams receiving a bye per the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook or approved bye criteria (will be published no later than July 1, 2022)

Plus, next best teams from U.S. Ice Dance Final until maximum is met

PAIRS

Junior: maximum of 12 entries from the U.S. Pairs Final Top 12 teams from U.S. Ice Dance Final

IF any teams qualify for the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final of Figure Skating who are registered to compete junior domestically, they will receive a bye to the U.S. Championships (in addition to the 12 from the U.S. Ice Pairs Final), if they withdraw prior to or at the Championships their byed spot will not be filled as the maximum entries is 12



Senior: maximum of 12 entries inclusive of Byes and the U.S. Pairs Final

Teams receiving a bye per the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook or approved bye criteria (will be published no later than July 1, 2022) Plus, next best teams from U.S. Pairs Final until maximum is met

See <u>U.S. Figure Skating Rules 2520-2524</u> for alternate information

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If there are large entries for National Qualifying Series (juvenile – senior) events, the referee may choose to break the event into two or more seeded groups per the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. Athletes will remain in the same groups for each applicable segment to post a total score for the Series. For example: if there are more than 30 athletes in intermediate women, all skaters in group A will compete against each other in the short program, then again in the free skate for a total combined score, which is the athlete's total score for that competition.

There will be NO consolation or final rounds for NQS.

Please note, there will be NO segment-only competitive events for NQS levels (i.e., intermediate men's short program, only intermediate men's combined).

NO critiques may be offered at any NQS competition.

No refunds are provided for the NQS Series Application Fee under any circumstances (medical withdraws included).

All <u>withdraws</u> from approved NQS competitions are considered final. Entry fees refund policies for approved NQS competition are at the discretion of each host club.

Coach Compliance

Any coach attending the competition must be included within a skater's series application <u>AND</u> individual competition registration via <u>EMS</u>. Any coaches declared at the time of registration will be included in the skater's registration confirmation email and have access to the <u>EMS Coach Portal</u>. Note, there is no registration approval process within <u>EMS</u> as the data (membership and test level) is tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database. Noncompliant coaches will receive automated email reminders through the start of the competition.

All National Qualifying Series coaches must meet the criteria below:

- ✓ Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating either through a member club or as an individual member.
- ✓ <u>If 18 years or older</u>, must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check. *
 - The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must complete annual SafeSport Training. *

- The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification.
- ✓ Must complete the Professional Coach/Choreographer Coaching Education Requirement (CER) through the <u>Professional Skaters Association (PSA)</u>.
- ✓ Must submit proof of general liability insurance with limits of \$1 million per occurrence/\$5 million aggregate.
- ✓ Must agree to the U.S. Figure Skating Code of Ethics. *
- Must complete three waivers: 1) Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release and Indemnification Agreement, 2) Medical Consent and 3) Name and Likeness Release and Consent Agreement. *
- ✓ If athlete is participating in the National Qualifying Series, must be a full member of the <u>Professional Skaters Association (PSA)</u>.

Liability

U.S. Figure Skating, the host club(s) and/or interclub association, the organizing committee and the ice arenas utilized for these events accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in these National Qualifying Series events (U.S. Figure Skating Rule 1600).

QUALIFYING ATHLETE RESOURCE LIST

U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook

Event Management System (EMS)

- Series Application
- Competition Registration
- Series Standings
- Skater Portal: <u>My Coaches</u>, <u>Music</u>, <u>PPC</u>
- Coach Portal: My Skaters, Coach Schedule

Citizenship Eligibility

- Non-Citizen: Letter, CC-01 Form
- Returning Citizen: Letter, CC-02 Form
- <u>Request for Foreign Test Credit</u>

Approved 2022-23 Bye Criteria

Program Requirements | Juvenile - Senior

- Singles: <u>Short Program</u> & <u>Free Skate</u>
- Pairs: <u>Short Program</u> & <u>Free Skate</u>
- Ice Dance: Pattern Dance, Rhythm Dance & Free Dance

CONTACTS

U.S. Figure Skating Events Department

Email: <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u> Phone: (719) 635-5200

U.S. Figure Skating Product Support (EMS)

Email: productsupport@usfigureskating.org Phone: (719) 635-5200

CONTACTS

Competitions Committee Kathleen Krieger, Chair E-mail: KriegerRPh@msn.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When are regionals?

For the 2022-23 qualifying season, regionals have been consolidated into the approved NQS competitions. The Series Application is the key requirement for qualifying registration AND replaces regional/sectional registration traditionally from July 15 – September 1. All interested athletes (including potential and known byes) MUST complete this step.

Will there be any changes in the approved NQS competition list?

<u>Approved NQS competitions</u> and the designated disciplines are locked in. There will be no additional competitions. The competition <u>list</u> will be evaluated each year by the Competitions Committee.

What levels are offered for the National Qualifying Series?

National Qualifying Series events are offered at juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior and senior for singles, pairs and ice dance. Open juvenile is NOT included in NQS.

I have not renewed my membership for the 2022-23 season, what are my options?

Given the rolling application windows, there is time for an athlete/team to renew membership AFTER July 1 and complete the Series Application. For scores to count, the application must be completed prior to the FIRST DAY of an athlete/team's preferred NQS event. Without a renewed membership, an athlete/team cannot complete the Series Application and without a paid Series Application, scores from an approved NQS competition will not count (no exceptions).

Where can I find the Series Standings?

To access the standings:

- Log in to <u>https://m.usfigureskating.org</u>.
 - Not a member? Create a non-member account <u>here</u>.
- Select EMS.
- Click "Series Information."
 - o Choose "2022-23 National Qualifying Series."
- Select "Standings."

After the conclusion of each approved NQS competition, the chief accountant will upload the scores to EMS. Please allow up to 48 hours of event closure for standings to update. Reminder: only the athlete/team's <u>highest score</u> will be included on the series.

I competed at an approved NQS competition, but I don't see my scores on the Series Standings? If a score is not listed from an approved NQS competition, review the following scenarios:

- Did you complete and pay for the <u>Series Application</u> prior to competing?
 - **Yes**, email <u>productsupport@usfigureskating.org</u> with member number, series level and competition name.
 - **No**, the score will not count as it is a requirement to complete the Series Application prior to competing at the approved NQS competition. There will be no exceptions!
- Is the score your highest for the Series?
 - Only an athlete/team's highest total score will be reflected on the Series Standings.

How can I verify if I (or my teammate) has completed the required Series Application?

Log in to <u>EMS</u> and select "Series Information" – if complete, you will see your event level and Paid \checkmark .

• Need to update your level after payment?

• Email <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u> for next steps. Note, after an athlete/team has posted a score to the Series Standings, they may only move up a level <u>and may not move down</u>.

	Series Status: Registration Open	
 Statement 		×
	If you have questions, email <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u> Need a refund? <u>productsupport@usfigureskating.org</u>	
Singles	Levels	ela Participant Handbook
Senior Ladies Combined		Paid 🗸

Where can I find the Series Standings?

To access the standings:

- Log in to <u>https://m.usfigureskating.org</u>.
 - Not a member? Create a non-member account <u>here</u>.
- Select EMS.
- Click "Series Information."
 - Choose "2022-23 National Qualifying Series."
- Select "Standings."

After the conclusion of each approved NQS competition, the chief accountant will upload the scores to EMS. Please allow up to 48 hours of event closure for standings to update. Reminder: only the athlete/team's <u>highest score</u> will be included on the series.

I competed at an approved NQS competition, but I don't see my scores on the Series Standings?

If a score is not listed from an approved NQS competition, review the following scenarios:

- Did you complete and pay for the <u>Series Application</u> prior to competing?
 - **Yes**, email <u>productsupport@usfigureskating.org</u> with member number, series level and competition name.
 - **No**, the score will not count as it is a requirement to complete the Series Application prior to competing at the approved NQS competition. There will be no exceptions!
- Is the score your highest for the Series?
 - Only an athlete/team's highest total score will be reflected on the Series Standings.

How will initial and/or final rounds work?

There will be NO initial/qualifying or final rounds.

If there are large entries for National Qualifying Series (juvenile – senior) events, the referee may choose to break the event into two or more seeded groups per the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

- Athletes will remain in the same groups for each applicable segment.
- The total score from their group will apply to Series Standings, if they have a paid Series Application at this level.

If I competed at an approved NQS competition but did not complete my Series Application – do my scores count?

NO. Only scores from approved NQS competitions <u>after</u> you complete and pay for your Series Application will count towards Series Standings. Further, the series application level and competition level must match!

I skated up at approved NQS competitions and I qualified for the November Finals, but I haven't passed my test yet. What happens?

Appropriate tests must be passed by the conclusion of the National Qualifying Series to advance; however, athletes may use IJS protocol for test credit to meet this requirement, but it must be processed (i.e., submitted to U.S. Figure Skating through their home club) by the end of September. It is the responsibility of the athlete and coach to ensure they are following the appropriate procedure and timelines.

• Athletes should ensure they understand the process for obtaining and submitting competition test credit from approved NQS competitions in advance of the event (review details in announcement).

Do alternates for the November Finals, U.S. Championships or NHPDT need to do anything?

No action is required for alternates. If invited to the qualifying competition, alternates will be notified via email by U.S. Figure Skating. Alternates may be invited up to 72 hours prior to the first segment draw in their event.

I have the highest score in my level, in my region. How do I get my award?

National Qualifying Series medals and trophies will be presented in-person, onsite at the November Finals. If unable to attend the November Finals, awards will be sent to each recipient's home address.

I have formed a new partnership after paying for my Series Application, what are my options? If a team disbands after paying for the Series Application and a new team is formed, the new team must email <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u> to request a change. Any team changes will VOID all previous Series Standings and advancement opportunities tied to the team's original application.

If an athlete is deciding between two levels for the competitive season, what is the best direction? If deciding between two levels for the qualifying season, an athlete should register for the lower of the two as they can request to make a change to move up at any time during the NQS (see below). Once an athlete posts a score to the Series Standings, they are not permitted to change to a lower level.

I want to change my level after paying for my Series Application.

Athletes/teams wishing to move up a level prior to the conclusion of NQS may request the change via email at <u>events@usfigureskating.org</u>. A mid-season change will VOID all previous <u>Series Standings</u> and advancement opportunities tied to the athlete/team's original level. Only ONE change requested is permitted per entry.

I want to change my home club after paying for my Series Application.

After completing the Series Application, athletes/teams are bound to their club for the entirety of the qualifying season. Club representation may NOT be changed at any time, under any circumstance.

Who will receive byes to the November Finals and/or U.S. Figure Skating Championships? Bye criteria will be published in early June 1.

Can foreign athletes compete within the National Qualifying Series?

Athletes/teams representing another ISU federation may compete AT National Qualifying Series approved competitions (as a nonqualifying entry) but may not complete the Series Application and/or post a score to the Series Standings.

If a foreign athlete or returning U.S. citizen, who has competed for another ISU federation, wishes to compete within the National Qualifying Series they must receive approval. Review the resources below for additional information.

- Non-Citizen: Letter, CC-01 Form
- Returning Citizen: Letter, CC-02 Form
- <u>Request for Foreign Test Credit</u>

What happens if an athlete qualifies in two disciplines and the team event is held in a different section?

If an athlete qualifies for the November finals in two disciplines, they may transfer their singles entry to the section the U.S. Ice Dance or U.S. Pairs Final is held. Should they qualify in singles for the U.S. Championships or National High Performance Development Team Camp from the November Finals, they will not displace an athlete from the section.

For example, Skater A is a member of a club in the East and qualifies for the Eastern Sectional Singles Final in intermediate men and intermediate pairs. To compete in both disciplines, they may transfer their singles entry to the Midwestern Sectional Singles Final in Lansing, Michigan, held in conjunction with the U.S. Pairs Final. IF Skater A places in the top four intermediate men at the Midwestern Sectional Singles Final, Skater A and an additional skater from the Midwest will be invited to attend the National High Performance Development Team Camp. Note: there will be no fill up for Skater A's entry at their "home" section.