

Showcase Events

Showcase events are open to skaters in the levels listed below. Groups will be divided by number of entries and ages if possible. Skaters with physical disabilities may register for standard track or Skate United track. Skaters with intellectual disabilities may register for Special Olympics events.

Show costumes are permitted if they do not touch or drag on the ice. Costuming and make up for showcase programs should enhance the feeling created by the performance and reflect the meaning of the story or theme. Ornaments and hair accessories must be secure. No bobby pins, feathers, hair accessories, or anything else that may fall to the ice and be hazardous to the skaters are allowed. Props and scenery must be placed and removed by unaided singles and duet competitors within one minute on and off and by unaided ensemble contestants within two minutes for setup and two minutes for removal. A 0.25 deduction will be assessed by the referee against each judge's mark for every 10 seconds in excess of the time allowed for the performance, for handling props and scenery and for scenery assistance.

Performances will be judged from an entertainment standpoint for theatrical qualities. Technical skating skills and difficulty will not be rewarded as such; however, skating must be the major element of the performance and be of sufficient quality to support the selected theatrical elements. Unintended falls, poorly executed skating elements, and obvious loss of control will reduce contestants' marks. Jump difficulty is not rewarded in showcase; therefore jumps, if choreographed, should be performed with style, flow and confidence. Theatrical elements evaluated will include energy, poise, acting, pantomime, eye contact, choreography, form/extension and the use of props and ice. Deductions will be made for skaters including technical elements not permitted in the event description.

** For specific guidelines regarding the conduct of showcase competitions, refer to the showcase guidelines posted on usfigureskating.org. In order to qualify for National Showcase, skaters competing in preliminary and above must register for the Showcase Series and compete in at least two approved series competitions. For more information on the showcase series, please visit the [Showcase Rules and Resources page](#).*

Showcase categories may include:

- **Character Performance:** Skaters will impersonate a character, original or adapted, on the ice. Performances as a character from a movie, musical, book, original idea, original adaptation are all welcome here.
 - Lip syncing is required
 - Props and scenery are permitted
 - Technical limitations: maximum of two jumps, jump combinations or jump sequences
- **Lyrical Pop:** Skaters will perform to a vocal song with lyrics, allowing them to express themselves through the content and narrative of the music.
 - Lip syncing is not permitted
 - Props and scenery are not permitted
 - Technical limitations: maximum of two jumps, jump combinations or jump sequences
- **Duets/Trios:** Theatrical/artistic performances by two to three skaters.
- **Mini production ensembles:** Theatrical performances by four to eight competitors. 2:00 maximum length.
- **Production ensembles:** Theatrical performances by nine to 30 skaters. 2:30 maximum length.

NOTE: Skaters may only enter one duet, one mini production, and one production ensemble.

**Levels can be subdivided or combined, if necessary, depending on entry numbers and event set up to ensure performances are contested as per the guidelines.*

**Note that approved Showcase Series competitions may not combine levels or event categories.*

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LEVEL	TIME	ELEMENTS	QUALIFICATIONS
SNOWPLOW SAM	1:00 max	Elements only from Snowplow Sam 1-4 curriculum	Must not have passed any official U.S. Figure Skating tests
BASIC 1-6	1:00 max	Elements only from Basic 1-6 curriculum	Must not have passed any official U.S. Figure Skating tests
ASPIRE 1-4 & ADULT	1:20 max	No prescribed or restricted elements	Must not have passed any official U.S. Figure Skating tests
PRE-PRELIMINARY	1:20 max	No prescribed or restricted elements	Must have passed at least pre-preliminary skating skills or one preliminary pattern dance test (standard or solo)
PRELIMINARY	1:30 max	No prescribed or restricted elements	Must have passed at least pre-bronze skating skills or one pre-bronze pattern dance (standard or solo)
ADULT PRE-BRONZE	1:40 max	No prescribed or restricted elements	Must have passed adult pre-bronze singles or pre-preliminary singles. Must not have passed adult bronze singles, preliminary singles, or bronze solo free dance.

** It is the responsibility of the skater, instructor, coach, or skating director to determine the correct competitive level. This decision should be based upon skill proficiency, athlete development, and fairness.*

Interpretive Events

COMPETITION FORMAT:

The local organizing committee (LOC) must pre-select and edit musical choices appropriate for these events. During the warm-up, skaters will hear the selection of music twice. Following the warm-up, all skaters except for the first skater will be escorted to a soundproof locker room or another area of the arena. The first skater will hear the music one more time and then perform a program to the music. As each skater performs, the next skater in line will be allowed to hear the music for the third time before they perform to the music. The listening skater will not be allowed to view the performing skater.

Levels: Levels should be divided by ability with ages divided appropriately.

Judging Rules: Skaters are judged on originality, pattern, technical (the ability to include jumps and spins) and music interpretation/expression. Spins and jumps performed must be appropriate to competition level.

Time: Music duration for all levels: Up to 1:30 max

Coaching: There is to be no instruction allowed during this event from coaches, parents, or fellow skaters. Staging area must be kept clear except for ice monitor and listening competitor.