



2010 Adult Qualifying Competition Season

TECHNICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

GENERAL

The 2010 U.S. Figure Skating Adult qualifying competition season consists of four events, including three qualifying events (adult sectional championships) and the 2010 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships. All four events are sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating and conducted according to the most current U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook (2009-2010 Edition) with changes and clarifications as posted on the U.S. Figure Skating web site and this announcement. Compliance with these rules as updated or amended is the responsibility of the participants. U.S. Figure Skating reserves the right to incorporate revisions to the International Judging System (IJS) made by the ISU.

The U.S. Adult Sectional Championships and U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championship events are open only to current members of U.S. Figure Skating who meet the eligibility requirements according to U.S. Figure Skating Rule 3035, all age and test requirements pertaining to the event you are entering, and the citizen and residency requirements as stated in Rule 3065.

Non-U.S. Citizens who have already received a letter of permission from the Chair of the Competitions Committee and were accepted to compete in the U.S. Figure Skating qualifying system are eligible to register. All other non-U.S. citizens seeking eligibility must meet the requirements set forth in Rule 3065 and rule 3051B.

Important Notice for all Coaches

All coaches will have to comply with the coaches' registration policy in order to instruct/coach at all qualifying competitions. Coaches must show proof of registration plus membership in both U.S. Figure Skating and PSA in order to receive a credential. A list of all coaches who have successfully registered will be available at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/clubs.asp>. If they have not registered, they will not be allowed a credential. No exceptions.

For the 2010 competition season, the three qualifying events (sectional championships) will be held at the following locations:

Eastern	Central Carolina FSC – Hillsborough, NC (Feb. 20 – 22, 2010)
Midwest	Indiana World Skating Academy – Indianapolis, IN (March 12 – 14, 2010)
Pacific Coast	Glacier Fall FSC & Pasadena FSC– Los Angeles, CA (March 12 – 14, 2010)

The U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships will be organized for all qualifiers in:

2010 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships

April 13 - 17, 2010

Bloomington, Minnesota

EVENTS

The U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships shall consist of the following events (See Rule 1440):

- A. Events which require qualification from sectionals:** Championship intermediate-novice free skate, championship junior-senior free skate, championship adult gold free skate, championship adult dance, championship adult pairs.
- B. Events which do not require qualification from sectionals:** Masters senior free skate, masters junior free skate, masters novice free skate, masters intermediate free skate, adult gold free skate, adult silver free skate, adult bronze free skate, masters pairs, adult gold pairs, adult silver pairs, adult bronze pairs, open masters dance, adult gold dance, adult pre-gold dance, adult silver dance, adult pre-silver dance, adult bronze dance, adult pre-bronze dance, adult centennial dance, adult solo gold dance, adult solo silver dance, adult solo bronze dance, masters artistic/dramatic Interpretive free skate, masters light entertainment/comedy interpretive free skate, adult artistic/dramatic interpretive free skate, and adult light entertainment/comedy interpretive free skate.

A full description of all events and requirements can be found at:

<http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=112> .

CONTINUED FOR 2010:

Solo dance: Will be included in three categories: gold, silver and bronze. Compulsory dances selected are posted at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=112> .

Championship masters has been divided into two categories: intermediate-novice and junior-senior.

Adult championship dance, adult gold dance, adult pre-gold dance and masters open dance: Free dance has replaced original dance as the final round.

Interpretive: Prop Rules/Violations

- 1) A prop may touch or graze the ice as long as it remains in the skater's hand and/or attached to the skater's costume/person, and is not dropped or out of the skater's control.
- 2) There will be a .1 deduction from the second mark for each time a prop is dropped on the ice (out of the skater's control); if the prop is not retrieved and back in the skater's control within 10 seconds, the prop will be considered intentionally set down and the skater will be disqualified.
- 3) Skaters who intentionally place a prop on the ice, boards or judges stand, who throw a prop into the audience or over the boards, or whose prop harms the ice will be disqualified.
- 4) Skaters who use illegal special effects (e.g., water, fire, pyrotechnics, dry ice, loud noises) or costumes (e.g., feathers, boas, excessive beading) that are deemed unsafe by the referee will be disqualified.
- 5) Skaters who perform illegal elements (for example: Axels and/or double jumps) will be disqualified.

Eligibility and Ages: Age categories have been adjusted. Please see "D" below (or rule 3292) for details. Tests qualifications now include adult tests OR standard tests passed. Please see Rules 3730 through 3820 in the 2009-2010 Rulebook for details

Reminders of 2009-2010 changes

Skaters may enter a maximum of four events, including championship events. If qualifying for championship event(s) puts the skater over the four-event limit, he/she shall choose which event(s) he/she wishes to withdraw from without financial penalty.

Interpretative free skating has been officially divided into two separate events: artistic/dramatic interpretative and light entertainment/comedy interpretative. Skaters may now enter BOTH events if they wish. They may not switch events after entering.

REGISTRATION (BEGINS NOV. 15, 2009)**A. METHOD****Online electronic registration (Required)**

Online registration is the ONLY method available for entry into the 2010 U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition season.

To enter online into the 2010 adult qualifying competition season, proceed in the following manner:

- Log on to www.usfsaonline.org.
- Input your username and password.
 - Your username is your U.S. Figure Skating membership number.
 - If you do not already have a password, go to www.usfsaonline.org first and follow the online instructions.

If you are experiencing difficulty with online registration, please call the U.S. Figure Skating main number at 719.635.5200, or e-mail the U.S. Figure Skating member services department at memberservices@usfigureskating.org.

B. DEADLINES

The entry deadline for the 2010 U.S. Adult Championship is **11:59 p.m., Jan. 15, 2010**.

The time zone of your home club (members affiliated with a club) or your primary address (individual member) will determine the entry deadline. **NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Age requirements must be met by **Jan. 15, 2010**.

Test requirements must also be met by **Jan. 15, 2010**. Provisional entries based on passing a test after the closing date of entries will not be accepted. Please refer to U.S. Figure Skating Rules 3107, 3108 and 3109 for further testing information and guidelines. Skaters may NOT test the next higher level after the close of entries.

C. ELIGIBILITY

This event is open for participation to all eligible competitors who are members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating per rule 3050, E.R 1.02 and 1.06. For **championship** events at the U.S. Adult Championships and Adult Sectional Championships, non-U.S. citizens must meet the requirements of rule 3066. "Non-U.S. Citizen Application to Compete" and supporting documentation must be submitted to the Chair of the Competitions Committee no later than Jan. 1, 2010. Read Rule 3066 for complete details. Forms are available on the U.S.

Figure Skating web site. Those entering **non-championship** (open) events at sectionals and U.S. Adult Championships are not subject to Rule 3066, but fall under rule 3051B, which states that they must be legal residents of the U.S. and meet all other test, age and membership qualifications. Non-U.S. citizens entering open events need only fill in the appropriate boxes on the nonqualifying entry form.

Skaters may not enter an adult level at a qualifying competition (Adult sectionals/U.S. Adult Championships) and a standard level at a qualifying competition (regionals/sectionals/U.S. Championships) in the same kind of event, in the same competition season and vice versa. For example, a skater may not enter novice men free skate on the standard track and masters free skate on the adult track in the same season, but may enter novice men free skate on the standard track and masters pairs on the adult track.

Age and test qualifications as of entry deadline date will determine event eligibility and classification for all. Tests passed after close of entries and prior to the event will disqualify skaters if test exceeds maximum requirement for the event entered in this competition.

Skaters may compete in as many disciplines as qualified by test level but may compete in only one event per discipline (maximum total of four events). As an exception, a competitor who qualifies to enter a championship event in adult dance, adult pairs, adult masters free skate or adult gold free skate through their adult sectional championships may also enter an open event at the test level for which they may be qualified.

D. AGE CATEGORIES

Per rule 3292, there shall be age categories for all free skate and interpretive events, except championship events. For the 2010 competitive season, the age categories are as follows:

Class I:	21 years through 30 years
Class II:	31 years through 40 years
Class III:	41 years through 50 years
Class IV:	51 years through 60 years
Class V:	61 years and over

All age categories may be divided or combined depending on the number of entries. Masters levels (intermediate/novice/junior/senior) may also be combined but divided by age. This authority lies with the chief referee.

Events with two skaters **MAY** be combined with the closest appropriate group and/or level if a skater withdraws from the event during the conduct of the competition. This ensures that the remaining skater has an event in which to compete.

Proof of age is required for all events. Acceptable forms of documentation include birth certificate, passport or similar proof. The LOC reserves the right to require additional information.

E. BYES

No medical byes will be considered. There will be no byes to the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships.

F. FOUR OR FEWER

When there are four or fewer competitors in an adult sectional qualifying event (championship intermediate-novice free skate, championship junior-senior free skate, championship adult gold free skate, championship adult pairs, championship adult dance), the skaters shall be required to compete. (If there is only one competitor or team in an event, that person/team moves directly to U.S. Adult Championship without having to perform at sectionals.) If, at the close of entries, there are fewer than four competitors registered for a qualifying event at a sectional adult championship, additional competitors from the same qualifying event in other sections shall be permitted to enter the U.S. Adult Championships in order to bring the number of competitors up to a maximum of 12 (or more if ties make it necessary). See rule 3172.

G. ENTRY FEES

All competitors entering the 2010 adult qualifying competition season must submit payment of the appropriate entry fee (amounts listed below) to U.S. Figure Skating. All competitors are required to pay both the entry fee into the qualifying competition season (for each event entered) and the administrative fee. All fees are nonrefundable.

2009 Adult Qualifying Competition Season Entry Fees

Entry Fee	Level/Discipline
\$120	First singles event
\$80	Each subsequent singles event
\$120	Dance event per team (\$60 per individual)
\$120	Pairs event per team (\$60 per individual)
\$10	Administrative fee/transaction (All transactions subject to payment of administrative fee)

U.S. Adult Championships Entry Fees

Those competitors advancing in the championship events from the three sectional championships will not have to submit an additional entry fee to compete in the same event at the 2010 U.S. Adult Championships. However, they are NOT considered the “first singles event.” Therefore, those wishing to enter another event must pay the “first singles event” fee. For example, if you want to enter adult gold free skate and masters interpretive free skate at U.S. Adult Championships, you would pay \$120 for the first singles event and \$80 for one subsequent singles event – a total of \$200.

Once entries have closed, entry fees are only refundable if the competition is not held. There are no refunds for medical withdrawals. The chief referee reserves the right to divide or cancel an event when necessary.

Your registration is not valid until all appropriate entry and administrative fees have been paid and all required forms have been completed online to U.S. Figure Skating.

H. PAYMENT

Online payment via credit card is the ONLY accepted form of payment.

All withdrawals are considered final after a skater has entered. Once withdrawn, a skater may not re-enter, even if the withdrawal occurs prior to the entry deadline on Jan. 15, 2010.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

A. CONDUCT OF EVENTS

For the 2010 season, all events and levels at adult sectionals will be judged under the 6.0 system. At the U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships, the International System of Judging (IJS) will be used for the following events: all championship events, open adult gold free skating, all masters level free skating, gold pairs, pre-gold dance and higher.

B. AGE AND TEST QUALIFICATIONS

All age and test requirements can be found on the U.S. Figure Skating web site at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=112>.

C. TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

The well-balanced program charts for all levels and disciplines are posted on the U.S. Figure Skating web site at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=112>. As referenced earlier in this announcement, U.S. Figure Skating will incorporate all changes made by the ISU in regards to well-balanced programs. Please refer to this web site for continuous updates.

D. PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT SHEET

As part of the registration process, all competitors competing in the championship events, and those events at the gold level and higher during the 2009 adult competition season, are required to submit a planned program content sheet as part of the registration process (online submission preferred) in order to finalize your application. The PPCS is to be completed by everyone entering the 2010 U.S. Adult Championships in the aforementioned events no later than the close of entries on Jan. 15, 2010, but can be updated up to one week prior to your competition.

Please go to www.usfsaonline.org and follow the instructions to complete your planned program content sheet.

E. MUSIC

COMPETITION MUSIC INFORMATION (Required component of online registration)

U.S. Figure Skating requires all competitors to fully complete a competition music information form as part of the online registration process.

The following information is required for each piece of music used in the composition of the short program/original dance and free skate/free dance: composer, orchestra, duration of music, record label/number (optional but highly recommended if obtainable).

New for 2010

Use of vocal music - per rule 3502(A) - all adult skating levels from pre-bronze through Masters Novice may use vocal music for free skating programs.

COMPACT DISCS (CDs)

For all qualifying events during the 2010 season, CDs are the only acceptable media. CDs must be clearly marked with name, event entered and the music length. **Each CD must have only ONE (1) track on it. In the case of a short program and free program, two (2) separate discs must be used.** Any disc with more than one (1) track will NOT be accepted! Lead in time (time before the music begins) on CDs may not exceed two (2) seconds.

Each CD must be in a paper CD sleeve with a see through window (obtainable at any office supply store), also labeled with the skater's name and event. Standard hard plastic jewel cases or other CD holders are no longer acceptable. CDs that are not properly identified will NOT be accepted. **Due to compatibility and reliability reasons, music may NOT be submitted on re-recordable "CD-RW" discs.**

Competition music must be turned in at the registration desk at the time of registration. At the Championships, competitors will not receive their credentials until they turn in their music.

CD's are to be mailed in "CD Mailers", which can be obtained at the post office or any office supply store. All competitors must have at least one (1) additional copy rinkside at practice sessions and during the actual competition event. The LOC will accept no responsibility for damage or loss.

U.S. Figure Skating will supply current dance music for compulsory dances.

F. OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD

The official bulletin board will contain any announcements or changes, and it is the responsibility of the competitors to check it often for official notices. Please refer to the local portion of the announcement for further information regarding the bulletin board.

G. SCHEDULE

A tentative schedule will be posted on the event web site as soon as possible, hopefully by mid to late February. This schedule will not include event times, only the days on which each event will be held. A schedule will not be finalized until after the completion of the three adult sectional championships in late February. The tentative schedule is a preliminary schedule; therefore, skaters should NOT rely upon this schedule making travel arrangements.

ADVANCEMENT TO U.S. ADULT CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. QUALIFIERS

All singles competitors advancing to U.S. Adult Championships will receive either the announcement or instructions for retrieving the announcement for their next competition at their sectional championships awards ceremony.

For every competitor, all information required to be sent to the U.S. Adult Championships local organizing committee (photos, practice ice requests, etc.) must be postmarked no later than the **Tuesday following your sectional championship. Any information postmarked after the Tuesday following your sectional championship will be accepted ONLY at the discretion of the local organizing committee.**

B. ALTERNATES

Skaters placing in fifth and sixth place in the championship events at the adult sectional championships will be designated as first and second alternates for the 2010 U.S. Adult Championships. These competitors will be provided an event announcement as they may be selected to compete up to 48 hours before their competition event.

Alternates do not need to mail in any paperwork or required forms unless contacted by U.S. Figure Skating.

INSURANCE/LIABILITY

A. LIABILITY

U.S. Figure Skating, the host club(s) and/or interclub association, the organizing committee, and the ice arenas being utilized for these events accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in these championships (U.S. Figure Skating Rule 3222).

CONTACTS

For further information, requests should be addressed to:

Competitions Coordinator, U.S. Figure Skating
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