

THE SKATING CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW YORK
Presents
the
24th Annual
SKATE CHALLENGE
FIGURE SKATING COMPETITION



SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

To Be Held at
MACC(Cicero Twin Rinks)
5575 Meltzer Court Cicero, NY
Sanctioned by:

Sanction # 36748

Entry Deadline: February 14, 2026
Events Include:

Excel & Well Balanced Free Skate, Solo Free Dance, Compulsory Moves, Spins, Jumps, Showcase Events, Interpretive, Synchronized Skating Events(Aspire Levels 6.0)(Preliminary & Open Juvenile Exhibition Only), Compete USA Events(Snowplow Sam - Free Skate 6)

*****Triple Threat Award*****

(Free for skaters entered in jumps,spins, & compulsory moves in the same level)

FOR INFORMATION E-MAIL:
skatemomhollyp@gmail.com

I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 24th Annual Skate Challenge will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#), and/or [current Compete USA handbook](#) as well as any pertinent updates that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating [website](#).

This competition is open to all eligible, restricted, reinstated or readmitted persons as defined by the Eligibility Rules.

Skaters must be a currently registered member of a U.S. Figure Skating member club, Learn to Skate USA® member, a collegiate club or who is an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the [rulebook](#) for more information.

II. ELIGIBILITY

Singles: Excel and Well-Balanced Events:

- Skaters must meet at least the minimum singles test requirements for the event's level. A skater's singles test level may be higher than the minimum requirement.
 - o Skate Up skaters may skate up one level higher than their minimum test requirement allows.
- Skaters may not register for an event level lower than allowed by their competitive floor. An athlete's competitive floor is set by one of the following scenarios:
 - o If an athlete has a paid EMS series application for the NQS series, the event level registered for in the most recent NQS will become the lowest level they may compete at in any U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned event.
 - o If an athlete has a paid EMS series application for the Excel Series, the event level registered for in the most recent Excel series will become the lowest level they may compete in any Excel event. For Well-Balanced and Specialty events the skater will be permitted to register at one level lower than the "floor" set by their excel series entry.
 - o If an athlete has never had a paid EMS series application in the NQS or Excel series, the athlete may select their level based on their goals and technical skills if the minimum test requirements are met.
- Skaters are not permitted to enter an Excel free skate and a Well-Balanced free skate event at the same competition (example: Juvenile Girls Free Skate and Juvenile Girls Excel Free Skate). However, they are permitted to enter an Excel and a Well-Balanced event of different types such as a short program (if stand-alone event option), specialty or showcase events (example: Intermediate Women Short Program and Intermediate Women Excel Free Skate).
- For more details about establishing event levels, refer to the information sheet [HERE](#) or email events@usfigureskating.org.

Synchronized Skating:

- For synchronized skating teams, this competition does not require that skating skills test requirements for the team's level be met, except for the maximum allowed at the Compete USA levels (Snowplow Sam Synchro and Aspire levels).

EVENTS OFFERED:

- U.S. Figure Skating Program Requirements:** usfigureskating.org --> Skate --> Compete --> Program Requirements
- Compete USA Program Requirements:** learntoskateusa.com/competeusa

On the program requirements page linked above, competitions that fall within the date range beside the program requirements must use those requirements.

SINGLES	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Excel Free Skate	6.0	\$80	\$55
Well Balanced Free Skate	6.0	\$80	\$55
ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Compulsory Moves (Level 1 - 8)	6.0	\$80	\$55
Jumps Challenge (Level 1 – 9)	6.0	\$80	\$55
Spins Challenge (Level 1 – 6)	6.0	\$80	\$55
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Compete USA – Showcase	6.0	\$80	\$55
Emotional Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$80	\$55
Lyrical Pop (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$80	\$55
Interpretive	CJS	\$80	\$55
SOLO DANCE	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Solo Pattern Dance (not participating in series)	6.0	\$80	\$55
Solo Free Dance	6.0	\$80	\$55
COMPETE USA EVENTS	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$50	\$30
Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$80	\$55
Excel Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary – Preliminary Plus)	6.0	\$80	\$55
Compete USA – Team Compulsory	6.0	\$50 per team	\$0
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements	6.0	\$50	\$30
Compete USA – Spin Challenge (1-4)	6.0	\$50	\$30
Compete USA – Jump Challenge (1-4)	6.0	\$50	\$30
SYNCHRONIZED SKATING	JUDGING	Team Fee	Skater Fee
Aspire 1	6.0	\$75	\$5
Aspire 2	6.0	\$75	\$5
Aspire 3	6.0	\$75	\$5

Aspire 4	6.0	\$75	\$5
Open Adult	<i>Exhibition</i>	\$75	\$5
Pre-Juvenile	Exhibition	\$75	\$5

Compete USA Elements Event Format:

We will be using Format 1 for all of our element events. The skater will perform each element when directed by a judge/referee.

Interpretive Event Format:

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 out of the rink. 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.

NO PROPS ALLOWED

******Levels may be combined dependent upon number of registrations.******

Team Compulsory Event:

FORMAT: The designated skater from each team will perform their chosen element in sequence on full ice with no music and will follow this format:

1. Minimum of three to four skaters on a team; each skater will do at least one required element
2. Teams will be directed to find a “base” for their team along the boards on the ice where they will stay for the remainder of the event
3. The announcer, referee or judge-in-charge will call the first element (e.g. jump or stop) to be performed
4. The team member performing the element will step forward and execute the skill, with the element first being performed by the skater on team one, then team two, then team three and so on
5. Once all the teams have had their skaters complete the element, the next element will be called
6. Judging is done with one mark for each element (skater) for total team points

Synchronized Skating Event Note:

Pre Juvenile and Open Juvenile team coaches interested in having their team skate an exhibition program should contact competition chair. Exhibition teams will be charged a fee of \$75. Awards are not given for exhibition performances.

Triple Threat Award:

There is no additional fee for any skater who enters the compulsory moves, jumps, and spins event in the same level. Skaters meeting this criteria will automatically be eligible for this award. Further details are in the awards section.

FEES: All fees must be in U.S. funds and must accompany applications and paid online at

<http://comp.entryeeze.com/Home.aspx?cid=40>

Late entries will not be accepted

There will be a \$30.00 service charge on all returned checks. Payment of the fee will be required before the skater is allowed to participate in their events.

REFUND POLICY

Entry fees will not be refunded after February 24, 2024 unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. **There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals.** The online processing fees are not refundable.

OUR COMMUNITY:

U.S. Figure Skating is dedicated to fostering a culture of belonging and community that is welcoming for all individuals. We are committed to championing diversity, equity and inclusion and understand its value in combating discrimination and challenging inequalities necessary to develop champions both on and off the ice. We are actively working toward developing equitable practices and policies that foster safety and empower all individuals to authentically pursue their unique path in all areas of our sport. We stand firmly on the belief that our members are the most important asset to our organization and that our differences are meaningful and strengthen our sport. We believe that skating is for everyone.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

U.S. Figure Skating commits in policy, principle and practice to sustain a non-discriminatory approach on and off the ice for all members. We strive to provide equal opportunity for all despite their varied backgrounds, experiences and identities, and want all members to feel valued and respected at every level of organization. U.S. Figure Skating's SkateSafe® Program receives, investigates and addresses allegations of discrimination or harassment throughout its membership and the organization. Please refer to the [SkateSafe® Program Handbook](#) for further definition of harassment, discrimination and abuse.

By attending this event, all participants are willingly committing to upholding U.S. Figure Skating's Code of Ethics (GR 1.01) and Code of Conduct (GR 1.02), as detailed within the [U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#).

To report a concern of discrimination or harassment to U.S. Figure Skating, please visit www.USFigureSkating.org/SkateSafe or email SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org.

ATHLETE ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS:

Should a skater with disabilities require any specific accommodations or assistance for their competitive event, please submit your approved S.A.M to the Competition Chair by the registration deadline at skatemomhollyp@gmail.com .

COMPLIANCE:

For full details about participant compliance requirements, refer to the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® webpage: <https://www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe#compliance>.

COACHES

To be an eligible coach at a nonqualifying competition, coaches must meet the applicable compliance requirements and verified by U.S. Figure Skating. Coach compliance falls into two categories, Coach Compliance (includes choreographers) and Learn to Skate USA® Instructor Compliance. Details regarding compliance requirements can be found [in](#) Members Only, click the blue “COACH” button. All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions.

Coaches of foreign athletes: If you are a coach of a foreign athlete only, you are not subject to U.S. Figure Skating coach compliance and will only be asked to provide a letter of good standing for the federation your athlete represents.

TEAM SERVICE PERSONNEL

Teams are permitted a maximum of two team service personnel. Team service personnel must have a current U.S. Figure Skating or Learn to Skate USA® membership, a green lighted background check and completed SafeSport™ Training. All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions. Team service personnel is defined as those indicated as a team manager and/or team service personnel planning to attend the competition with the team.

MANDATORY ATHLETES

Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a team (i.e., synchro, ice dance, pairs, shadow dance, theatre, etc.) with at least one Minor Athlete must complete SafeSport™ Training.

Minor athletes who turn 18 mid-season are encouraged to seek parental consent to take the online SafeSport™ Training early to avoid any disruptions in their ability to participate as the training is required upon turning 18. The athlete will not be compliant until they have completed the training and their Members Only portal reflects completion. Please email skatesafe@usfigureskating.org for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

COMPETITION REGISTRATION:

Registration will be available on entryeeze starting in December.

Applications must be completed **ONLINE** using the **registration link** at www.sccny.org, no later than midnight **February 14, 2026**. Team or group events must be registered as its own entry, separate from individual events.

The competition chairperson reserves the right to cancel an event if there are less than 3 entrants (with full refund of entry fee) and to combine and divide groups. Skaters may skate up one level in any event, but may not skate below their test level. Competitors may enter only **one Freestyle event**. For all other events, competitors may enter as many events as they desire, provided they meet the entry requirements. Please check our web site for registration information to verify your entry. Email us at skatemomhollyp@gmail.com with any discrepancies. We will not be accepting late entries.

Tentative schedules will be posted to www.sccny.org on or before **March 9, 2026**.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

Competitors are required to upload their music on Entryeeze when submitting their application. Only one piece of competition program music (e.g. Free Skate, Showcase, etc.) per file is allowed. The uploaded file must be in MP3 file format; simply changing the file extension to "mp3" from another file format is not acceptable. The music for the Interpretive events will be supplied by the competition committee.

The deadline for online music submission is Saturday March 4, 2026 at 11:59pm. Any problems with music, please contact our music chair Jenna Schanz at jennaschanz@gmail.com

Competitors must also have available a backup copy of their competition music on a cell phone and it must be immediately available rinkside whenever the skater competes. If the phone does not have the standard round headset connector, an appropriate adapter, such as an Apple Lightning connector or Samsung USB-C adapter is required to be attached. The phone should be presented to the music person with the file ready to play, phone in airplane mode and volume turned to maximum.

LIABILITY:

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA®, Skating Club of Central New York and Midstate Athletic Community Center accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in this competition. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

IV. COMPETITION DETAILS

FACILITIES:

Midstate Athletic Community Center
5575 Meltzer Court
Cicero, NY 13039
Competition will be held on the Sirius Orthodontic Rink
Snack Bar on Premise

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

IF OFFERING LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS (GENERAL LOCKER ROOMS):

Locker rooms and changing areas at U.S. Figure Skating competitive events are for athletes only and will be labeled with regard to specific use and where identified will be gender specific. An exception

can be made for athletes under 11 years old that will allow for one parent of the same sex to assist their child immediately prior to and after their skating event(s). Please review the Locker Room and Changing Area Policy in the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#).

IF OFFERING LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS (TEAM LOCKER ROOMS):

The designated team coach, team manager, team service personnel and athletes competing at the skating event are allowed in the Locker Rooms/Changing Area designated for their team. The team coach, team manager, and team service personnel must remove themselves from the Locker Room/Changing Area while any Minor Athlete(s) are actively changing or undressing. All Locker Rooms/Changing Areas will be monitored. If any concerns arise, immediately contact the Locker Room/Changing Area monitor. If there are concerns regarding this policy, an athlete should change prior to arriving at the competition. The use of any recording and photographic devices inside a Locker Room/Changing Area is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this policy is punishable under the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® policy and U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

U.S. Figure Skating Travel Policy:

All travel must strictly adhere to Two-Deep Leadership requirements. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one and Two-Deep Leadership requirements must be adhered to at all times during In-Program travel, by transporting at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age or a second Adult Participant. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a Minor Athlete(s). Full details of the SkateSafe® Travel Policy and any exceptions can be found starting on page 12 of the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#).

OFFICIAL WEBSITE & UPDATES:

An official dry erase board will be maintained inside ice arena entry. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information. Skaters are requested to arrive 60 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A **tentative schedule** of events will be posted prior to the competition.

SCHEDULE

Competitors may be scheduled on any day or time during the announced dates of the competition. The competition and practice ice schedule will be available after the close of entries. All participants will be notified via email once available.

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

A registration desk will be open throughout the competition, located in the main lobby of the MACC(Cicero Twin Rinks). **Competitors should arrive approximately one hour prior to their designated skate time and check in promptly upon arrival.** Upon arrival, competitors must register at the registration desk on each day that they will compete. Skaters are responsible for being present at each event entered.

AWARDS:

We will be having a traditional awards ceremony. Medals will be given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place finishers. Synchronized skating teams placing 1st, will receive a team trophy. Individuals on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place synchronized teams will receive medals. Ribbons may be given out for additional places and will be determined after registration has closed. Compete USA events will reward all skaters in the event.

****Triple Threat Award****

Skaters competing in the compulsory moves, spins and jumps event in the same level will be eligible for the triple threat trophy. A point value will be awarded for each of the 3 events depending on the skaters placement. The skater with the highest point total will win the triple threat trophy. If a level has multiple flights with skaters participating in all 3 events, a trophy will be awarded for each flight in that level. **There is no additional fee to enter this event.**

PHOTO/VIDEO:

There will be no video or photographer available.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

HOTEL	PHONE #	ADDRESS
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES SYRACUSE NORTH	(315)288-5700	5860 CARMENICA DR CICERO, NY 13039
COMFORT SUITES CICERO - SYRACUSE NORTH	(315)752-0150	5875 CARMENICA DR CICERO, NY 13039

FAIRFIELD INN SYRACUSE LIVERPOOL/CLAY	(315)622-2576	3979 NY 31 LIVERPOOL, NY 13090
DAYS INN BREWERTON	(315)676-3222	5552 BARTEL RD BREWERTON, NY 13029

SKATE CHALLENGE MERCHANDISE: All official Skate Challenge apparel will be pre-order with limited items available on site the day of the event only. Deadline to order is February 24, 2023.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you have questions, please contact Holly Pollichemi, email skatemomhollyp@gmail.com . For questions regarding music please mail Jenna Schanz jennaschanz@gmail.com . Correspondence by email is preferred. Club website is <http://www.sccny.org>