



Grand Rapids Open

June 23-25, 2023

Hosted by The Greater Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club

Patterson Ice Center, 2550 Patterson Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49546

I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The Grand Rapids Open 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.

COVID-19 INFORMATION:

The Greater Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club will be complying with all Federal, State and Local public health regulations in place at the time of the competition, including recommendations from U.S. Figure Skating. For the most recent U.S. Figure Skating COVID-19 policy requirements, [CLICK HERE](#).

SERIES INFORMATION:

This competition has been approved by U.S. Figure Skating as part of the 2023 National Solo Dance Series. Skaters must register to participate in the Solo Dance Series prior to competition at designated competitions in order to have their points recorded and seen in standings.

[Solo Dance Series Registration](#) | [Solo Dance Series Information](#)

National Solo Dance Series Information:

- [NSD Series Handbook](#)



II. ELIGIBILITY

TEST LEVEL:

As of December 1, 2022, singles athletes may opt to accelerate their test progression within U.S. Figure Skating and thus compete at level(s) best suited for their technical skillset. Athletes must still meet the minimum requirements for each level and additionally, if participating within the National Qualifying Series (NQS) or National Excel Series (Excel), they will establish a **competitive floor** (i.e., the lowest level they can compete at).

The **competitive floor** is determined only by the level selected through the EMS Series Application for NQS or Excel and is not uniquely tied to competition registration (regardless of series participation).

Example, if an athlete passed their junior free skate test in November and competed in the 2022-23 NQS as a Novice from July - September, they may register for either novice or junior in excel or well-balanced events. The novice level will remain their competitive floor until they complete an EMS Series Application at the junior level or higher for NQS or Excel.

Example #2, if an athlete passed their juvenile free skate but has not competed in NQS or Excel (i.e., they have not established a competitive floor), they have the option to compete pre-preliminary – intermediate (if skate up is permitted). While the options are wide, U.S. Figure Skating entrusts the coach to guide the athlete to select the appropriate level for the athlete based on their technical skillset.

Eligibility Notes:

1. The singles free skate test levels will remain as a minimum requirement to compete.
2. Athletes may not skate down in any event.
3. This update does NOT apply to Adult, Showcase and Solo Dance.

If an athlete, coach, parent and/or guardian needs assistance with confirming their eligibility, email events@usfigureskating.org or refer to information sheet [HERE](#).

EVENTS OFFERED:

[Program requirements for the events listed below can be found here: usfigureskating.org – Skate – Compete – Program Requirements](https://usfigureskating.org)

NOTE: Skaters may not enter an Excel and Well-Balanced free skate events at the same competition.

U.S. FIGURE SKATING EVENTS				
SINGLES	Judging	1st EVENT	2nd EVENT	3rd + EVENT
Excel Free Skate (All "Plus" Events, Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Excel Free Skate_(Beginner-Pre-Juvenile)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Well Balanced Short Program (2023-2024)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Well Balanced Free Skate (Preliminary – Senior)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Well Balanced Free Skate (No Test-Pre-Preliminary)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Adult Free Skate (Adult Silver-Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Adult Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze & Bronze)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Adult Beginner & High Beginner Free Skate	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
SPECIALTY	JUDGING	1st EVENT	2nd EVENT	3rd + EVENT
Compulsory Moves (No Test–Senior)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Excel Compulsory Moves (Excel Beg.–Excel Prelim.)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Jumps Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Adult Jumps Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Spins Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
Adult Spins Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$135	\$65	\$55
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	1st EVENT	2nd EVENT	3rd + EVENT
Individual Entertainment (Lyrical Pop, Character, Emotional Performance, Choreographic Artistry)	CJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Duets (No Test - Senior)	CJS	\$175	\$65	\$55

COMPETE USA EVENTS	Judging	1st Event	2nd Event	3rd + Event
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$50	\$45
Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$50	\$45
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements (Referee Driven)	6.0	\$65	\$50	\$45
Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Compulsory Moves	6.0	\$65	\$50	\$45
National Solo Dance	Judging	1st EVENT	2nd EVENT	3rd + EVENT
Solo Pattern Dance (Preliminary-International)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55
Solo Combined Dance	IJS	\$215	\$65	\$55
Shadow Dance (Preliminary-International)	IJS	\$175	\$65	\$55

SKATESAFE® COMPLIANCE:

For full details about SkateSafe® compliance at U.S. Figure Skating competitions, refer to the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® webpage: www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe.

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 three categories, Coach/Choreographer, Learn to Skate USA Instructor, or Foreign Coach/Choreographer. Details regarding compliance requirements can be found [HERE](#). All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions.

Limit of 2 coach credential per registered athlete.

With EMS, coaches must be included within a skater/team's registration or updated through their EMS Skater Portal via "[My Coaches](#)" or "Team Personnel." All coaches declared at the time of registration will be included on the registration confirmation email. Note: There is no registration approval process within EMS as the data (membership and test level) is tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database. Non-compliant coaches will receive automated email reminders through the start of the competition.

EMS Coach Resources (not SYS or TOI):

- [My Competitions](#)
- [My Skaters](#)
- [Coach Schedule](#)

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 SkateSafe 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

Online registrations will be accepted via [EMS](#). Payment must be made at the time of registration by credit card only. Each transaction includes a 3% transaction fee.

Registration Deadline: 05/26/2023 at 11:59PM ET

Late Registration Deadline: 06/02/2023 at 11:59 PM ET + \$50 Late Fee

1. Go to www.usfsaonline.org
2. Enter your U.S. Figure Skating or if Compete USA events are offered, your Learn to Skate USA member number and password
 - a. If you need assistance with your member number and password, contact Member Services at memberservices@usfigureskating.org.
3. Click EMS then "Competition Registration"
4. Choose "**Grand Rapids Open**" from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
 - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact productsupport@usfigureskating.org.

PARTNERED EVENTS:

Only one partner will complete registration for the team. During the registration process, you will be asked to identify your partner and verify their test information. **The registered partner will be responsible for managing all aspects of the competition for the team including music/PPC upload, practice ice sales, etc.**

FOREIGN SKATERS:

Non-U.S. skaters intending to register for this competition must set up a non-member account prior to registering for the competition ([click here for HOW TO](#)). This can be done by choosing the "Non-Member? Create Account" option on the [Members Only](#) login page.

TEST CREDIT:

Skaters that meet the requirements for test credit will be able to pick up necessary forms at the Registration Desk. A fee of \$15 will be charged for test protocols.

CRITIQUES:

Critiques will be offered for Well Balanced Freeskate levels Juvenile and above. Critiques are limited to 5 minutes with an official and are offered for \$20. A sign-up form for critiques will be available at registration.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **06/09/2023 at 11:59pm**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

DEADLINE: 06/09/2023 at 11:59pm (\$20 late fee for submissions after the deadline)

EMS SKATER MUSIC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

Competitors must also have available a backup copy of their competition music on a cell phone and it must be immediately available rink side 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.

PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) SUBMISSION/UPLOAD – FOR IJS EVENTS ONLY:

EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) – Competitors participating in IJS events are required to submit PPC in EMS no later than **06/09/2023 at 11:59pm**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$20 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

DEADLINE: 06/09/2023 at 11:59pm. (\$20 late fee for submissions after the deadline)

EMS PPC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

REFUND POLICY

Entry fees will not be refunded after entry deadline unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals.

LIABILITY:

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA, The Greater Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club and Patterson Ice 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:

Patterson Ice Center
2550 Patterson Ave., Grand Rapids, MI 49546

<https://www.pattersonicecenter.com/>

2-200ftx85ft sheets of ice

8 Locker Room Facilities

1 Snack Bar

LOCKER ROOMS and CHANGING FACILITIES:

Locker rooms and changing areas at U.S. Figure Skating competitive events are for athletes only, 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 and the SkateSafe Handbook (both found on the [U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe](#) page).

US 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 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 NOTICES:

An official bulletin board will be maintained at the registration desk. 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.

PRACTICE ICE:

Practice ice will be offered at various times on all days of the competition. All sessions are 20 minutes in duration. **THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR PRACTICE ICE SESSIONS, EVEN IF NOT USED.** Sessions may be designated by level and discipline if entries warrant. Music will not be played on practice ice.

- **Pre-Purchase:** Practice ice may be purchased after completion of registration via EMS Competition Portal. A maximum of 2 practice ice sessions (Singles, Solo Dance) and maximum of 1 practice ice session (Specialty, Showcase, Compete USA) may be pre-purchased per skater, per eligible event. Pre-purchased sessions are available at the discounted rate of \$15 if purchased by **06/03/2023**.
- **Pre-Purchase Session Selection:** After the close of entries and shortly after the competition schedule is published, skaters will receive an email with notice of the schedule of practice ice sessions and the date/time when purchased practice ice sessions may be selected via EMS Competition Portal.
- **Open Sales:** Following the close of the Pre-Purchase Selection window, skaters may purchase additional practice ice sessions for \$20 per session. Refer to Information within EMS Competition Portal for practice ice dates. Practice Ice may also be purchased during the competition at the Practice Ice Desk.

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

The official Registration Desk will be located within the main concourse of Patterson Ice Center. The Registration Desk will open one hour before the first event each day, and remain open until the last event of the day. Please register promptly upon arrival. **Competitors must check in at the Registration Desk at least one hour before their event.** All registration and any other applicable fees must be paid before the skater may be credentialed.

AWARDS:

Medals will be awarded for 1st – 4th places. Presentation of medals will take place in a designated area of the lobby directly following the posting of results. Results will be posted online.

PHOTO/VIDEO:

A digital download of videos of the full flight for each event entered is included with the entry fee for events with music. Professional photography will be available for pre-purchase or at the conclusion of the event. Professional videography/Photography will be provided by 828 Studios.

Note, per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Airport Information:

Gerald R. Ford International Airport
5500 44th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Hotel Information:

The following hotels are within a 5-10 minute drive from Patterson Ice Center and the Gerald R Ford International Airport.

[DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Grand Rapids Airport](#)

4747 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 957-0100

[Drury Inn & Suites Grand Rapids](#)

5175 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 942-8511

[Courtyard by Marriott Grand Rapids Airport](#)

4741 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 954-0500

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.ggrfsc.org

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Name: Kelsey Cooper	E-mail kcooper@fruitportschools.net	Phone 616-818-9323
Chief Referee:	Name: Barry Doren	E-mail jbkadoren@aol.com	
Practice Ice Chair:	Name: Renee Peirce	E-mail rgpeirce@gmail.com	Phone 616-485-9985