

The 31st Annual



June 28-30, 2024

Invisalign Arena
Wake Competition Center
Morrisville, NC



I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2024 Dogwood Open will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#) for the 2023/2024 season* and/or current Compete USA handbook as well as any pertinent updates that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating [website](#).

*As per update issued on 1/18/24, the Short Program and Well Balanced Free Skate will follow **2024-2025** program requirements.

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 as long as 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 information sheet [HERE](#) or email events@usfigureskating.org.

All other singles and partner events (such as Adults, Pairs, Ice Dance):

- Skaters must meet the minimum test requirements for the events level, but not exceed the maximum permissible test requirement.

Age restrictions/requirements:

Singles Excel and free skate events (well-balanced program) have the following requirements:

Juvenile: Girls – 12 years or younger; Boys – 13 years or younger
Open Juvenile: Girls – 13 years or older; Boys – 14 years or older
Intermediate must be under the age of 18
Adults must be 18 years or older

Skaters entering pre-juvenile and lower events will be divided as closely as possible by age should the number of entries warrant more than one group.

ADULT EVENTS:

Age classes for all free skate, compulsory and showcase:

- Young Adult: 18 years through 20 years
- Class I: 21 years through 35 years
- Class II: 36 years through 45 years
- Class III: 46 years through 55 years
- Class IV: 56 years through 65 years
- Class V: 66 years and older

Age classes for all solo free dance and solo pattern dance events:

- Young Adult/Class I/II: 18 years through 45 years
- Class III/IV/V: 46 years and older

All age classes may be divided or combined depending on the number of entries and at the discretion of the chief referee and/or the competition committee. Men and Women may be combined in Adult 1 through adult bronze free skate events (based on the Adult Competition Series rules), and all levels of compulsory moves, solo pattern dance, jumps, spins and showcase events. Men and ladies will not be combined in adult silver and higher free skate events. Athletes in adult silver and higher free skate events with no competitor of the same gender in another age class will be offered the opportunity to skate an exhibition for first place, skate up to the next higher level (if this provides a competitor) or be issued a refund. The chief referee reserves the right to request proof of age.

The LOC reserves the right to combine levels where there are not enough entries. Age divisions are determined by age on May 31, 2024.

The Local Organizing Committee, event chairman and referee also reserve the right to move a skater into a proper division if they discover that a skater has been placed in a category that is below his/her class level, even if this has to be done the day of the competition. This will ensure that every event is as fair as possible to the competitors. Coaches and/or skating directors will be prompted through the EMS system to confirm the appropriate entry level of each skater.

EVENTS OFFERED:

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

This competition will follow program requirements for the 2023-2024 Season.*

*As per update issued on 1/18/24, the Short Program and Well Balanced Free Skate will follow **2024-2025** program requirements.

SINGLES	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd Event Price
Excel Free Skate Pre-pre - Sr	IJS	\$190	\$90	\$70
Well Balanced Short Program	IJS	\$190	\$90	\$70
Well Balanced Free Skate Pre-pre - Sr	IJS	\$190	\$90	\$70
Adult Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$190	\$90	\$70
Adult Beginner & High Beginner Free Skate	6.0	\$130	\$90	\$70
SPECIALTY	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd Event Price
Compulsory Moves (Aspire–Senior)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Excel Compulsory Moves (Beginner –Excel Prelim.)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Adult Compulsory Moves (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Jumps Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Adult Jumps Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Spins Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Adult Spins Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Step Sequence (Pre-Pre.–Senior)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
Adult Step Sequences (Adult Pre-Bronze–Masters Sr)	6.0	\$95	\$90	\$70
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd Event Price
Individual Showcase (Pre-pre - Sr, Adult)	CJS	\$120	\$90	\$70
Duet Events (Pre-pre - Sr, Adult)	CJS	\$120	\$90	\$70
Individual Showcase (Beg - No Test)	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70
Duet Events (Beg - No Test)	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70
SOLO DANCE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd Event Price
Solo Pattern Dance (not participating in series)	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70
Solo Free Dance	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70
Adult Solo Pattern Dance	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70
Adult Solo Free Dance	6.0	\$120	\$90	\$70

COMPETE USA EVENTS	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price	3 rd Event Price
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$95	N/A	N/A
Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$95	N/A	N/A
Adult 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$95	N/A	N/A
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements	6.0	\$95	\$55	\$55
Adult 1-6 Compulsory Moves	6.0	\$95	\$55	\$55

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.

COMPLIANCE:

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 two categories, Coach Compliance (includes choreographers) and Learn to Skate USA® Instructor Compliance. 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.

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.

To be issued a credential the coach/es/ 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

III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

ONLINE REGISTRATION VIA EMS:

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: 05/31/2024 at 11:59 ET

Late Registration Deadline: 06/12/2024 at 11:59ET + \$50 Late Fee

***The host club reserves the right to close registration at any time if event capacity is met**

LATE ENTRIES: Entries made on EMS after May 31 but before June 12 will incur an additional fee of \$50 and are accepted only at the discretion of the competition chair and Chief Referee. No entries will be accepted after June 12th.

CHANGES: Changes of event after the registration deadline MAY 31 will be permitted at the discretion of the LOC and Chief Referee and will result in a \$25 fee per each event changed due at arrival at the rink.

1. Go to www.usfsaonline.org
2. Enter your U.S. Figure Skating or 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 "**Dogwood Open 2024**" 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.

U.S. Figure Skating IJS Protocols for Test Credit

In accordance with Rules TR 3.00, 4.01 and 4.02, athletes may receive credit for meeting minimum scores at any competition held under the International Judge System (IJS). The athlete must “skate up” to the event they are seeking test credit for, in addition to having already passed any prerequisites prior to the competition. Eligible events at the 2023 DOGWOOD OPEN include: Singles Free Skate WB and Excel: Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior, Adult Silver through Adult Masters Jr/Sr.

Skaters requesting Test Credit will need to sign up and pay for that during [EMS registration](#). Contact our [accountant](#) ahead of time for info OR ask and pay (\$20 CASH ONLY) for a Test Credit pack at the Registration desk. All materials needed to submit for test credit to your own home club’s test chair will be sent by e-mail no later than 10 days after the competition.

CRITIQUES: If conditions permit, critiques will be offered for all singles IJS events; both SP and FS. Coaches and competitors are invited to attend. **IJS critiques will only be available to skaters who submit Planned Program Content.**

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **JUNE 13 11:59 ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$25 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: JUNE 13 11:59 ET

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 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.

PENALTY FOR INCORRECT MUSIC OR FAILURE TO UPLOAD MUSIC: After the music upload deadline, the LOC may allow late uploads of music (including corrections) in its sole and absolute discretion. Where late uploads are permitted, the LOC will assess each competitor/team an additional charge, up to \$25.00 per skater, if the competitor: 1) fails to submit music prior to the online music submission deadline, 2) submits files that do not follow the specifications or 3) uploads the incorrect music for a given event segment (e.g. uploads short program music instead of the free skate).

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 **JUNE 13 11:59 ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$25 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: JUNE 13 11:59 ET

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®, Triangle Figure Skating Club of NC and Invisalign Arena 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:

The competition will be held at NHL Carolina Hurricanes practice facility:

Invisalign Arena, Wake Competition Center, Competition Center Dr, Morrisville ,NC.

The rink is a climate-controlled facility with two NHL ice surfaces with rounded corners and a hockey barrier. It fits 1700 spectators at full capacity and has a cafe on site for refreshments.

The facility is located 10 minutes from RDU airport right off I-40 between exit 284 and 285. It has a number of hotels and restaurants in close vicinity.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

(GENERAL LOCKER ROOMS):

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 in the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#).

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 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:

The full schedule of events and continuous updates will be posted on an official bulletin board on the Dogwood Open page of www.trianglefscnc.org. The schedule will also be available through [EMS](#) as personal schedules for skaters and coaches and will also have the complete schedule for download. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the posted schedules regularly for any schedule changes or additional information pertaining 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 and will be able to view it within the [EMS Competition Portal](#).

It is recommended that skaters arrive no less than 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event warm-up.

PRACTICE ICE:

All practice ice sessions will be 20 minutes in length and limited to 20 skaters. Sessions will be available before the start of events each day and at multiple times throughout the competition, ice time permitting.

Practice Ice will be for sale in two tiers on EMS.

Tier 1) \$20.00 per session: online pre-purchase of practice ice during registration.

Tier 2) \$25.00 per session: online practice ice purchased after May 31.

EMS Practice Ice Booking Instructions: [Pre-Purchase](#) | [Selection](#) | [Open Sales](#)

Skaters are reminded to be on time for practice ice sessions. As customary, coaches are not allowed on the ice during practice ice sessions and no programs will be played.

Practice ice fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

A registration desk will be opened in the lobby one hour prior to the start of the competition and will remain open during the scheduled events.

If you are participating in a role requiring compliance, please be sure to [download or print your compliance card](#) to verify your compliance status on-site, if requested. If you believe your compliance card does not accurately reflect your compliance status, please contact skatesafe@usfigureskating.org at least 2 business days prior to the competition for assistance.

AWARDS:

Medals will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place winners in each event. All events are considered completed after the initial round. No final rounds will be held. Medals can be picked up shortly after the end of the event at the awards table in the lobby of the rink after the results have been posted on-line at www.trianglefscnc.org.

PHOTO/VIDEO:

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

Event photography

Danielle Woods Photography will be taking photos for all events, which will be available for purchase directly from the company in an online private gallery within 4 days after the competition ends.

www.daniellewoodsphotography.com

Event Videography

All competitors' performances will be recorded and provided for download approximately one week after the event, courtesy of Looking Glass Productions. Videos will be available at www.figureskate.video

Except for the official videographer, only battery-operated personal cameras will be allowed. Individual videotaping will be permitted in designated areas only and NO TRIPODS are allowed. There will be NO FLASH photography permitted in the ice arena.

MERCHANDISE:

Fine Designs will be on site with made to order shirts, sweatshirts, and tank tops. They will have many styles to choose from!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

LOC Chair:	Kelli Hambleton	kellihambleton@gmail.com
Chief Referee:	Ellyn Kestnbaum	EKestnbaum@yahoo.com
Club Contact:	Rebecca Martin	Info@trianglefscnc.org
Chief Accountant	Michael Rowland	volunteer@nc.rr.com
Chief Technical Accountant	Jim Achtenberg	jacht@umich.edu