

## FIGURE SKATING RULE INTERPRETATIONS

### SECTION A- GENERAL RULES

- A-1. In cases not covered by these interpretations, the International Skating Union (ISU) and National Governing Body (NGB) rules will govern for Figure Skating. Rules can be downloaded at [www.isu.org](http://www.isu.org).
- A-2. Coaches will not be allowed to protest a judge's score on an athlete's routine.
- A-3. The Games Rule Committee will make all final decisions.
- A-4. No advertising or sponsorship is allowed to be worn on competition uniforms or warm-ups.
- A-5. Athletes must compete in a Regional event to attend the State Winter Games.
- A-6. At all times athletes are expected to compete to the best of their ability to ensure a quality competition at all levels. Coaches are expected to provide accurate/honest scores of their athlete's ability.

### SECTION B - SPORT SPECIFIC RULES

- B-1. Coaching– All Levels and Disciplines  
Skaters may receive coaching or instruction while on the ice during warm-up periods with the stipulation that the coach is wearing skates, and may also leave the ice surface for that purpose. However, coaching or instruction is not permitted during the actual performance of the skater before the judges. For the purpose of this rule, coaching shall be considered any communication between the skater and an instructor, parent or any other person. The referee may bar from the rink anyone who disregards this rule and may disqualify any skater who receives coaching or instruction in violation thereof. The referee may, for good cause, modify the strict interpretation of this rule.
- B-2. All Levels and Disciplines  
A fall is defined as the loss of control by a skater with the result that the majority of his/her own body weight is on the ice being supported by any other part of the body other than the blades, e.g. hand(s), knee(s), back, buttock(s) or any part of the arm.
  - a. A fall in itself is no bar to winning an event.
- B-3. Falls – Not the Fault of the Skater  
If a skater is interfered with through no fault of the skater or falls because of the condition of the ice, the referee shall direct the skater to begin again after such period of rest as the referee may deem advisable, and the judges shall mark only the reskated program.
- B-4. Falls – The Fault of the Skater  
A skater, who falls in an event, shall continue skating without an extension of the prescribed duration of time. A movement marred by a fall must not be marked. If a fall is the fault of the competitor, it must be reflected in the mark for technical elements. If the fall interrupts the harmonious composition, it must be reflected in both marks. An involuntary touchdown must be reflected in the marking according to its seriousness.

- B-5. Stops
- A. In the event that the skater's music does not play, a back-up CD must be produced by the skaters coach and brought to the referee within 60 seconds. No penalty will be assessed if the skater commences their program within three minutes from the determination of a music failure. In the event that a secondary CD does not play, the skater has an option of performing without music. A penalty of -2 will be assessed to the total program score.
- B. If there is an interruption or stop in the music, or if circumstances arise which jeopardize the safety of the competitor on account of unexpected damage to their clothing or equipment that impedes their skating, the competitor must stop skating at the signal of the referee.
- a. If the referee signals for the competitor to stop, the music must stop, and the judges must cease marking. The music should be recued in preparation to resume from the point of interruption.

#### SECTION C - SCORING AND DIVISIONING

- C-1. All athletes will be divisioned after their preliminary round of competition based on the judges scores. The scores from the preliminary round of competition and the final round of competition will be added together to determine place of finish.
- C-2. For athletes in levels 1-2 preliminary competition will consist of an athlete competing in 2 attempts of the compulsory routines and 1 attempt of their freestyle routine. The final round of competition will consist of 1 attempt of the athlete's freestyle routine. The best score of the 2 attempts in the compulsory routine will be recorded.
- For athletes in levels 3-6 preliminary competition will consist of an athlete competing in 1 attempt of the compulsory short program and 1 attempt of their freestyle routine. The final round of competition will consist of 1 attempt of the athlete's freestyle routine.
- The compulsory routines will count as 33.3 % of the athlete's score and the freestyle routine will count as 66.7 % of the athlete's final score.
- C-3. During a one day competition the preliminary competition will consist of an athlete being judged by his/her attempt of the compulsory routine or compulsory short program and one attempt of the freestyle routine. The final round of competition will consist of the athlete being judged in his/her freestyle routine. The scores from the preliminary round and the final round of competition will be added together to determine place of finish.
- C-4. Athletes must participate in both the compulsory round and the freestyle round of competition.
- C-5. Judges will award two marks: one for technical merit and one for composition and style of the athlete's Freestyle competition.

#### SECTION D - UNIFORMS

- D-1. Figure skates should be clean and polished with laces tucked in.

- D-2. Female attire should be a simple, fitted figure skating dress, skirt, or jumper with a turtleneck and/or sweater. Sheer to waist pantyhose or tights can be worn and undergarments should not be visible. Male attire should be simple fitted pants, a long sleeved sweater and/or a turtleneck. Athletes will not be allowed to wear sweatpants or jeans during competition.
- D-3. No loose jewelry may be worn. Athletes will not be allowed to wear award medals during competition. Props may not be used for competition.
- D-4. The clothing of the athletes must be modest, dignified and appropriate for athletic competition - not garish or theatrical in design. Clothing can reflect the character of the music chosen. Costumes that create a hazard for the skater (cape, mask, etc) cannot be used. The costume should not hinder the program but should enhance it.

#### SECTION E - EVENTS

- E-1. Special Olympics Colorado will offer the following events in Figure Skating competition:
  - a. Singles Competition - Level I, II, III, IV, V, and VI
  - b. Doubles Competition - Level I and II
- E-2. Athletes can participate in a maximum of 2 events.
- E-3. Special Olympics Colorado athletes competing in levels 3 and higher will compete using the new short program and freestyle program. The short program is a program of specified free skating elements performed for a specified period of time to music of the skater's choice. Requirements of the short program are located in the section marked Winter Games of the Facts and Forms book.