



# Adult Competition Series Handbook 2023-24 Season

Competition Series: May 26, 2023 – February 19, 2024

## Series Finals at Adult Sectional Competitions:

### [Midwestern Adult Sectional Championships](#)

Dates: March 8-10, 2024

Location: [Scheels IcePlex](#) (Sioux Falls, South Dakota)

Host: [Sioux Falls FSC](#)

### [Pacific Coast Adult Sectional Championships](#)

Dates: March. 8-10, 2024

Location: [Snoopy's Home Ice](#) (Santa Rosa, California)

Host: [Santa Rosa FSC](#)

### [Eastern Adult Sectional Championships](#)

Dates: March 14-16, 2024

Location: [RMU Island Sports Center](#) (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)

Host: [Pittsburgh FSC](#)

Dear Skaters, Coaches and Officials,

On behalf of U.S. Figure Skating's Adult Skating Committee, we are pleased to announce the 2023-24 Eastern, Midwestern and Pacific Coast Adult Competition Series, our seventh season.

This series is open to adult singles skaters within the Eastern, Midwestern and Pacific Coast sections, including members of Learn to Skate USA and U.S. Figure Skating. Skaters participating in the Adult Competition Series accumulate points based upon placement in the free skate event at local nonqualifying competitions and **SANCTIONED** virtual competitions. These points will be used to determine the final series placements within each section. Adult Competition Series awards will be presented at the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with each adult sectional championships.

The mission of this program is to provide a meaningful series of events to encourage skaters in the adult 1 through adult bronze levels, and all levels of Adaptive Skating, to enjoy a fun, yet competitive environment where they can experience the community of adult skating and continue to skate for the rest of their lives.

We look forward to seeing you on the ice!

Sincerely,

**Marilyn Nolte**

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# Adult Competition Series (ACS) Information for Skaters and Coaches

Welcome to the 2023-24 Adult Competition Series (ACS)!

Adult Competition Series events may take place at all U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned nonqualifying competitions, as per Rule 3060 in the current U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook, as long as these competitions offer adult 1 through adult bronze events. Additionally, Adaptive Skating events are also eligible for ACS submission.

There are a few updates for this season. The first is to officially welcome all adult Adaptive Skaters to the ACS! We have been working to make this happen for a few seasons, so we are thrilled to welcome you! The next big change is to reward skaters for passing their pre-bronze and/or bronze free skate tests. You will receive bonus points for each free skate test passed even if you do not move up a level in the ACS season. The last big update is we will be taking three scores this season: two competitions plus sectionals.

And one additional change – registration is via EMS this season!

## Things to Know

### Information and Questions

1. Handbook updates, Links for registration for the Series and Score updates will be posted on [USFS Members Only: Skating Opportunities / Adults / Series Info](#)
2. Questions may also be directed to Marilyn via email at [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com)

### Key Series Dates

1. May 26, 2023 – February 19, 2024 – Compete at any U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned nonqualifying competition
2. February 1, 2024 – Deadline to register for the Series (opening date August, 22 2023)
3. February 1, 2024 – Deadline to register for the Adult Sectionals
4. February 21, 2024 – Deadline to submit non-sectionals competition results
5. March 2024 – Adult Sectionals and the ACS Final Awards for each section

## Eligibility and Test Levels

1. Adult Skaters - Athletes must be 18 years of age or older as of February 1, 2024 to participate
2. Athletes must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating or Learn to Skate USA and may be members of the figure skating club of their choice
3. All participants will be expected to abide by the Code of Ethics (GR 1.01) and the Code of Conduct (GR 1.02), as set forth in the current U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.
4. All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above their highest U.S. Figure Skating free skating or Learn to Skate USA test passed.
5. Open to adult skaters eligible to compete in the following levels:
  - a. Adult 1 – 6
  - b. Adult Beginner, Adult High Beginner,
  - c. Adult Pre-Bronze, Adult Bronze
  - d. Special Olympics Badge 1 – 12
  - e. Special Olympics Free Skate 1 – 4
  - f. Adaptive Badge 2 – 12
6. Program requirements can be found in the [Compete USA Handbook](#) on the pages noted:
  - Adult 1-6, page 15
  - Adult Beginner and High Beginner, page 16
  - Adult pre-bronze and bronze, page 16
  - Special Olympics Badge 1-12, page 26
  - Special Olympics Free Skate 1-3, page 27
  - Adaptive Skating Badge Levels 2-12, page 29Special Olympics Free Skate 4 per [Special Olympics Guidelines](#)

**Note:** A skater's **home section** is based upon either the location of the skater's home figure skating club, the legal residence of the Individual Member or the physical address of the Learn to Skate USA program in which the skater is registered as of December 15, 2023, If you are unsure of your section, ask your club or [email us for help](#).

## Registration and costs

1. The Adult Competition Series (deadline Feb 1, 2024)  
Cost \$35. **The series registration fee is nonrefundable.**

Skaters interested in participating in the 2023-24 Adult Competition Series may begin competing on May 26, 2023.

Skaters who wish to participate in the ACS Final and awards will need to register prior to the conclusion of the Adult Qualifying Season registration period, February 1, 2024.

Registration for the ACS will take place on EMS. Once you log into EMS, select Series Information, and then choose 2023-24 Adult Competition Series. A \$35.00 fee will be due at that time.

2. The appropriate free skate event at their **home section** Adult Sectional Competition (deadline Feb 1, 2024)

Cost based on Adult Sectional event registration

In order to qualify for ACS awards, skaters **MUST** compete in the nonqualifying free skate competition held in conjunction with the adult sectional championship in their **home section** (see Eligibility and Test Levels above).

Registration for the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with adult sectionals will take place in EMS, which can be found by logging into [Members Only](#). Applicable competition fees will be due when the skater registers. The registration period will open in December 2023 and conclude on February 1, 2024.

3. At least one (scores will use the top two 2) non-Sectional point earning competitions (varies by competition) held between May 26, 2023 and February 19, 2024.

Cost based on individual competition fees for event registration

Skaters compete in a minimum of one nonqualifying competition anywhere in the United States during the Series timeframe to accumulate points based on placement in the free skate event at each competition. Competitions may be either a live competition or a **SANCTIONED** virtual competition.

All skaters must register for the individual competitions separately through the LOC hosting each individual event. Event entry fees will be set by the LOC hosting the individual competition and will be listed within their announcements. Skaters are responsible for registering directly with each competition in which they wish to compete.

Any competition held between May 27, 2023 to February 19, 2024 will count towards qualification. All program requirements can be found in the [Compete USA Handbook](#)

## Competition Results and Test Points

1. Skaters must email their competition results to [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com) by **Wednesday, Feb 21, 2024**. Early submissions are appreciated, and will be included in the interim standings
  - a. Results may be shared as a photo, scanned copy, email attachment, screen shot, or link to their final result sheet if results are available online.
2. Skaters wanting free skate Test Points for the Adult Pre-Bronze free skate test and / or Adult Bronze free skate test must email their test certificate from USFS to [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com) by **February 5, 2024**
  - a. Test dates must be between May 26, 2023 and February 1, 2024.
3. **Late submissions will not be accepted or counted towards final standings.**

## Points opportunities

### 1. Competition Points:

Points are awarded to each skater based upon the skaters' placement in the event. Point totals from each section will be maintained by the Adult Skating Committee and posted on the Adult Skating Competition Series Page on the U.S. Figure Skating website.

Skaters may move up to a higher level during the series. Points follow a skater throughout the series, even if they change levels. Once a skater moves up a level, they may not compete at a lower level.

NOTE: Skaters may compete in, and submit results from, as many competitions as they choose during the season.

Three competitions will be counted towards ACS points: the top 2 points- earning competitions submitted from the season, and the ACS final (this is the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with each adult sectional championships).

Adult Competition Series Point Calculation Chart - Program/Free Skate Event												
	Number of Skaters											
Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5	12	12.5	13	13.5
2		7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5	12	12.5
3			7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5
4				6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5
5					6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5
6						5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5
7							5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5
8								4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5
9									4	4.5	5	5.5
10										3.5	4	4.5
11											3	3.5
12												2.5

### 2. Withdrawals

- Points will only be awarded to athletes who complete the competition. The number of athletes—and therefore points awarded in an event—will be based upon the number of skaters listed on the start orders posted prior to the start of the competition.

### 3. Ties

- Ties will not be broken at regular season competitions. In the case of a tie, skaters will share the available points.
- In the case of a tie in the final series standings, the ties will be broken based on the skaters' placements at the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with the adult sectional championships.

### 4. Move Up Points – 3 points per level, maximum 6 points per season

- A skater will earn three points towards their overall standings each time they enter a level that is higher than the level competed at the previous competition. In order to keep the extra points, the skater must compete in that level or higher in all subsequent

competitions. Move up points may be awarded a maximum of two (2) times per season. In order to remain eligible for the ACS, skaters may not move up into a level that is not included in the ACS (example: adult silver).

5. Free Skate Test Points – 3 points per test, maximum 6 points per season
  - A skater will earn three points towards their overall standings for passing either or both of the Adult Pre-Bronze Free Skate Test and the Adult Bronze Free Skate test between May 27, 2023 and February 1, 2024. In order to remain eligible for the ACS, skaters may not move up into a level that is not included in the ACS (example: adult silver).

## **Awards and Recognition**

1. All registered skaters will receive the ACS 2023-24 pin (New for this season)
2. All Competitors at Sectionals will receive a final placement certificate at the Sectional ACS Awards Ceremony (held separately from the free skate awards ceremony)
3. First through sixth place winners will receive a medal at the Sectional ACS Awards Ceremony (held separately from the free skate awards ceremony)
4. First through fourth place winners in each section at each level will receive a trophy (to be shipped after sectionals results are finalized)
5. Additional Recognition Programs available to ACS Competitors
  - U.S. Figure Skating Adult Lifetime Competitor Recognition Program:** Learn more [here](#).
  - Skate Forever Young Awards: Learn more [here](#).



## Adult Competition Series (ACS) 2023-24 FAQ

### **When can I register for the Series?**

Registration for the ACS will be held from August 22, 2023 through February 1, 2024. You may compete in any competition held between May 26, 2023 and February 19, 2024, even if you are not yet registered for the ACS, to earn points towards the series final.

### **Can I compete and earn points even though I'm not registered?**

Yes. Because registration opens after the series begins, any points earned beginning May 26, 2023 will be counted towards your total as long as you submit the results.

### **Does registration for a competition automatically register me for the series?**

No, you must register separately for the ACS Series.

### **Do I have to compete in live competitions? What about virtual events?**

Skaters may choose to compete at any SANCTIONED nonqualifying competition, either live or virtual. We strongly recommend confirming with a virtual competition that it is fully sanctioned.

### **If the competition(s) I entered are cancelled, can I receive a refund for the Series?**

Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer refunds for the Series.

### **Will there be a separate registration fee for sectionals?**

Yes, competition and sectionals registration fees are separate from the \$35.00 ACS fee.

### **Can I change levels during the Series?**

Yes, you may move up at any point in the Series. However, you may NOT move up into a level that is NOT included in the Adult Competition Series and still qualify for Series awards.

### **Who is eligible to earn ACS awards at the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with the adult sectional championships?**

All skaters who register for the ACS who compete in at least one event between May 26, 2023 and February 19, 2024, compete at the adult sectional championships in their home section and submit their results by the deadline will be eligible.

### **Do I have to compete in an event designated as a series competition?**

No. For the 2023-24 season, skaters may compete and submit a results sheet from any U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned competition which takes place between May 26, 2023 and February 19, 2024.

### **Can I choose which adult sectional championships I want to attend?**

No, you must compete at the adult sectional championships in your home section.

### **What is my home section?**

A skater's home section is based upon either the location of the skater's home figure skating club, the legal residence of the Individual Member or the physical address of the Learn to Skate USA program in which the skater is registered. If you are unsure of your section, ask your club or [email us for help](#).

**One of the other adult sectional championships is closer to my home. Can I change sections?**

If you are changing sections, you must do so before December 15, 2023.

**When will more information be available about the sectional championships?**

Information about sectional championships may be found here:

- [Eastern Adult Sectional Championships](#)
- [Midwestern Adult Sectional Championships](#)
- [Pacific Adult Sectional Championships](#)

**How many athletes will qualify for the adult sectional championships?**

There is no limit to the number of athletes that can qualify.

**How do I submit my results sheet?**

For all competitions, a photo, scanned copy, email attachment or screenshot of the results sheet must be sent to [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com). All submissions must be received by February 21, 2024. **NO** late submissions will be accepted.

**When will standings be posted?**

Initial results and standings will be posted no later than January 16, 2024, and then every two weeks. Final results prior to sectionals will be posted on February 26, 2024.

Standings will be posted on USFS Members Only / Skating Opportunities / Adults / Series Info

If you have any additional questions, please email [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com).

**If I have a S.A.M., what level do I participate in?**

You should select the same level that you will compete in. Please make sure to share your Skating Accommodation Memorandum (S.A.M.) with each competition LOC.

For information about the S.A.M. process, please review the [Adaptive Skating](#) page on [usfigureskating.org](http://usfigureskating.org).

# Adult Competition Series (ACS) Information for Officials and LOCs

## General Information

The 2023-24 season consists of two main elements:

1) Live or Virtual Sanctioned Competitions:

Skaters competed at nonqualifying competitions throughout the United States during the Series timeframe and earned points based on placement in the free skate event at each competition. Skaters submitted a photo, scanned copy, email attachment or screenshot of their final results sheet to the Adult Skating Committee after the conclusion of their competitions.

2) Adult Competition Series Final (March 2024)

In order to qualify for ACS awards, skaters **MUST** compete in the nonqualifying competition held in conjunction with the adult sectional championship in their **home section**.

## Important for the Nonqualifying Competition Held in Conjunction with the Adult Sectional Championships

The Adult Competition Series Chair and the Vice Chair of Learn to Skate USA and Nonqualifying will monitor live results from all three sectional championships during the weekend and update the standings documents as results are posted online. The final series winners in each section will be communicated to the LOC as soon as possible after results are posted so awards ceremonies can be held.

If the sectional competition is sharing results online, then the Adult Committee will monitor that website for results. If there are technical issues, it would be appreciated if the Chief Accountant or LOC would email results from the following events to [adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com](mailto:adultcompetitionseries@gmail.com), in order for final standings to be calculated.

- Adult 1 through Adult 6
- Adult beginner and high beginner
- Adult pre-bronze and adult bronze
- Special Olympics Badge 1-12
- Special Olympics Free skate 1-4
- Adaptive Badge 2-12

Be sure to include:

- From Hal2
  - Competition Survey Report or Internet Data Component Standings .HTM file
- From IJS Companion
  - Results Summary from IJS Companion
  - A results sheet providing the final placements of the skaters signed by the event referee and the event accountant if not using one of the two systems above

## Additional Information

- Medals for the series will be presented at the competition, so if emailing results, please do so after **each** free skate event to the Adult Skating Committee for calculation.
- The Adult Skating Committee will email the appropriate Chief Accountant and the LOC chair for each section with the final results for the Series
- Remind the LOC chair and Chief Referee that the awards ceremony should be approximately 2 hours after the end of the last series event

The final series standings will be emailed to the LOC chair and the Chief Accountant of the competition as quickly as possible for use in the awards ceremony.

Each Local Organizing Committee will receive the Adult Competition Series awards from headquarters along with any sectional championship awards – there is no additional financial investment required from the LOC for the awards. Please make this a special occasion for these skaters as we want to encourage them to come back and participate next year as well as to keep them skating for the rest of their lives!

Award Presentations: Adult Competition Series awards will be presented at the nonqualifying competitions held in conjunction with the adult sectional championships. For these competitions, please allow at least 2 hours between the end of the final free skate event for adult 1 through adult bronze to schedule the awards ceremony for the Adult Competition Series medalists.

## Grouping Considerations

To give athletes the best chance to achieve Adult Competition Series points, please adhere to the following grouping guidelines for all Adult 1 through adult bronze free skate events at the nonqualifying competitions held in conjunction with the Adult Sectional Championships:

- For adult 1 through 6, adult beginner, and adult high beginner the maximum group size is 6 skaters
- For Special Olympic Badge, Special Olympic Free Skate and Adaptive Badge Levels the maximum group size is 6 skaters
- For adult pre-bronze and adult bronze, the maximum group size is 12 skaters
- Groups of more than the max number of skaters in a level must be split into multiple groups even if some of the skaters in the event are not participating in the series.
- Groups of fewer than the max number of skaters in a level may be split at the discretion of the chief referee who should take into account the adult age classes listed below and combine age classes in such a way to provide the competitors with the opportunity to achieve the highest number of points.
  - Young Adult: 18 – 20 years
  - Class I: 21 – 35 years
  - Class II: 36 – 45 years
  - Class III: 46 – 55 years
  - Class IV: 56 – 65 years
  - Class V: 66 years and over

- For events divided into groups, no final rounds will be skated
- Always combine genders in the Adult 1 through adult high beginner events.
- In the adult pre-bronze and adult bronze events, a single male competitor in a level may choose to be combined with the female competitors to allow for higher point possibilities (reference Rules 3013 and 3055).
- We are aware of the many constrictions on Chief Referees. When possible, please schedule at least five judges per panel.

Adult Competition Series Point Calculation Chart												
Program/Free Skate Event												
	Number of Skaters											
Place	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5	12	12.5	13	13.5
2		7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5	12	12.5
3			7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5	11	11.5
4				6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5	10	10.5
5					6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5	9	9.5
6						5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8	8.5
7							5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5
8								4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5
9									4	4.5	5	5.5
10										3.5	4	4.5
11											3	3.5
12												2.5

### Important Information About Withdrawals

- The number of athletes, and therefore points awarded in an event will be based upon the number of skaters listed on the start orders posted prior to the start of the competition.

### Warm-up Groups and Times, Starting Orders

In order to standardize events so that the skaters know what to expect from one competition to the next, please use the following

- Warm-up groups should be no more than 6 skaters
- Warm-up times as follows:
  - Adult 1-6: 4 minutes
  - Adult beginner – adult bronze: 5 minutes

Starting Orders are random draws – no separate draws are necessary.

## Judging System Information

For the adult pre-bronze and adult bronze free skate events, either 6.0 or IJS may be used at the discretion of the LOC. The 6.0 judging system will be used for all other free skate events at the participating 2023-24 Adult Series Competition.

Free skate events consist of a choreographed program that contains required elements for the level entered.

Program requirements can be found in the [Compete USA Handbook](#) on the pages noted:

- Adult 1-6, page 15
- Adult Beginner and High Beginner, page 16
- Adult pre-bronze and bronze, page 16
- Special Olympics Badge 1-12, page 26
- Special Olympics Free Skate 1-3, page 27
- Adaptive Skating Badge Levels 2-12, page 29

Special Olympics Free Skate 4 per [Special Olympics Guidelines](#)

HAL2 Setup Information (6.0 events):

- 1) These should be set up as standard program/free skate events in Hal2
  - a. Two marks are given
  - b. Music is required and vocals are allowed
- 2) Results from Hal2 for the Adult Competition Series Program/Free Skate event will be posted at the competition or online
- 3) These results are sent to the Adult Skating Committee and points are awarded to the skater from their placement in the Program/Free Skate Event

IJS Setup Information (if competition has chosen to use this judging system for adult bronze free skate event):

- 1) Adult bronze events will be called according to the standard rules of IJS and the [Adult Calling Clarifications](#) posted on the [Adult Technical Information](#) page of the U.S. Figure Skating website
- 2) All competitors in IJS Free Skate events are required to submit their Planned Program Content (PPC) form in EMS