



March 27 - 29, 2026

Hosted by Genesee Figure Skating Club, Rochester, NY



Early Bird Entry Deadline:

January 24, 2026

Entry Deadline:

February 27, 2026

Late Entry Deadline:

March 4, 2026

Polisseni Arena at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

200 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623

Sanctioned by USFS #36513 and Skate Canada



I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2026 Genesee Invitational 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 an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the [rulebook](#) for more information.

2026 EXCEL SERIES:

This competition has been approved as a 2026 Excel Series host. Skaters must register to participate in the Excel Series prior to competing at designated competitions in order to have their points recorded and seen in standings.

[Excel Series Registration](#) | [Excel Series 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. 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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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, 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.

ALL OTHER EVENTS (such as Adults, Ice Dance, Showcase):

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

EVENTS OFFERED:

Program requirements for the current season can be found here:

<https://www.usfigureskating.org/program-requirements>.

SINGLES	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Excel Free Skate (Preliminary Plus, Pre-Juvenile Plus, Juvenile Plus, Intermediate Plus, and Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$150	\$115	\$45
Excel Free Skate (Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Well Balanced Short Program (Juvenile-Senior)	IJS	\$150	\$115	\$45
Well Balanced Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary-Senior)	IJS	\$150	\$115	\$45
Adult Free Skate (Adult Silver – Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$150	\$115	\$45
Adult Beginner, High Beginner, Pre-Bronze and Bronze Free Skate	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
ADAPTIVE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Special Olympics – Free Skate Program	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Compulsory Moves (Level 1 – 8)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Jumps Challenge (Level 1 – 9)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Spins Challenge (Level 1 – 6)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
SOLO DANCE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Solo Pattern Dance (not participating in series)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Solo Free Dance (not participating in series)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Shadow Dance (not participating in series)	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
Adult Solo Pattern Dance	6.0	\$100	\$65	\$45
SHOWCASE (Events may be combined depending on entries)	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Emotional Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Emotional Performance (Basic 1-6, Aspire 1-4, Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$45
Choreographic Artistry (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Choreographic Artistry (Introductory)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Lyrical Pop (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Lyrical Pop (Basic 1-6, Aspire 1-4, Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Character Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Character Performance (Aspire 1-4, Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Comedic Impressions (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45

Comedic Impressions (Aspire 1-4, Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Duets/Trios (fee is per team) (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Duets/Trios (fee is per team) (Basic, Aspire 1-4, Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Theme Event (2026 theme -DIVAS of the 80s and 90s) (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$100	\$65	\$45
Theme Event (2026 theme -DIVAS of the 80s and 90s) (Pre-preliminary)	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Inflatables	CJS	\$100	\$25	\$25
COMPETE USA EVENTS (see above for Showcase events)	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price	3rd+ Event Price
Snowplow Sam - Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Adult 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements * See note below	6.0	\$65	\$35	\$25
Compete USA – Team Compulsory (fee is per team, one person registers for the team)	6.0	\$60	\$60	\$60

Program requirements for the current season can be found here:

<https://www.usfigureskating.org/program-requirements>.

* **Compete USA Elements Event Format:** We will be using Format 2 for all of our Elements events. The skater will perform one element at a time in the order listed in the USFS Program Requirements: [Snowplow Sam - Basic 6 Elements Chart](#).

SHOWCASE EVENTS:

Showcase Skaters should register for their appropriate Showcase category (artistic, lyric pop, emotional, etc.) but will be divided by category only if entry numbers support it. All Individual Entertainment Events may first be grouped first by appropriate test level and then by age (if number of entries merits this).

Skaters who place in the top 4 of their Showcase event and meet the minimum score (Preliminary level or above) will qualify for National Showcase 2026.

PATTERN DANCE EVENTS:

Standard Solo Pattern Dances to be skated are listed below, with standard steps according to the rulebook (choice of lead or follow steps, and no variation dances). Skaters will not be separated by gender.

Adult Solo Pattern Dances will use the dances and specifications outlined in the [2025-26 Pattern Dance Chart](#) on the Program Requirements page (found under the Adult Solo Dance and Partnered Pattern Dance sections), noted below.

STANDARD SOLO PATTERN DANCE		
Event	First dance	Second dance
Preliminary	Dutch Waltz (2)	Tango Canasta (3)
Pre-Bronze	Swing Dance (2)	Cha Cha (3)

Bronze	Hickory Hoedown (3)	Willow Waltz (2)
Pre-Silver	Fourteenstep (4)	European Waltz (2)
Silver	American Waltz (2)	Tango (2)
Pre-Gold	Kilian (6)	Blues (3)
Gold	Viennese Waltz (3)	Argentine Tango (2)
International	Tango Romantica (2)	Austrian Waltz (2)

ADULT SOLO PATTERN DANCE		
Event	First dance	Second dance
Adult Preliminary	Dutch Waltz (2)	Tango Canasta (2)
Adult Pre-Bronze	Dutch Waltz (2)	Cha Cha (2)
Adult Bronze	Tango Fiesta (2)	Ten-Fox (2)
Adult Pre-Silver	Ten-Fox (2)	European Waltz (2)
Adult Silver	Foxtrot (3)	Tango (2)
Adult Pre-Gold	Rocker Foxtrot (3)	Starlight Waltz (2)
Adult Gold	Kilian (4)	Westminster Waltz (2)

All pattern dance events will use the 6.0 judging system and all music will be Skater's Choice and must be uploaded into EMS per the instructions below. Standard music is freely available to download for most dances in the Testing → Overview section of U.S. Figure Skating Members Only if you would prefer to use one of those selections. If you need music and do not have access to download these files in Members Only, please contact skategfsc@gmail.com.

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 [U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® 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 US 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 skategfsc@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 non-qualifying competition, coaches must meet the applicable compliance requirements and be 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.

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.

Early Bird Registration Deadline: 1/24/2026 at 11:59pm ET

Total registration fee reduced by \$15. Only one discount per skater allowed.

Registration Deadline: 2/27/2026 at 11:59pm ET

Late Registration Deadline: 3/4/2026 at 11:59pm ET + \$25 Late Fee

The LOC reserves the right to close registration at any time if event capacity is met. In the event the competition closes early, a waiting list may be made available for openings that become available before the event schedule is published.

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 "2026 Genesee Invitational" from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
 - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact productsupport@usfigureskating.org.

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:

Test credit may be obtained for a \$25 fee. Test credit must be requested prior to the start of the competition through the EMS competition portal (In EMS, select Merchandise>IJS Miscellaneous Merch.>Test Credit). You may retrieve your test credit paperwork for passed tests at the registration desk

within one hour after awards have been delivered for the event. Any athlete seeking IJS Test Credit is responsible for all steps outlined in the "For Athletes" section of the [IJS Protocol for Test Credit](#) document. This includes submitting your Test Credit Packet and coach statement to your club for official processing within the permissible timeline.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than March 15, 2026 11:59pm 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 check-in at the competition.

DEADLINE: 3/15/2026 11:59 pm ET *\$25 LATE FEE for uploads after this date

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.

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 3/15/2026 11:59pm 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: 3/15/2026 11:59 pm ET *\$25 LATE FEE for uploads after this date.

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

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org.

REFUND POLICY:

Entry fees will not be refunded after the 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®, Genesee Figure Skating Club, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Polisseni 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:

Gene Polisseni Center
Rochester Institute of Technology
200 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
<https://www.rit.edu/fa/arenas/gene-polisseni-center/about-facility>
Rink size: 200 feet long x 85 feet wide.
Competition entrance and registration are located at Gate 3.

A concession stand is available throughout the competition. Vendors will be available. Parking is available in guest lots on the RIT campus. Additional parking information will be emailed prior to the competition.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

Locker rooms and changing areas will not be available for this competition. All athletes are expected to arrive at the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with an area to put skates on but changing will not be permitted in these spaces.

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:

All official updates will be posted on the Genesee FSC website: www.geneseefsc.com

Look for the **Invitational Tab under Calendar and Event Info**. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the Genesee FSC website frequently for any schedule changes and/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.

PRACTICE ICE:

Practice Ice credits will be available for pre-purchase through EMS until **3/4/2026**. Open sales will begin through EMS when the schedule becomes available. On-site sales will be available at the time of the competition, pending ice availability. There are no refunds on practice ice purchases.

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

Check-in will open one hour prior to the first event of the day and will be located in the lobby of the competition arena, the Gene Polisseni Center near the Gate 3 entrance. Skaters should arrive an hour prior to their scheduled start time, and be prepared to compete 30 minutes prior to their scheduled time.

AWARDS:

Medals will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place. Award ceremonies will take place throughout the day with times posted near the podium.

VOLUNTEER INFO:

Volunteers are always welcome! Please email skategfsc@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Official Hotel:

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS ROCHESTER-UNIVERSITY
717 East Henrietta Road
Rochester, NY 14623
(585) 487-8500

A limited number of rooms are available at a special rate of \$109/night. Reserve a room no later than **02/22/2026** for this rate. Refer to "Genesee Figure Skating Club/Northeast Figure Skaters" when booking. Individual reservations will be held to a 48-hour cancellation policy. Any reservation canceled within 48 hours of arrival will be subject to a non-refundable cancellation fee totaling one night's room and tax.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Please consult competition website www.geneseefsc.com
Club email address: skategfsc@gmail.com

For specific questions and information not available on the website or via email, please contact:

Competition Chair: Caroline Richards 585-271-7680

Additional Contact: Cynthia Flynn 585-733-1143