

I. General

The 2020 U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition season for synchronized skating consists of four events, including three sectional championships and the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. All four events are sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating and conducted according to the most current U.S. Figure Skating rulebook, 2019-20 edition, with changes and clarifications as posted on the U.S. Figure Skating web site and this announcement. Compliance with these rules as updated or amended is the responsibility of the participants. U.S. Figure Skating reserves the right to incorporate revisions to the International Judging System (IJS) made by the ISU for novice, junior, senior and collegiate events and by U.S. Figure Skating to intermediate events and below.

The Sectional and Championship competitions are only open to competitors who are current members of U.S. Figure Skating and who meet the eligibility requirements according to U.S. Figure Skating Rule 2220, all age and test requirements pertaining to the event your team is entering and the citizen requirements as stated in Rule 2240.

Coaches at U.S. Figure Skating Qualifying Events

To be a credentialed Coach at a U.S. Figure Skating qualifying level competition, a professional coach or choreographer must meet the requirements outlined by U.S. Figure Skating and the Professional Skaters Association and present a photo ID at the check-in desk. Guidelines may be found online at: <http://usfsa.org/content/Coaches%20Requirements%20Chart.pdf>

Team Service Personnel at U.S. Figure Skating Events

In order to receive a credential, each Team Manager and Team Service Personnel must have completed the SafeSport Training and successfully passed a background check. All team service personnel must present a photo ID on site at the check-in desk to receive their credential. Additional compliance guidelines can be found online here: <https://www.usfsa.org/content/Safesport%20compliance%20requirements.pdf>.

2020 Qualifying Events

Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

January 15–19, 2020
Times Union Center – Albany, New York
Hosted by the Skating Club of New York and the Skyliners Synchronized Skating Teams

Midwestern & Pacific Coast Synchronized Sectional Championships

January 15–19, 2020
Intrust Bank Arena – Wichita, Kansas
Hosted by the Wichita FSC and Visit Wichita

U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

February 26–29, 2020
Dunkin' Donuts Center – Providence, Rhode Island
Hosted by Warwick Figure Skaters

II. Registration

The Event Management System (EMS)

All teams are required to register online via the U.S. Figure Skating Event Management System (EMS). Anyone listed as a Coach or Team Manager for a team in their Members Only Team Profile will be able to access the registration system.

Complete Team Management Guide

<https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/zrJdNdXfA5V9y45GLgt1fxmj>

Registration Instructions

1. Go to www.usfsaonline.org
2. Use your personal member number and password to login.
3. Click the **BLUE** "EMS Event Management System" button in the middle of the Members Only landing page.
4. Choose "Competition Registration – Teams".
5. Click the **GREEN** "Register Now" button next to your sectional competition.
NOTE: Only the sectional competition for which your team(s) are eligible will appear.
6. Walk through the on-screen registration process which will include:
 - a. Team Selection: identify which team you are registering for the competition
 - b. Team Verification: confirm the team's information is accurate
 - c. Registration Overview: review general information about the competition & registration
 - d. Event Selection: Confirm the event you are registering the team for is accurate
 - e. Competition Roster Selection: Click the "Update Roster" button. A pop up window will appear with all skaters listed in your Main Roster from your Team Profile in Members Only. Check the box next to a skater's name to add them to the competition roster.
 - f. Coach Information: Only the coaches who will be attending this competition should be listed. You will only be able to add coaches who are listed in your Team Profile in Members Only. Click "Update" to add attending coaches. This information can also be updated from your EMS Team Portal once your registration is completed.
7. Payment via credit card will be required to complete your registration as it is the only accepted form of payment for registration in EMS. All registrations are not considered complete until an invoice confirmation via email has been received.
NOTE: Payment must be submitted individually for each team's registration. If you are planning on registering multiple teams in a short period of time, it is recommended that you contact your credit card company to prevent anti-fraud systems from being activated.

For more detailed instructions on how to complete registration for your team, visit your section's competition website: [Eastern](#) | [Midwestern](#) | [Pacific Coast](#)

DEADLINES

All registrations must be completed by October 1, 2019 at 11:59pm in the time zone of your team's home club.

Registration Deadline
Monday, October 1, 2019 at 11:59pm
Deadline is in the time zone of your home club.
NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Questions about Registration?
Contact Product Support
productsupport@usfigureskating.org

Music & Program Content (PPC) Upload – *DEADLINE, JANUARY 8, 2020 AT 11:59PM ET*

All teams entering the 2020 qualifying competition season are required to upload their competition music and if competing in an IJS event, submit their planned program content one week prior to their respective competitions. All music and PPC submissions must be made via the Team Portal in EMS. Questions? Email productsupport@USFigureSkating.org.

Team Roster

In order to enter the sectional championships, a team must submit a roster that fulfills the minimum requirements for that level. Additions and substitutions to the competition roster can be made in the Team Portal of the EMS until December 1.

From December 2 until two (2) weeks prior to the start of the sectional event, only substitutions can be made. Substitutions must be requested and granted permission by the Sectional Vice Chair of the Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee. Directions for submitting roster substitutions will be posted on the competition website(s) on December 2.

Rule 2821: The entry form of the first qualifying competition of the year becomes the official team roster for the remainder of the year. The roster must list all team members, including alternates.

Age Requirements

All skaters must meet the age requirements for their team's level by July 1, 2019.

Team Requirements

All team requirements must be met by October 1, 2019. No provisional entries based on an athlete passing a test after the close of entries will be accepted.

Entry Fees

All teams entering the 2020 Qualifying Season for synchronized skating must pay the appropriate entry fee to U.S. Figure Skating. There is no additional entry fee for the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. All fees are non-refundable after the close of entries.

Qualifying Events - \$600.00

Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior, Collegiate, Adult, and Masters

\$300 Entry Fee + \$300 Qualifying Team Registration Fee

NonQualifying Events - \$300.00

Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Open Juvenile, Open Adult, Open Masters, and Open Collegiate

All teams are required to pay an administrative fee of \$10/team. All registration fees are non-refundable after the close of entries.

Online payments via credit card are the ONLY accepted forms of payment. Once entries have closed, there are no refunds on entry fees. Once a team has entered, all withdrawals are considered final. A team may not re-enter the event even if the withdrawal occurs prior to the entry deadline of October 1. To withdraw from the event, email Megan Romeo at mromeo@usfigureskating.org with your team's name, U.S. Figure Skating team membership number, event in which your team is entered, and the competition from which you would like to withdraw.

Byes

All teams wishing to compete in the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships must register for their designated sectional event by the October 1 deadline. Teams awarded a bye to the championships will receive official notification in writing from U.S. Figure Skating and have their sectional registration advanced to the championships.

Skater Requirements

Medical Registry & Waivers

All athletes who are members of a team competing at the Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships are required to complete the medical registry and waivers online in their Members Only profile.

- Go to www.usfsaonline.org
- Log in using the skater's member number and password
- Choose "Events" and then "Profile"
- Select "Sign Waivers" and initial all boxes (must be completed by a parent or guardian for athletes under 18 years of age)
- Return to "Events" and then "Profile"
- Select Edit Medical Registry
- Complete form with current insurance and medical information
 - Note, if information has not changed, you must still click SAVE to be identified as current for the season.

Proof of Age

This is required for skaters competing on juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior, and senior teams who have not previously submitted proof of age to U.S. Figure Skating (Rule 2824, A). Identification documents must be e-mailed to memberservices@usfigureskating.org.

College Certification Form

Collegiate & open collegiate teams must submit a signed copy of FORM C (attached) verifying their academic eligibility by October 1, 2019 (Rule 2824, B).

Collegiate and open collegiate teams will be permitted to withdraw their qualifying competition entry without penalty until October 1, 2019. Entry fees will be refunded (Rule 2821, C).

III. Technical Details

Conduct of Events

For the 2020 season, the following levels will be conducted in accordance with the International Judging System (IJS): Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior, Collegiate, Adult, and Masters. The following levels will be conducted under the 6.0 judging system: Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Open Juvenile, Open Collegiate, Open Adult, and Open Masters.

The sectional and U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships are sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating and will be conducted under the rules set forth in the 2020 Official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook and this announcement. **Coaches are required to read the Rulebook and know all rules pertaining to their team(s).**

Rule Changes

As there are many rule changes for the 2019-20 season, it is strongly recommended that all coaches review the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

[Link to U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook](#)
[Link to Technical Info for Synchronized Skating](#)
[Link to Technical Notifications](#)

Events to Be Skated

LEVELS THAT ARE ONLY OFFERED AT THE SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Preliminary (Rule 9480), Pre-Juvenile (Rule 9470), Open Juvenile (Rule 9460), Open Collegiate (Rule 9495), Open Adult (Rule 9520), Open Masters (Rule 9530)

LEVELS THAT WILL ADVANCE TO THE U.S. SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Juvenile (Rule 9450), Intermediate (Rule 9440), Novice (Rule 9430), Junior (Rule 9420), Senior (Rule 9400), Collegiate (Rule 9490), Adult (Rule 9500), Masters (Rule 9510)

ADDITIONAL RULES TO BE AWARE OF –

ALTERNATE RULES:

Rule 2825: Each synchronized skating team may have alternates listed on the team roster. The maximum number of alternates is four. Teams may have a total of four athletes on their roster in addition to the maximum number permitted on the ice for their respective level.

CROSSOVER RULES:

Rule 2826: A chart in the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook illustrating which levels athletes are allowed to “crossover” between.

Rule 2827: No team may be comprised of more than 50% of athletes who are also on any other team. This applies to both the entire roster and the athletes who are skating on the ice at any given competition.

PRACTICE ICE:

Official Practice Ice

Official Practice Ice (OPI) will be conducted per Rule 2940 at the sectional and U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. For sectionals, the cost of official practice ice is at the discretion of the LOC.

8 Minute Segment (Rule 2942)

Preliminary Free Skate, Pre-Juvenile Free Skate, Juvenile Free Skate, Open Juvenile Free Skate, Adult Free Skate, Open Adult Free Skate, Masters Free Skate, Open Masters Free Skate, and Open Collegiate Free Skate.

10 Minute Segment (Rule 2943)

Intermediate Free Skate, Novice Free Skate, Junior Short Program, Senior Short Program

12 Minute Segment (Rule 2944)

Junior Free Skate, Senior Free Skate, Collegiate Free Skate

Each team shall be allowed to have their music played two times. No stopping or restarting of the music will be allowed once the music has been started.

No additional official practice ice will be available for teams that qualify for Championship Rounds.

Unofficial Practice Ice

Unofficial practice ice will be offered and scheduled at the discretion of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC). Visit your competition’s website for information about what is being offered.

IV. Advancement to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

Qualifying for the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

Four teams from each section, in each event, shall be permitted to enter the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. However, additional teams may be invited to participate – Two or Fewer Rule (2832), Fill-Up Rule (2833). A chart of qualifying numbers from each event will be made available on the sectional and championships websites prior to the start of events.

Byes

A synchronized skating team will automatically receive a bye to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships from the chair of the Competitions Committee in consultation with the National Vice Chair of Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee if they meet all the criteria as outlined in Rule 2842 (A & B). Teams receiving a bye will be notified via email by headquarters staff. Teams receiving a bye will receive information regarding the championship after the close of all sectional events along with all other qualified teams.

Advancing to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

All teams advancing to the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships, whether through qualification at a sectional event or bye, will receive an email after the close of all sectional events.

No additional entry fees will be required for the championships. All qualifying teams will have their entries advanced by U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters staff. All teams are required to associate their Music & Planned Program Content (PPC) to their U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships Team Portal via EMS. No additions may be made to the competition roster between the sectional and championship events. Only substitutions may be requested and will require approval from your Sectional Vice Chair.

Electing to Not Compete at the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

If a team qualifies for the championships and chooses not to participate, the team must notify their respective Sectional Vice Chair of the Synchronized Competitions Subcommittee and U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters staff within 48 hours following the conclusion of the competition.

Contacts for Withdrawal

Eastern SVC: Ann Buckley – adbuckley@comcast.net

Midwestern SVC: Susan McInnes – sumacshna1@gmail.com

Pacific Coast SVC: Mary Ann Wilcox – wilcoxmh@aol.com

Headquarters Staff: Megan Romeo - mromeo@usfigureskating.org

Alternates

Teams placing fifth and sixth (or the two placements beyond the number of qualifying teams from that event) at the sectional championships will be designated as first and second alternates. Alternates do not need to complete any information for the championships unless contacted by U.S. Figure Skating.

V. Additional Information

Insurance/Liability

U.S. Figure Skating, the host club(s) and/or interclub association, the organizing committee and the ice arenas being utilized for these events accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by participating in the sectional or championship events (Rule 1600).

Anti-Doping

Anti-doping tests will not be conducted at either the sectional or championship events.

2020 SYNCHRONIZED SKATING SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
 CERTIFICATION BY COLLEGE REGISTRAR –
 COLLEGIATE & OPEN COLLEGIATE TEAMS ONLY



Collegiate and open collegiate teams must comply with Rule 9490 (collegiate) or Rule 9495 (open collegiate). Athletes on both open collegiate and collegiate teams must be considered full-time students by the institution they attend, as of the entry deadline of October 1, 2019. Students do not need to attend the same school. Use a separate form for each institution the members attend, collect all of the forms and send them together. Collegiate or open collegiate teams not submitting this completed form or other proof of student status for every athlete may be withdrawn from the Championships.

Team Name:	U.S. Figure Skating Number:	
Level (circle one):	Collegiate	Open Collegiate

STUDENT NAME LAST NAME, First name	Registered as a current full time student	Registered as a current part-time student
1.		
2.		
3.		
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21.		
22.		
23.		
24.		

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REGISTRAR:

I certify that the students listed above are considered students by the following institution:
 _____ and that their student status is marked in the appropriate column.

Name of Registrar: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____



SCAN AND EMAIL TO:
 Kyleigh Gaff, Coordinator of Synchronized Skating
kgaff@usfigureskating.org
DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2019



The 2020 Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships will be held in Albany, New York, from January 15-19, 2020. These championships are sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating and hosted by the Skating Club of New York and the Skyliners Synchronized Skating Teams.

COMPETITION WEBSITE

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

The official competition website will contain all pertinent and up-to-date information for the event. All information on the competition website supersedes any previous information, including information outlined in this announcement.

ARENAS

Competition Arena

Times Union Center
51 S Pearl Street
Albany, NY 12207

<https://www.timesunioncenter-albany.com/>

Practice Arenas

Bethlehem Area YMCA
900 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

<https://cdymca.org/locations/bethlehem-ymca/ice-rink/>

Albany County Hockey Facility
830 Albany-Shaker Road
Loudonville, NY 12211

<http://www.albanycounty.com/Government/Departments/HockeyFacility.aspx>

REGISTRATION

1. Log on to Members Only at www.usfsonline.org
2. Click the blue Event Management System (EMS) button
3. Click "Competition Registration – Teams" from the menu
4. Select register next to your competitions name and complete the steps on screen.

HOTEL & TRANSPORTATION

Hotel Information

ALL hotel rooms are required to be reserved within the 2020 Eastern Synchro Housing Block by using the “Hotel Request Form” posted on the competition website. Teams who do not book through this block will incur a fee which must be paid prior to the team receiving credentials at the competition. Hotels have been instructed not to complete bookings with teams without going through the above process. We will do our best to ensure that all teams are staying together and all teams stay in a hotel that meets their needs. We cannot do this without your cooperation so please make note of the timeline posted on the competition website.

Transportation Information

The nearest airport is Albany International Airport, which is about 20 minutes by car from the Times Union Center. Amtrak also offers rail service with 13 daily trains in and out of the new Rensselaer Rail Station to destinations throughout the Northeast, Canada, Mid-West and beyond. The Rensselaer Rail Station is about 10 minutes by car from the Times Union Center.

EVENT SCHEDULE

A tentative schedule can be found on the competition website:

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

Please note this schedule is tentative and SUBJECT TO CHANGE. An updated schedule will be available as soon as possible after the close of entries on the EMS Portal (Team Personnel), in addition to the competition website.

PRACTICE ICE

Practice ice will only be sold through EMS. Purchasing information, directions, and offerings will be available on the competition website: <https://www.easternsynchrosectionals.com/>

OFFICIAL BULLETIN BOARD

The official bulletin board will be located at the registration desk and where results are posted on the main concourse by Section 130.

CREDENTIALS

All credentials must be picked up at the event registration desk. Teams will not be able to receive their credentials until Music and Planned Program Content have been received. Only Team Personnel who are listed in the EMS Team Portal, and are fully compliant within U.S. Figure Skating and SafeSport guidelines, will receive a credential. Team Personnel must show photo ID at the registration desk when picking up their credential. Credentials must be worn at all times at the competition facility and are non-transferable.

Location and hours of the registration desk will posted on the competition website.

EVENT PROGRAM & PRE-ORDERS

Information regarding photo submission for the event program as well as pre-order opportunities will be available on the competition website.

AWARDS

Awards will be presented to athletes on teams who place first through fourth in each championship event. Medals will not be given out for qualifying round events. Advancement information will be provided by U.S. Figure Skating headquarters within 48 hours of the event conclusion. Advancement numbers will be posted prior to the competition on the official bulletin board and on the competition website.

EVENT PHOTO & VIDEO

Event Video

The U.S. Figure Skating Production Team will serve as the official video provider for this event. To pre-order video, visit www.usfigureskatingdigital.com. *Please note that videotaping of the competition, including practice ice (other than your own teams), is strictly prohibited per U.S. Figure Skating Policy.

Event Photos

When available, information about the official photography provider for this event will be posted on the competition website: <https://www.easternsynchrosectionals.com/>.

ADMISSION

Tickets will be required for all non-credentialed individuals. Ticket information will be made available on the competition website.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Below are key contacts for the event. Please allow up to 48 hours for response.

Local Organizing Committee Co-Chairs

Meredith Berkowitz ,Gretchen Brooks
Leslie Goudie, Gina Ilardi
LOC@skylinerssynchro.com

Chief Referee

Laura Days
lekdays@gmail.com

Practice Ice Chair

Joann Cohen
practiceice@skylinerssynchro.com

Registration/ EMS Support

productsupport@usfigureskating.org