



2024 Sugar Skate

Texas Gulf Coast FSC

www.TexasGulfCoastFSC.org

Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center

16225 Lexington Blvd

Sugar Land, TX 77479

MARCH 22-24, 2024

Events Offered: Excel Series, Singles, Showcase, Compete USA, Adult Events

Competition Chairs:

Wendy Barnard Anne Vaughn

Email: competitions@texasgulfcoastfsc.org

I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2024 Sugar Skate competition will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#), and 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 who is an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the [rulebook](#) for more information.

SERIES INFORMATION:

2024 Sugar Skate has been approved as an Excel Series competition for the 2024 competition season. As an Excel Series event, skaters entered in the Series at eligible levels will earn points for their placement in order to qualify to the Excel National Festival. Skaters must register for the Excel Series prior to competing at a designated competition by **March 1, 2024**. Please visit US Figure Skating's Excel webpage for more information. [Excel Series Info | U.S. Figure Skating \(usfigureskating.org\)](#) (login to Members Only site)

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 (Adults):

- 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 events listed below can be found here: usfigureskating.org – Skate – Compete – Program Requirements](#)

The event will follow program requirements for the 2023-24 season.

Note: Photos and videos are included in the registration prices below.

SINGLES	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Excel Free Skate (Preliminary Plus, Pre-Juvenile Plus, Juvenile, Juvenile Plus, Intermediate, Intermediate Plus, Novice, Junior, Senior)	<i>IJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Excel Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary, Preliminary)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Well Balanced Short Program (Juvenile, Open Juvenile – Senior)	<i>IJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Well Balanced Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary-Senior)	<i>IJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Adult Well-Balanced Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Well-Balanced Free Skate (Adult Bronze – Masters)	<i>IJS</i>	\$180	\$55
SPECIALTY	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Compulsory Moves (Aspire 1-4, Excel Pre-Preliminary, Excel Preliminary)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Compulsory Moves (Pre-Preliminary, Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Juvenile, Open Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Compulsory Moves (Adult Beginner, High Beginner, Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Compulsory Moves (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Masters)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Jumps Challenge (Aspire Low, Aspire High)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Jumps Challenge (Pre-Preliminary, Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Juvenile, Open Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Jumps Challenge (Adult Beginner, High Beginner, Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Jumps Challenge (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Masters)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Spins Challenge (Aspire Low, Aspire High)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Spins Challenge (Pre-Preliminary, Preliminary, Pre-Juvenile, Juvenile, Open Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Spins Challenge (Adult Beginner, High Beginner, Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Adult Spins Challenge (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Masters)	6.0	\$100	\$40
SHOWCASE*	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Emotional Performance (Pre-Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Choreographic Artistry (Pre-Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Lyrical Pop (Pre-Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Character Performance (Pre-Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Comedic Impressions (Pre-Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Duets/Trios (Pre-Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55

Adaptive Individual Showcase	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
Adaptive Unified Partner Showcase	<i>CJS</i>	\$180	\$55
COMPETE USA EVENTS	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Program Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program with Music	6.0	\$100	\$40
Program Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$40
Program Adult 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$40
Program Adult Free Skate (Beginner, High Beginner)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Elements (Snowplow Sam – Basic 6)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Compete USA – Showcase (Snowplow Sam, Basic 1-6, Aspire 1-4, Adult 1-6, Adult Beginner, Adult High Beginner)	6.0	\$100	\$40
Special Olympics	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Adaptive	6.0	\$100	\$40
Special Olympics Badges 1-12	6.0	\$100	\$40
Special Olympics – Free Skate 1-4 Program	6.0	\$100	\$40
Skate United Badges	6.0	\$100	\$40

*The referee reserves the right to combine different Showcase event types by skating level, and combine Showcase levels to create competition.

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:

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.

There will be one coach credential per registered athlete.

With EMS, coaches 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 of registration will be included on the registration confirmation email. Note: There is no registration approval process within EMS as the data (membership and test level) is tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database. Non-compliant coaches will receive automated email reminders through the start of the competition.

EMS Coach Resources:

- [My Competitions](#)
- [My Skaters](#)
- [Coach Schedule](#)

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: 02/16/2024 at 11:59 pm ET

Late Registration Deadline: 02/20/2024 at 11:59 pm ET + \$40 Late Fee

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

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 "2024 Sugar Skate" 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 will be offered for a \$25 fee. It must be requested prior to the competition through the EMS Competition Portal under “Merchandise”. You may pick up your test credit paperwork at the registration desk within 1 hour after awards have been presented for the event.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **March 1st 11:59PM ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$40 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: 03/01/2024 LATE FEE: \$40

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 **March 1 11:59 PM ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$40 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: 03/08/2024 LATE FEE: \$40

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

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

REFUND POLICY:

Once registration is closed, the competition operates and plans according to the budget of fees and registrations received. Therefore, 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. All single skater events will still compete with one skater and will receive a medal.

LIABILITY:

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA®, Texas Gulf Coast FSC and Sugar Land Ice & Sports 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:

Sugar Land Ice & Sports Center

16225 Lexington Blvd., Sugar Land, TX 77479

<https://www.sugarlandice.com/index.html>

The rink has 2 sheets of ice with bleachers in both rinks. Each ice surface is 200' X 85' with rounded corners. There is a restaurant in the facility.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

Athletes are expected to arrive at the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with benches throughout the rink, as well as tables and chairs, etc. to put skates on but changing will not be permitted in these spaces.

For those with schedule conflicts (multiple events) or travel needs, locker rooms will be made available by request/reservation only. You will be assigned a locker room and time frame that you are allowed in the locker rooms. Please check the club website (after the schedule is made available) for the link to reservations.

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:

An official bulletin board will be maintained between the rinks. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information. Skaters are requested to arrive 60 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

LIVE SCORING LINK:

This competition will use the live results from USFS. The link will be posted on the club website.

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.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENT AND THE COACH TO MAKE SURE THE SKATER IS REGISTERED FOR THE CORRECT EVENT. THERE WILL BE A \$40 CHANGE FEE FOR ANY SCHEDULE REQUESTS AND CHANGES MADE AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE COMPETITION REGISTRATION ON FEBRUARY 16, 2024.

Schedules are made based on judges' availability, ice time available, other events scheduled, and several other considerations. We cannot accept any schedule changes or requests. Please make certain that you can compete on any day of the event dates. A tentative schedule is found in this announcement but CAN CHANGE!!! There will be no refunds.

PRACTICE ICE:

All practice ice will be available for purchase online via the EMS competition portal. Please note that you need to go BACK INTO YOUR EMS ACCOUNT after registering to purchase practice ice. You will have access to purchase one practice ice session per event registered. Additional practice ice will be offered for sale after pre-sales, if available.

A timeline for practice ice sales periods will be available for viewing on the Competition Information page of your skater portal. Practice ice will be available for purchase on a first come, first served basis on EMS. Premium (mid-day) practice ice will be offered if time permits.

Practice Ice Sessions will be 20 minutes.

EMS (SKATER) PRACTICE ICE RESOURCES:

- **Skater: [Pre-Purchase and Selection](#) | [Open Sales](#)**

Pre-Purchase: Practice ice credits may be purchased after participants complete their event registration, via the EMS Competition Portal. Skaters who purchase credits during the pre-purchase period will be able to select sessions during the selection period, after the schedule has been completed and posted.

- [Click Here for a Pre-Purchase How-To Document](#)
- **Open: 1/26/24 8:00 AM ET**
- **Close: 2/23/24 8:00 PM ET**
- Maximum credits per registered event:
 - UPI - 1
- Cost per credit: **\$20**

Pre-Purchase Selection: After the close of entries and shortly after the competition schedule is published, skaters will receive an email with notice of the practice ice schedule and the date/time when pre purchased credits can be scheduled via EMS.

- [Click Here for a Selection How-To Document](#)
- **Open: 3/08/24 8:00 AM ET**
- **Close: 3/14/24 8:00 PM ET**

Open Sales: Practice Ice sessions will be available after the schedule has been published. Skaters will be able to purchase open sessions available to them.

- [Click Here for an Open Sales How-To Document](#)
- **Open: 3/15/24 8:00 AM ET**
- **Close: 3/24/24 4:00 PM ET**
- Maximum sessions per registered event: Based on availability.
- Cost per session: **\$25**

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

Check-in will open on Friday **March 22nd, 5 PM CST** in the main lobby.

AWARDS/RESULTS:

Results will be posted online. A link will be provided on the competition website, <https://texasgulfcoastfsc.org> under the competition tab and on the TGCFCSC Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/texasgulfcoastfsc>. QR codes will also be posted in the arena.

Awards will be presented off-ice at the awards area after the results for the event are posted.

- Basic Skills events: Medals will be presented to all competitors in an event (6)
- Well Balanced/Excel events: Medals will be awarded to first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and 6th place winners in all events.

The BL WYLIE TROPHY will be awarded to the skater placing 1st in the Well balanced Preliminary Free Skate Event. (Based on the highest score in the Preliminary FS event(s).

VOLUNTEER INFO:

Please see the club website for volunteer opportunities. [Texas Gulf Coast Figure Skating Club \(texasgulfcoastfsc.org\)](https://texasgulfcoastfsc.org)

PHOTO/VIDEO:

Photos for the skaters' events will be included with the cost of registration from Melanie Heaney Photography. The photo website is www.melanieheaney.com. Photos will be available after the event at a later date.

Videos of **full sheet ice events** will be included with the cost of registration and will be available from Pro-Mix Sound & Video. Videos will be available after the event at a later date. The video website is www.promixsoundvideo.com. Livestreaming will be available for no additional charge.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Official hotel accommodations

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT-Sugar Land /Lake Pointe
16740 Creek Bend Drive
Sugar Land, TX 77478

www.marriott.com/houcf

Group Rate available.

Airport Information

Houston is served by 2 major airports:

Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) – Approximately 42 miles from the facilities

Houston Hobby (HOU) – Approximately 30 miles from the facilities

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Competition website:

<http://TexasGulfCoastFSC.Org>

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Wendy Barnard Anne Vaughn	Competitions@TexasGulfCoastFSC.Org
Chief Referee:	Kristen Belcourt	Kristen.Belcourt@gmail.com
Practice Ice Chair:	Melissa Poteet	PracticeIce@TexasGulfCoastFSC.Org
Additional Contact:	Janelle Heallen	President@TexasGulfCoastFSC.Org

Tentative Timeline (For LOC)

Registration Opens	1/26/2024	8 AM ET
Practice Ice Pre-Purchase Opens	1/26/2024	8 AM ET
Registration Deadline	2/16/2024	11:59 PM ET
Late Registration Deadline	2/20/2024	11:59 PM ET
Pre-Purchase Practice Ice Deadline	2/23/2024	8 PM ET
Music Upload Deadline	3/1/2024	11:59 PM ET
Event Schedule Available	3/8/2024	8 AM ET
Practice Ice Selection Opens	3/8/2024	8 AM ET
PPC Upload Deadline	3/8/2024	11:59 PM ET
Practice Ice Selection Deadline	3/14/2024	8 PM ET
Practice Ice Open Sales Begins	3/15/2024	8 AM ET
Set-up Crew Begins	3/22/2024	8 AM CST
On-Site Check-in Desk Opens	3/22/2024	2 PM CST
Practice Ice Begins	3/22/2024	3 PM CST
Competition Begins	3/22/2024	5 PM CST
Open Sales Ends	3/24/2024	4 PM CST
Competition Ends	3/24/2024	4 PM CST
Take Down Crew Begins	3/24/2024	4:30 PM CST

By Activity

	Opens	Time	Closes	Time	Late Deadline	Time
Registration	1/26/2024	8 AM ET	2/16/2024	11:59 PM ET	2/20/2024	11:59 PM ET

Practice Ice (PI)	1/26/2024 4	8 AM ET	2/23/2024	8 PM ET		
PI Selection	3/8/2024	8 AM ET	3/14/2024	8 PM ET		
PI Open Sales	3/15/2024 4	8 AM ET	3/24/2024	4 PM CST		
Competition	3/22/2024 4	5 PM CST	3/24/2024	4 PM CST		

