



Ice Skating Australia Incorporated

Affiliated to the International Skating Union

Policy Document: SS23-05P-V1

Synchronized Skating International Competition (including Masters Games) and ISU Championships 2023-2024 Nomination Criteria

Overview

This Policy establishes the application process for Synchronized Skating Teams for international competitions and the procedure followed by ISA to nominate Synchronized Skating Teams to international events for the 2023-2024 season. (All eligible Australian teams may freely enter the 2023 Sydney Synchronized Skating Festival International.)

Related Documents

Form SS23-06F Synchronized Team International Competition and ISU Championships 2023-2024 Expression of Interest Form

Interpretation

In this Nomination Criteria, the following words have the following meanings:

“AFSC” refers to Australian Figure Skating Championships.

“Announcement” refers to the Announcement of the ISU Competition

“Benchmark Criteria” includes the event, eligible team composition, officials and minimum TES

“Champs Series Event” as defined and listed by ISA in a communication

“Current, valid passport” means that passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months from the date of re-entry into Australia.

“Eligible” and “eligibility” refers to teams who meet all the applicable ISU and ISA By-Laws for age and test level.

“ISU Competitions” includes championships, international competitions, interclub competitions and adult specific competitions.

“ISA” refers to Ice Skating Australia Incorporated.

“ISU” refers to International Skating Union.

“Panel” means the individuals appointed by Ice Skating Australia from time to time comprising of at least:

An ISU Championship or International Technical Specialist as nominated by ISA OR

An ISU Championship or International Judge as nominated by ISA

“WJSSC” refers to World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships.

“WSSC” refers to World Synchronized Skating Championships.

“Rank” means teams are placed in order of their best TPS at a nominated **Champs Series Event**, the highest score being the highest placed and so on.

“TES” means Total Element Score

“TPS” means Total Points Score

POLICY

Applicable Regulations

ISA By-Law 1007

INTERNATIONAL NOMINATIONS

1. Nominations for ISU Events

Recommendations to the ISA Board for nominations to World Championships, World Junior Championships, other ISU competitions or sanctioned competitions conducted by an ISU Member will be made by a panel of International and/or National Senior Synchronized Skating Judges in consultation with the ISA Synchronized Skating Committee Chair.

2. Team Composition

Any team seeking nomination for World Championships, World Junior Championships, other ISU competitions, or sanctioned competitions conducted by an ISU Member must skate in their programs the number of eligible skaters as prescribed by ISU Rule 800.2 or the relevant competition announcement at an ISA Champs Series as published in a policy.

At least 75% of the members of any team nominated for World Championships, Junior World Championships, ISU Competitions, or sanctioned competitions conducted by an ISU Member must have been entered for the same team at the Champs Series and have been present at that event.

In the event that any calculation results in a fraction of less than one whole team member, the result will be rounded up in the event that the fraction is 0.5 or more, and rounded down when the fraction is less than 0.5.

3. Team Replacements

Replacement team members may be selected in accordance with By-Law 1007.2 and must meet the applicable age and eligibility requirements for ALL events.

ISA By-Law 1011.2

The provisions of ISU Rule 109.2d) are applicable to the inclusion of skaters from foreign ISU Members to compete in Australian Synchronized Teams at an Australian Championship, up to 25% of a team may be from a foreign Member, if so permitted by the National Association of the country of which the Skater is a citizen, but such Skaters shall only represent one Member in the course of the same season (July 1st-June 30th). Alternates are not included for the calculation of percentages purposes. Restrictions specified in paragraph 2.b) do not apply.

The ISU has published the following International Synchronized Skating events for the 2023-2024 season:

2023

Competition dates	Place	Mem.	Name of the Competition	Synchro		
				S	J	N
15-17 September 2023	Sydney	AUS	Sydney Synchronized Skating Festival	x	x	x
3-5 October 2023	Shanghai	CHN	Shanghai Trophy	x		
4-8 October 2023	Espoo	FIN	Finlandia Trophy Espoo, Invitational Sys Comp	x		
14-17 December 2023	Riga	LAT	Riga Amber Cup 2023	x	x	x
16-17 December 2023	Brno	CZE	Santa Claus Cup	x	x	x

2024

Competition dates	Place	Mem.	Name of the Competition	Synchro		
				S	J	N
11-14 January 2024	Eindhoven	NED	Challenger Series Lumière Cup	x	x	
11-14 January 2024	Eindhoven	NED	Series Lumière Cup			x
13-14 January 2024	TBA	GBR	Britannia Cup	x	x	x
18-20 January 2024	Salzburg	AUT	Mozart Cup	x	x	x
19-21 January 2024	Budapest	HUN	Challenger Series Budapest Cup	x	x	
25-28 January 2024	Gothenburg	SWE	Leon Lurje Trophy	x	x	x
26-27 January 2024	Dumfries	GBR	Challenger Series Trophy D'Ecosse	x	x	
26-27 January 2024	Dumfries	GBR	Trophy D'Ecosse			x
1-3 February 2024	Rouen	FRA	French Cup	x	x	x
2-4 February 2024	Gdansk	POL	Challenger Series Hevelius Cup	x	x	
2-4 February 2024	Gdansk	POL	8th Hevelius Cup			x
8-10 February 2024	Lyon	FRA	Open International	x	x	
9-10 February 2024	Zagreb	CRO	Zagreb Snowflakes Trophy	x	x	x
10-11 February 2024	Helsinki	FIN	Challenger Series Marie Lundmark Trophy	x	x	x
16-18 February 2024	Sesto San Giovanni	ITA	28th Spring Cup	x	x	x
23-24 February 2024	Dresden	GER	Dresden Cup 2024	x	x	x
1-3 March 2024	TBA	GBR	Steel City Trophy	x	x	x
15-16 March 2024	Neuchatel	SUI	ISU World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships 2024		x	
5-6 April 2024	Zagreb	CRO	ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships 2024	x		

Expressions of Interest for ALL competitions will close on 31st August 2023.

Additional competitions notified by ISU or other ISU Members may also be considered. Refer to the ISU website (www.isu.org) for the latest information regarding any additional competitions and dates.

Teams may research for other suitable competitions however no commitment or payment to enter may be made until the ISA selection process has been followed.

1 Champs Series Events for 2023-2024 Season

- 1) 2022 and 2023 AFSC.
- 2) Other competitions as published by ISA in a Communication.

2 Benchmark Criteria for 2023-2024 Season

- 1) The skated program(s) must include all the required elements as published for that division by the ISU for the 2023-2024 season.
- 2) The minimum Total Element Score (TES) which must be obtained at the **Champs Series Event** is in the table below.

	Short Program	Free Skate
Senior and Elite 12	11.75	30.00
Junior	13.00	18.25
Advanced Novice		14.50
Basic Novice		14.50
Mixed Age		19.50
Adult		12.50
Advanced Adult		13.50

- 3) There must be no deductions for:
 - (a) Not according to requirement NAR
 - (b) Omitted requirement
 - (c) Illegal elements, features, additional features or movements
 - (d) Unprescribed or additional elements.
 - (e) Wrong element shape in SP
- 4) In the case of Junior and Senior, the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season must be met in both Short and Free Programs but do not have to be at the same competition.
- 5) Teams who have not met the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season will not be considered for international competition.

3 Benchmark Officials for 2023-2024 Season

- 1) Technical Panel – minimum one (1) National/International/ISU Technical Controller or Technical Specialist (not Assistant Technical Specialist)
- 2) Judging Panel - minimum two (2) National/International/ISU Judges excluding non-judging Referee

4 Eligibility Criteria for 2023-2024 Season

- 1) The team who skates the **Champs Series Event** must be 100% eligible as per ISU Rules and ISA By-Laws. In the case of Interclub Competitions, the team must also be eligible as per the relevant competition announcement. Note that there are no consistent requirements between ISU Members and their interclub events.

- 2) In the case of a team wishing to nominate for an Elite 12 event, the team must have registered as Elite 12 for the season 2023-2024.
- 3) All competition programs must meet the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season.
- 4) The team entering an ISU Championship/International Competition or Competition run by an ISU member must have a minimum of 75% of the same skaters as the team who met the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season.
- 5) The **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season, must be met at the latest, one week before close of entries for the relevant international event.
- 6) For WSSC, refer to Section 6.1 below.
- 7) For WJSSC, refer to Section 6.2 below.
- 8) Teams who do not attain the minimum score as above but due to closing dates, have already been entered in international competition may have their entry withdrawn by ISA.
- 9) All nominated Teams MUST compete in the 2023 AFSC.

5 **Nomination Process**

- 1) Teams wishing to be considered for nomination must comply with ISA By-Law 1007. To clarify, all team members (including alternates), listed on the team sheet for the **Champs Series Event** must be eligible to enter both the **Champs Series Event** and the international competition(s) of choice for the team as a whole to be considered.
- 2) Only eligible teams as per ISA By-Laws 1038.2, 1007.2 and ISU Rule 109.2(d) and this policy who meet the **Benchmark Criteria** will be considered.
- 3) Teams will only be considered for nomination in the division in which they compete in the **Champs Series Event** (Advanced Adult for Masters) or the Mixed Age division. Exceptions to this may apply for sanctioned competitions conducted by an ISU Member.
- 4) Teams must apply through their ISA Member Association who shall then notify Ice Skating Australia of the team's choice of competitions in their order of preference by 31st August 2023.
- 5) Members must check all the information on the expression of interest form. Submission of the form via email from the ISA Member is considered as accepted and signed. ISA shall also check this information and return any incomplete or incorrect entry forms. If a team's choice is restricted due to their availability or training plans, this should be briefly outlined in the application to support their case.
- 6) ISA shall publish the list of teams and their provisional allocations in a communication as soon as practicable.
- 7) Preliminary entries will be placed by ISA based on the Expressions of Interest received by the due date. The final acceptance of entries rests with the individual organising committees.
- 8) Depending on the submitted choices, only the maximum number of teams per division per competition as stated in the Announcement will be nominated. ISA reserves the

right to rank teams if necessary. Teams are encouraged to nominate for at least two, preferably consecutive competitions. Depending on the number of nominations, a team may initially be nominated to a maximum of two competitions only.

- 9) All decisions of Ice Skating Australia relating to nomination to Senior, Junior, Advanced Novice, Basic Novice, Adult (including Masters) and Mixed Age international competitions and other competitions held in or out of Australia are final.

6 **Nomination to 2024 World Championships**

1 **Senior Division**

For WSSC, the highest placed ISU and ISA eligible team in the Senior division at the 2023 AFSC will be nominated provided they have met the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season at the 2023 AFSC.

2 **Junior Division**

For WJSSC, the highest placed ISU eligible team in the Junior division at the 2023 AFSC will be nominated provided they have met the **Benchmark Criteria** for 2023-2024 Season at the 2023 AFSC.

7 **After Nomination**

- 1) The nominations will be reviewed by the ISA Board prior to, or the Panel at the conclusion of, the Synchronized Skating events of the 2023 AFSC and final recommendations made.
- 2) If any team has a restricted choice due to their availability or training plans, then this will be considered by the Panel and may be subject to negotiation with other teams.
- 3) After final nominations have been made, the Panel shall notify the ISA President or their representative) and Synchronized Committee Chair.
- 4) The Synchronized Committee Chair shall prepare the Notification of Nomination for the signature of the ISA President or their representative and include a copy of the Letter of Acceptance for delivery to the Team as soon as practicable.
- 5) Nominated teams must return a completed and signed letter of acceptance to ISA by the date stipulated by ISA.
- 6) ISA shall notify the team's acceptance of nomination to the Team's Member Association as soon as possible.
- 7) In the event that a team does not accept the nomination, the place may be offered to another eligible team.
- 8) Where greater than the maximum number of teams allowed have nominated for the same event, the allocation of competitions will be made by ISA based on the most logical combination to reduce costs.
- 9) Regardless of the event in which the **Benchmark Criteria** was met, Teams who subsequently do not enter and compete at the 2023 AFSC will forfeit their nomination or their deposit.

- 10) Where a team has not notified its choices to ISA, it will still be considered if eligible but may have no preference in its nominated competitions.

8 **Entry Process**

- 1) **Under no circumstances is any team to process their own entry and payments for the competition unless specifically directed by ISA. To do so risks withdrawal of the entry by ISA and forfeiture of the entry fee.**
- 2) Paperwork for all international events must be received by ISA no later than the date stipulated by ISA.
- 3) Once nomination is accepted, Teams are required to forward the following documents to ISA:
 - a) All forms and information in the format requested by ISA. This includes but is not limited to:
 - Composition of delegation
 - Team Entry Form
 - Team contacts information
 - Team Travel Form and information
 - Hotel Requests
 - Planned Program Content sheet
 - Music Details form
 - Meal Requests
 - Medical Forms
 - Extra Practice requests
 - Signed ISU Declaration Form
 - Signed ISU Waiver Form
 - Insurance Details
 - Evidence of Qualifications (medical, coaching)
 - Evidence of Working with Vulnerable People (or equivalent) check
 - Evidence of current Member Association or APSA Membership
 - Team Photograph
 - Individual photographs for all persons entitled to accreditation
(Note: Photographs must be in the requested format and size)
 - b) The excel spreadsheet entry form SS23-04F supplied by ISA. All the fields must be filled out electronically to allow the formulas and macros to work and sent by email in Excel format. The correct Proof of Age number must be included.
 - c) Copies of all current, valid passports must be supplied for each team member.
 - d) The completed Athlete Declaration Form if required.
 - e) Evidence of completion of Anti-Doping Education if required.
 - f) In the case of competitions being held before the 2023 AFSC a bond payment of \$500. Any bond paid will be deducted from the 2023 AFSC entry fee. In the case of teams who do not then compete at the 2023 AFSC, the bond is not refunded.
 - g) Incomplete forms and/or late submission may result in forfeiture of the nomination.
- 4) The Team list for the relevant **Champs Series Event** shall be checked against the Team list submitted above to ensure correct eligibility.

- 5) ISA will confirm that any non-Australian citizens have permission to skate, have been registered with ISA for 2023-2024 and that ISA By-Law 1011.2 and ISU Rule 109.2(d) have been met.
- 6) Any team member replacements selected after the **Champs Series Event** must also meet the applicable age and eligibility requirements (including prerequisite tests) as per ISA By-Law 1011.3.
- 7) If substitution of team members is required, an application for approval from ISA must be made immediately giving details of the team member(s) involved, the details of the replacements including copies of their passport and test levels, and the reason for the substitution. Replacements must still be in accordance with ISA By-Law 1011.2. While extenuating circumstances will be considered, ISA reserves the right to deny approval and withdraw the team's selection.
- 8) If any team which has been provisionally entered into an international event withdraws or is withdrawn by ISA as per this policy, they may forfeit their entry fee (at their expense) depending on policy of the organizing committee.
- 9) Teams must agree to any review or monitoring as required by ISA.

Authorised by: Angelique Clyde-Smith
Chair, Synchronized Skating Committee

The Board
Ice Skating Australia

Authorisation date: June 2023