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## 2024 Grand Rapids Open

June 21-23, 2024

Greater Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club

Patterson Ice Center-Grand Rapids, MI

### I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The Grand Rapids Open 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:

#### Meijer State Games



The 2024 Grand Rapids Open is a participant in the Meijer State Games of Michigan. For more information, about the State Games, please visit [www.stategamesofmichigan.org](http://www.stategamesofmichigan.org)

## **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](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org).

### **All other singles events (such as 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](https://usfigureskating.org) – Skate – Compete – Program Requirements

<b>SINGLES</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>+ Event Price</b>
Excel Free Skate (All “Plus” Events, Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$180	\$65
Excel Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary – Preliminary)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Well Balanced Short Program (Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$180	\$65
Well Balanced Free Skate (Preliminary – Senior)	IJS	\$180	\$65
Well Balanced Free Skate (PrePreliminary)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Adult Free Skate (Adult Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$180	\$65
Adult Free Skate (Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Adult Beginner & High Beginner Free Skate	6.0	\$140	\$65
<b>SPECIALTY</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>+ Event Price</b>
Compulsory Moves (Aspire–Senior)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Excel Compulsory Moves (Excel Pre-Preliminary-Excel Prelim.)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Adult Compulsory Moves (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Jumps Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Adult Jumps Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Spins Challenge (Beginner–Senior)	6.0	\$140	\$65
Adult Spins Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$140	\$65
<b>SHOWCASE</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>+ Event Price</b>
Emotional Performance (No Test – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$180	\$65
Lyrical Pop (No Test - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$180	\$65
Character Performance (No Test - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$180	\$65
*New 2024 Pop Star	CJS	\$180	\$65
<b>COMPETE USA EVENTS</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>+ Event Price</b>
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$50
Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$65	\$50
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements (Referee Driven)	6.0	\$65	\$50

**SHOWCASE EVENTS– ADAPTED FOR THE 2024 GRAND RAPIDS OPEN**

The 2024 Grand Rapids Open will be using three categories for its Showcase events. Each category will be divided into a High and Low level. The High level will be Juvenile through Senior and the Low level will be Beginner through Pre-Juvenile. High level events will have a 2:40 max time; Low level events will be

1:30 max. Test levels and other information may be found in the Nonqualifying Competition Showcase Guidelines Handbook. Scoring will be done by the Component Judging System (CJS) for theatrical and artistic qualities.

- Emotional (formerly Dramatic) Performance: Programs should portray a story, expressing conflict, resolution and/or depth of emotion. Skater should provoke an emotional response with the audience - through related skating movements, gestures, and choreographic processes. The entire spectrum of emotions should be considered when selecting the theme (e.g., love, loss, longing, fulfillment, happiness, melancholy, sadness, etc.).
  - Lip synching is not permitted.
  - Props and scenery are permitted.
  - No technical limitations.
- Lyrical Pop: Perform to your favorite song containing lyrics, without lip-synching.
  - Lip synching is not permitted.
  - Props and scenery are not permitted.
  - No technical limitations.
- Character Performance: Skaters will impersonate a character, original or adapted, on the ice. Performances as a character from a movie, musical, book, original idea, original adaptation are all welcome here.
  - Lip synching is required.
  - Props and scenery are permitted.
  - No technical limitations.
- **\*\*NEW\*\*** THEME EVENT: Skaters will have the ability to enter this themed event according to their level, with a program using a song by, sang by, written by, performed by, or a cover version of a song made famous by a PopStar. The program should be choreographed as an Emotional, Character, Comedic, Choreo-Artistry, or Lyrical Pop program. **\*\*This new themed event will change theme every season**

### **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](http://www.USFigureSkating.org/SkateSafe) or email [SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org](mailto:SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org).

### **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 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.

Two coach credentials 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 (not SYS or TOI):

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

EMS Coach Resources (SYS or TOI only):

- [Team Management Guide](#)

### **MANDATORY ATHLETES**

Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a team (i.e., synchro, ice dance, pairs, shadow dance, theatre, etc.) with at least one Minor Athlete must complete SafeSport™ Training. \*

Minor athletes who turn 18 mid-season are encouraged to seek parental consent to take the online SafeSport™ Training early to avoid any disruptions in their ability to participate as the training is required upon turning 18. The athlete will not be compliant until they have completed the training and their Members Only portal reflects completion. Please email [skatesafe@usfigureskating.org](mailto:skatesafe@usfigureskating.org) for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

### 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: 05/25/2024 at 11:59 PM ET

Late Registration Deadline: 06/01/2024 at 11:59 PM ET + \$50 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](http://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](mailto:memberservices@usfigureskating.org).
3. Click EMS then “Competition Registration”
4. Choose “**YOUR COMPETITION NAME**” from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
  - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).

#### PARTNERED EVENTS:

Only one partner will complete registration for the team. During the registration process, you will be asked to identify your partner and verify their test information. **The registered partner will be responsible for managing all aspects of the competition for the team including music/PPC upload, practice ice sales, etc.**

#### 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:

Skaters that meet the requirements for test credit will be able to pick up the necessary forms at the Registration Desk. A fee of \$20 will be charged for Test Credit Packets. Packets must be requested on-site and will not be available after the competition ends.

#### CRITIQUES/FEEDBACK

If time allows, critiques will be available for Juvenile – Senior and Adult Gold - Masters IJS Free Skate

events only for a fee of \$20. Further information will be available after the close of entries.

### **MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:**

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **06/07/2024 at 11:59 PM 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 receiving the skater credential onsite.

**DEADLINE: 06/07/2024 at 11:59 PM ET \*\*\*\$25 Late Fee assessed after the deadline.**

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

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto: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 **06/07/2024 at 11:59 PM 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: 06/07/2024 at 11:59 PM ET \*\*\*\$25 Late Fee assessed after the deadline.**

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

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

### **REFUND POLICY**

Entry fees will not be refunded after 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®, Greater Grand Rapids Figure Skating Club and Patterson Ice Center 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:**

Patterson Ice Center

2550 Patterson Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49546

[www.pattersonicecenter.com](http://www.pattersonicecenter.com)

- Two NHL size sheets of ice
- 8 Public Locker Rooms
- lounge area
- game machines
- pro shop
- concession stand with a varied menu

Our rink temperature is on the colder side. Please plan accordingly.

### **LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:**

Locker rooms and changing areas at U.S. Figure Skating competitive events are for athletes only, will be labeled with regard to specific use and where identified will be gender specific. An exception can be made for athletes under 11 years old that will allow for one parent of the same sex to assist their child immediately prior to and after their skating event(s). Please review the Locker Room and Changing Area Policy in the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#).

### **US 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:**

Information concerning the 2024 Grand Rapids Open will be available on our club website ([www.ggrfsc.org](http://www.ggrfsc.org)) On site updates during the event will be available on the bulletin board next to registration. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information pertaining to the competition.

### **RESULTS**

Results will be posted online. A results link will be sent out closer to the start of the competition. No results will be posted in the facility.

### **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:**

**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: 03/01/2024 at 8:00 AM ET
- Close: 06/02/2024 at 11:59 PM ET
- Maximum credits per registered event:
  - UPI - #2
- Cost per credit: \$15

**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: 06/12/2024 at 8:00 AM ET
- Close: 06/16/2024 at 11:59 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: 06/17/2024 at 8:00 AM ET
- Close: 06/20/2024 at 11:59 PM ET
- Maximum sessions per registered event:
  - UPI - #2
- Cost per session: \$20

#### **ONSITE CHECK-IN:**

Check-in will open on Friday, 06/21/2024, 30 minutes before the first schedule practice ice. Check-In is located at skate rental.

If you are participating in a role requiring compliance, please be sure to [download or print your compliance card](#) to verify your compliance status on-site, if requested. If you believe your compliance card does not accurately reflect your compliance status, please contact [skatesafe@usfigureskating.org](mailto:skatesafe@usfigureskating.org) at least 2 business days prior to the competition for assistance.

#### **AWARDS:**

Official Meijer State Games medals will be awarded in all events for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place. Official Grand Rapids Open medals will be awarded for 4<sup>th</sup> place. All Compete USA event competitors will receive a medal regardless of placing.

#### **PHOTO/VIDEO:**

A digital download of the full flight for each event entered is included with the entry fee for events with music. Professional photography will be available for pre-purchase or at the conclusion of the event. Professional videography/Photography will be provided by 828 Studios.

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

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

[www.ggrfsc.org](http://www.ggrfsc.org)

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Kelsey Cooper	grandrapidsopen@gmail.com	616-818-9323
Practice Ice Chair:	Renee Peirce	rgpeirce@gmail.com	616-485-9985

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### **Airport Information:**

Gerald R. Ford International Airport  
5500 44th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

#### **Hotel Information:**

The following hotels are within a 5-10 minute drive from Patterson Ice Center and the Gerald R Ford International Airport.

#### **[DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Grand Rapids Airport](#)**

4747 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 957-0100

#### **[Drury Inn & Suites Grand Rapids](#)**

5175 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 942-8511

#### **[Courtyard by Marriott Grand Rapids Airport](#)**

4741 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 954-0500

#### **[Spring Hill Suites](#)**

5250 28th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 464-1130