
2026 Central Carolina Skating Classic

27th Annual Competition

Friday, May 15th - Sunday, May 17th, 2026



Hosted by Central Carolina Skating Club

Orange County Sportsplex, Hillsborough, North Carolina

Excel Series

Registration Opens: February 22, 2026

Registration Deadline: Sunday, March 29, 2026

Offering Adaptive, Adult, Aspire, Compete USA,
Excel, Singles (Well-Balanced), Showcase, and
Specialty Events

Sanction # 36447

Revised 02/17/2026



I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2026 Central Carolina Skating Classic will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the and/or current Compete USA handbook as well as any pertinent updates that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating

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. This competition is open to all eligible, restricted, reinstated or readmitted persons as defined by the Eligibility Rules.

EXCEL SERIES INFORMATION: The 2026 Central Carolina Skating Classic is an official, designated competition in the 2025- 2026 Excel Series. Skaters wishing to participate in the Excel series must register directly with USFS prior to the deadline. Skaters who do not register for the Excel series are also allowed to compete in Excel events at this competition but will not be eligible to earn points/rankings.

All individuals who enter the Orange County Sportsplex to participate in the Central Carolina Skating Classic, as a competitor, coach, chaperone, spectator, official or volunteer, agree as a condition of entry to adhere to the COVID-19 Code of Conduct in place at the time of the competition. Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to providing a fun, safe experience for all.

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 and partner events (such as Adults, Pairs):

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

III. EVENTS OFFERED:

Program requirements for the events listed below can be found here:

<https://learntoskateusa.com/CompeteUSA>

<https://usfigureskating.org/sports/2025/8/12/competition-program-requirements.aspx>

SINGLES	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Excel Free Skate	<i>IJS</i>	\$190	\$80
Well Balanced Short Program	<i>IJS</i>	\$190	\$80
Well Balanced Free Skate	<i>IJS</i>	\$190	\$80
Adult Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	<i>IJS</i>	\$190	\$80
Adult Beginner & High Beginner Free Skate	6.0	\$100	\$80
ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Compulsory Moves (Level 1 - 8)	6.0	\$85	40
Jumps Challenge (Level 1 – 9)	6.0	\$85	40
Spins Challenge (Level 1 – 6)	6.0	\$85	40
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Emotional Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	80
Choreographic Artistry (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	80
Lyrical Pop (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	\$80
Character Performance (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	\$80
Comedic Impressions (Preliminary - Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	\$80
Duets/Trios (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	<i>CJS</i>	\$165	\$80
Production Ensemble	<i>CJS</i>	\$250	200
COMPETE USA EVENTS	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$85	40
Aspire 1-4 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$50
Adult 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$100	\$50
Adult 1-6 Compulsory Moves	6.0	\$100	\$50
Compete USA – Showcase	6.0	\$100	\$50
ADAPTIVE	JUDGING	1st Event Price	2nd Event Price
Special Olympics – Free Skate Program	6.0	\$85	\$40
Skate United *see statement above	6.0	\$85	\$40

* For duets, trios and partnered events, see “Partnered Events” information in Section IV of this document.

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:

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.

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 for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

IV. 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. Please ensure that your membership is current before starting the registration process.

Registration opens **Sunday, February 22, 2026**. Registration Deadline: **Sunday, March 29, 2026** @ 11:59pm ET (No late entries will be accepted.)

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

Steps to Register:

1. Go to www.usfsaonline.org.
2. Log in using your U.S. Figure Skating membership number and password.
3. Click 'EMS' then 'Competition Registration.'
4. Select '2026 Central Carolina Skating Classic' from the list.
5. Follow the prompts to complete your registration.

For assistance, email 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.

TEST CREDIT:

In accordance with Rules TR 3.00, 4.01 and 4.02, athletes may receive credit for meeting minimum scores at any competition held under the International Judge System (Open Juvenile and up). The athlete must “skate-up” to the event they are seeking test credit for, in addition to having already passed any prerequisites prior to the competition event. Please review the [IJS Protocol for Test Credit](#) document for eligibility rules.

Skaters that meet the requirements for test credit must pre-purchase their test credit packet in the Merchandise section of EntryEeze. (See Appendix A) No test credit forms will be processed after the event has concluded. The test credit fee will be \$10 per test.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EE no later than **May 1st, 2026 at 11:59pm ET**. (See Appendix A) 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 does not upload by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

Competitors must also have available a backup copy of their competition music on a cell phone and it must be immediately available rink side 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:

Competitors participating in IJS events with music are required to submit PPC in EE no later than **May 1st, 2026** at 11:59 pm ET. (See Appendix A) 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.

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®, Central Carolina Skating Club and Orange County Sportsplex 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

V. COMPETITION DETAILS:

FACILITIES:

The competition will be held at Orange County Sportsplex, 101 Meadowlands Dr, Hillsborough, NC 27278, 919-644-0339, <http://www.oc-sportsplex.com>. Facility includes one NHL ice surface (NHL 200' x 85'), locker rooms and on-site snack bar. Hotels, fuel, food and shopping are nearby in the towns of Hillsborough, Chapel Hill/Carrboro, Durham, and Mebane.

Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/WM5oVdVPEN8eA8FV9>

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

We strongly urge skaters to arrive for their events already dressed to compete. 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](#).

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 on the CCSC website, <https://www.centralcarolinasc.com/competitions/skating-classic> . 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 should arrive no later than one hour prior to the scheduled time of their event as the competition may run up to 45 minutes early due to last-minute withdrawals and scratches.

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 the schedule is available.

PRACTICE ICE: No pre-purchase options will be offered. **Open sales of practice ice will begin May 1st, 2026.** No refunds will be provided for unused practice ice sessions.

STARTING ORDER / RESULTS: All Starting Orders / Results will be posted online and will be updated as events are finalized. The link will be shared on the CCSC website prior to the start of the competition and QR codes will be

posted near the registration desk and on skater's credentials for quick access.

ONSITE CHECK-IN: The volunteer-staffed registration table will be located in the lobby of the Sportsplex, opening one hour prior to the first event on each day of the competition. Skaters must also check in with the rink side ice monitor 10-15 minutes prior to practice sessions and events. Note that events may run up to 45 minutes earlier than the planned schedule, so be aware of the actual event times that day.

AWARDS: Medals will be awarded for first, second, third and fourth place finishers in each group in each regular event; no medals will be awarded for exhibitions. Compete USA events will be limited to six skaters in a group, if possible, and all will receive awards. All events are considered completed after the initial round. No final rounds will be held.

Medals can be picked up (shortly after the final results have been posted on-line) at the awards table in the Sportsplex lobby. Awards podiums and backdrop will be available for photographs. Please – no skates on the wooden podiums.

VOLUNTEER INFO: This competition requires almost 600 hours to organize and complete, all of which are provided by volunteers. There are many different roles and tasks that you can perform to help make this event a success and ensure that we can continue to provide these opportunities for skaters. Most tasks do not require [SkateSafe Compliance](#), but please let us know if you are SkateSafe Compliant and we will identify the roles that require that certification.

CCSC members earn membership renewal discounts for hospitality and volunteering! Please contact us if you can help out before, during or after the event.

COMPETITION PHOTOGRAPHY: Danielle Woods Photography, LLC. will be providing photography for this competition. She will photograph all skaters entered in this competition. No pre-purchases or registrations are needed. Photos will be available for purchase after the event. You will receive an email the Thursday after the event is over with a link to the online photo gallery. This will be sent to the email you used to register for this event. You will be able to shop online and all print and product purchases will be shipped to your house. To find out more about your photographer, visit <https://www.daniellewoodsphotography.com>

COMPETITION VIDEOGRAPHY: As a gift to our competitors, all skaters will be able to download a video of their Central Carolina Skating Classic events *free of charge* from Looking Glass Productions. Unfortunately, live streaming of the competition is not available for this event. Information on how to access your videos will be sent out approximately one week after the competition. If you have any questions, you can reach Looking Glass Productions directly through their website: <https://figureskate.video>

Note, per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited. That photo/video policy can be found [here](#).

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Hampton Inn/Home2Suites, 1206 Cole Mill Rd, Durham, NC (984) 710-3804 (off I-85 S)
Spring Hill Suites by Marriott, 5310 McFarland Drive, Durham, NC - (919) 403-1111 (I-40 at exit 270)
Homewood Suites by Hilton, 3600 Mount Moriah Road, Durham, NC 27707 - (800) 491-1470 (I-40 at exit 270) (doubles and kings available)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Competition website: <https://www.centralcarolinasc.com/competitions/skating-classic> For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Co-Chair:	Ellen Bennett	ellen.bennett@duke.edu	
Competition Co-Chair:	Li Qian	lqian1979@gmail.com	
Chief Referee	Bradley Vaughn		
Volunteer Coordinator:			