



Hosted by Silver Blades FSC of Kansas City

May 30th – June 1st, 2025

***** Exciting New Location *****

We're excited to welcome you to our new rink and facility:

AdventHealth Sports Park at Bluhawk
16201 Shawnee Drive in , KS 66218
Check it out at: www.bluhawksports.com

Registration Deadline: April 23, 2025 at 9:00 pm Central Time

***** Registration may close early if capacity is reached. A waitlist will be created. *****

**** Late entries will only be accepted only if capacity allows. ****

email: events@silverblades.org / website: www.silverblades.org

phone: 913.967.9041 / 816.289.6048

(No calls before 9 am or after 9 pm CT please)



I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2025 Heart of America Invitational will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#), 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.



EXCEL SERIES

Heart of America is part of the 2025 Excel Series and will offer all Excel levels, Aspire – Senior.

- Excel Free Skate Events to be judged IJS: All Excel levels Preliminary and above.
- Excel Free Skate Events to be judged 6.0: Aspire 1-4, Pre-Preliminary.

Skaters must register through EMS to participate in the Excel Series prior to competing at designated competitions in order to have their points recorded and seen in series standings. Excel skater registration will close on 3/1/2025.

Excel Series information can be found [here](#).

MID-WEST FIGURE SKATING COUNCIL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Silver Blades Figure Skating Club is a member of the Mid-West Figure Skating Council (MWFSC) and is participating in the Mid-West Council Championship Series (MWCCS). Participating competitions are Heartland Winter Classic, Snowball Spectacular, Skate KC, Heart of America, Wichita Mid-Continent Classic, Pony Express Championships, and Line Creek Fall Fling. Actual competitions will be dependent upon each hosting Club's final decision to hold their event. Points will be awarded for Beginner through Adult level events (Free Skate, Showcase, Jumps, Spins, Dance, and Compulsory) along with Compete USA events (Basic Elements, Basic Program, and Basic Skills Showcase). Skaters may enter one of two tracks. The Comprehensive Track will include all events a skater enters (Free Skate, Dance, Showcase Events, Jumps, Spins, and Compulsory). The Free Skate Track will only include singles Free Skate events (Long Program for Intermediate – Senior). Skaters must indicate the track in which they wish to compete when they sign up. Track selection cannot be changed after registration. Skaters competing in this Series will receive points for placement in each of the above events at the recognized competitions. At the end of the season, top point skaters will receive awards from MWFSC, and the club with the most skater-accumulated points will receive the Traveling Championship Trophy for that year. There is an annual \$10 registration fee to enter the Championship Series, which can be paid at the first competition entered or by registering on the Council website at www.MWFSC.net.

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 the information sheet [HERE](#) or email events@usfigureskating.org.

All other singles and partner events:

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

EVENTS OFFERED

- **U.S. Figure Skating Program Requirements:** usfigureskating.org --> [Skate](#) --> [Compete](#) --> [Program Requirements](#)
- **Compete USA Program Requirements:** learntoskateusa.com/competesua
- **Skate United:** For any Skate United (S.U.) Athlete, please have them register for their appropriate level under the "standard" option. Once the registration is complete, the following form must be submitted to the competition chair via email at events@silverblades.org.
 - o [Click here for the Skate United Athlete Form.](#)
- **Skating Accommodation Memorandum (S.A.M.):** Skaters using a S.A.M. must submit their S.A.M. to the competition chair via email at events@silverblades.org.
 - o [Click here for more information about S.A.Ms.](#)

On the program requirements page linked above, competitions that fall within the date range beside the program requirements must use those requirements.



Important Notes:

- Skaters may not enter both Excel and Well Balanced Free Skate events at the same competition.
- If a skater enters Short Program and Free Skate Well Balanced events separately, but this creates solo competitor events, the LOC reserves the right to move the skater to the Championship Combined event.

SINGLES	JUDGING	First Event	Additional Event
Excel Free Skate (Preliminary – Senior, all “PLUS” levels)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Excel Free Skate (Aspire 1-4, Pre-Preliminary)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Championship Combined: Short Program & Free Skate (Intermediate – Senior)	IJS	\$215	n/a
Well Balanced Short Program (Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Well Balanced Free Skate (Preliminary – Senior)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Well Balanced Free Skate (Pre-Preliminary)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Adult Free Skate (Adult Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Adult Free Skate (Adult Beginner – Adult Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$165	\$65
ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT	JUDGING	First Event	Additional Event
Compulsory Moves (Levels 1 – 3)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Compulsory Moves (Levels 4 – 8)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Adult Compulsory Moves (Adult Beginner – Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Jumps Challenge (Levels 1 – 3)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Jumps Challenge (Levels 4 – 9)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Adult Jumps Challenge (Adult Beginner – Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Spins Challenge (Levels 1 – 3)	6.0	\$165	\$65
Spins Challenges (Levels 4 – 6)	IJS	\$165	\$65
Adult Spins Challenge (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$165	\$65
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	First Event	Additional Event
Emotional Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Choreographic Artistry (Pre-Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Lyrical Pop (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Character Performance (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Comedic Impressions (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Duets/Trios (Preliminary – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$165	\$65
Theme Event	CJS	\$165	\$65
Adaptive Individual Showcase	CJS	\$165	\$65
Adaptive Unified Partner Showcase	CJS	\$165	\$65
COMPETE USA EVENTS	JUDGING	First Event	Additional Event
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$75	\$50
Adult 1 – 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$75	\$50
Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements	6.0	\$75	\$50
Compete USA – Showcase	6.0	\$75	\$50
ADAPTIVE	JUDGING	First Event	Additional Event
Special Olympics Badges 2 - 12	6.0	\$75	\$50
Special Olympics – Free Skate Program, Pairs	6.0	\$75	\$50
Skate United <i>*see statement above</i>	6.0	\$75	\$50

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.

ATHLETE ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS

Should a skater with disabilities require any specific accommodations or assistance for their competitive event, please submit your approved S.A.M to the Competition Chair by the registration deadline at events@silverblades.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.

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 in 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](#)

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.

III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

ONLINE REGISTRATION VIA EMS (Singles and Partnered events only)

Online registrations will be accepted via the [Event Management Portal \(EMS\)](#). Payment must be made at the time of registration by credit card only. Each transaction includes a 3% transaction fee.

Registration Deadline: 04/23/2025 at 9:00 pm Central Time

Late Registration Deadline: 04/27/2025 at 10:59 pm Central Time + \$30 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 “**Heart of America Invitational**” from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
 - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact 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 requesting test credit must select the option “Test Credit” during registration or through “Add Event” process within EMS. **Late requests can be accommodated until May 25, 2025**, by making a request via email to events@silverblades.org where the payment must be completed online through EMS prior to receiving a credential and competing. Skaters can pick up their completed test credit packet at the Registration desk approximately one hour after their event concludes. Test credit packets are \$20 and only available for Juvenile through Senior Well Balanced and Excel Free Skate events. On site requests are not guaranteed and will be at the discretion of the LOC.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **May 11, 2025 at 10:59 pm Central Time**. 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: May 11, 2025 - \$25 Late Fee

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 **May 11, 2025 at 10:59 pm Central Time**. 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: May 11, 2025 - \$25 Late Fee

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

If you need assistance, email 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®, Silver Blades FSC of Kansas City and AdventHealth Sports



Park at Bluhawk 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

FACILITY

AdventHealth Sports Park at Bluhawk
16201 Shawnee Dr
Overland Park, KS 66223
www.bluhawksports.com

AdventHealth Sports Park at Bluhawk features an 85' x 200' NHL regulation ice surface and is located at 69 Highway and 159th Street in Overland Park, Kansas. Bluhawk also offers onsite dining, concessions and a state of the art arcade and gaming destination. The Bluhawk shopping center adjacent to the rink offers multiple dining options and premier shopping. Check out www.bluhawk.com.

SKATER READY ROOMS

Locker rooms and changing areas will not be available at this competition. All athletes are expected to arrive at the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with an area to put skates on but changing will not be permitted in these spaces. **Changing will not be permitted in public restrooms.**

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 NOTICES

Official notices will be emailed to competitors through EMS and posted to the Silver Blades website at www.silverblades.org/heartofamerica/. Skaters are expected to arrive 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check their emails and EMS notices frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information pertaining to the competition.

RESULTS

Results will be posted online. The starting order and results link will be provided prior to the start of the competition.

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

Practice ice will tentatively begin Friday morning. Practice ice is **not included** with registration and must be purchased separately.

Practice ice information:

- All sessions are Unofficial Practice Ice (UPI)
- No music will be played
- 20-minute sessions
- Sessions may be separated by competition levels

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 Date: March 1, 2025
- Close Date/Time: April 23, 2025 at 11:00 pm Central Time
- Maximum UPI credits per registered event: 1
- Cost per credit: \$18

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 Date/Time: TBD
- Close Date/Time: May 22, 2025 at 9:00 pm Central Time

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 Date/Time: May 23, 2025 at 8:00 am Central Time
- Close Date/Time: May 29, 2025 at 5:00 pm Central Time
- Maximum UPI sessions per registered event: 2
- Cost per session: \$20

On-Site Sales: After the close of open sales, practice ice may be purchased on-site at the check-in desk, subject to availability.

- Open: May 30, 2025
- Cost per UPI session: \$22

Practice ice sessions are not refundable and may not be transferred or sold to other skaters once purchased. We reserve the right to cancel or change any practice session.

ONSITE CHECK-IN

Check-in will open one hour before the first event and run through the last event of the day. The check-in desk will be located upon entrance to AdventHealth Sports Park. Please check-in promptly upon arrival.



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 at least 2 business days prior to the competition for assistance.

AWARDS

Medals will be given for 1st through 4th places. For all events, ribbons will be awarded for 5th and 6th places. All awards will be distributed immediately following the posting of results. Medals can be engraved for an additional cost.

TEAM SCORING

Points will be awarded, according to placement, to a skater's home club for each event skated. First place will receive 3 points, second place 2 points, and third place 1 point. The club with the highest point total (Silver Blades FSC is not eligible) will be awarded the High Points Team Trophy.

PHOTO/VIDEO

Live and on-demand streaming, and sales and distribution of U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned and approved events, programs, and activities that include the playback of music is strictly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to the distribution of footage that does not include music. Questions about this can be directed to music@usfigureskating.org.

Professional photos and videos will be provided by MKT Event Photography. Photography and videography packages will be available online for a discounted pre-purchase price or can be purchased at the time of competition for full price.

Flash photography of skaters is not permitted. Individuals may only use handheld cameras, and no rink power outlets may be used. **Note, per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.**

MERCHANDISE

Apparel will be provided on site – details will be provided at a later date.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Please note that there are multiple events happening around the area and hotel rooms will be limited.

Hotel information coming soon

AIRPORT TRAVEL

Kansas City International Airport

Code: MCI

Website: www.flykc.com

Kansas City International airport is a public airport located 15 miles northwest of downtown Kansas City and 40 miles north of AdventHealth Sports Park at Bluhawk.

CONTACT INFORMATION:



Official Website: www.silverblades.org/heartofamerica/

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Audrey Ryan	audreyryan79@gmail.com	913-967-9041
Competition Chair:	Erin Culbertson	eeculbertson@gmail.com	816-289-6048
Chief Referee:	Carylyn Landt	clandt@ucsd.edu	858-864-8249