

# 2018

## Solo Dance Series Handbook for Skaters & Coaches



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to the 2018 Solo Dance Series!

We are very excited about the 8<sup>th</sup> season of the solo dance series. As you will see when reading this handbook, there will be some changes for this season. The biggest change will be moving to a modified IJS System as laid out in the following pages.

Some of the other changes include: eliminating splitting events into groups at series competitions, skater's choice music for the pattern dance portion of the combined events and eliminating the qualifying rounds at the National Solo Dance Final.

We hope that you enjoy this year's series!

### **Overview:**

This program began in the 2010-11 season and is open to individual skaters within the Eastern, Midwestern and Pacific Coast sections. Skaters participating in at least two competitions within their respective sections accumulate points based upon placement that will be used to determine qualification of individual skaters to the National Solo Dance Final.

The mission of this program is to provide a fun series of events to both encourage skaters of all levels to try ice dancing and to give skaters who love ice dancing the opportunity to compete on a regular basis and provide more competitive ice dancing experiences for all skaters.

### **Dates:**

The 2018 Solo Dance Series will run from March 1-August 15, 2018 with the National Solo Dance Final being held September 14-16, 2018 in Hyannis, Mass.

### **Eligibility & Test Levels:**

Athletes must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating, and may be members of the figure skating club of their choice. The section in which the skater competes and can qualify from will be based upon the location of the skaters' home figure skating club at the close of registration. Skaters may not switch sections during the season even if their home club changes. All participants will be expected to abide by the Code of Ethics (GR 1.01) and the Code of Conduct (GR 1.02), as set forth in the 2018 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above of their highest completed dance test. For pattern dance, the test level is determined by a skater completing all of the dance tests within that level. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty.

The determination of level will be based upon test level as of the 2018 Series entry deadline of April 1, 2018 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, *which ever date is earlier*\*\*.

Skaters may not change or move up levels in the 2018 Series once the deadline has passed and/or when they submit their registration to U.S. Figure Skating.

\*\* Test level may be either standard or solo dance. Adult dance, adult solo dance, master's dance and master's solo dance do not fulfill the testing requirements for this event.

**Series Registration:**

Skaters interested in participating in the 2018 Solo Dance Competition Series will also need to complete the online Series registration form and pay a \$20.00 fee to U.S. Figure Skating between December 15, 2017 and April 1, 2018. This fee covers the solo pattern dance, the combined dance and the shadow dance events. For shadow dance events, skaters must designate their partner at the time of registration and must compete with that partner for the duration of the season. BOTH partners must register. The online form can be accessed on the Solo Dance Series webpage.

Each registered athlete may only compete in one level per event for the entire season.

**In order for skaters to earn points within the Series, they must be registered with U.S. Figure Skating as a participant prior to entering and competing in a Solo Dance Series Competition that you plan to earn placement points from.**

## EVENTS TO BE SKATED

### Solo Pattern Dance

The solo pattern dance event is comprised of two pattern dances at each level. The specific dances at each level will be listed within the individual competition announcements and chosen by the host club. The results from both dances will be combined to create a final score and overall result. Points will be awarded to each skater based on the skaters' combined overall placement of the two pattern dances.

The following levels will be offered:

Level	Test Requirements	Dances (number of sequences to be skated)
Preliminary	No test or passed preliminary	Dutch Waltz (3 sequences) Canasta Tango (3 sequences) Rhythm Blues (3 sequences)
Pre-Bronze	Passed preliminary or pre-bronze	Cha Cha (3 sequences) Swing Dance (2 sequences) Fiesta Tango (3 sequences)
Bronze	Passed pre-bronze or bronze	Hickory Hoedown (3 sequences) Willow Waltz (3 sequences) Ten Fox (3 sequences)
Pre-Silver	Passed bronze or pre-silver	Fourteenstep (4 sequences) Foxtrot (3 sequences) European Waltz (2 sequences)
Silver	Passed pre-silver or silver	American Waltz (2 sequences) Tango (2 sequences) Rocker Foxtrot (3 sequences)
Pre-Gold	Passed silver or pre-gold	Blues (3 sequences) Paso Doble (3 sequences) Kilian (4 sequences) Starlight Waltz (2 sequences)
Gold	Passed pre-gold or gold	Quickstep (3 sequences) Argentine Tango (2 sequences) Westminster Waltz (2 sequences) Viennese Waltz (2 sequences)
International	Passed gold or international	Cha Cha Congelado (2 sequences) Silver Samba (2 sequences) Rhumba (3 sequences) Yankee Polka (2 sequences) Tango Romantica (2 sequences)

## Combined Events

The combined dance event is comprised of the following two events (as applicable by level):

- 1.) **For juvenile, intermediate and novice:** one of two solo pattern dances posted at the competition from the two designated solo pattern dances selected by U.S. Figure Skating, as listed below.  
**For junior and senior:** one solo short dance
- 2.) **For juvenile thru senior:** one solo free dance

The pattern dances competed in the combined dance event are separate from those in the solo pattern dance event and the results will not count toward the solo pattern dance event or results. This event is offered at the juvenile through senior levels.

The points awarded in the combined event will be based upon the skaters' combined overall point total from the pattern or short dance (depending on the level entered) and the free dance.

**JUVENILE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2018 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard preliminary solo or standard preliminary partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered juvenile free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any pre-silver or higher solo or partnered pattern dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the juvenile free dance.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Juvenile:** Willow Waltz and Hickory Hoedown – Skater’s Choice Music\*

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Juvenile:**

<p><b>Juvenile Solo Free Dance: 1:40 +/- 10 seconds</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b></p> <p><b><u>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</u></b></p>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	One short edge element, but no more. The edge element must be held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but cannot exceed six seconds.
<b>Spin</b>	One choreographic dance spin*, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. Spin combinations not permitted. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b><u>Choreographic Step Sequence</u></b>	One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns and Mohawks. There are no levels, it either will be confirmed or have no value.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzle</b>	One twizzle. ( <u>Only one twizzle on one foot is required</u> )
<b>Dance Stop</b>	One full stop to express the character of the music, <u>must be at least 3 seconds</u> , but not to exceed six seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

\*For skater’s choice music rules, see reference section

**INTERMEDIATE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2018 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard bronze solo or standard bronze partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered intermediate free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any silver or higher solo or partnered pattern dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the intermediate free dance.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Intermediate:** Foxtrot and European Waltz – Skater's Choice Music\*

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Intermediate:**

<p><b>Intermediate Solo Free Dance: <u>1:50 +/- 10 seconds</u></b></p> <p><b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b></p> <p><b><u>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</u></b></p>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	<p><u>One short edge element</u>, but no more. The edge element must be held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but not more than six seconds. Edge elements should have different positions^.</p>
<b>Spin</b>	<p>One <u>choreographic dance spin*</u>, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. Spin combinations not permitted. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED</p>
<b>Step Sequence</b>	<p>One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns, mohawks and brackets.</p> <p><b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.</p>
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	<p>One twizzle series. No more than three steps between twizzles.</p>
<b>Dance Stop</b>	<p>One full stop to express the character of the music, <u>must be at least 3 seconds</u> not to exceed six seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.</p>

\*For skater's choice music rules, see reference section

**NOVICE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2018 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed at least one dance of the standard silver solo or standard silver partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered novice free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any gold or higher solo or partnered dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the novice free dance test.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Novice:** American Waltz and Tango – Skater's Choice Music\*

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Novice:**

<b>Novice Solo Free Dance: <u>2:00</u> +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b><u>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</u></b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	<u>Two short edge elements, but no more</u> , held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. Edge elements should have different positions.^
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin*</u> , but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns, mohawks, brackets and counters.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	One twizzle series. No more than three steps between twizzles.
<b>Dance Stop</b>	One full stop to express the character of the music, <u>must be at least 3 seconds</u> and not to exceed six seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

\*For skater's choice music rules, see reference section



### JUNIOR COMBINED EVENT:

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2018 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed at least two dances of the standard pre-gold solo or standard pre-gold partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard junior solo or partnered free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any solo or partnered dance tests higher than the complete gold dance test and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the junior free dance test.

### Short Dance Requirements for Junior:

<b>Junior Solo Short Dance: 2:00 +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<b>Music Requirements:</b> Any number of the following Latin American Rhythms: Cha Cha, Rhumba, Samba, Mambo, Meringue, Salsa, Bachata and any closely related Latin American Rhythms.  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Element</b>	One short edge element. Must be held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but no more than six seconds.
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One circular or midline or diagonal step sequence. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzles</b>	One set of sequential twizzles. Two twizzles skated one right after the other with up to one step in between twizzles. May be skated anywhere in the program except in the required step sequence. Only one step between twizzles is allowed. <u>Twizzles must have a different entry edge and direction of rotation.</u>
<b>Pattern Dance Requirement</b>	Two (2) full sequences of the Cha Cha Congelado. May be skated one after the other or separately within the program. Each pattern must be skated on different sides of the rink.  Timing: The PDEs must be skated in strict time to the music with the start of the first step of the Pattern Dance Element Section 1 on beat one of a musical phrase. The PDE must be skated on the Cha Cha rhythm in the style of Cha Cha. The tempo of the music throughout the PDE must be constant and in accordance with the required tempo of the pattern dance: Cha Cha, i.e. 28 to 30 measures of 4 beats or 112-120 beats per minute. The Cha Cha Congelado rhythm is described in the ISU Ice Dance Music Rhythms Booklet 1995.
<b>Additional Information</b>	Vocal music is permitted and only music with an audible rhythmic beat may be used. The music may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.  The concept and choreography must produce the feeling of a unified dance. The Pattern Dance Elements may be skated anywhere in the Short Dance and should be integrated into the composition of the dance so that there should

not be the feeling that there are just rhythms put together without thought of how they will fit together.

After the clock is started with the first movement, the skater must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops (duration must not exceed 5 seconds each) or up to one full stop (duration must not exceed 10 seconds) are permitted.

**The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and must not cross the long axis of the ice surface except once at each end of the rink (within no more than 20 meters from the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided that they do not cross the long axis.**

Kneeling or sliding on two knees or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall by the judging panel. Touching the ice with hand(s) is not permitted.

**Free Dance Requirements for Junior:**

<b>Junior Solo Free Dance: <u>2:20</u> +/- 10 seconds</b>  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	One <u>combination</u> edge element – each edge must be held for a minimum of 3 seconds, but the total element must not exceed 12 seconds. And <u>one</u> short edge element held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. No more than one combination and one short edge element <u>are</u> permitted. Edge elements must have different positions.^
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin</u> *, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	Two different step sequences, one selected from Group A and one selected from Group B. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group A:</b> Straight Line Step Sequences – midline or diagonal</li> <li>• <b>Group B:</b> Curved Step Sequences (counterclockwise or clockwise) – circular or serpentine</li> </ul> <p>The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include brackets, counters, rockers and choctaws.</p> <p><b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.</p>
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	Two twizzle series, but no more. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series A:</b> Must have a different entry edge and different direction for the two twizzles. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles.</li> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series B:</b> Must have two twizzles. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Note: The first attempted set of twizzles will be evaluated as the Series A by the technical panel.</u></b></p>
<b>Dance Stop</b>	<u>One</u> full stop to express the character of the music, <u>must be at least 3 seconds and</u> not to exceed six seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

**SENIOR COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard solo or standard partnered gold pattern dance test or have passed the standard senior solo or partnered free dance test.

**Short Dance Requirements for Senior:**

<b>Senior Solo Short Dance: 2:00 +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<p><b>Music Requirements:</b> Any number of the following Latin American Rhythms: Cha Cha, Rhumba, Samba, Mambo, Meringue, Salsa, Bachata and any closely related Latin American Rhythms.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b></p>	
<b>Edge Element</b>	One short edge element. Must be held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but no more than six seconds.
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One circular or midline or diagonal step sequence. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzles</b>	One set of sequential twizzles. Two twizzles skated one right after the other with up to one step in between twizzles. May be skated anywhere in the program except in the required step sequence. No more than 1 step between twizzles is allowed. <u>Twizzles must have a different entry edge and direction of rotation.</u>
<b>Pattern Dance Requirement</b>	Two (2) sequences of the Rhumba. May be skated one after the other or separately within the program. Each section must be skated on different sides of the rink.  Timing: The PDE must be skated in strict time to the music with the start of the first step of the Pattern Dance Element Section 1 on beat one of a musical phrase. The Pattern Dance Element shall be skated to any of the Latin American Rhythms and must be in the style of the chosen rhythm, with the range of tempo: 172- 180 beats per minute. The tempo of the music throughout the Pattern Dance Element must be constant. The Rhumba rhythm is described in the ISU Ice Dance Music Rhythms Booklet 1995.
<b>Additional Information</b>	Vocal music is permitted and only music with an audible rhythmic beat may be used. The music may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.  The concept and choreography must produce the feeling of a unified dance. The Pattern Dance Elements may be skated anywhere in the Short Dance and should be integrated into the composition of the dance so that there should not be the feeling that there are just rhythms put together without thought of how they will fit together.

After the clock is started with the first movement, the skater must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops (duration must not exceed 5 seconds each) or up to one full stop (duration must not exceed 10 seconds) are permitted.

**The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and must not cross the long axis of the ice surface except once at each end of the rink (within no more than 20 meters from the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided that they do not cross the long axis.**

Kneeling or sliding on two knees or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall by the judging panel. Touching the ice with hand(s) is not permitted.

**Free Dance Requirements for Senior:**

<p><b>Senior Solo Free Dance: <u>2:40</u> +/- 10 seconds</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b></p>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	<p><u>One combination</u> edge element – each <u>portion</u> must be held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of 3 seconds, but the total element must not exceed 12 seconds. Plus two short edge elements held <u>in position</u> for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. No more than <u>one</u> combination and two short edge elements <u>are</u> permitted. Edge elements must have different positions.^</p>
<b>Spin</b>	<p>One <u>choreographic dance spin</u>*, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED</p>
<b>Step Sequence</b>	<p>Two different step sequences, one selected from Group A and one selected from Group B.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group A:</b> Straight Line Step Sequences – midline or diagonal</li> <li>• <b>Group B:</b> Curved Step Sequences (counterclockwise or clockwise) – circular or serpentine</li> </ul> <p>The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include brackets, counters, rockers, choctaws and twizzles.</p> <p><b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.</p>
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	<p>Two twizzle series, but no more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series A:</b> Must have a different entry edge and different direction for the two twizzles. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles.</li> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series B:</b> Must have two twizzles. No more than one step is allowed between twizzles.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Note: The first attempted set of twizzles will be evaluated as the Series A by the technical panel.</u></b></p>
<b>Dance Stop</b>	<p><u>One</u> full stop to express the character of the music, <u>must be at least 3 seconds, but not to exceed six seconds.</u> The stops must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.</p>

## Shadow Dance

The shadow pattern dance event is comprised of one pattern dance at each level.

A team may be comprised of two females, two males or one female and one male. In any case, the steps skated shall be the lady's steps as specified in the 2018 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

Points will be awarded to each team based upon the team's final placement of the pattern dance.

The following levels will be offered:

Level	Requirement	Dance (number of sequences to be skated)
Preliminary	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-bronze dance test.	• Canasta Tango (3 sequences)
Juvenile	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-silver dance test.	• Fiesta Tango (3 sequences)
Intermediate	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete silver dance test.	• Foxtrot (3 sequences)
Novice	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-gold dance test.	• Tango (2 sequences)
Junior	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete gold dance test.	• Blues (3 sequences)
Senior	Open.	• Argentine Tango (2 sequences)

## **GENERAL COMPETITION RULES & CONDUCT OF SERIES EVENTS**

### **Event Group Size**

Each event will have only ONE group per competition, regardless of number of skaters entered.

### **Starting Orders**

Starting orders for all portions of each event will be by random draw and posted at each competition.

### **Warm-Up Group Size**

Pattern Dance –

*Preliminary - Bronze* – at discretion of referee

*Pre-Silver - International* - maximum of 8 skaters per warm-up

Short Dance – maximum of 6 skaters per warm-up

Free Dance – maximum of 6 skaters per warm-up

Shadow Dance –

*Preliminary - Juvenile* – at discretion of referee

*Intermediate-Senior* - maximum of 5 teams per warm-up

### **Warm-Up Times**

Pattern Dance with standard music (including shadow dance) –

1 minute without music, 1 selection of dance music

*Referee may lengthen time with music for preliminary – bronze or preliminary-juvenile shadow should they choose to warm-up more than 8 skaters or 5 teams.*

Pattern Dance with skater's choice music – 4 minutes without music

Short Dance and Free Dance – 5 minutes without music

### **Judging System**

The modified IJS judging system will be used for all events and levels at the participating 2018 Solo Dance Series Competitions.

Explanations of judging system including technical requirements and judging guidelines may be found in the reference section of this handbook.

### **Costume Requirements**

The Solo Dance Series will follow all costume rules and requirements as stated for ice dance in the 2018 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. (Rule 6020)

### **Behavior of Competitors During Competition**

The Solo Dance Series will follow all behavior of competitors requirements including the call to start rules for IJS as stated in the 2018 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. (Rules 1320-1324)

### **Pattern Dance Starts**

All pattern dances should start on the judges' side unless directed otherwise by the referee.



## EARNING SERIES POINTS

### Determining Points

Points will be awarded on overall placement by U.S. Figure Skating based upon the 2018 Solo Dance Series Point Calculation Chart for Solo Pattern Dance and the Combined Event (see chart below).

Points will only be awarded to athletes who complete the competition. No points will be awarded to an athlete who withdraws for any reason or is not registered as a participant in the Series by the entry deadline of the competition or by the April 1, 2018 Solo Dance Series entry deadline.

NOTE: Points are awarded on final placement, regardless of other competitors. Non-series skaters are welcome to compete in solo series events. If there is a skater in an event who is not entered in the series, the points for their placement will simply not be awarded.

Events with 1 Skater	
Placement	Points Awarded
1 <sup>st</sup>	3
Events with 2-3 Skaters	
Placement	Points Awarded
1 <sup>st</sup>	7
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5
Events with 4+ Skaters	
Placement	Points Awarded
1 <sup>st</sup>	9
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7
4 <sup>th</sup>	6
5 <sup>th</sup>	5
6 <sup>th</sup>	4
7 <sup>th</sup>	3
8 <sup>th</sup>	2
9 <sup>th</sup> & below	1

### Adjustments in Available Points due to Withdraws

The number of athletes in an event will be based on entries as of *7 days prior to the official start of the competition regardless of when the dance events take place*; withdraws after this date will not affect the number of available points to the athletes who compete in the competition. The points will be awarded based upon the number of skaters listed on the skate order posted prior to the start of the competition.

Example: The competition starts on Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. The number of competitors would be as of 12:01am Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Any withdraws after that point should be listed in the final results as "withdrawn".

### Point Standings

Skaters can compete at as many competitions during the Series season as they desire; however only the skater's best three point finishes will be used towards their total point accumulation.

**Skaters may earn and accumulate their best three qualifying point finishes from either:**

- Three (3) competitions within their section
- Two (2) competitions within their section **and** one(1) competition outside of their section

**Note:** Skaters must compete in AT LEAST two (2) competitions within their section to be eligible to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.

### **Invitations to National Solo Dance Final**

Following the conclusion of the season, those skaters in the solo pattern dance, combined event and shadow pattern dance events from each section that have competed in at least two Solo Dance Series participating competitions and meet the following criteria (specific to event type) will be invited to advance to the National Solo Dance Final competition (NSDF):

- 1.) SOLO PATTERN DANCE AND COMBINED EVENT ONLY:
  - a. Those skaters in each section who finish in the top six (6) places in each level will receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.
  - b. Those skaters who outright won (not tied) first place at a total of three or more competitions during the season, while competing in a group size of two or more (2+) skaters will also receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final. A skater must have actual competition in order for a "win" to qualify as a "win". No matter when the other skaters withdraw, if a skater does not have any actual competition on that day, they may still earn points, but it will not count as a "win."
  
- 2.) SHADOW PATTERN DANCE EVENT ONLY:
  - a. Those shadow pattern dance teams in each section who finish in the top three (3) places in each level will receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.

A variation of a fill-up rule may be used if less than six skaters qualify to receive invitations to the NSDF at any particular level in the Series for the Solo Pattern Dance and Combined Events. This variation of the fill-up rule will be done at the discretion of the Program Development Committee Chair, National Vice Chair for Solo Dance and the U.S. Figure Skating Programs Manager.

### **Declining an Invitation to the Final**

Following participation in the 2018 Solo Dance Series competitions, it is expected that skaters will compete in the National Solo Dance Final upon qualification. If a skater declines his/her invitation to compete in the National Solo Dance Final, he/she must notify Karissa Woienski, U.S. Figure Skating Programs Manager by the deadline on the online acceptance form that is sent out following the conclusion of the season. **No alternates will be invited to attend under any circumstances.**

## **NATIONAL SOLO DANCE FINAL**

The National Solo Dance Final will be held September 14-16, 2018 in Hyannis, Mass. The official announcement will be posted on the US Figure Skating website no later than May 15, 2018.

There will be no qualifying groups at this event.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

Friday:

Pattern Dance

Awards (Pattern Dance)

Saturday:

Combined Pattern Dance

Combined Short Dance

Shadow Dance

Awards (Shadow Dance)

Sunday:

Combined Free Dance

Awards (Combined Dance)

## **REFERENCE**

*All reference material, including timing charts, scale of values, and breakdown of program components, can be found on the Solo Dance Technical Info sub-page on the Solo Dance Series webpage.*