

# COVID-19 Protocol for the 2022 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships

As of February 22, 2022 (subject to change)

## Overview

The following COVID-19 Response Protocol and Facility Access Requirements has been developed by U.S. Figure Skating in conjunction with U.S. Figure Skating's Sports Science and Medicine Committee and is based on current CDC Guidelines. Please note this document is subject to change pending updated CDC, facility, local, and/or state guidelines.

Any attendee(s), including teams, that do not follow the protocols outlined in this document may be subject to removal from the competition/facility.

## Masking Requirement

Masks are required for all event attendees, including spectators, regardless of vaccination status. Attendees are required to use a N95, KN95, OR a 3-ply surgical mask with one additional mask layer (a cloth mask on top of the surgical mask or an additional surgical mask) at all times.

- The only exception will be for:
  - o Skaters who are on the ice for practice ice or competition who will be permitted to remove their mask immediately prior to entering the ice surface. Masks must be replaced immediately upon exiting the ice surface.
  - o Persons who are actively eating or drinking may remove their mask but are asked to replace their mask between bites/sips or immediately after food has been consumed. Anyone found to be using food/drink as a reason to remove their mask for prolonged periods of time are subject to removal from the facility.
- Masks will be required during all on-ice award ceremonies.
- No penalty will come to teams that choose to wear masks on the ice unless the mask is deemed theatrical in nature and goes against the U.S. Figure Skating Costume Guidelines.

## COVID-19 Response Protocol

### In the case of a positive test...

If you or a member of your team's competition roster – inclusive of team personnel (coaches, team managers, team service personnel) – within 10 days prior to departure for the competition tests positive for COVID-19 they should immediately isolate for a minimum of 10 days and enact the following protocol:

- The team must immediately complete a [COVID-19 Response Protocol Questionnaire: CLICK HERE](#).
- This form will provide U.S. Figure Skating and designated medical team member(s) with all information to fully evaluate your team's scenario.
- Within 24 hours during the event week (48 hours leading up to departure) you will receive a response with any additional questions and/or to confirm the protocol your team should follow

as directed by the details in this document. Once the scenario has been fully evaluated, an action plan will be formulated based on the parameters outlined in the next section.

- If any additional information about your scenario develops after your form is submitted but before your competition's contact reaches out to you, please email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org)

### **Action Plan Overview**

Anyone who was in close contact with this person (for teams where a skater tests positive, all skaters on the team are considered close contact if the test was received within 48 hours of the teams last interaction), the following protocol must be observed:

- The individual who tests positive should isolate immediately for a period of 10-days and not be permitted to travel to the competition. See CDC guidelines for isolation protocol.
- For persons who have been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has tested positive:
  - o If you have completed a full vaccine series with final dose completed within 5 months of the event date OR have an additional booster dose and not showing any symptoms:
    - You are not subject to quarantine guidelines and are permitted to travel/participate in the competition.
    - You must wear your mask at all times when in public, especially indoors including on the ice and in off-ice warm-up.
    - It is asked that you limit your time in the facility during the competition as much as possible. Per the CDC guidelines it is recommended that you get tested 5 – 7 days after exposure as an additional precaution.
    - Should symptoms appear, immediately self-isolate and seek medical evaluation to include testing for COVID.
  - o If you have completed a full vaccine series with final dose completed within 5 months of the event date OR have an additional booster dose and you ARE showing symptoms:
    - You should seek medical evaluation including testing for COVID and must receive written clearance from your medical provider to travel.
  - o If you are NOT fully vaccinated regardless of whether you are displaying symptoms or not:
    - You should be quarantined at home and not travel to the competition.
    - If you are experiencing symptoms, seek medical care to include a test for COVID-19.
  - o If you have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and completed isolation period of 10-days:
    - You are not subject to quarantine guidelines and are permitted to travel/participate in the competition.
    - You must wear your mask at all times when in public, especially indoors.
    - It is asked that you limit your time in the facility during the competition as much as possible. Per the CDC guidelines it is recommended that you get tested 5 – 7 days after exposure as an additional precaution.
    - Should symptoms appear, immediately self-isolate and seek medical evaluation to include testing for COVID.

- For persons who have NOT been in close contact (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has tested positive:
  - o Regardless of vaccination status, quarantine/isolation protocols do not need to be followed in this scenario, but it is recommended that you carefully monitor for symptoms. At the sign of any symptoms, seek medical care to include a test for COVID-19.
  - o **NOTE: if a skater is the person who initially tests positive, all other members of the team – inclusive of any swing/alternate/cross skaters – will be considered in close contact.**
- For reference:
  - o Definition of fully vaccinated:
    - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and the final dose is within 5 months prior to departure for the competition OR you have received a 3<sup>rd</sup> booster dose if final dose was more than 5 months ago, OR
    - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine within the preceding 2 months or received a 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose if the initial dose was more than 2 months ago
  - o Symptoms of COVID-19 include the following:
    - Fever or chills
    - Cough
    - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    - Fatigue
    - Muscle or body aches
    - Headache
    - New loss of taste or smell
    - Sore throat
    - Congestion or runny nose
    - Nausea or vomiting
    - Diarrhea

In the event an attendee begins to display symptoms on-site (even after receiving a negative test prior to departing for the competition), they should isolate immediately and seek a rapid antigen test. A negative antigen test will need to be received prior to re-accessing the facility. If symptoms continue to develop or worsen, the attendee should consider remaining isolated, regardless of antigen test result, and consider seeking a more sensitive test option such as a PCR or NAAT test.

#### **Team participation as a result of positive test(s)...**

The following protocol was developed by the Synchronized Skating Competitions Subcommittee and approved by the U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors for implementation in the 2022 Synchronized Skating Qualifying Season. All exceptions outlined below expire June 30, 2022.

1. A positive test result based on the COVID-19 protocol for attendance at the event will be considered an “on-site illness” under Rule 2823 which would permit the following exceptions. For your team to be cleared under one of these exceptions, a member of your team leadership must complete an Exemption Form on-site found at your competition’s registration desk. This

form will be delivered to the Chief Referee of the event and distributed to your officials panel so your team will be judged accordingly.

- a. Teams that drop below the minimum number of required skaters will still be eligible to compete.
- b. For teams that drop below the minimum number of required skaters to make certain level calls, TN 267 becomes enacted allowing certain calls to still be achieved.

## **MANDATORY Know Before You Go Call**

### Attending Teams Call

Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 8:00 PM ET

Click here to register: [https://usfigureskating-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkf-gsrTsrHNbvwNhh77\\_vGs57woyvJzdU7](https://usfigureskating-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkf-gsrTsrHNbvwNhh77_vGs57woyvJzdU7)

### Assigned Officials Call

Thursday, Feb. 24 at 7:00 PM ET

A registration link was emailed to all assigned officials. If you did not receive this link, please email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org).

## **Questions?**

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