



TECHNICAL MEMO

Date: May 14, 2009
To: BC/YT Section Board, Officials, Coaches & Clubs
From: Janice Hunter
RE: Technical Committee Update
Upcoming Season Info

(1) Changes for next season Pacific STARSkate Qualifying Competitions:

- Skating Skills will not be offered at the 2010 Pacific STARSkate Championships. It is up to each Region to decide whether or not to offer Skills events at their qualifying competitions.

RATIONALE: skating skills are no longer done to music. As such, the event has become more difficult to judge and not very interesting to watch. They take a lot of time and the feedback over several years has not been positive regarding the judging. After discussing the pros and cons, the Technical Committee voted to remove Skating Skills at the Section level. This decision was ratified by the Board of Directors.

- Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile Provincial Champions will continue to be named at the Section Championships in November. In addition, Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile Women and Men will be added to Pacific Skate. Skaters will qualify at the Region STARSkate Qualifying competitions with the top 4 skaters from each region advancing to Pacific Skate. All Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile competitors are eligible to enter both Sectionals and Pacific Skate Qualifying competitions.

RATIONALE: to provide another competitive opportunity for the developing Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile skaters.

- There is no longer a limit on the number of events a skater may enter at Pacific Skate. Skaters may enter all events for which they qualify.

- The top 4 skaters in Preliminary to Gold Free Skate events at STARSkate Qualifying competitions will advance to Pacific Skate. Triathlon and Interpretive will still remain at 3. For clarification purposes, Elementary and Pre-Preliminary Free Skate, and Pre-Introductory Interpretive categories are still non-qualifying events at the Region Qualifying Competitions.

RATIONALE: previously only 3 skaters advanced in the Junior Silver, Senior Silver and Gold categories due to time restraints. There will be some time freed up without skating skills so it made sense to allow 4 skaters to advance at all levels in the Free Skate categories.

(2) Changes to Warm Up Times in BC/YT Competitions

- Junior Bronze & Senior Bronze Free Skate - 4 minutes
- Junior Silver to Gold Free Skate – 5 minutes
- Interpretive & Showcase – 3 minutes
- STARSkate Pairs events – 3 minutes

RATIONALE: feedback from Referees at competitions around the province, resulted in the committee looking more closely at the warm up times. It is felt that these times are correctly suited to the STARSkate events. This will be revisited after one year.

(3) SummerSkate

- A new Technical Elements Competitive event will be added as a pilot event. This will be open to Novice and Junior Women who will compete together; and Pre-Novice, Novice and Junior Men who will compete together. Due to time restraints, only 20 entries will be accepted for each of the events and the entries will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Skaters must also be entered and compete in a Free Program category to be eligible to enter the Elements event. More details and event specifications can be found in the SummerSkate announcement which will be posted to the website on Friday, May 15th. Online registration will open on Wednesday, May 20th.
- Events may begin up to 30 minutes ahead of schedule if the competition is running ahead of time.
- Entries will be cancelled if payment for entry is not received in a timely manner – detailed dates in the SummerSkate announcement.

(4) Competitive Dance Changes from Skate Canada

- Pre-Novice Compulsory Dances – the European Waltz will replace the American Waltz
- Novice Compulsory Dances will have 2 rotating groups and a Latin rhythm will be added. Two of the four dances will be drawn and skated in the order listed
 - 2009-2010 – Starlight Waltz, Kilian, Argentine Tango, Silver Samba
 - 2010-2011 – Paso Doble, Blues, Westminster Waltz, Quickstep
- Juvenile Free Dance spins will be called up to maximum Level 2
- Novice Free Dance Lifts – 2 short lifts changed to “maximum of 2 different dance lifts, one of which may be a 12 second lift”

(5) The new season information from the ISU is posted on the Technical Page of the Skating In BC website: www.skatinginbc.com Look for Communication 1557 for Single/Pairs and Communication 1567 for Ice Dance. These documents have all the Levels info as well as the GOE info for judges.

As always, please email janicehunter@telus.net if further clarifications are required.