

STAR Frequently Asked Questions

- a. **What is the date for full implementation?** All clubs/schools and coaches must be ready to implement STAR 1-5 programming and assessments on **September 1, 2017**. From this date onwards the Preliminary and Jr. Bronze tests will no longer be available.
- b. **Will skaters have to start with STAR 1 assessments when they are capable of starting at the STAR 5 level?** Skaters new to STAR must begin with STAR 1. If a skater has previously passed a Preliminary or higher test they will be granted an equivalency in that discipline into the appropriate STAR level.
- c. **Is there an Equivalency Chart?** The equivalency chart is posted in the previous chapter of the Toolkit.

Due to the new format and philosophy of the STAR 1-5, coaches may have skaters be assessed at levels they have been grandfathered to for developmental reasons. *NOTE:* Any levels that are assessed below the grandfathering level for that skater can be assessed at no charge. (Please **do not** submit the grandfathered assessments to Skate Canada)

- d. **Where can resources for the revised program and assessments be found on line?** Resources are available on Info Center/STAR 1-5 Resource Toolkit and on the Education and Learning Academy. The STAR 1-5 program and assessment modules are located on Skate Canada's Education and Learning Academy.
- e. **When assessing, what will the standards be?** The standards are set nationally. There is a written standard and description for each skill. Every skill for each discipline has been captured on video at standard, below standard and above standard to help guide coaches through the expectations.
- f. **How will skaters & coaches get a chance to learn from a judge/official's expertise?** Judges and officials will still be assessing skaters at events/competitions and are available to do monitoring at the club level. Judges and officials are a valuable member of our skater development team.
- g. **How do the coaches get paid for their time doing the evaluations?** The coach is assessing during a skaters' regular session and lesson. The assessment essentially becomes part of their job description. Coaches will use existing lesson time to assess their skaters. The coach will charge for the time spent with the skater as they would for a regular lesson.
- h. **Will the requirements for events change to align with the assessments?** STAR 1-5 freeskate events and assessments have been designed to align with each other. The STAR 2-5 program assessments will be exactly the same as the event criteria.

- i. **Will the coaches be responsible for the paper work for setting up the assessments?**
Each club will decide the process that works the best for them. The test chair, in consultation with the coaching staff, will ultimately be responsible for setting up this process and for ensuring the results are submitted to Skate Canada. Coaches are encouraged to fill out the assessment sheet for their own skaters. Information on this can be found in the Test Chair Guidelines and Assessor Guide.
- j. **Is there a target date for the completion of the remaining test system?**
STAR 6 -Gold content development is underway. An overview of the next levels has been developed and will be posted by May 5th, 2018.
- k. **Does the Test Chair have to administer, attend each assessment day, book ice and secure evaluators?** No, STAR 1-5 assessments will be done on regular sessions and the assessments are done by the skaters' coach. The test chair should ensure that the appropriate assessment sheets are printed and available for coaches to use. Please refer to the Assessment Guide.
- l. **Do we have to submit a summary sheet after every assessment?** This could mean submitting summary sheets multiple times a week or month. We are suggesting that a summary sheet be left "open" for thirty days. At the end of the thirty days, the summary sheet and all fees collected will then be submitted to Skate Canada National Service Center via summary sheet or online test submission.
- m. **Who submits the summary sheet and payment for a skater doing an assessment at a club/school other than their home club/school.** The home club of the skater should be submitting the results and Skate Canada fees for the skater.
- n. **Will the safety and flow of the session be affected by coaches conducting assessments?**
No, the session will remain unaffected. The coach will provide an assessment in the same manner as they would teach a regular lesson.