



National Governing Body for Roller Sports

# International Youth Program

What it is. Why it will help. What it will look like.

# What is the International Youth Program?

- The International Youth Program is a reorganization and expansion of the set of International events in the USARS Youth structure.
- In Solo and Team Dance, there will be International Dance events for each age division. Division names and requirements will be aligned with World Skate, which is the international standard for competition.
- In Free Skating and Pairs, Short and Long Program events will be offered, with division names and requirements aligned with World Skate.
- **FIGURE DIVISIONS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.**
- **DOMESTIC SOLO AND TEAM DANCE WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED**
- **ADULT AND ELITE DIVISIONS WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED.**

# Why will this change be helpful?

- The goal of the International Youth Program is to promote a high quality of skating in the younger divisions.
- As in every sport, the standards of quality and difficulty in artistic roller skating have changed over the years. The International events are designed to reflect the modern standard of skating.
- The expansion of International events is an enhancement to the existing USARS domestic structure. It gives coaches more options to develop their skaters in the way that suits them best.



# Example of Change in the Sport

- Below is a video comparison of a Solo Dance step sequence at the World level in 2009 (left side) vs 2018 (right side).
- This is not a commentary on the ability of the skaters. Both are World Champions. However, note the contrast in what was expected of a skater 10 years ago compared to now.



# What will the International Youth Program look like?

- The following slides summarize how the International Youth Program will fit within the existing USARS event structure.
- ALL Figure divisions will remain UNCHANGED, so these are not pictured.
- ALL Adult and Elite divisions will remain UNCHANGED, so these are not pictured.
- ALL Creative and Show divisions will remain UNCHANGED, so these are not pictured.

# Free Skating & Pairs

- This enhancement will change most Free Skating and Pairs A events, adopting the World Skate structure and requirements.
- Primary and Juvenile (now Tot and Mini) will skate a long program only, as they did before, but with World Skate requirements.
- Advanced and B level Free Skating will remain unchanged for those who do not wish to skate the World Skate structure.
- Fresh/Soph Pairs will remain unchanged for those who do not wish to skate the World Skate structure.



# Free Skating

Free Skating	Requirements	Ages
Tots	World Skate Requirements (long program ONLY)	8 & under
Mini		10 & under
Espoir	World Skate Requirements (short and long program)	12 & under
Cadet		14 & under
Youth		15 & up
Advanced (prev. Junior)	No change in current requirements.	15 & up
Juv/Elem B		12 & under
Fresh/Soph B		13 & up
Open Inline		all ages

# Pairs

Pairs	Requirements	Ages
Mini	World Skate Requirements (long program ONLY)	10 & under
Espoir	World Skate Requirements (short and long program)	12 & under
Cadet		14 & under
Youth		15 & up
Fresh/Soph	No change in current requirements.	13 & up



# Domestic Solo & Team Dance

- The domestic Solo and Team Dance events will remain completely unchanged from their current structure.
- Crossover between domestic and international dance events will be allowed, as they have in previous seasons.

# Domestic Solo & Team Dance

Solo Dance	Ages	Team Dance	Ages
Primary A	8 & under	Juvenile	10 & under
Juvenile A	10 & under	Elementary	12 & under
Elementary A	12 & under	Fresh/Soph A	13 & up
Freshman A	14 & under	Fresh/Soph B	13 & up
Sophomore A	15 & up		
Junior	* see rules		
Senior	* see rules		
Juv/Elem B	12 & under		
Fresh/Soph B	13 & up		

# International Solo & Team Dance

- The existing International Solo & Team Dance events will be split into four age groups, consistent with World Skate division names and requirements.
- Skaters will compete in both Compulsory Dance and Free Dance.
- Primary does NOT have a separate International event.
- Crossover between domestic and international dance events will be allowed, as they have in previous seasons.



# International Solo & Team Dance

<b>Solo Dance</b>	<b>Ages</b>	<b>Team Dance</b>	<b>Ages</b>
Mini	10 & under	Mini	10 & under
Espoir	12 & under	Espoir	12 & under
Cadet	14 & under	Cadet	14 & under
Youth	15 & up	Youth	15 & up

# Note about Events with Two Segments

- For International events that have two segments (Short Program and Long Program, Compulsory Dance and Free Dance), the entry fees will be increased but the skaters will skate twice for that increased entry fee.

# The Inevitability of Change

“Life is a series of natural and spontaneous changes. Don't resist them; that only creates sorrow. Let reality be reality. Let things flow naturally forward in whatever way they like.”

– Lao Tzu