2026 DIAMOND CLASSIC SYNCHRONIZED SKATING COMPETITION

November 6-7, 2026

Mentor FSC

Mentor, Ohio

ENTRY DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 12, 2026.

I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The 2026 Diamond Classic Synchronized Skating Competition will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the current rulebook, as well as any pertinent updates that have been posted on the U.S. Figure Skating website.

This competition is open to all eligible, restricted, reinstated or readmitted persons as defined by the Eligibility Rules.

Skaters must be a currently registered member of a U.S. Figure Skating member club, Learn to Skate USA® member, a collegiate club or who is an independent member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the rulebook for more information.

II. ELIGIBILITY

TEST LEVEL

For synchronized skating teams, skating skills test requirements are as of the entry deadline.

EVENTS OFFERED:

- **U.S. Figure Skating Program Requirements:** usfigureskating.org --> Skate --> Compete --> Program Requirements
- **Compete USA Program Requirements:** learntoskateusa.com/competeusa

- **Skating Accommodation Memorandum (S.A.M.):** Skaters using a S.A.M. must submit their S.A.M. to the competition chair via email at sueclemente@att.net.
    - Click here for more information about S.A.Ms.

SYNCHRONIZED SKATING	JUDGING	Team Fee	Skater Fee
Aspire 1	CJS	110	20
Aspire 2	CJS	110	20
Aspire 3	CJS	110	20
Aspire 4	CJS	110	20
Aspire Adult	CJS	110	20
Unified (1-3)	IJS	110	20
Preliminary	IJS	135	30
Pre-Juvenile	IJS	135	30
Open Juvenile	IJS	135	30
Juvenile	IJS	135	30
Intermediate	IJS	135	30
Novice	IJS	135	30
Junior Short Program	IJS	135	30
Junior Free Skate	IJS	135	30
Junior Combined (Short & Free)	IJS	230	30
Senior Short Program	IJS	135	30
Senior Free Skate	IJS	135	30
Senior Combined (Short & Free)	IJS	230	30
Collegiate	IJS	135	30
Adult	IJS	135	30
Masters	IJS	135	30
Open Collegiate	IJS	135	30
Open Adult	IJS	135	30
Open Masters	IJS	135	30

OUR COMMUNITY:

U.S. Figure Skating is dedicated to fostering a culture of belonging and community that is welcoming for all individuals. We are committed to championing diversity, equity and inclusion and understanding its value in combating discrimination and challenging inequalities necessary to develop champions both on and off the ice. We are actively working toward developing equitable practices and policies that foster safety and empower all individuals to authentically pursue their unique path in all areas of our sport. We stand firmly on the belief that our members are the most important asset to our organization and that

our differences are meaningful and strengthen our sport. We believe that skating is for everyone.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

U.S. Figure Skating commits in policy, principle and practice to sustain a non-discriminatory approach on and off the ice for all members. We strive to provide equal opportunity for all despite their varied backgrounds, experiences and identities, and want all members to feel valued and respected at every level of organization. U.S. Figure Skating's SkateSafe® Program receives, investigates and addresses allegations of discrimination or harassment throughout its membership and the organization. Please refer to the SkateSafe® Program Handbook for further definition of harassment, discrimination and abuse.

By attending this event, all participants are willingly committing to upholding U.S. Figure Skating's Code of Ethics (*GR 2.00*) and Code of Conduct (*GR 3.00*), as detailed within the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

To report a concern of discrimination or harassment to U.S. Figure Skating, please visit www.USFigureSkating.org/SkateSafe or email SkateSafe@USFigureSkating.org.

ATHLETE ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS:

Should a skater with disabilities require any specific accommodations or assistance for their competitive event, please submit your approved S.A.M to the Competition Chair by the registration deadline at sueclemente@att.net.

COMPLIANCE:

For full details about participant compliance requirements, refer to the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® webpage: https://www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe#compliance.

COACHES

To be an eligible coach at a nonqualifying competition, coaches must meet the applicable compliance requirements and be verified by U.S. Figure Skating. Coach compliance falls into two categories, Coach Compliance (including choreographers) and Learn to Skate USA® Instructor Compliance. Details regarding compliance requirements can be found in Members Only, click the blue "COACH" button. All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions.

Coaches of foreign athletes: If you are a coach of a foreign athlete only, you are not subject to U.S. Figure Skating coach compliance and will only be asked to provide a letter of good standing for the federation your athlete represents.

There can be up to four coaches per registered team.

With EMS, coaches must be included within a skater/team's registration or updated through their EMS Skater Portal via "My Coaches" or "Team Personnel." All coaches declared at the time of registration will be included in the registration confirmation email. Note: There is no registration approval process within

EMS as the data (membership and test level) is tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database. Non-compliant coaches will receive automated email reminders through the start of the competition.

EMS Coach Resources (not SYS or TOI):

- My Competitions
- My Skaters
- Coach Schedule

EMS Coach Resources (SYS or TOI only):

- Team Management Guide

EMS ADMIN: The compliance tab within EMS lists ALL individuals who were declared by skaters at the time of registration or through their EMS Skater Portals (also allows access to skater schedule, music/PPC preview etc.). The compliance requirements are tied to the U.S. Figure Skating database and are updated daily removing the need for the LOC to manually update its list of attending coaches. Further, if a coach is non-compliant, they will receive system-generated emails through the start of the competition. Click here for additional information.

TEAM SERVICE PERSONNEL

Teams are permitted a maximum of two team service personnel. Team service personnel must have a current U.S. Figure Skating or Learn to Skate USA® membership, a green lighted background check and completed SafeSport™ Training. All compliance requirements must be met at the time of check-in to access the competition, no exceptions. Team service personnel is defined as those indicated as a team manager and/or team service personnel planning to attend the competition with the team.

All team personnel and skaters who will need to receive a credential must be listed in the Team Portal for the competition (Team Personnel for coaches and team managers; Competition Roster for skaters and alternates). In order to be added in EMS, the individual must first be added in the team's profile through Member's Only.

MANDATORY ATHLETES

Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a team (i.e., synchro, ice dance, pairs, shadow dance, theatre, etc.) with at least one Minor Athlete must complete SafeSport™ Training. *

Minor athletes who turn 18 mid-season are encouraged to seek parental consent to take the online SafeSport™ Training early to avoid any disruptions in their ability to participate as the training is required upon turning 18. The athlete will not be compliant until they have completed the training and their Members Only portal reflects completion. Please email skatesafe@usfigureskating.org for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sept 12, 2026 11:55PM ET

Registration Deadline: 9/12/26 at 11:55PM ET
Late Registration Deadline: 9/14/26 at 11:55PM ET + $50 Late Fee
*The host club reserves the right to close registration at any time if event capacity is met

1. Go to www.usfsaonline.org
2. Enter your U.S. Figure Skating or if Compete USA events are offered, your Learn to Skate USA® member number and password
    a. If you need assistance with your member number and password, contact Member Services at memberservices@usfigureskating.org.
3. Click EMS then "Competition Registration"
4. Choose "**2026 Diamond Classic Synchronized Skating Competition**" from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
    a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact productsupport@usfigureskating.org.

1. Go to https://m.usfigureskating.org.
2. Use your personal member number and password to login.
3. Click the **BLUE** "*EMS Event Management System*" button.
4. Choose "Competition Registration – Teams" from the menu.
5. Select the team you would like to register for competition.
6. Click the REGISTER NOW button next to your competition's name.
    NOTE: Only the competitions for which your team(s) are eligible will appear.
7. Walk through the on-screen registration process which will include:
    a. Team Verification: Confirm the team's information is accurate.
    b. Registration Overview: Review general information about the competition.
    c. Event Selection: Confirm the event you are registering the team for is accurate.
    d. Competition Roster Selection: Click the "**Add Skaters**" link. The screen will display all skaters listed in your Main Roster. Check the box next to each skater's name to add them to the competition roster.
    e. Coach Information: Click the "**Add Coaches**" link. The screen will display all coaches listed in your Team Profile. Check the box next to each coach's name to add them. Only the coaches who will be attending this competition should be listed. This information can also be updated from your EMS Team Portal. You will only be able to add coaches who are listed in your Team Profile.
    f. Team Service Personnel Information: Click the "**Add Team Service Personnel**" to add attending team service personnel. The screen will display team managers and team service personnel listed in your Team Profile. Check the box next to each name to add them. Only the team service personnel who will be attending this competition should be listed. This information can also be updated from your EMS Team Portal. You will only be able to add team service personnel who are listed in your Team Profile.
8. Payment via credit card will be required to complete your registration as it is the only accepted form of payment for registration in EMS. Registrations are not considered complete until an

invoice confirmation via email has been received. A 3% processing fee will be assessed at check-out.

NOTE: Payment must be submitted individually for each team's registration. If you are planning on registering multiple teams in a short period of time, it is recommended that you contact your credit card company to prevent anti-fraud systems from being activated.

FOREIGN SYNCHRO AND THEATRE ON ICE TEAMS:
Additional steps are required to complete your registration. For a full guide to registering foreign teams, CLICK HERE. Email memberservices@usfigureskating.org if you require assistance.

CRITIQUES/FEEDBACK

On-Ice Critiques will be available for an additional cost of $150/15 minute session. Please email Sue Clemente at sueclemente@att.net for further information. Competition feedback will be available for all teams.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: Competitors participating in events with music are required to upload their music to EMS no later than **October 3, 2026 11:55PM ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **$25 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each team's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skaters credential onsite.

DEADLINE: Oct. 3, 2026
Late Fee $25.00

EMS SKATER MUSIC UPLOAD HOW TO: CLICK HERE

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

Teams must also have available a backup copy of their competition music on a cell phone and it must be immediately available rinkside whenever the team competes. If the phone does not have the standard round headset connector, an appropriate adapter, such as an Apple Lightning connector or Samsung USB-C adapter is required to be attached. The phone should be presented to the music person with the file ready to play, phone in airplane mode and volume turned to maximum.

PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) SUBMISSION/UPLOAD – FOR IJS EVENTS ONLY:

EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) – Competitors participating in IJS events are required to submit PPC in EMS no later than **October 3, 2026 11:55PM ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **$25 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each team's cart who doesn't meet this requirement by the deadline. Late fees will not be removed under any circumstances and must be paid prior to receiving the skater credential onsite.

DEADLINE: Oct. 3, 2026
Late Fee $25.00

EMS PPC UPLOAD HOW TO: CLICK HERE

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

REFUND POLICY
Entry fees will not be refunded after entry deadline unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals.

LIABILITY:

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA®, Mentor Figure Skating Club and the Mentor Civic Arena accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in this competition. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

IV. COMPETITION DETAILS

FACILITIES:
Mentor Civic Arena
8600 Munson Rd.
Mentor, Ohio 44060
440-974-5730
www.mentoricearena.com
The Mentor Civic Arena is a dual surface facility with eleven locker rooms. The rinks measure 85'X200'. Facility includes a snack bar and community rooms above competition rink which will be utilized for team warmups and off-ice.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

The designated team coach, team manager, team service personnel and athletes competing at the skating event are allowed in the Locker Rooms/Changing Area designated for their team. The team coach, team manager, and team service personnel must remove themselves from the Locker Room/Changing Area while any Minor Athlete(s) are actively changing or undressing. All Locker Rooms/Changing Areas will be monitored. If any concerns arise, immediately contact the Locker Room/Changing Area monitor. If there are concerns regarding this policy, an athlete should change prior to arriving at the competition. The use of any recording and photographic devices inside a Locker Room/Changing Area is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this policy is punishable under the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe® policy and U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

U.S. Figure Skating Travel Policy:
All travel must strictly adhere to Two-Deep Leadership requirements. An Adult Participant cannot transport a Minor Athlete one-on-one and Two-Deep Leadership requirements must be adhered to at all times during In-Program travel, by transporting at least two minors who are at least 8 years of age or a second Adult Participant. An Adult Participant cannot share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a Minor Athlete(s). Full details of the SkateSafe® Travel Policy and any exceptions can be found starting on page 12 of the SkateSafe® Handbook.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE & UPDATES:

Official Website: www.mentorfsc.com

It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check the official website frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information pertaining to the competition.

If you are participating in a role requiring compliance, please be sure to download or print your compliance card to verify your compliance status on-site, if requested. If you believe your compliance card does not accurately reflect your compliance status, please contact skatesafe@usfigureskating.org at least 2 business days prior to the competition for assistance.

RESULTS: **Link for online, live results will be shared when available.**

SCHEDULE

Teams may be scheduled on any day or time during the announced dates of the competition. The competition and practice ice schedule will be available after the close of entries. All participants will be notified via email once available.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Friday, Nov. 6, 2026: Junior and Senior Short Program

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026: Junior and Senior Free Skates
Remaining Free Skate Events

PRACTICE ICE:

Practice ice segments will be available on the competition rink Friday, Nov. 6,2026 from 9:00am until 6:00pm; Friday evening following the competition and Saturday morning before competition begins, if time allows, on a first-come, first-served basis. **The fee will be $140 per 12 min. segment.**

Official Practice Ice

Junior and Senior teams should purchase a practice ice segment for each event. Official practice ice will be scheduled prior to the short program on Friday and prior to the free skate on Saturday. OPI for Synchronized Skating Teams-Refer to Rulebook Rule 2940

How to Purchase Practice Ice:

1. Purchase Practice ice via EMS for the total number of segments requested
    a. The practice ice tab will become available during the configured “pre-purchase” window. The total number of segments your team purchases cannot be guaranteed. Any segments that cannot be scheduled by the LOC will be refunded to the team.
2. Complete the Mandatory Team Information form:
    a. Upon purchasing your practice ice; please email Sue Clemente at sueclemente@att.net with your team date and time of arrival, any cross – skaters and any special requests. Every effort will be made to try and accommodate the team’s request. .

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

Check-in will open on Friday**, November 6, 2026 on hour prior to the start of the beginning of Practice Ice and end at the start of the last event on Saturday, November 7, 2025. The check-in table will be**

located in the rink lobby. One team representative should check in on behalf of the team as soon as the team arrives at the competition. Team personnel (coaches, team managers and team service personnel) must check in separately to receive their credential

AWARDS:

Awards will be made on the basis of placement. All team members of teams placing first through fourth will be awarded medals. Medals will be picked up at the Awards table on the second floor of the arena.

Aspire Synchro events will be run in accordance with the Learn to Skate USA Compete USA Manual (a maximum of 6 teams per group). All Aspire levels teams will receive a medal.

The STEVE WOLKIN Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the Intermediate Team who wins the Intermediate Free Skate.

Steve was very instrumental to the growth of figure skating, and particularly synchronized skating in the Greater Cleveland Area. Steve was very involved as a father of two synchronized skaters who both went on to skate at Miami University. Steve continued his work, serving many years as president of the Greater Cleveland Council of Figure Skating Clubs; as a board member of USFS, and a national synchronized skating referee and judge. Steve was always willing to work with our local teams, offering on-ice critiques, and support in any way possible. He started his judging career and was a trial judge at the 1st annual Diamond Classic and never missed the event, eventually serving at the chief referee.

PHOTO/VIDEO:

Live and on-demand streaming, and sales and distribution of U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned and approved events, programs, and activities that include the playback of music is strictly prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to the distribution of footage that does not include music. Questions about this can be directed to music@usfigureskating.org.

Photography and Videography will be provided by 828 Studios. Teams will be emailed further information on ordering video and photos closer to the event. The event will be livestreamed without music. This information will be added to the Mentor FSC website, and emailed to teams once finalized.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

ACCOMODATIONS: A hotel list will be posted at the MFSC website at www.mentorfsc.org under Synchro/Diamond Classic for your convenience.

FOOD: Information about the concession stand will be available closer to the event date. Maps for area restaurants will also be available on-line

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Competition website: **www.mentorfsc.com**

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	**Sue Clemente**	sueclemente@att.net	216-978-5072
Chief Referee:	**Ann Buckley**	ann.buckley@scboston.org	978-766-5156
Practice Ice Chair:	**Sue Clemente**	sueclemente@att.net	216-978-5072