



High Altitude Invitational | January 16-17, 2026
High Altitude Skating Club
Laramie Ice & Events Center, Laramie WY

I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The High Altitude Invitational will be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of U.S. Figure Skating, as set forth in the [current rulebook](#), and/or [current Compete USA handbook](#) 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 individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. For non-U.S. citizens, please refer to the [rulebook](#) for more information.

II. ELIGIBILITY

Singles: Excel and Well-Balanced Events:

- Skaters must meet at least the minimum singles test requirements for the event's level. A skater's singles test level may be higher than the minimum requirement.
 - Skate Up : skaters may skate up one level higher than their minimum test requirement allows.
- Skaters may not register for an event level lower than allowed by their competitive floor. An athlete's competitive floor is set by one of the following scenarios:
 - If an athlete has a paid EMS series application for the NQS series, the event level registered for in the most recent NQS will become the lowest level they may compete at in any U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned event.
 - If an athlete has a paid EMS series application for the Excel Series, the event level registered for in the most recent Excel series will become the lowest level they may compete in any Excel event. For Well-Balanced and Specialty events the skater will be permitted to register at one level lower than the "floor" set by their excel series entry.
 - If an athlete has never had a paid EMS series application in the NQS or Excel series, the athlete may select their level based on their goals and technical skills as long as the minimum test requirements are met.

- Skaters are not permitted to enter an Excel free skate and a Well-Balanced free skate event at the same competition (example: Juvenile Girls Free Skate and Juvenile Girls Excel Free Skate). However, they are permitted to enter an Excel and a Well-Balanced event of different types such as a short program (if stand-alone event option), specialty or showcase events (example: Intermediate Women Short Program and Intermediate Women Excel Free Skate).
- For more details about establishing event levels, refer to the information sheet [HERE](#) or email events@usfigureskating.org.

All other singles and partner events (such as Adults, Pairs, Ice Dance):

- Skaters must meet the minimum test requirements for the events level, but not exceed the maximum permissible test requirement.

Synchronized Skating:

For synchronized skating teams, this competition is not requiring that skating skills test requirements for the team's level be met, except for the maximum allowed at the Compete USA levels (Snowplow Sam Synchro and Aspire levels).

High School Team Competition:

Skaters must be enrolled as a full-time student as defined by the institution that they attend, grades 9-12, as per state guidelines. This includes both traditional and homeschooled students. A minimum of two (2) skaters are required to form a team. Team members may include skaters of any gender. Skaters do not have to be at the same test level. Athletes may compete either for the high school they are attending or as a high school collaborative, defined as follows:

- Athletes from a single school, representing that school OR
- Athletes representing two or more area high schools combine to form a team.

NOTE: Competitors may not represent more than ONE high school skating team at one time.

High School Skating Team Membership

All High School Skating Teams participating in high school competitions **must register** with U.S. Figure Skating on the Members Only website. This will include creating a team roster to include all skaters on your team and paying the annual team dues of **\$50**, which are due annually and payable by or after September 1st.

All teams have a **minimum of 2 skaters and a maximum of 6 skaters**. **Teams must have at least one Team Manager who is 18 years or older, must have a current U.S. Figure Skating membership, and be fully compliant**. Team coaches are not required to form a team. However, if a team chooses to have a team coach, this person may also serve as the team manager. For detailed instructions on how to create your team, please refer to the [Steps to Register/Renew Your High School Team](#). If your team has already been identified with U.S. Figure Skating, do not create another team account. Member Services can give access if leadership has changed for the new season, and you can then renew and manage your team for the new season.

Team Maneuvers Competition

Each level will include all 12 elements, with no one skater performing more than 6 elements. All athletes will have a general warm-up of stroking-only for 1 minute. There will then be a warm up specific to each skill section - Jumps, Spins and Skating Skills. All skills may be warmed up by assigned skaters during each of those times. Any skaters not assigned an element in that section may remain at their teams assigned location along the boards. Depending on entry numbers, teams of different levels may be on the ice at the same time being judged by separate judge panels.

Longest Spiral Competition

Skaters within each level begin one at a time in random order, starting with no more than three introductory strokes, and the spiral position must be attained at the blue line nearest the far end of the rink and goes as far as possible towards the lobby end. There will be cones placed on the blue line at the lobby end, and if the skater can maintain a spiral beyond the lobby end wall, s/he must curve around the cones. Once stopped or lost spiral position (free leg lower than hip), the skater stands on that spot and waits for the next skater. If the next skater goes beyond the distance of the first skater, s/he becomes the next leader until all competitors have completed their spirals.

Longest Spin Competition

All skaters of each level begin spinning together when the start is announced (no more than 5 seconds for preliminary steps). The last skater spinning after the start wins. Only one change of foot is permitted. Positions are optional.

EVENTS OFFERED:

This event will follow program requirements for the 2025-2026 skating season.

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

Showcase Interpretive events for all levels will follow the format described in the Compete USA Manual. Music duration for Pre-Juvenile/Adult Silver and higher will be 1:30 max.

NOTE: Skaters may not enter Excel and Well-Balanced free skate events at the same time.

Skate United: For any Skate United (S.U.) Athlete, please have them register for their appropriate level under the "standard" option. Once the registration is complete, the following form must be submitted to the competition chair via email at highaltitudeskating@gmail.com.

- [Click here for the Skate United Athlete Form.](#)

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 highaltitudeskating@gmail.com.

- [Click here for more information about S.A.Ms.](#)

SINGLES	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Excel Free Skate (Pre-Pre.–Senior)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Well Balanced Free Skate (Pre-Pre.–Pre Juvenile)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Well Balanced Free Skate Exhibition - IJS Judge Critique (Juvenile.–Senior)		\$80	\$40
Short Program Exhibition - IJS Judge Critique (Juvenile-Senior)		\$80	\$40
Adult Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	6.0	\$80	\$40
ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Jump Challenge (Level 1-9, Adult Level 1-9)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Spin Challenge (Level 1-6, Adult Level 1-6)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Compulsory Challenge (Level 1-8, Adult Level 1-8)	6.0	\$80	\$40
SHOWCASE	JUDGING	1 st Event Price	2 nd Event Price
Emotional Performance (Pre.Pre. – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45
Choreographic Artistry (Pre.Pre. - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45
Lyrical Pop (Pre.Pre. - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45

Character Performance (Pre.Pre. - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45
Comedic Impressions (Pre.Pre. - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45
Duets/Trios (Pre.Pre. – Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$95	
Interpretive (Pre.Pre. - Senior, Adult)	CJS	\$90	\$45
Mini Production Ensemble	CJS	\$110	\$10
Production Ensemble	CJS	\$110	\$10
Adaptive Individual Showcase	CJS	\$90	\$45
Adaptive Unified Partner Showcase	CJS	\$95	
COMPETE USA EVENTS		JUDGING	1 st Event Price
Program w/ Music (Snowplow Sam - Basic 6)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Program w/ Music (Aspire 1 - Aspire 4)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Program w/ Music (Adult 1-6)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Adult Free Skate (Beginner - High Beginner)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Elements (Snowplow Sam – Basic 6)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Compulsory Moves (Adult 1-6)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Team Compulsory (Snowplow-Basic 3, Basic 4-6, Aspire 1-4, Adult 1-6, Adult Beg/High Beg, Adult Pre-Bronze/Bronze)	6.0	\$80	
Showcase Lyrical/Pop (Snowplow – Aspire 4, Adult)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Showcase Character (Snowplow – Aspire 4, Adult)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Showcase Interpretive (Basic 1 – Aspire 4, Adult)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Showcase Duet/Trios (Basic 1 – Aspire 4, Adult)	6.0	\$85	
ADAPTIVE		JUDGING	1 st Event Price
Special Olympics Badges (with or without music)	6.0	\$80	\$40
Special Olympics – Free Skate Program, Pairs & Dance	6.0	\$80	\$40
Skate United Badges (with or without music)	6.0	\$80	\$40
THEATRE ON ICE		JUDGING	Team Fee
TOI/CE (1 - 4)	CJS	\$110	\$10
Preliminary	CJS	\$110	\$10
Juvenile	CJS	\$110	\$10
Intermediate	CJS	\$110	\$10
Novice	CJS	\$110	\$10
Junior	CJS	\$110	\$10
Senior	CJS	\$110	\$10
Open	CJS	\$110	\$10
Adult	CJS	\$110	\$10
Adaptive/Unified	CJS	\$110	\$10
SYNCHRONIZED SKATING		JUDGING	Skater Fee
Aspire 1	6.0	\$125	\$7
Aspire 2	6.0	\$125	\$7
Aspire 3	6.0	\$125	\$7

Aspire 4	6.0	\$125	\$7
Preliminary Exhibition		\$125	\$7
Open Collegiate Exhibition		\$125	\$7
Open Adult Exhibition		\$125	\$7
Open Masters Exhibition		\$125	\$7
HIGH SCHOOL	JUDGING	Team Fee	Skater Fee
Artistic Freeskate (A, B, C, D)	6.0	\$80	\$40
<u>Team Maneuvers</u> (A, B, C, D)	6.0	\$80	
Longest Spin (A, B, C, D)	<i>Time</i>	<i>Included</i>	
Longest Spiral (A, B, C, D)	<i>Distance</i>	<i>Included</i>	

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 understand 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 1.01*) and Code of Conduct (*GR 1.02*), 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 HighAltitudeSkating@gmail.com.

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 verified by U.S. Figure Skating. Coach compliance falls into two categories, Coach Compliance (includes choreographers) and Learn to Skate USA® Instructor Compliance. Details regarding compliance requirements can be found [HERE](#). 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.

TEAM SERVICE PERSONNEL

Teams are permitted a maximum of two team service personnel. Team service personnel must have a current U.S. Figure Skating 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.

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

Invitational & Test Session Registration Deadline - Sunday December 28, 2025 at 11:59 PM

Secure online registration available through Entryeeze for both events, link can be found at High Altitude Skating Club website. <http://highaltitudeskating.com/> Late entries will be accepted until January 2, 2026 at 11:59 PM with a \$25.00 late fee.

MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:

Music must be uploaded into Entryeeze by Friday, January 9th, 2025 at 11:59 PM or a late fee will be accessed (see fees). All files need to be in MP3 format. There will be no CDs accepted. All music must be turned in electronically. Late music will be accepted until January 11, 2026 at 11:59 PM with a \$25.00 late fee.

Competitors must also have available a backup copy of their competition music on a cell phone and it must be immediately available rinkside whenever the skater 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.

REFUND POLICY

Entry fees will not be refunded after the 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®, High Altitude Skating Club and Laramie Ice & Events Center 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:

Laramie Ice & Events Center
3510 E Garfield Street, Laramie WY 82070
<https://www.cityoflaramie.org/ice>

The Laramie Ice & Events Center has one NHL size ice surface. Judges will sit opposite the spectator stands on the west side. There will be one male and two to three female designated locker rooms. Locker rooms may be used as changing rooms, but not as a place to store personal items. There is a snack bar on premises.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:

Locker rooms and changing areas at U.S. Figure Skating competitive events are for athletes only, will be labeled with regard to specific use and where identified will be gender specific. An exception can be made for athletes under 11 years old that will allow for one parent of the same sex to assist their child immediately prior to and after their skating event(s). Please review the Locker Room and Changing Area Policy in the [SkateSafe® Handbook](#). Locker rooms will be available for female skaters ages 18 and under.

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 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:

It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and coach to check High Altitude Skating Club Facebook page and/or the Entryeeze site frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information pertaining to the competition.
<http://highaltitudeskating.com/>

SCHEDULE

Competitors 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.

PRACTICE ICE:

Practice ice will be available on **Friday, January 16** and **Saturday, January 17**. Sessions are **20 minutes** in length and cost **\$15 per skater** if purchased before the competition entry deadline. Any remaining sessions will be available for purchase at the event, subject to availability. Practice ice selection times will be emailed after the entry deadline.

Please note: **music will not be played during practice ice sessions.**

ONSITE CHECK-IN:

Check-in will open one hour before the first event and run through the last event of the day. The registration table will be in the lobby.

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.

AWARDS:

Results will be listed online and posted onsite. Awards will be distributed onsite, more details will be available at check in. Medals will be awarded for 1st thru 6th place.

VOLUNTEER INFO:

Compliant volunteer positions at all US Figure Skating Sanctioned events include key LOC members, locker room monitors, and ALL medical event personnel must be Safe Sport compliant. To be considered compliant, an approved volunteer serving in one of these positions must complete a background check through Safe Sport and complete the online Safe Sport training. This background check and training is accessible via US Figure Skating Members Only Website: www.usfsaonline.org

Please visit our [High Altitude Invitational Volunteer Sign Up](#) and sign up to help if you are willing!

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 can be directed to music@usfigureskating.org.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

High Altitude Skating Club has secured a hotel block at the Hampton Inn in Laramie. The hotel can be reached at (307) 742-0125 and is located at 3715 Grand Ave, Laramie WY. This hotel is very close to the Laramie Ice & Events Center. This information will also be noted on our website and Entryeeze registration page.

Invitational and High Altitude Skating Club gear will be available. High Altitude Skating Club is hosting our annual merchandise store! Any items ordered by 12/28 will be available for pickup at the Invitational. The store will close January 18, 2026 at 11:59pm. Details are also posted on our website and Entryeeze registration page.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For questions, before the day of the event, contact highaltitudeskating@gmail.com or visit www.HighAltitudeSkating.com.

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Amy Iddings	HighAltitudeSkating@gmail.com	(307) 760-2674
Chief Referee:	Lori Fussell	LoriFussellUSFS@comcast.net	
Test Chair:	Anya Bowman	HighAltitudeSkating@gmail.com	