

*The Skating Club of Morris*  
*Presents*  
*The 2023 Morris Open*



*March 24-26, 2023*  
*William G. Mennen Sports Arena*  
*161 Hanover Ave., Morristown, New Jersey*

The IJS Mini-System will be used in both rinks for  
all events judged under the IJS judging system.

The Morris Open is pleased to have been chosen by U.S. Figure Skating as a designated,  
official 2023 Excel Series competition and 2023 National Solo Dance Series competition.



# 2023 Morris Open

- Dates:** Friday, Saturday & Sunday, March 24, 25 & 26, 2023
- Location:** William G. Mennen Sports Arena, (a Morris County Parks Commission facility)  
161 East Hanover Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960 (973) 326-7651
- Website:** [www.scomnj.org](http://www.scomnj.org)
- Contact Info:** Please send questions to [morrisopen@gmail.com](mailto:morrisopen@gmail.com) **(Please do not email with schedule questions. The schedule will be completed by the referee after entries have closed.)**

## **I. COMPETITION OVERVIEW**

The 2023 Morris Open 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.

### **COVID-19 INFORMATION:**

For the most recent U.S. Figure Skating COVID-19 policy requirements, [CLICK HERE](#).

### **SERIES INFORMATION:**

The 2023 Morris Open is a designated **2023 Excel Series competition**. Singles Excel events Beginner through Senior will be held. As an Excel Series event, skaters entered in the Series at eligible competitions will earn points for their placement here to qualify for the Excel National Final. Skaters must register to participate in the Excel Series prior to competing at designating competitions in order to have their points recorded. Registration is through EMS via the Series tab.

The 2023 Morris Open is also a designated **2023 Solo Dance Series competition**. As a Solo Dance Series event, skaters entered in the Series at eligible competitions will earn points for their placement here to qualify for the National Solo Dance Finals. Registration for the National Solo Dance Series is January 3, 2023 through April 1, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

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## **EVENTS OFFERED:**

[Click HERE to view the program requirements for the current season.](#)

<b>SINGLES</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Excel Free Skate (Beginner - Pre-Juvenile)	6.0	\$110	\$85
Excel Free Skate (Preliminary Plus, Pre-Juvenile Plus, Juvenile, Juvenile Plus and Intermediate - Senior)	IJS	\$160	\$110
Well Balanced Free Skate (Open Juvenile, Juvenile – Senior)	IJS	\$160	\$110
Well Balanced Free Skate (No Test – Pre-Juvenile)	6.0	\$110	\$80
Well Balanced Short Program (Intermediate – Senior)	IJS	\$160	\$110
Adult Free Skate (Adult Pre-Bronze)	6.0	\$110	\$80
Adult Free Skate (Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)	IJS	\$160	\$110
<b>PAIRS</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Adult Pairs Free Skate	6.0	\$180	N/A
<b>SOLO DANCE (participating in series)</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Solo Pattern Dance	IJS	\$145	N/A
Solo Combined Dance	IJS	\$175	N/A
Shadow Dance	IJS	\$160	N/A
<b>COMPETE USA EVENTS</b>	<b>JUDGING</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Event Price</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Event Price</b>
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$80	\$60
Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Elements	6.0	\$80	\$60
Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Program w/ Music	6.0	\$80	\$60
Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Compulsory Moves	6.0	\$80	\$60
Compete USA – Spin Challenge	6.0	\$80	\$60
Compete USA – Jump Challenge	6.0	\$80	\$60

**Event Notes:** Genders will be combined at the Pre-Juvenile level and below for Free Skate events should there be only one male entry in the level. The LOC reserves the right to cancel single entry events or if time does not permit. In the event an event is cancelled, the skater will have the option to skate up one level, or receive a refund.

## **II. ELIGIBILITY**

### **TEST LEVEL:**

As of December 1, 2022, singles athletes may opt to accelerate their test progression within U.S. Figure Skating and thus compete at level(s) best suited for their technical skillset. Athletes must still meet the minimum requirements for each level and additionally, if participating within the National Qualifying Series (NQS) or National Excel Series (Excel), they will establish a **competitive floor** (i.e., the lowest level they can compete at).

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The **competitive floor** is determined only by the level selected through the EMS Series Application for NQS or Excel and is not uniquely tied to competition registration (regardless of series participation).

*Example, if an athlete passed their junior free skate test in November and competed in the 2022-23 NQS as a Novice from July - September, they may register for either novice or junior in excel or well-balanced events. The novice level will remain their competitive floor until they complete an EMS Series Application at the junior level or higher for NQS or Excel.*

*Example #2, if an athlete passed their juvenile free skate but has not competed in NQS or Excel (i.e., they have not established a competitive floor), they have the option to compete pre-preliminary – intermediate (if skate up is permitted). While the options are wide, U.S. Figure Skating entrusts the coach to guide the athlete to the select the appropriate level for the athlete based on their technical skillset.*

Eligibility Notes:

1. The singles free skate test levels will remain as a minimum requirement to compete.
2. Athletes may not skate down in any event.
3. This update does NOT apply to Adult, Showcase and Solo Dance.

If an athlete, coach, parent and/or guardian needs assistance with confirming their eligibility, email [events@usfigureskating.org](mailto:events@usfigureskating.org) or refer to information sheet [HERE](#).

## **SKATESAFE COMPLIANCE:**

For full details about SkateSafe compliance at U.S. Figure Skating competitions, refer to the U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe webpage: [www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe](http://www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe).

## **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 three categories, Coach/Choreographer, Learn to Skate USA Instructor, or Foreign Coach/Choreographer. 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 must be included within a skater's registration or updated through their EMS Skater Portal via "[My Coaches](#)". All coaches declared at the time of registration will be included on 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:

- [My Competitions](#)
- [My Skaters](#)
- [Coach Schedule](#)

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## 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 SkateSafe compliant until they have completed the training and their Members Only portal reflects completion. Please email [skatesafe@usfigureskating.org](mailto:skatesafe@usfigureskating.org) for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

## III. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### ONLINE REGISTRATION VIA EMS:

Online registrations will be accepted via [EMS](#). Payment must be made at the time of registration by credit card only. Each transaction includes a 3% transaction fee.

**Registration Deadline: February 22, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET**

**Late Registration Deadline: February 27, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET + \$50 Late Fee**

1. Go to [www.usfsaonline.org](http://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](mailto:memberservices@usfigureskating.org).
3. Click EMS then “Competition Registration”
4. Choose “**2023 MORRIS OPEN**” from the list of nonqualifying competitions.
  - a. If you need assistance completing your registration, contact [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).

### PARTNERED EVENTS:

Only one partner will complete registration for the team. During the registration process, you will be asked to identify your partner and verify their test information. **The registered partner will be responsible for managing all aspects of the competition for the team including music/PPC upload, practice ice sales, etc.**

### FOREIGN SKATERS:

Non-U.S. skaters intending to register for this competition must set up a non-member account prior to registering for the competition ([click here for HOW TO](#)). This can be done by choosing the “Non-Member? Create Account” option on the [Members Only](#) login page.

### TEST CREDIT:

In accordance with Rules TR 3.00, 4.01 and 4.02, athletes may receive credit for meeting minimum scores at any competition held under the International Judge System (IJS). The athlete must “skate up” to the event for which they are seeking test credit in addition to having already passed all prerequisites prior to the competition event. It must be requested prior to the start of the competition through the EMS competition portal. You may retrieve

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your test credit paperwork at the registration desk within one hour after the results are certified and awards have been delivered for the event. A \$20 fee will be charged. Take a picture of all documents for safe-keeping.

### **MUSIC SUBMISSION/UPLOAD:**

**For the 2023 Morris Open, online music submission is the ONLY acceptable method to submit program music. We will NOT accept CDs! For detailed EMS music and copyright information, please refer to this document: <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/1gtu4CCxKDmy23LpKn8GkcpW> . Please be sure you are uploading the correct music for the correct event segment. Be careful not to mix up your short program and your free skate!**

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD DEADLINE: All competitors are required to upload their music to [EMS Competition Portal](#) no later than **MARCH 13, 2023, 11:59 PM EST**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and subject to a **\$50 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater'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.

EMS SKATER MUSIC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

The uploaded program music MUST conform to the following specifications:

- Programs per file: Only one [1] piece of competitions program music [e.g. short program, free skate, free dance, etc.] per file is allowed.
- File Format: mp3 ONLY – The uploaded file music must be an mp3 file. Simply changing the file extension to “mp3” from another file format is not acceptable.
- Bit Rate: 192 kbps is recommended. Bit rates between 128 and 320 will be accepted.
- Maximum file size: 12 MB
- Maximum run time: Five [5] minutes
- Maximum leader: The Chief Music Coordinator requests that there be NO LEADER. The leader is the silence between the stat of the track and the actual start of the program music.
- Maximum trailer: The Chief Music Coordinator requests that there be NO TRAILER. The trailer is the silence between the end of the program music and the end of the actual track.
- ID3 Metadata [tags]: None – The Chief Music Coordinator strongly requests that mp3 files DO NOT contain any ID3 metadata, commonly called tags. This is especially true of any embedded images such as album cover art, picture of the skater, etc. Please NO EMBEDDED IMAGES!

### **Backup Music at Event**

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

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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.

**Interruption in Music – U.S. Figure Skating Rule 1403(G) and (I):** If, after the competitor/team's name has been called to compete, there is an issue with the downloaded music, the competitor will have up to 3 minutes to rectify the situation with a backup copy of the music on cell phone. After 3 minutes, the competitor/team will be considered withdrawn.

**Administrative Fee For Incorrect/Changed Music or Failure To Upload Music:** The LOC may assess each competitor an additional charge of **\$50.00 per event segment**, to manually handle a competitor's music, if the competitor: 1) fails to submit their music prior to the close of online music submission, 2) submits files that do not follow the specifications above, 3) uploads the incorrect music for a given event segment (e.g. uploads short program music instead of the free skate) or 4) requests a change of music after the music upload deadline. In the event the LOC decides to assess an administrative fee, the competitor will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the fee and turn in their music conforming to the requirements above.

### **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 Competition Portal](#) no later than **MARCH 13, 2023 at 11:59 P.M. EST**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$50 late fee**. The late fee will automatically be added to each skater'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.

EMS PPC UPLOAD HOW TO: [CLICK HERE](#)

*If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org)*

### **REFUND POLICY:**

**NO REFUNDS** will be granted for any reason except events cancelled by the LOC (USFSA Rule # 3058 ). There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals.

### **LIABILITY:**

U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA, the Skating Club of Morris, the William G. Mennen Sports Arena and the Morris County Park Commission accept no responsibility for injury or damage sustained by any participant in this competition. As a condition of, and in consideration of the acceptance of their entries or participation therein, all entrants, their parents and guardians, volunteers and officials shall be deemed to agree to assume all risks of injury to their person and property resulting from, caused by or connected with, the conduct and management of the competition, and to waive and release any and all claims which they may have against any officials, U.S. Figure Skating, Learn to Skate USA, the Skating Club of Morris, the William G. Mennen Sports Arena and its staff, and the Morris County Park Commission and its employees. This is in accordance with Rule 1600 of the official U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

## **IV. COMPETITION DETAILS**

### **FACILITIES:**

William G. Mennen Sports Arena

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161 E. Hanover Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960

<https://www.morrisparks.net/index.php/parks/mennen-sports-arena>

The competition will take place on Rinks 1 and 3. The ice surfaces at Mennen Arena measure 85" x 200'. Locker rooms will be available in both rinks. A food truck will be available on site.

## **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 and the SkateSafe Handbook (both found on the [U.S. Figure Skating SkateSafe](#) page).

## **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:**

The website for the Skating Club of Morris is [www.scomnj.org](http://www.scomnj.org). Please check the Morris Open tab under Competitions/Events. Schedule information will be posted via EMS and all competitors/coaches will be notified via email once it is available. Updates will be made online if necessary and the most current schedule will be available at the rink as well.

Groups, skating orders and results will be posted online. The link will be available on the club's website as well as via a QR code posted throughout the rink. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent and/or coach to check frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information pertaining to the competition.

## **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.

Note: Please check the schedule for updates prior to your arrival. It is the intention of the Chief Referee and host club that all events will run as close to on-time as possible; however, any event may start early or late. Competitors are advised to be at the rink one hour prior to your event.

## **PRACTICE ICE:**

Practice ice will be available for purchase through EMS after the close of entries and the schedule has been posted. The cost is \$20 per 20 minutes. Deadline for purchase is 24 hours before scheduled ice time, or when all space is sold. Additional practice will be available for sale, if available, at the time of competition. No music will be played during practice ice.

## **ONSITE CHECK-IN:**

Check-in will open one hour prior to the start of the competition each day and will be located in the front lobby of Mennen Arena. All competitors are required to register and be ready to skate at least one hour prior to the



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tentatively scheduled time for their event.

## AWARDS:

Medals will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place winners in all events. The Pre-Juvenile Girls FS, Juvenile Girls FS, Intermediate Ladies FS, Novice Ladies FS, Senior Ladies FS and Dance are designated as trophy events. Winners of trophy events will have their names engraved on a permanent trophy. The winners will receive a keeper plate. If there is no Senior Ladies FS event, the Junior Ladies FS event will become a trophy event. If a Trophy event is cancelled due to lack of participants, no trophy will be awarded. Trophies will be awarded to the events in which there are two or more entries.

## VOLUNTEER INFO:

Club members will have volunteer opportunities available during the Morris Open. As a reminder, there is a 4 hour service requirement over the course of the skating year. We primarily need ice monitors, registration/check in and runners. Once the schedule has been set, we will open the Sign Up Genius for volunteering. "What's My Job" is available on the club website under the Skater/Parent Info tab and describes the responsibilities of the various volunteer positions.

## VOLUNTEER COMPLIANCE:

Reminder: Compliant positions at all U.S. Figure Skating events include key LOC members, locker room monitors and ALL medical event personnel. [Click here for volunteer compliance information.](#)

## PHOTO/VIDEO:

Vision Photo & Video will be providing the video services for the competition. The entry fee includes a digital video download of the individual skater's program. No flash photography is permitted during the competition. **Note, per US Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

**Hotel:** The official hotel of the 2023 Morris Open is the Sonesta ES Suites, 3 Gatehall Dr. Parsippany, N.J. Reservation link [HERE](#). A competitor room block has been reserved on a first come-first served basis at the rate of \$134 per night.

**Airport:** The nearest airport is Newark Liberty Airport which is approximately 35 minutes from Mennen Arena.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

For questions, please contact the following individuals:

Competition Chair:	Moira Colquhoun	<a href="mailto:morrisopen@gmail.com">morrisopen@gmail.com</a>	201-602-3995
Chief Referee:	Lisa Landon	<a href="mailto:Lisa_Landon@comcast.net">Lisa_Landon@comcast.net</a>	
Dance Referee:	Mary Ann Wilcox	<a href="mailto:wilcoxmh@aol.com">wilcoxmh@aol.com</a>	