



Creative Skating Skills



Creative Skating Skills Programs

Duration: not to exceed 2 minutes

Music Tempo: minimum 112 beats per minute

Music: skater's choice

- vocals can be used
- can be chosen from the Skating Skills Program music
- should have a rhythmic beat
- 2 or 3 selections can be used in the same program



Basic Guidelines to Content

- Three step sequences are required:
Straight Line, Circular and Serpentine shape.
- May include one stop not exceeding 5 seconds.
- Small hops, toe steps and small jumps of no more than 1/2 rotation are permitted.
- Spirals/ Moves in the Field Sequence (circular or serpentine):

Each position must be held for at least 2 seconds to be counted.

There must be at least 3 different positions of at least 2 seconds in this sequence.



Illegal Elements/Movements

- Spins of more than 2 rotations are NOT permitted.
- Kneeling or sliding (2 knees) or supporting themselves on the ice with a hand(s) is NOT allowed.
- Lying and prolonged and/or stationary kneeling on both knees on the ice at any moment is NOT permitted.
- There must be a 2.0 point deduction for every illegal element/movement included in the program in CPC or **a 0.2 deduction under the 6.0 system.**

Bronze Creative Skills

Program requirements:

- (1) straight-line step sequence (must include a series of 3 or more loops).
- (1) circular step sequence and one (1) serpentine step sequence.
- The skater must choose either the circular or serpentine step sequences to be mostly field moves
- The remaining step sequence must have a series of multiple three-turns and brackets.
- Other turns may be included.



Silver and Gold Creative Skills

Program requirements:

- (1) straight-line step sequence (must include 2 twizzles on one foot with up to one step in between, no stop(s) are allowed before and/or between twizzles.
- (1) circular step sequence and one (1) serpentine step sequence.
- The skater must choose either the circular or serpentine step sequences to be mostly field moves
- The remaining step sequence must have a series of counters and rockers.
- Other turns may be included.

Judging Creative Skills Programs

Reward the following with a higher base mark:

- Inclusion of recognizable Skating Skills exercise components (rockers, counters, hip twists, loops, etc.)
- Changes of edge, rockers, choctaws, and other such steps and turns
- multi-directional skating
- Difficulty of steps + speed + control of execution is the most important combination of skills demonstrated.



Judging Creative Skills Programs

Penalize the following with a lower base mark:

- Excessive skating on 2 feet as this is considered as an inability to skate
- Toe-pushing for majority of thrusts

NOTE: Clarification of a Step Sequence: A step sequence must cover at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ice surface in the designated pattern. Step sequences that are too short or barely visible will not be identified or receive points. **Under 6.0 a 0.4 deduction will be applied.**



Judging Creative Skills Programs

Presentation Mark:

- Carriage, form and style
- Ice coverage
- Originality/creativity
- Musicality



Interpretive Skating



Introduction

Music:

- 2.0 to 3.0 minutes in length (+/- 10 seconds)
- Skater's choice
- Can be vocal
- Can be of any nature

Content:

- A variety of skating moves chosen to enhance the interpretation of the music chosen, rather than their technical difficulty
- Jumps may be included, but credit should not be given for technical difficulty.



Purpose of Interpretive Programs

Encourages:

- an understanding of the relationship between movement and rhythm patterns (music)
- an awareness of one's innate choreographic creativity
- an ability to employ basic skating skills as vehicles of expression
- an extensive repertoire of expressive movements
- increased confidence in performance skills



Program Themes

- Programs usually have a theme as a starting point, but each movement need not be part of a coherent “story line”.
- Skaters are encouraged to move beyond common or “known” themes to explore more original concepts.
- Programs can explore designs in abstract movement suggested by selected sound patterns, moods, or concepts.
- Skaters must submit, prior to the competition or test, a brief statement of the chosen theme (up to 70 characters in length).

NOTE: Program theme should reflect more than the title of the music chosen.



Interpretive Programs

STARskate Events:

- Pre-introductory
- Introductory
- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold

Tests:

- Introductory Interpretive Test (IIS)
- Bronze Interpretive Test (BIS)
- Silver Interpretive Test (SIS)
- Gold Interpretive Test (GIS)

Test Criteria

Skating:

- Edge & Turn Quality
- Speed, Flow & Power
- Creative Movement with Sureness
- Carriage and Line

Performance:

- Interpretation of Music
- Communication of Theme
- Use of Whole Body
- Use of Levels and Space
- Originality/Creativity
- Interaction (couples only)



Important Notes on Performance Criteria

Communication of Theme:

- The skater's ability to portray the chosen theme through interpretation of music, skating skills and movement rather than through mime and posing.
- Skaters choosing an unknown theme should be rewarded.

Use of Whole Body:

- The skater's ability to use the entire body (including the torso) to help interpret the music, as well as communicate the theme.

Use of Levels and Space:

- The skater's ability to use low, mid, and high levels, as well as space (surrounding the body and ice surface).

Passing Criteria

Introductory:

- 2/4 Skating criteria
- 2/5 Performance criteria

Bronze:

- 2/4 Skating criteria
- 3/5 Performance criteria

Silver:

- 3/4 Skating criteria
- 4/5 Performance criteria

Gold:

- All criteria required





Falls

- Since falls may, in the Interpretive program, be a deliberate choice in order to enhance the development of the theme, marks should only be deducted for falls that clearly interrupt that development.
- Such falls should be penalized in the **second mark** for judging competitive programs and in the Performance criteria for test programs.



Judging Interpretive Events

There are two viewpoints that are **unproductive** in terms of objective comparison of interpretive programs.

1. Comparison of the validity of the chosen themes does not lead to significant decision.
2. Personal likes/dislikes of the judge or the audience have little to do with the relative artistry of the performance.



Judging Interpretive Events

Consider the following:

- demonstrated strong range of expressive skills
- suitability of technical elements chosen to illustrate theme
- sophistication of the theme
- sense of physical awareness that provides texture to the program
- unity of the symbolic meaning and the music

NOTE: The same standards used in evaluating an Interpretive Skating test should be looked at when judging interpretive skating competitions.



Interpretive Evaluators/Judges

- should have a keen sense of music, which is essential for evaluating Interpretive programs
- must be prepared to develop their understanding of movement and modern dance in many directions
- should try to view live performances, film, television and video material that display various periods and styles of dance
- must be able to set aside their personal interpretation of the music in order to be able to appreciate the interpretation presented by the skater



Interpretive Test Evaluators

Prerequisite:

- A minimum of Gold evaluator certification in Free Skating, Skating Skills or Dance
- A skating background defined as follows:
 - Any two of Junior Bronze Free Skating, Skills, Dance;
 - or**
 - Any one of Senior Bronze Free Skating, Skills, Dance or a Juvenile Competitive test;
 - or**
 - Any one higher level test

Source: Officials Definition, Appointment, Qualifications Policy



Interpretive Test Evaluators

Requirements for Promotion:

- Successful completion of the Interpretive Skating Clinic
- Successful completion of the Interpretive Skating Workbook, which includes as a minimum the following practical exercises:

Standards module (actual or video)

Report of a supervised evaluation session with three interpretive tests

Summary report of an observation session at a theatrical or dance performance (actual or video)

Source: Officials Definition, Appointment, Qualifications Policy