



2025-2026 NEICC HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

Welcome to the 2025-2026 New England Interclub Council (NEICC) High School Series skating season! NEICC manages and runs the NEICC High School Program for the New England area. This handbook serves as the general guidelines, rules, and requirements for the NEICC High School Series which will run from October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026.

NEICC High School Series competitions (i.e. competitions offering high school skating events or stand-alone high school competitions) are sanctioned U.S. Figure Skating non-qualifying competitions per Rule 1021 in the U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook and are governed by the U.S. Figure Skating High School Handbook, as well as the guidelines and processes outlined in this NEICC High School Series Handbook. High school skaters may form teams to compete on behalf of their high school or area, per the eligibility and team formation rules listed in the 2025-2026 High School Skating Handbook.

ELIGIBILITY & TEAM INFORMATION

Athletes must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating or Learn to Skate USA® and may be members of the figure skating club of their choice or be individual members of U.S. Figure Skating.

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

All teams must be eligible, registered teams with the U.S. Figure Skating High School Program as defined in Section 1 of the U.S. Figure Skating HS handbook.

The LOC will determine whether high school teams may enter one or two (maximum) entries at the same team maneuvers level. This must be clearly stated in the competition announcement and communicated to teams prior to the start of events.

NEICC HIGH SCHOOL SERIES REGISTRATION

All teams that wish to earn points toward the NEICC state championships and the NEICC New England Championship through participation in NEICC HS Series recognized competitions must **register your HS team with NEICC HS Series.** Registration opens August 1, 2025.

[2025-2026 NEICC High School Series Registration](#)

SECTION 2: HOSTING AN NEICC HIGH SCHOOL SERIES COMPETITION

LOCs/teams/clubs can choose to host their competition in one of two ways:

- **NEICC sanctioned and hosted:** NEICC prepares the sanction, handles registration, finds officials and handles official travel and hotels, etc. The only thing required by the LOC/team/club is to secure the ice time, staff volunteers for the competition day(s), and provide hospitality for the officials room on day(s) of competition. LOCs/teams/clubs that choose this option can have as little or as much involvement in the specifics as they feel comfortable to have and will receive half the profit upon completion of all aspects of the competition (must be a member club of NEICC to receive payment).
- **LOC/team/club hosted:** Minimal assistance from NEICC; LOC/team/club is expected to handle all aspects of the competition building, set up, officials, etc. NEICC will provide the medals and any other NEICC items as requested. However, an LOC/team/club can use any medals they want. NEICC asks for a donation of \$3/start for any self-sustaining competition that wishes to be on the series that uses their own medals and \$6/start if NEICC supplies the medals. NEICC is around to help if assistance is needed but by this model - NEICC will have little to no hands on with the planning and executing of the competition.

Any LOC/club/team wishing to host a competition must fill out the [2025-2026 Interest Form](#) no later than 8/1/25 for 2025 competitions and no later than 9/15/25 for 2026 competitions. This form will be used to set the NEICC HS Schedule for the 2025-2026 season.

SECTION 3: EVENTS OFFERED

Events offered within the High School Competitions may include the following:

- [Team Maneuvers \(Levels A-D\)](#)
- Artistic Free Skate (Aspire-Senior)
- Short Program (Juvenile-Senior)
- Compete USA (Basic 1-6)
- Adaptive Skating (Adaptive 2-12)
- Excel Free Skate (Aspire 1-Senior)
- Championship Junior & Senior Free Skate (Well-Balanced)
- Showcase (Aspire-Senior)
- Solo Pattern Dance (Preliminary-International)
- Solo Free Dance (Juvenile-Senior)

It is at the discretion of each competition host to determine events and levels to offer.

SHOWCASE EVENTS

At NEICC sanctioned/hosted competitions, we will offer emotional performance, character performance, and lyrical pop individual showcase events in addition to showcase duets/trios.

We will rotate offered individual showcase categories per competition and offer duets/trios at all competitions.

2025-2026 rotation pattern:

<u>Competition 1</u>	<u>Competition 2</u>	<u>Competition 3</u>	<u>Competition 4</u>	<u>Competition 5</u>
<u>Emotional Performance</u>	<u>Character Performance</u>	<u>Emotional Performance</u>	<u>Character Performance</u>	<u>Emotional Performance</u>
	<u>Lyrical Pop</u>		<u>Lyrical Pop</u>	

***LOCs that are hosting their own High School competition or non-qualifying competition with High School events may choose to offer any showcase events they choose. While they can follow the pattern NEICC sanctioned/hosted competitions will follow, per the non-qualifying competition rules for LOCs, they are not required to do so.*

SOLO PATTERN DANCE

The NEICC HS Series solo pattern dance category will consist of one dance at each level. The pattern to be skated for each level will be the dance listed as #1 under the quarter corresponding with the competition date on the [Non-Series Solo Pattern Dance Rotations](#) chart. All skaters should use the “follow” steps. All patterns will consist of 2 sequences except for the following: Fourteenstep (3), Foxtrot (3), Rocker Foxtrot (3), Killian (4), Blues (3), and Quickstep (3).

Level	Pattern Dance	# of Sequences	Steps
Preliminary	Rhythm Blues	2	Follow steps
	Dutch Waltz	2	Follow steps
	Canasta Tango	2	Follow steps
Pre-Bronze	Swing	2	Follow steps
	Tango Fiesta	2	Follow steps
	Cha Cha	2	Follow steps
Bronze	Hickory Hoedown	2	Follow steps
	Ten Fox	2	Follow steps
	Willow Waltz	2	Follow steps
Pre-Silver	Fourteenstep	3	Follow steps
	Foxtrot	3	Follow steps
	European Waltz	2	Follow steps
Silver	American Waltz	2	Follow steps
	Rocker Foxtrot	3	Follow steps
	Silver Tango	2	Follow steps
Pre-Gold	Paso Doble	2	Follow steps
	Kilian	4	Follow steps
	Starlight Waltz	2	Follow steps
Gold	Blues	3	Follow steps
	Westminster Waltz	2	Follow steps
	Viennese Waltz	2	Follow steps
	Argentine Tango	2	Follow steps
	Quickstep	3	Follow steps

All music for pattern dance will be selected by the USFS Music Official from the standard USFS Dance Music.

For the **Standard Event List and Program Requirements**, visit <https://www.usfigureskating.org/competition-program-requirements>.

SECTION 4: GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

REGISTRATION & ENTRIES

→ For NEICC hosted competitions

- a) We will use EMS for registration and all payments will be made in EMS.
- b) Music will also be uploaded and managed through EMS.
- c) **Entry fees will be \$100 per team for Team Maneuvers and \$100 first event, \$60 second event, \$30 third event, and \$30 fourth event** (Free Skate, Short Program, Showcase - individual and duet/trio, Solo Dance, Free Dance, etc.)
- d) Late fee for late registration (if offered) and/or music will be \$25.
- e) Payouts to LOCs/clubs for NEICC sanctioned and hosted competitions will be made as soon after close of competition as possible. Please note that NEICC can only payout to a U.S. Figure Skating member club so we will partner with the local club to facilitate the competition and the payout.

→ LOCs/clubs/teams that choose to prep, plan, and host their own competitions with minimal to no NEICC assistance

- a) Can set up their preferred method for processing registration.
- b) Entry fees will be determined at the discretion of the LOC/team/club but we recommend that all competitions follow the same fee structure of NEICC sanctioned/hosted competitions.
- c) May request that registration for the HS portions be run through NEICC. If this is desired, then NEICC will use their EMS portal and set up a schedule for pass through of registration revenue with the LOC/club/team.

Deadlines will be strictly enforced with appropriate late fees.

We will not accept any requests/registrations the day of a competition.

The LOC/team/club and/or NEICC reserve the right to limit the number of entries, eliminate events due to insufficient entries, combine or divide groups as necessary, and eliminate events if necessary to accommodate the amount of available ice.

TEAM REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH COMPETITION ON THE NEICC HS SERIES

- a) **Team Registration Form/Roster**: For each competition, each team will be required to submit a Team Registration form that includes a team roster for individual events/showcase duet-trio, a cut list, and a team maneuvers roster.
 - Rosters must be submitted to neicchhs@gmail.com within 48 hours of competition registration close (or late registration close if it is offered).
 - No changes to the registration roster will be accepted after submission.
 - Make sure you roster any individuals that might serve as substitutes for any skater who finds out later they will miss an individual or team event. *If they are not listed on the roster, they cannot be a substitute.*
- b) **Request for High School Team Roster Change Form** - This form will be used to request withdrawals from an event/competition, substitutions for an individual event/showcase duet-trio, roster changes for Team Maneuvers, and event changes due to incorrect level registration.
 - We will no longer accept changes, withdrawals, etc. via email or any other form of communication other than this form.

→ Individuals that are not rostered on the team registration form cannot be used as substitutions.

c) Maximum number of starts: Each team may have a maximum of 30 starts per competition for all individual events and showcase duet/trio events.

→ Not all skaters on the team's roster must be assigned to an event.

→ Unassigned skaters may be used for substitutions.

→ Note that a duet/trio will be considered one start but all skaters in a duet/trio event must be rostered.

→ Team Maneuvers will require a roster submission but will not count against the 30 max starts.

d) Maximum number of team entries per event: Each team may have no more than *three entries* in any event.

→ If events are combined, a team will be permitted to have four entries (example: 3 women and 1 man) since event combining is not in the team's control.

e) Maximum number of events per athlete: Each athlete may choose to participate in a maximum of *four events* as follows:

- One Free Skate
- One Solo Free Dance
- One Solo Showcase event
- One Solo Pattern Dance event
- One Duet/Trio Showcase
- One Short Program

LENGTH OF COMPETITION/REDUCTION OF STARTS

If the number of entries exceeds the available ice time and/or officials' availability for the competition, the following methods may be used to reduce the length of the competition:

- a) Reduce the number of starts per team using the cut list submitted on the team entry form at registration.
- b) Eliminate events due to insufficient entries or with only one entry
- c) Eliminate events

Refunds due to canceled events or reduced starts will be refunded to the team/individual within 30 days of the date of decision. If cut lists are used, skaters who are cut will remain on the competition roster and may be used for substitutions as appropriate.

JUDGING SYSTEM

All events will use the 6.0 Judging System except for Showcase events which will be required to use the Components Judging System (CJS).

AWARDS

Medals will be awarded to 1st through 3rd places at each event. Team trophies may be awarded for team maneuvers in lieu of individual medals. NEICC will supply the medals for all Series competitions unless otherwise directed by an LOC who wishes to supply their own medals. Medals or ribbons may be awarded for fourth place at the discretion of the hosting organization/LOC.

SECTION 5: MISCELLANEOUS/CONTACT INFORMATION

ANNUAL BANQUET

We will host an annual year end banquet for awards presentations and senior recognition after the season ends. Date, time, and location will be determined after season competition dates are set.

Awards to be presented at the year end banquet:

- a) 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes for New England
- b) State Champions for CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT
- c) Sportsmanship Award (presented to an individual or team; voted on by skaters)
- d) Team Spirit Award (voted on by officials throughout the season)

PLAN AHEAD!

U.S. FIGURE SKATING will be hosting a cyber challenge competition for high school teams for the 2025-2026 season. Details will be available on the members only website and we will send out information as it becomes available.

EASTERN SECTIONALS HIGH SCHOOL FINAL will be held in spring 2026. Bid applications closed July 31, 2025. Competition bid will be awarded in fall 2025 and more details will be available then.

NEICC HS PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:

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