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**Skate Austin Bluebonnet Open**  
**Hosted by the Austin Figure Skating Club**  
**Sanctioned by U.S. Figure Skating**  
**April 21-24, 2022**

Skate Austin Bluebonnet Open 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 which 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, and is a currently registered member of a U.S. Figure Skating member club, a collegiate club or an individual member in accordance with the current rulebook. Please refer to the current rulebook for non-U.S. Citizens.

**COVID-19 INFORMATION:** Check <https://www.usfigureskating.org/news/press-release/us-figure-skating-covid-19-policy-update-0> for current updates as The Bluebonnet Open will follow the most updated version.

Effective August 2, 2021

- Masks are required to be worn indoors by ALL people (including fully vaccinated people) attending any U.S. Figure Skating-sanctioned event or activity despite local, state or facility policies. Sanctioned activities include competitions (U.S. Figure Skating and Compete USA), exhibitions/performances and test sessions.
- Exceptions:
  - Athletes practicing or competing on the ice.
  - Warming up outside.

**SERIES INFORMATION:**

**2022 Excel Series:** The 2022 Skate Austin Bluebonnet Open competition is a designated competition for the 2022 Excel Series. As an Excel Series event, skaters entered in the Series at eligible levels will earn points for their placement here in order to qualify for the Excel Finalist Camp and Excel Series Final to be held in July 14-17, 2022. Details to follow. Skaters must register for the Excel Series prior to competing at designated competition or by March 1, 2022; the online form to enter the Series will be available here. The Series registration fee is nonrefundable. Additional information is available on U.S. Figure Skating's Excel webpage. For any questions related to the Excel Series, please contact [ExcelSeries@usfigureskating.org](mailto:ExcelSeries@usfigureskating.org)

[Excel Series Registration](#) | [Excel Series Information](#)

*This event is a standard U.S. Figure Skating Nonqualifying Competition – 01/11/2022*

*2022 Skate Austin Bluebonnet Open - April 21-24, 2022*

*CONTACT INFO: CONTACT INFO: If you have questions, please contact Lynn Goldman or Terry Arthur at [compchair@afscix.org](mailto:compchair@afscix.org) Website: <https://afscix.org/>*





**2022 National Solo Dance Series:** The 2022 Skate Austin Bluebonnet Open competition is a designated competition for the 2022 National Solo Dance Series. For more information about the National Solo Dance series [Solo Dance Series Registration](#) | [Solo Dance Series Information](#)

**ELIGIBILITY/TEST LEVEL:** Competition level is the highest test passed as of the entry deadline in the discipline the skater is entering. Entrants may skate one level above that for which they qualify, but they may not skate down in any event.

### **JUDGING SYSTEM:**

The International Judging System (IJS) will be used for the following events:

- *Singles Well Balanced Program free skate events: pre-juvenile – senior (inc. open-juvenile), adult silver/gold, adult Masters Int/Nov – Jr/Sr*
- *Singles Excel free skate events: All Plus events as well as Juvenile through Senior Excel events*
- *Singles Short program events, juvenile – senior*
- *National Solo Dance Series Events (Pattern Dances, Combined Events)*

The 6.0 Majority Judging System will be used for:

- *Well Balanced Program free skate events, pre-preliminary – preliminary; adult pre-bronze/bronze*
- *Introductory free skate events (beginner, high beginner, no-test)*
- *All Excel events not mentioned above*
- *All specialty singles events (spins, jumps, compulsory moves, etc.)*

**REGISTRATION:** Registration will begin on April 21, 2022. Registration will be open one to two hours before the first event and run through the last event of the day. The registration table will be located lobby of the rink. Please register promptly upon arrival and note that Registration will NOT be accepting any CDs. If the skater's music was not uploaded or the uploaded version is not correct, the skater will provide their CD to the Music person after their name has been called to skate and then collect the CD before exiting the ice.

**ENTRIES:** **Online entry with secure credit card payment is available at: EMS Online entry must be completed by midnight Eastern Time on March 22, 2022. No paper entries will be accepted.** Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the competition committee. If accepted, a **late fee of \$35** will be assessed. The competition committee reserves the right to limit entries to any event or to cancel an event based upon time restrictions, including practice ice sessions.

1. Go to <https://m.usfigureskating.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 2022 Skate Austin Bluebonnet 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.**

#### **Mandatory Athletes:**

Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a team (i.e. synchro, 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 [emailSkateSafe@usfigureskating.org](mailto:emailSkateSafe@usfigureskating.org) for instructions or questions regarding parental consent.

**FACILITIES:** The Bluebonnet Open will be held at The Crossover, 1717 Scottsdale Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78641. Ice size: 200 x 85

**MUSIC:** Online music submission via [EMS Competition Portal](#) is the ONLY acceptable method to submit program music. Music must be uploaded no later than **April 7, 2022, 11:59pm ET** to avoid the Administrative Fee of \$25.00. EMS will automatically apply this fee after the deadline.

Please be sure you are uploading the correct music for the correct event segment. Be careful, for example, not to mix up your short program and your free skate!

**Music Upload Instructions can be found [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: One (1) - Only one piece of competition program music (e.g. short program, free skate, short dance, free dance, etc.) per file is allowed.

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File Format: mp3 - 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 requested (bit rates between 128 and 320 kbps will be accepted).

Maximum file size: 10 MB

Maximum run time: Five (5 minutes)

Metadata (tags): None - The Chief Music Coordinator strongly requests that the files DO NOT contain any 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!

Maximum leader: The Chief Music Coordinator requests that there be NO leader. The leader is the silence between the start 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.

Backup Music at Event (CDs)

In addition to submitting the music online, all competitors/teams must also have at least one (1) backup copy of their competition music on CD, AT RINKSIDE, during the actual competition event segment or official practice. CDs must meet the following requirements:

- In standard Audio CD format (Compact Disc Digital Audio). Other formats, including mp3 are NOT acceptable.
- Clearly marked with a permanent marker (e.g. Sharpie, do NOT use a label or tape) as follows: First Name, Last Name, (Club – Optional but requested), Event, Event Segment and Music Length (e.g. Jane Smith, Acme FSC, Novice Ladies, Free Skate, 3:10 or Synchro Team, Widget FSC, Preliminary, Free Skate, 1:59)
- Each CD may have only ONE (1) music track on it. In the case where a skater competes in both a short program/dance and a free skate/free dance, two (2) separate discs must be available. Any disc with more than one (1) track is NOT acceptable.
- Lead in time (time before the music begins) on CDs may not exceed two (2) seconds.
- Due to the compatibility and reliability reasons, music may NOT be submitted on re-recordable "CD-RW" discs. PLEASE, no CD-RWs!!

The Local Organizing Committee ("LOC"), competition officials, and volunteers exercise reasonable care when handling CDs. However, they are not responsible for damage to or loss of any CDs. The LOC is not responsible for CDs not picked up by the end of the competition. Those CDs will be destroyed.



### Interruption in Music – U.S. Figure Skating Rule 1403

If, after the competitor/team's name has been called to compete, there is an issue with the downloaded music or CD provided at the event, the competitor will have up to 3 minutes to rectify the situation with a backup copy of the music on CD. After 3 minutes, the competitor/team will be considered withdrawn.

### Administrative Fee for Incorrect Music or Failure to Upload Music

The LOC may assess each competitor/team an additional charge, up to \$25.00 per event segment, to manually handle a team's music, if the competitor/team: 1) fails to submit their music prior to the close of online music submission, 2) submits files that do not follow the specifications above, or 3) uploads the incorrect music for a given event segment (e.g. uploads short program music instead of the free skate). In the event the LOC decides to assess an administrative fee, the competitor/teams will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the fee and turn in their music on CD, conforming to the requirements above.

**EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC) – IF IJS:** Competitors participating in IJS events are required to submit PPC in [EMS Competition Portal](#) no later than **April 7, 2022, 11:59pm ET**. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature in EMS and subject to a **\$30 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.

**LIABILITY:** U.S. Figure Skating, the Austin Figure Skating Club and Chaparral Ice 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.

**LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS:** Due to COVID-19, locker rooms and changing areas will not be available this competition. All athletes are expected to arrive to the arena ready (costumes, hair, make-up etc.). Athletes will be provided with an area to put skaters on but will not be permitted to change in public restrooms.

**PRACTICE ICE:** Practice sessions will be **Thursday, April 21, 2022 (Friday April 22 if competition does not start until after noon on Friday)**. There is no "official practice ice" **No programs will be played during practice ice.**

Initial pre-purchased practice ice sessions will be selected by the skater after the schedule has been published during the "selection" period. Skaters will be able to pre-purchase credits via EMS Competition Portal during registration. After the selection period has ended skaters will be able to buy practice ice sessions in Open Sales. At that time, they will be able to select the session they want to purchase. During the pre-purchase period practice ice will be \$15 for LTS and \$18 for Introductory and above. Open Sales, which will run through the end of the competition, will be \$20 per practice ice session.





There will not be a practice ice table during the competition as Open Sales will be ongoing. The registration desk will be open for any difficulties in purchasing practice ice during the competition. **PRACTICE ICE AND COMPETITION SCHEDULE WILL BE POSTED ON THE CLUB WEBSITE well after the entry deadline.**

**No programs will be played during practice ice.**

- **Skater:** [Pre-Purchase and Selection](#) | [Open Sales](#)

**PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO:** The official competition photographer will be available for still photos and videos. Hand held personal video equipment is permitted. No video equipment may be plugged into the rink outlets.

**AWARDS:** First, second, third, and fourth placements in each event will receive specially designed medals and/or trophies. All awards will be presented off-ice at the photographer's table after each event. The Lynn Goldman Trophy will be awarded to the first place skater in the Final Round of Intermediate Ladies. The Terry Arthur Trophy will be awarded to the first place skater in the Final Round of Juvenile Girls.

**OFFICIAL NOTICES:** An official bulletin board will be maintained in the lobby of Chaparral Ice. It is the responsibility of each competitor, parent, and/or coach to check the bulletin board frequently for any schedule changes and/or additional information. Skaters are requested to arrive 45 minutes prior to the scheduled time of their event. A tentative schedule of events will be posted prior to the competition.

**TEST CREDIT:** Skaters that meet the requirements for test credit may request their test credit forms at registration. Forms must be picked up at the registration desk prior to the end of the competition.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL COACHES:**

To be a credentialed coach at a sanctioned nonqualifying competition, coaches must meet the compliance requirements listed below and verified by the U.S. Figure Skating.

#### **EMS Coach Resources:**

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



Coach/Choreographer (domestic/non-foreign):

- ✓ Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating either through a member club or as an individual member.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check. \*
  - The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must complete annual SafeSport Training. \*
  - The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification.
- ✓ Must complete the Professional Coach/Choreographer Coaching Education Requirement (CER) through the [Professional Skaters Association \(PSA\)](#).
- ✓ Must submit proof of general liability insurance with limits of \$1 million per occurrence/ \$5 million aggregate.
- ✓ Must agree to the U.S. Figure Skating Code of Ethics. \*
- ✓ Must complete three waivers: 1) Assumption of Risk, Waiver and Release and Indemnification Agreement, 2) Medical Consent and 3) Name and Likeness Release and Consent Agreement. \*
- ✓ If attending a qualifying competition or traveling as a part of Team USA and/or International Selection Pool (ISP), must be a full member of the [Professional Skaters Association \(PSA\)](#).

Learn to Skate USA Coach:

- ✓ Must be a current full member of U.S. Figure Skating either through a member club or as an individual member OR Learn to Skate USA instructor membership
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check. \*
  - The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional.
- ✓ If 18 years or older, must complete annual SafeSport Training. \*
  - The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification.
- ✓ Learn to Skate USA Instructor Certification completed OR U.S. Figure Skating compliance coach (details above)

\* Accessible via U.S. Figure Skating Members Only Website:

[www.usfsaonline.org](http://www.usfsaonline.org) → Person Icon  or Account → Member Profile → Compliance



Foreign Coach/Choreographer:

- ✓ Required to present the LOC with a letter from their federation verifying they are a member in good standing.

For more information regarding Coach Compliance, please visit the [Coach Compliance](#) page.

\*SafeSport training is available through <http://www.usfsaonline.org> for full members of U.S. Figure Skating (through Learn to Skate USA portal for instructors). There is no cost to this training and certification is valid for 2 seasons

All coaches are verified through the U.S. Figure Skating database who are approved to receive a credential at the competition. Coaches will need to check in at the event registration desk and show a government issued photo I.D. to receive a credential.

If a coach cannot provide a photo I.D. and is not on the list or cannot produce the necessary documents, he or she will not be allowed a credential. There can be no exceptions to this policy.

For more information regarding Coach Compliance, please visit the [Coaches Requirements Chart](#).

**VOLUNTEER COMPLIANCE:** Reminder: compliant positions at all U.S. Figure Skating sanctioned events include key LOC members, locker room monitors and ALL medical event personnel. To be considered compliant, an approved volunteer serving in one of these positions must:

- ✓ Must submit information for, proper payment of \$30 and successfully pass a background check\*
  - The background check will be valid for two seasons, the one in which it was completed plus one additional
- ✓ Must complete annual SafeSport Training
  - The training will be valid for 365 days from date of completion and there is no cost for the training/certification \*

**REFUND POLICY:** Entry fees will not be refunded after **March 22, 2022** unless no competition exists or is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals. **The online processing fees are not refundable.** Checks returned for non-sufficient funds and contested credit card charges will be assessed a \$25.00 fee. Payment of the fee will be required before skater is allowed to participate in practice ice or events. Notification of competition and practice ice times will not be available by phone, email or mail. Skater and Coaches schedules will be available via the web at <https://afsctx.org/>.





**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.

**ENTRY FEES:**

Entry Fees are as follows:

FIRST LEARN TO SKATE USA/COMPETE USA EVENT (Snowplow Sam, Basic 1-6, Pre-Free Skate, Free Skate 1-6, Adult 1-6)	\$85.00
EACH ADDITIONAL LEARN TO SKATE USA/COMPETE USA EVENT (Snowplow Sam, Basic 1-6, Pre-Free Skate, Free Skate 1-6, Adult 1-6)	\$35.00
FIRST EVENT SINGLES IJS EVENTS-Well Balanced Free Skate Events Pre-Juvenile -Senior, Adult Silver/Gold, Adult Master Int/Nov-Jr/Sr. Excel Plus Events and Excel Juvenile-Senior, Singles Short Program, Juvenile-Senior	\$155.00
FIRST EVENT SINGLES 6.0 EVENTS-Well Balanced Free Skate Events, Pre-Preliminary- Preliminary; Adult Pre-Bronze/Bronze; All Excel events not mentioned in IJS; Introductory Free Skate Events (Beginner/High Beginner/No-Test; All specialty Events (spins, jumps, compulsory moves), Showcase Events.	\$140.00
National Solo Dance Combined Events including Pattern and Shadow Dance	\$170.00
EACH ADDITIONAL EVENT (Singles beginner – Juvenile, showcase, solo pattern or free dance)	\$50.00
Change event fee	\$25.00
Late Registration fee (if registered after March 22, 2022)	\$35.00
Music up-load Late Fee (if sent after April 7, 2022)	\$25.00
PPC Late fee (if sent after April 7, 2022) (IJS events only)	\$25.00
PRACTICE ICE \$15.00 per 20-minute session in advance LTS (pre-purchase)	\$15.00
\$18.00 per 20-minute session purchased in advance for Introductory Levels or above (pre-purchase)	\$18.00
\$20.00 per 20-minute per session during Open Sales (after selection period through end of competition).	\$20.00



### **ACCOMODATIONS:**

#### **Hyatt Place Austin/Cedar Park**

Arrival: **April 21, 2022**

Departure: **April 25, 2022**

Cut-Off: **April 1, 2022**

Rate(s): **\$109.00 \*includes breakfast**

[Bluebonnet Open 2022 Competitors Block I April 2022](#)

#### **Springhill Suites Austin/Cedar Park**

Arrival: **April 21, 2022**

Departure: **April 25, 2022**

Cut-Off: **April 7, 2022**

Rate: **\$149.00 per night, includes breakfast**

[Book your group rate for Bluebonnet Classic](#)

#### **Hampton Inn and Suites by Hilton**

700 Central Park Drive

Cedar Park, TX 78613

512-866-9200

Arrival: **April 21, 2022**

Departure: **April 25, 2022**

Cut-Off: **March 21, 2022**

Rate: **\$129.00/night, includes breakfast**



General event parameters:

1. Skaters may not enter both a Well Balanced Free Skate event and an Excel Free Skate event at the same nonqualifying competition.
2. Level will be determined by the highest free skate test passed. Skaters may compete at the highest level they have passed, or skate up to one level higher.
3. All relevant and appropriate IJS rules will be used. Coaches and athletes are expected to be aware of these rules by reading the documents on [www.usfigureskating.org](http://www.usfigureskating.org), under "Technical Information," then "Singles", or "National Solo Dance Series"
4. For event/level requirements, refer to the current rulebook and technical information of the on the [www.usfigureskating.org](http://www.usfigureskating.org)
5. Qualifying and final rounds may be offered based on entries.
6. Review the chart links for requirements and levels.

<b>SINGLES</b>
<a href="#">Excel Free Skate</a>
<a href="#">Well Balanced Short Program</a>
<a href="#">Well Balanced Free Skate</a>
<a href="#">Adult Free Skate</a> (Adult Pre-Bronze – Master Jr/Sr)
<a href="#">Adult Beginner &amp; High Beginner Free Skate</a>
<b>SPECIALTY</b>
<a href="#">Compulsory Moves</a> (No Test–Senior)
<a href="#">Excel Compulsory Moves</a> (Excel Beg.–Excel Prelim.)
<a href="#">Adult Compulsory Moves</a> (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)
<a href="#">Jumps Challenge</a> (Beginner–Senior)
<a href="#">Adult Jumps Challenge</a> (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)
<a href="#">Spins Challenge</a> (Beginner–Senior)
<a href="#">Adult Spins Challenge</a> (Adult Beginner–Masters Jr/Sr)
<b>SHOWCASE – NEW EVENT IMPLEMENTATION**</b>
<a href="#">Individual Entertainment (No Test – Senior, Adult)</a>
<b>SOLO DANCE</b>
<a href="#">Solo Pattern Dance</a> (participating in series)
<a href="#">Solo Combined Dance</a>
<a href="#">Shadow Dance</a>
<a href="#">Adult Solo Pattern Dance</a>
<a href="#">Adult Solo Free Dance</a>

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**COMPETE USA**

[Snowplow Sam-Basic 6 Program w/ Music](#)

[Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Program w/ Music](#)

[Adult 1-6 Program w/ Music](#)

[Snowplow Sam – Basic 6 Elements](#)

[Pre-Free Skate – Free Skate 1-6 Compulsory Moves](#)

[Adult 1-6, Beginner – Bronze Compulsory Moves](#)

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