



**John Nicks Pairs Challenge
at the 95th Middle Atlantics
New York City
September 9 & 10, 2021**



The Skating Club of New York

Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 15, 2021 at 11:59 pm Eastern

The **2021 John Nicks Pairs Challenge at Middle Atlantics** will be held **September 9-10, 2021** in conjunction with the 95th Annual Middle Atlantic Championships at the home of The Skating Club of New York, Chelsea Piers in New York City. This event will be an ISU Minimum Technical Score featuring Junior and Senior Pairs. The event will be conducted in accordance with the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2021 the Special Regulations and Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2021 and in accordance with ISU Communication 2382 (Single & Pair Skating Required Elements for Short Program 2021/22) as well as all pertinent ISU Communications.

Participation in the competition is open to all competitors who belong to an ISU Member, Rule 109, paragraph 1, and qualify with regard to eligibility, according to Rule 102, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in Rule 108 paragraph 3. b) and they meet the participation, citizenship and residency requirements in Rule 109, paragraphs 1 through 5 and ISU Communication 2030. Passports of the skaters, as well as the ISU Clearance Certificate, if applicable, must be presented at the accreditation.

LOCATION:

Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers, 23rd Street & the Hudson River, New York, NY 10011

All practice and competition will take place at The Skating Club of New York's home rink, Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers' West Rink. Sky Rink has been New York City's most popular year-round indoor ice skating rink since opening in 1969. The twin-rink facility, located on Pier 61 at Chelsea Piers, operates seven days a week, welcoming skaters of all ages and ability levels. With its stunning architecture and expansive views of the Hudson River, Sky Rink is one of the premier ice skating facilities in the United States.

<https://www.chelseapiers.com/sr/>

RINK: West Rink - 195' x 95'

COVID-19 INFORMATION:

Starting on June 21st, following the CDC and New York State and City guidelines fully vaccinated individuals ages 17+ may remove their masks while in the facility either spectating or participating in programming. Click to fill out the [VACCINE VERIFICATION FORM](#).

- Bring your proof of vaccination (vaccine card or Excelsior pass) with you on your first day. A member of our team will finalize your verification in our system and provide you with a wristband at check-in.

- Your Chelsea Piers Vax-Verified Badge will be emailed to you automatically. Save this badge to show at check-in until further notice.
- All non-vaccinated individuals must continue to wear masks at all times including when spectating and/or participating.
- **U.S. Figure Skating Waivers are a requirement for ALL athletes.** The online waivers must be completed via [Members Only](#) prior to the competition, instruction [here](#).

[Click here for the latest protocols for Sky Rink](#)

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

JUNIOR PAIRS

Age Requirements In accordance with ISU Constitution and General [Regulations](#), Rule 108, paragraph 3.b [2021](#)

Short Program

In accordance with the Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2021, Rule 620. Required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2382 (Single and Pair Skating Required Elements 2021/22) and subsequent updates.

Duration: 2 min., 40 sec., +/- 10 sec (Rule 502)

Free Skate

In accordance with ISU Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2021, Rule 621.

Duration: 3 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec (Rule 502)

SENIOR PAIRS

Age Requirements In accordance with ISU Constitution and [General Regulations 2021](#), Rule 108, paragraph 3.b

Short Program In accordance with the Technical Rules for [Singles & Pairs 2021](#), Rule 620. Required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2382 (Single and Pair Skating Required Elements 2021/22) and subsequent updates.

Duration: 2 min., 40 sec., +/- 10 sec (Rule 502)

Free Skate In accordance with ISU Technical Rules for [Singles & Pairs 2021](#), Rule 621.

Duration: 3 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec (Rule 502)

ENTRY FEE:

The entry fee: PAIRS \$375/team USD

Entry fees are required at time of registration and should be paid by credit card online. There will be no entry fee refunds under any circumstances (inclusive of medical withdraws). If requested in advance, member federations will be allowed to wire registration funds directly.

ENTRIES:

The Organizer reserves the right to accept a limited number of entries. Skaters will be notified of their acceptance by **Wednesday, August 25, 2021**. Should skaters not be accepted, skaters entry fees will be refunded (minus processing fees).

All entries must be submitted online by **Sunday, August 15, 2021 at 11:59pm Eastern** through the US Figure Skating Event Management System.

PARTNERED EVENTS:

Only one partner needs to 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.**

US Athletes age 18+ as of the competition start date who will be competing on a Pair with at least one minor athlete must complete SafeSport training. *SafeSport training is available through <http://www.usfsaonline.org> for full members of U.S. Figure Skating. There is no cost to this training and certification is valid for 2 seasons

EMS REGISTRATION HOW TO

STEP ONE

Log in to <https://m.usfigureskating.org/competition/30066>

Foreign skaters must create non-member accounts to access registration, [click here](#) for instruction

STEP TWO

Click blue EMS button followed by COMPETITION REGISTRATION
Select "2021 John Nicks Challenge"

STEP THREE

Select "Junior International Pairs" or "Senior International Pairs" and proceed to check out

If you need assistance with EMS at any time, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 15, 2021 at 11:59 pm Eastern

Note: All teams registering for Junior and Senior Pairs Challenge are subject to approval

REFUND POLICY:

Entry fees will not be refunded unless no competition exists or the event is canceled. There will be no refunds for medical withdrawals.

SCHEDULE:

Competitors may be scheduled at any 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.

EMS MUSIC UPLOAD: DEADLINE - AUGUST 27, 2021, at 11:59 pm Eastern

** Music will ONLY be accepted by EMS music upload. Late uploads will NOT be accepted and any associated registration fees will be forfeited.

Competitors are required to upload their music to EMS no later than Tuesday, AUGUST 27, 2021, at 11:59 pm Eastern. After this date, skaters will be locked out of this feature and their music not be accepted. In an effort to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 by limiting person-to-person contact, skaters that fail to upload their music will NOT be able to compete and all associated registration fees will be forfeited.

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

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

All music must meet the following criteria. If you have questions about what format you have, please contact your coach and get a new version of your music that meets the criteria listed below.

MUSIC CRITERIA:

File Format: MP3

- Bit Rate: 192 kbps or higher and Sample Rate: 44,100 kHz
 - This will be verified by the music chair and they may request you upload a corrected file
- Leaders and trailers (the silence or "dead space" before and after the actual start and end of the program music) may not exceed two (2) seconds. We prefer that there be NO leaders or trailers at all. Excessive leaders and trailers may disrupt the playing of the music during competition.

Competitors must also bring a copy of their competition music on CD as a backup in case of technical difficulties and must be available rink side during the competition. Only CDs (standard CD-R format only) will be accepted for backups and must be clearly marked with the competitor's name, event and running time. **In an effort to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 by limiting person-to-person contact, any CDs required as a backup will not be returned.**

Penalty for Incorrect Music or Failure to Upload Music: The LOC will assess each competitor/team an additional charge of \$10.00 per event segment if the competitor/team: 1) submits files that do not follow the specifications above, or 2) uploads the incorrect music for a given event segment (e.g. uploads short music instead of the free skate). The competitor/teams will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the penalty fee and upload the correct music conforming to the requirements above.

EMS PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT (PPC): DEADLINE - AUGUST 27, 2021, at 11:59 pm Eastern

Competitors are required to submit their PPC in EMS no later than **Friday, AUGUST 27, 2021, at 11:59 pm Eastern**. PPCs will only be accepted via EMS upload. Late uploads will NOT be accepted and will result in forfeiture of the event and any associated registration fees.

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

If you need assistance, email productsupport@usfigureskating.org

ONSITE REGISTRATION

Accreditation will take place at Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers. The accreditation desk will be open starting on Thursday, September 9th, 2021. All persons to be accredited are kindly asked to accredit upon arrival.

Accreditation will be given to Officials and ISU Office Holders. Accreditation as a team member will be given to all drawn judges, competitors, one coach per competitor, and one chaperone* per competitor.

*Decisions regarding chaperones/spectators will be made by August 25th.

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. Please review the Locker Room and Changing Area Policy and the SafeSport Handbook (both found on the U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport page). Please click here to review the Locker Rooms and Changing Area policy. More detailed information can be found in the [SafeSport Handbook](#).

PHOTO/VIDEO:

There will be an official videographer for the competition. **ALL ENTRY FEES INCLUDE A HIGH DEFINITION DIGITAL DOWNLOAD OF YOUR SHORT & FREE PERFORMANCE** from Vision Photos website.

Note, per U.S. Figure Skating policy, photographing and/or recording of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited.

AWARDS:

Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

DRAWS AND JUDGES' MEETINGS

The **draw for the initial starting orders** will take place in accordance with ISU Rules 512 & 513 paragraph The draw will commence on Thursday evening immediately following the practice sessions.

For Free Skating there will be no draws. The reverse order of places in the Short Program will be used for the free skating starting order.

The **initial judges' meeting** will be held on Friday, September 10th at Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers.

The **Round Table Discussions** will take place on Saturday, September 11, 2021 for both the Junior and Senior events

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:

The competitors, coaches and additional federation officials are responsible for their own arrangements concerning ground transportation to and from the official hotel to the airport.

RESULTS AND ISU MINIMUM SCORE:

The marking system (ISU Judging System) as described in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2021 Rule 352 and 353 (Determination and publication of results) will be used.

This will be an ISU Minimum Technical Score event.

LIABILITY:

In accordance with Rule 119, it is the sole responsibility of each Member participating in the 2021 John Nicks Pairs Challenge to provide medical and accident insurance for their athletes, officials and all other members of the Member's team. Such insurance must assure full medical attendance and also the return to home country by air transport or by other expeditious means of the ill or injured person.

The Organizer assumes no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred in connection by Competitors and Officials.

GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY STATEMENT :

The Skating Club of New York will be complying with all federal, state, and local regulations and additional public health notices in place at the time of the John Nicks Pairs Challenge, including recommendations from U.S. Figure Skating. Please visit the competition website often for updated information and policies, as well as.

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Skating Club of NY Room Block

W New York - Times Square • 1567 Broadway • New York, NY 10036

Rate: \$299 USD per night

Start Date: Tuesday, September 7, 2021

End Date: Sunday, September 12, 2021

Last day to Book: August 3, 2021

[Book your group rate for Skating Club of NY Room Block](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservationlink.mi?id=1625851822504&key=GRP&app=resvlink)

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservationlink.mi?id=1625851822504&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

CONTACT INFO:

If you have questions, please contact The Skating Club of New York mail@thescny.org