



31st Nepela Memorial
Bratislava, Slovakia

September 28th – September 30th 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT



31st Nepela Memorial

An International Senior Competition

for

Men, Women and Ice Dance

organized by

Slovak Figure Skating Association

Bratislava, Slovakia

September 28th – September 30th 2023

A competition as part of the



Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24

under the authorization of the

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION



1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The **31st Nepela Memorial** will be conducted in accordance with the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2022, the Special Regulations & Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2022, and the relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the **31st Nepela Memorial** is open to all Competitors who belong to an ISU Member, and qualify with regard to eligibility according to Rule 102, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in Rule 108, paragraph 3 a) and they meet the participation, citizenship and residency requirements in Rule 109, paragraphs 1 through 5 and ISU Communication 2526 or any update of this Communication.

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU General Regulations and ISU Communication 2526 all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate. Passports of all Skaters, as well as the ISU Clearance Certificate, if applicable, must be presented at the accreditation of the event for verification.

All competitors must be entered through their respective ISU Member Federation.

2. ISU CHALLENGER SERIES IN FIGURE SKATING

The **31st Nepela Memorial** is part of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24 and will be conducted in accordance with additional requirements as specified in the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24 as well as ISU Communication 2539.

If the requirements specified in the above-mentioned documents are fulfilled the event will count towards ISU World Standing Points, Minimum Total Technical Score, Challenger Series in Figure Skating Ranking and Prize Money.

There is a limitation for the Skaters/Couples to three (3) participations in the events of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating. Participation in any of an ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events or an ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events does not limit the participation in events of the Challenger Series.

CHALLENGER SERIES IN FIGURE SKATING RANKING AND PRIZE MONEY

At the end of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating, after the last event of the season has been concluded, the two highest final scores in the up to three different Challenger Series in Figure Skating events of each competitor/couple will be added and taken into consideration to form a Challenger Series in Figure Skating Ranking which will be published on the ISU website.

The top three placed Skaters/Couples of the annual Challenger Series Ranking in Figure Skating after the last event of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating will receive ISU Prize Money as outlined in the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24 as well as ISU Communication 2539.

3. TECHNICAL DATA

PLACE	Main arena: Ondrej Nepela Arena, Odbojárov 9, Bratislava (an indoor ice-rink with the ice surface of 28 x 60 m, air-conditioned and heated)
	Practice arena: Ondrej Nepela Arena – practice rinks, Odbojárov 9, Bratislava (an indoor ice-rink with the ice surface of 26 x 56 m, air-conditioned and heated)
	Main and Practice Rink are in the same complex.



MEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2022, Rule 611, paragraphs 1 and 2. Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2021, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communication. Special attention should be paid to the “well balanced program” and the element value. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.
WOMEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2022 Rule 611, paragraphs 1 and 2. Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2022, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communication. Special attention should be paid to the “well balanced program” and the element value. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.
ICE DANCE	Rhythm Dance	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2022, Rule 709. Rhythms, required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communications 2560 and subsequent updates. Duration: 2 min., 50 sec., +/- 10 sec
	Free Dance	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2022, Rule 710. The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2560 and subsequent updates. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.



4. ENTRIES

4.1 General

All Entries must be made by the ISU Member concerned based on the regulations for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24.

All entries for the **31st Nepela Memorial**, must be done through the **ISU Online Registration System (ORS)** by the deadline indicated. Hotel and travel information should also be entered into ORS, as well as bank information. Declarations will need to be uploaded to the ORS as well.

4.2 Preliminary Entries

The preliminary entries must reach the Organizer by latest: **4th August 2023** by entering the information through ORS.

4.3 Entries by Name

4.3.1 Entries of Competitors

The Entries by names must be made via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS):

<https://fms.sportresult.com/isu>

and will be submitted via the ORS simultaneously to the:

Slovak Figure Skating Association

Záhradnícka 95

821 08 Bratislava

e-mail: slovaskating@kraso.sk

and to:

ISU Secretariat

e-mail: entries@isu.ch

not later than: **Friday, 1st September 2023 – 20:00 h (local time city of event)**.

4.3.2 Entries of Judges

Each participating ISU Member has the right to nominate one judge per discipline who has at least the qualification "Judge for International Competitions".

In case of too many nominated judges the organizer will draw the panel of judges immediately after the closing date for the entries. The result of such draw will be communicated to all ISU Members involved in writing immediately after the conclusion of such draw.

The Entries of Judges must be made via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) not later than **Friday, 1st September 2023 – 20:00 h (local time city of event)**.

Each panel of Judges will consist of at least 7 Judges. In exceptional cases and if there is no possibility to compose a panel of judges with at least 7 Judges, the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating may exceptionally authorize the panel in question to have a minimum of 6 Judges.



In case that at the time of the competition more Judges will be available and entered as required to compose the panels of Judges in one or more disciplines, the Organizing Member in consultation with the ISU will conduct on site, a draw for the panel of judges in the discipline in question for the first segment. The Judges, not drawn for the first segment will be seated for the second segment.

The panel for the second segment (Free Skating / Free Dance) will in this case be completed by an open draw amongst the Judges serving in the first segment of the discipline in question.

4.1.4 Entries of Team Members

Official entries of Team Leaders, Assistant Team Leaders, Team Officials, Team Medical Staff and Coaches and the partner or relative of a Judge will be accepted. Accreditation will be provided to those who are officially accepted by the Organizer.

Please be advised that only one Coach per Skater/Couple will be accredited. An Assistant Team Leader will be accepted for Teams having six (6) and more Skaters. Only two Team Officials of each Member, including the Member President provided that they are Council Members, Technical Committee Members or Members of the Head Office of their Federation, will be accredited. Not more than one (1) Team Doctor and one (1) Team Physiotherapist will be accepted as the Team Medical Staff, for which the organizer requests the right to have a medical certification (document) presented before accreditation. An accompanying person to a Judge will only be accepted for accreditation if this person is a partner in life or a relative of the Judge. The Member Federations guarantee that the requested accreditation of Team Members will correspond to their function within the team and the Federation.

The names of all team members must be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) and must reach the Organizing Committee and the ISU Secretariat not later than: **Friday, 1st September 2023 – 20:00 h (local time city of event)**.

4.1.5 Entry Fee

With the entry to the competition, the entry fee must be paid as follows by **1st September 2023**:

70 € per single skater
100 € per pair or ice dance couple

The entry fee will not be refunded in case of withdrawals for any reason.

Entry fee must be paid no later than 1st September 2023.

Account owner: Slovak Figure Skating Association

Account no: IBAN: SK04 0200 0000 0017 8827 9653

SWIFT code: SUBASKBX

Variable symbol: 28092023 - **mandatory data**

Note for recipient: Name of federation/association or skater/couple

5. APPOINTED EVENT OFFICIAL

This Challenger Series in Figure Skating event will follow the requirements of the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24 as well as ISU Communication 2539 and principles of Rule 420, paragraph 5.a) of the ISU Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2022 for appointing the Event Officials.

The members of each individual Technical Panel (Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists) will not be from the same ISU Member. At least two Technical Panel members will have the qualification "ISU", however one of the three members may have the qualification "International".

The Referee will have at least the qualification "International" and could be of the same ISU Member as one member of the Technical Panel (Technical Controller and Technical Specialists).

The Data Operator and the Replay Operator will have at least the qualification "International".



6. MEALS, LODGING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

The organizer will provide and cover the expenses for rooms and meals for all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and Judges participating, beginning with dinner on **Thursday evening 28th September 2023** until breakfast on **Sunday morning 30th September 2023**.

Should any of the above-mentioned persons arrive at the hotel before or stay longer than the period described above, their room costs and expenses will be the responsibility of the individual and must be paid on arrival.

The Organizing Committee will cover the costs for travel expenses for all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators.

In accordance with the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2023/24 as well as ISU Communication 2539, all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialist, the Data and Replay Operators and Judges officiating in the “senior” competitions of a Challenger Series in Figure Skating event will, at the expense of the organizing ISU Member, receive pocket money of CHF 200.00 or the equivalent in the local currency. Any Official officiating besides in the “senior” category also in another category (for example junior), will at the expense of the organizing ISU Member receive an additional amount of CHF 100 (or equivalent in another currency) of pocket money per additional day of service.

7. PRACTICE

Official practice for Competitors begins on Friday , **September 29th**. The detailed schedule will be issued at the time of registration.

8. MUSIC / PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT

All Competitors shall furnish competition music of excellent quality on CD in any other approved format, in accordance with Rule 343, paragraph 2. A list of titles, composers and orchestras of the music to be used for the Short Program and Free Skating Program for Single and Pairs, for the Short and Free Dance Program for Ice Dance and for the Exhibition must be entered on the ISU Portal. Members can download the entered information to send to the Organizing Committee.

In accordance with Rule 343, paragraph 2, all covers/discs must show the Competition event, Competitor's name, the Nation and the exact running time of the music (not skating time) including any starting signal and must be submitted at the time of registration. Each program (short program, free skating, short dance, free dance) must be recorded on a separate disc. In addition competitors/couples must provide a back-up drive for each program.

If music information is not complete and/or the music is not provided, accreditation will not be given.

The Planned Program Content must also be entered by the ISU Member or the Skater(s) on the dedicated ISU platform. It is mandatory that the Program Content information be filled in precisely by each Skater/team in English using the terminology for the elements listed in the respective ISU Communication.

All music must be provided to the Organizing Committee in MP3 or M4A format latest by **15th September 2023 by sending to:**

<https://forms.gle/jB66ujaVAPcCypcS6>

All competitors must be able to provide back-up music on flash drive in excellent format on site if requested.

9. ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS / TEAMS

The nearest airport is **Bratislava Airport (BTS)** with a distance of **10 km** to the official hotel.

Another travel option is arrival to **Vienna Airport (VIE)** with a distance of **65 km** to the official hotel.

Transportation fee per person from **Bratislava** Airport to the official hotel: **15 €**

Transportation fee per person from **Vienna** Airport to the official hotel: **30 €**

The Organizing Committee can organize a bus shuttle to meet the teams on arrival. Please accept that we have to ask for a small transportation fee from all persons participating in this shuttle service. Please inform the Organizing Committee together with your entry whether you will be using the transportation offered.

All Referees, the Technical Panel (Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators) Judges, Competitors, Team Leaders, Team Officials, Team Medical Staff and Coaches are requested to announce to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible but no later than **September 15th** the name of the airlines, flight numbers, dates and times of arrival or any other information concerning transportation and arrivals. The detailed travel information need to be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS).

OC does not provide shuttle bus for practice and competition – walking distance from the official hotel is only 650 m.

10. OFFICIAL HOTEL(S)

Hotel Lindner Gallery Central Bratislava ****

Metodova 4

821 08 Bratislava

http://www.lindner.de/en/hotel_bratislava/

Distance from the ice rink ca. 650m

Single room: 100 €

Double room: 120 €

Dinner (buffet style): 25 €

Hotel capacities can only be booked via the Organizing Committee. Booking requests have to be sent to the organizer by latest **Friday, 1st September 2023**. The organizer cannot guarantee the availability of rooms, for bookings which are received after that date. All payments shall be made by **11th September 2023**.

Cancellation fee of 100% will be charged after September 11th.

11. ACCREDITATION

The official accreditation for Teams is planned at the **Hotel Lindner Gallery Central Bratislava** upon arrival.

Accreditation as a Team Member will be given to all entered Judges, Competitors and one Team Leader per participating team, one Coach per Competitor, a maximum of two Team Officials of ISU Members (including the Member President), provided that they are Council Members, Technical Committee Members or Members of the Head Office of their Federation and a maximum of two medical persons. Accreditation will only be granted to persons in those various functions if officially entered and named through their ISU Member. **The ISU Member certifies with the signed entry form the indicated functions within the team of all team members. Any misuse of any function will be sanctioned by the ISU/OC.**

Accreditation will be given to appointed Event Officials and Guests who have paid all fees.

Chaperons will not receive accreditation. The Team Leader may request "bus permits" for the official registered Chaperons to join the official shuttle bus system of the Organizing Committee.



12. RESULTS

The marking system (ISU Judging System) as described in ISU Technical Rule Single & Pair Skating 2022, Rule 352 and Rule 353 (Determination and publication of results) will be used.

13. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AND PRIZES

The three best placed Skaters/Couples in each event will be announced and honored. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the medalists. The national anthem of the winner will be played and the flags of the medal winners hoisted.

14. INSURANCE / LIABILITY

In accordance with Rule 119, it is the sole obligation of each Member participating in ISU Events, 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 of the ill or injured person to the home country by air transport or by other expeditious. It is an internal matter of each ISU Member to decide the issue who shall pay the premium for such insurance.

The ISU and the Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred in connection incurred by Competitors and Officials.

15. EXHIBITION

No exhibition is planned for this event.

16. MEETINGS FOR ISU EVENT OFFICIALS AND JUDGES

All Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators and Judges are responsible to make their travel arrangements in order to be able to attend the respective event related meetings. If any other party makes the flight arrangements, the Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators and the Judges are responsible to check if such arrangements are in line with the detailed schedule as mentioned under paragraph 18.

17. INFORMATION AND VARIOUS

For information, please contact the Organizing Committee:

Slovak Figure Skating Association

Záhradnícka 95

821 08 Bratislava

Phone: +421 918 791 227

e-mail: slovaskating@kraso.sk

**18. EVENT SCHEDULE**

Thursday, September 28 th	12:30	Unofficial practice
	17:00	Team Leaders Meeting
	17:30	Individual Technical Panel Meetings per Discipline
	18:00	Referees and Technical Controllers Meeting
	18:30	Judges Draw and Meeting
	19:30	Opening & Draw
<hr/>		
Friday, September 29 th	7:00	Official Practice – WOMEN, ICE DANCE, MEN
	14:00	Short Program/Short Dance – WOMEN, ICE DANCE, MEN
<hr/>		
Saturday, September 30 th	7:00	Official Practice - WOMEN, ICE DANCE, MEN
	11:00	Free Skating/Free Dance - WOMEN, ICE DANCE, MEN
	20:00	Victory Ceremony
<hr/>		

Please note:

This schedule is subject to changes and will be updated in accordance with the final number of entries.

**FORMS AND DEADLINES**

Number	Form	Format	Deadline
N/A	Preliminary Entry Form	ORS	August 4 th
N/A	Composition of Delegation	ORS	September 1 st
N/A	Entry Form for Competitors	ORS	September 1 st
N/A	Entry Form for Judges	ORS	September 1 st
N/A	Hotel reservation request	ORS	September 1 st
N/A	Team Travel Form	ORS	September 1 st
Form	Visa request form		ASAP
N/A	Press Information	ISU Portal	Valid for season 23/24
N/A	Competition Music Information	ISU Portal	Valid for season 23/24
N/A	Ice Dance Music Information	ISU Portal	Valid for season 23/24
N/A	Program Content Form	ISU Portal	Valid for season 23/24