



**John Nicks Pairs Challenge  
at the 97 Middle Atlantics  
New York City  
September 6 & 7, 2023**



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**The Skating Club of New York  
Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 14, 2023 at 11:59 pm Eastern**

The 2023 John Nicks Pairs Challenge at Middle Atlantics will be held September 6-7, 2023 in conjunction with the 97th Annual Middle Atlantic Championships at the home of The Skating Club of New York, Chelsea Piers in New York City. **Eligible competitor scores will count for ISU Minimum Technical Score and toward world ranking. The event will feature Junior and Senior Pairs. The event will be conducted in accordance with the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2022 the Special Regulations and Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2022 and in accordance with ISU Communication 2526 (Single & Pair Skating Required Elements for Short Program 2022/23) 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:**

**Chelsea Piers Covid Policy**

***All participants must follow the U.S. Figure Skating and Chelsea Piers Covid Policy in effect at the time of the event.***

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION:**

### **JUNIOR PAIRS**

Age Requirements In accordance with ISU Constitution and General Regulations, Rule 108, paragraph 3.b 2022

Short Program - In accordance with the Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2022, Rule 620. Required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2382 (Single and Pair Skating Required Elements 2022/23) and subsequent updates.

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

Free Skate - In accordance with ISU Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2022, Rule 621.

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

### **SENIOR PAIRS**

Age Requirements In accordance with ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2022, Rule 108, paragraph 3.b

Short Program - In accordance with the Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2022, Rule 620. Required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2382 (Single and Pair Skating Required Elements 2022/23) and subsequent updates.

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

Free Skate - In accordance with ISU Technical Rules for Singles & Pairs 2022, Rule 621.

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

### **ENTRY FEE:**

The entry fee: PAIRS \$400 USD/team

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 withdrawals). If requested in advance, member federations will be allowed to wire registration funds directly.

Two official 25 minute practice ice sessions (OPI) will be included with registration.

### **ENTRIES:**

The Organizer reserves the right to accept a limited number of entries. All entries must be submitted online by **Sunday, August 13, 2023 at 11:59pm Eastern** through the US Figure Skating Event Management System. Skaters will be notified of their acceptance by **Sunday, August 20, 2023**. Should skaters not be accepted, skaters entry fees will be refunded (minus processing fees).

### **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.usfsonline.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/30961>

Foreign skaters AND attending coaches must create [non-member accounts](#) to access registration, this applies to BOTH team members (and only one registers) *unless they possess a current U.S. Figure Skating membership*. Go to <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/dsi7DCAay2rJ7TW1oboiMYEb> for instruction.

### **STEP TWO**

Click blue **EMS** button followed by COMPETITION REGISTRATION

Select "2023 John Nicks Challenge" (direct link <https://m.usfigureskating.org/competition/30961>)

### **STEP THREE**

Select "Junior International Pairs" or "Senior International Pairs" and follow additional steps through check out.

*If you need assistance with EMS at any time, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto:productsupport@usfigureskating.org).*

## **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 13, 2023 at 11:59 pm Eastern**

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

### **NATIONAL QUALIFYING SERIES (NQS):**

This competition has been approved by U.S. Figure Skating as an official NQS event. **In order to receive NQS points, Athletes are required to register for the series beginning July 5 (note: this is separate from competition registration)**. Both Nicks Junior and Senior events will count for NQS points. Click here to register for the NQS <https://m.usfigureskating.org/series/registration/overview/11?id=11>

### **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 21, 2023, 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 Monday, AUGUST 21, 2023, 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:** <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/ycj6D89r1GruJVv8oTSWXUqW>

If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto: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 \$25.00 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 22, 2023, at 11:59 pm Eastern**

Competitors are required to submit their PPC in EMS no later than **Tuesday, AUGUST 22, 2023, 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:** <https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/bJNALQ6nPYrJUH2YKAjQ2tMB>

If you need assistance, email [productsupport@usfigureskating.org](mailto: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, 2022. 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](#).

## **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 morning immediately following the Rink unofficial 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 Thursday, September 8th at Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers.

The Round Table Discussions will take place on Friday, September 9, 2022 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 2022 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 2022 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.

## **CONTACT INFO:**

If you have questions, please contact The Skating Club of New York [mail@thescny.org](mailto:mail@thescny.org)