



WORLD JUNIOR
FIGURE SKATING
CHAMPIONSHIPS[®]

SOFIA
2022



**ISU World Junior Figure Skating
Championships[®] 2022**

SOFIA, BULGARIA

MARCH 7 – 13, 2022

Media Information



**INTERNATIONAL
SKATING UNION**

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure

Bulgarian Skating Federation looks forward to hosting media attending the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships® 2022 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The event will be held at the Arena Armeec from March 7, 2022.

This information will assist you in planning your trip to Sofia and to apply for media accreditation to cover the event. Every effort will be made to ensure journalists have all the appropriate facilities necessary to work at the event.

The Press center and press tribune will be open and operational for the first practice/ training session on Monday, March 7, 2022, 30 minutes before the start of first official practice.

Media Information

Media Information.....	2
Media Accreditation.....	3
Visa Application.....	4
Media Facilities at the venue.....	4
Material Available.....	5
Media Accommodation.....	5
Transportation & Telecommunications.....	6
Useful Information.....	7
Competition information.....	9

If you require further information or have any questions, please contact:

Ms. Milena Valkova

Press Officer

E-mail: valkova.skate@gmail.com; office@bsf.bg

Phone: +359 899 105 703

Media Accreditation

All media must apply for media accreditation through the ISU Online Media Accreditation System (OMAS) on the International Skating Union (ISU) website (www.isu.org) under «[Media Accreditation](#)».

Accreditation will be granted to professional journalists and photographers only.

Writing press, photographers, non-right holding media and freelancers

- **Writing Press** (newspaper, magazine, internet, agencies and ISU Member Federations): maximum one professional per organization onsite (agencies and major newspapers: maximum two professionals)
- **Photographer**: maximum one professional per organization onsite (agencies and major newspapers: maximum two professionals onsite)
- **Television non-right holder**: maximum three professionals per organization onsite
- **Radio non-right holder**: maximum one professional per organization onsite
- **Freelancer**: A freelance journalist or photographer is a full time professional editor or photographer, who is not employed by an agency or newspaper – a self-employed professional. A freelance editor or photographer must provide written evidence that he/she operates on behalf of a clearly identified media. A freelance editor or photographer operating under his/her own account will not be accepted.

The International Skating Union (ISU) and the Organizing Committee have been working diligently over to ensure there will be ample coverage opportunities available to media outlets wishing to cover the ISU events. This in mind, there will be two types of media accreditations issued for those wishing to cover ISU Championships.

On-site media accreditations will be subject to capacity.

Remote media accreditation holders will not have access to the venue and will be covering the event virtually.

The deadlines to apply for media accreditations are as follows:

On-site media accreditation requests: **February 21, 2022**

Remote media accreditation requests: **February 28, 2022**

No late media accreditation requests will be accepted for on-site media accreditation requests.

All media must provide the following documentation when applying for media accreditation and further information can be requested:

1. Endorsement Letter in .pdf, .jpg, .png or .jpeg
2. Copy of current professional media or journalist card in .pdf, .jpg, .png, .jpeg
3. ID photo in .pdf, .jpg, .png or .jpeg

Rights holding TV and radio

All right holding media must also apply for accreditation via OMAS. Access to the Right Holders area is restricted, therefore Right Holders are invited to contact the ISU Media Team media@isu.ch in order to obtain a username and password. To book any broadcasting services or facilities please contact the host Broadcaster:

Mr. Rumen Kovachev - CEO

TV1Bulgaria

Phone: +35929523167

Mobile: +359888627313

e-mail: manager@tv1-bg.com

Accreditation Confirmation

If the accreditation request is accepted, an automatic email of confirmation will be issued. You may be asked to present a copy of the email of confirmation to receive your accreditation badge.

You will also be notified if your accreditation request is denied. Please note that the ISU and OC reserve the right to refuse accreditation with or without justification.

Accreditations can be picked up from the Accreditation Center at the Ice Rink. It is located left to the media entrance. Time of operation will be from Saturday, March 5, 2022 (starting at 10:00 AM).

COVID-19 Measures

During the current Covid-19 pandemic the health and safety of all participants at ISU Events including the athletes, team members, officials, volunteers, service providers, broadcasters, media, and spectators needs to be given additional attention. The [Guidelines for ISU Events during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) and the [Sport Specific Annex – Figure Skating](#) describe the minimum sanitary measures that must be put in place to host an ISU Event during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These Guidelines do not, in any case, supersede additional requirements established by the National or Local Public Health Authorities of the hosting country which must be implemented in full, in particular regarding the physical distancing, hereby a minimum of 1,5 meters, but which may vary from country to country and the number of people allowed by square meter. The instructions and sanitary requirements outlined in this document will be continuously updated, as necessary, and every accredited person needs to fully comply with the respective policy and any additional instructions given by the ISU Event Management Team and/or ISU Medical Commission Member onsite.

Visa Application

Since 2007 Bulgaria is a member-state of the European Union. The Bulgarian Embassy in your country will provide you with all detailed information about visas. More details can be found on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria: <https://www.mfa.bg/en>.

We recommend that you familiarize yourselves in advance with the passport and visa requirements for entry and stay in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Media representatives requiring an official invitation letter in order to apply for a visa must contact the Organizing Committee. Please note that an official invitation letter will only be provided to approved media representatives.

Media Facilities at the venue

The Press center will be in the Main Rink. There will be around 50 working positions, an area for photographers and 20 lockers. There will be wired and wireless high-speed internet (free of charge) and a big TV screen with a signal from the competition.

Media Tribune and TV Commentator positions

Media Tribune is located on Floor 0, section C.1.5. It contains 20 tabled and 20-30 non-tabled seats with high-speed Wi-Fi internet. There is direct access to the Media Tribune from the Press centre by elevator or stairs.

Two (2) commentator positions fully equipped are planned for the moment. One position is for the HB. The TV Commentator Positions will be located on the existing tabled Press seats between section 101 and 102 on 3rd row with tables (A.1.1).

Mixed Zone & Press Conferences

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure

The Mixed Zone provides an opportunity for media to interview athletes immediately after competition.

Requests can be made in advance through a form that will be available through the ISU Events App.

The Mixed Zone is split into five main sections and follows a pre-determined priority order:

- Quick Quotes available through the ISU website
- Rights holders TV and radio broadcasters who have pre-booked positions
- ENG crews
- Written press
- Non-rights holders
- Virtual mixed zone

The Media Operations team will do their best to make sure that skaters go through the mixed zone, fulfil any media requests.

The Mixed Zone is located on level of the skating rink. One floor above the Press center. Press conferences, which will feature the top-3 finishers after the Short Program and the medalists after the Free Skate. They will also be available virtually to all remote media accreditation holders. They will take place after the Short Program and Free Skate for all four disciplines. Press conferences will be moderated by a member of the Organizing Committee. These press conferences will be archived and available for on-demand viewing.

All remote media accreditation holders will be able to access the virtual mixed zone and virtual press conference through a provided link on the ISU Inside Event App.

Material Available

- Press Conference: after each segment, exact times will be announced with the final schedule.
- Quick quotes: [here](#)
- Press Releases: To receive ISU Press Releases please subscribe [here](#)
- Media Guide
- Image Gallery: Subscribe to the Press Releases [here to receive the link to the Photo Gallery](#). Pictures are also available in News Items with credit as indicated
- Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>
- Hashtags: #SkatingSofia2022, #JuniorWorldsSkating2022, #ISUJuniorSofia2022

Media Accommodation

The OC has designated three official media hotels. Shuttle transportation will be arranged from all the official media hotels to the main venue and the practice arena. Shuttle bus schedule will be provided on site. Please be advised that the transportation service will only be available for the designated official media hotels.

Every individual media person is responsible for booking their own accommodation and bearing any cancellation fees.

Media Hotels

NOVOTEL SOFIA HOTEL****

Novotel Sofia is a 4-star hotel with the latest design and standards. Located in Sofia's newest business district, next to one of the largest shopping malls in the capital and not far from Arena Armeec – 1,8 km, 25 minutes walking distance. The hotel is strategically located on the highly prominent and accessible Tsarigradsko Shose Blvd. at only 5 km from Sofia Airport and 6 km from the city center.

The hotel offers modern air-conditioned rooms with a free high-speed Wi-Fi, bar, restaurant, fitness center, free parking, Eldrive Charging Station and a shuttle bus with free Wi-Fi.

Address: 115 N Tsarigradsko Shosse Blvd, 1784 Sofia, Bulgaria

Website: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/8468/index.en.shtml>

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure

e-mail: H8468-SL@accor.com

Hotel Europe Sofia****

Hotel Europe is a four-star hotel offering all facilities and services expected by the international travelers and the business community. The wonderful location, luxury rooms, stylish restaurant and bars, convenient services make Hotel Europe one of the most exciting places in Sofia for rest and entertainment. It is 22 minutes walking distance from Arena Armeec.

Address: 1, Liditse Str, Sofia 1113, Bulgaria

Website: <http://www.hotel-europe-bg.com/en/>

e-mail: info@hotel-europe-bg.com

Hotel 4 Zona***

A place for your recreation. 4 Zona hotel provides complete environment for relaxation, professional service, and decent prices. It is situated only 15 minutes walking distance from Arena Armeec.

Address: 32 G. M. Dimitrov Blvd, 1797 Sofia, Bulgaria

Website: <http://4zona.bg/en/>

e-mail: hotel_4sezona@abv.bg

Reservation Payment Conditions

For Reservation code, deposits, cancellations and refund conditions please contact hotels directly.

Transportation & Telecommunications

Transportation

Sofia International Airport EAD (SOF)

Location

Sofia International airport is situated 6 miles (10 km) east from the city center. Recently renovated, it is now bright, modern, and smoke-free (except in designated areas) and has the capacity to serve 2.5 million passengers.

Contacts:

Tel: (02) 937 22 11/12/13 (international flights – Departures and Arrivals)

E-mail: public@sofia-airport.bg

Website: www.sofia-airport.bg

Airport facilities:

The airport is well equipped with banks, 24-hour bureau de change, ATMs, restaurants, cafeterias and bars, duty-free shopping, travel agencies, tourist information desk and first aid facilities. There is also a business lounge with Internet access and a luggage-wrapping machine at Departures.

Transport to the city:

The transportation from/to Sofia Airport is easier than anyone can imagine. The regular bus service and convenient road will make a good start of your stay in Bulgaria. It is easy to access the city center or the Central Railway Station by using the city bus, route taxi minibus or a taxicab.

The bigger hotels usually provide a shuttle bus from/to Airport.

Car rental:

Avis, Hertz. Budget, Uni – car rent, Car rental BG etc.

Public transport

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure

All types of transport are represented in Sofia except for water transport. Buses, trams, trolleys, taxis, rent a car and metro can be used to reach the desired destination. You can use most of the lines between 5 a.m. and 11 p.m. on working days. Tickets can be bought in kiosks located at stops or you can buy them directly from the drivers. Their fare is 1,60 leva and it is valid for only one vehicle.

The metro is the easiest way to get around town.

At most metro stations there are maps with tourist information with all the sights in the city center - museums, galleries and temples, as well as a simplified diagram of the metro, showing all the intermodal connections it makes – with railway stations, with bus stations, Sofia Airport and the buffer car parks (the Pictograms are in Bulgarian and English). Sofia Pass is especially practical (Three-day public transport passes valid for the entire public transport in Sofia with discounts at more than 60 sites in Sofia).

More information:

<https://www.sofiatraffic.bg/en/transport/1082/karta-sofiia>

<https://www.visitsofia.bg/en/how-to-travel/public-transport>

The route taxis

The route taxis in Sofia are taxis, which travel around the city on a certain route, in a particular time schedule – usually 5-7 minutes. Each line has its own number.

Traveling by a route taxi requires the future passenger to stop it by himself on the street, to get into the taxi, pay the fee, which is a standard fee of 1,50 leva no matter of the distance you are going to travel, and after that it is necessary the passenger to tell the driver where to stop in order to get off the taxi.

There are over 15,000 licensed taxicabs operating in the city.

Taxi

Yes Taxi: (02) 9 19 19

OK Supertrans: (02) 973 21 21

S Express: (02) 9 12 80

1 Euro Taxi: (02) 9 622 226

At the website www.bgMaps.com you can find a detailed map of city of Sofia with the possibility to search for a particular address or objects, such as hospitals, posts, shops, etc.

For more **tourist information** about Sofia and Bulgaria:

<https://www.visitsofia.bg>

<http://bulgariatravel.org>

<http://www.journey.bg>

<http://www.visitbulgaria.net>

Telecommunications

The journalists and photographers will have free Wi-Fi Internet access in the Press centre. For any additional services please contact Ms. Milena Valkova.

Useful Information

Currency Exchange

Bulgaria's currency name is Lev (BGN), plural: Leva. One Lev is made up of 100 stotinki.

The currency was redenominated in 1999. Now it is tied to the EURO and the exchange rate is fixed – 1 EURO ~ 1,95583 BGN.

Exchange offices are found in all major streets in Sofia. Some of them charge commission. Best to ask how much you will receive before you hand over your money. You can do it in banks, 24-hour change bureau, as well as at the reception desks of the hotels.

The exchange rate is announced every day.

The banks in Sofia are normally open: Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 12.00 and 13.00 to 16.30.

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure

Credit Cards

Visa, MasterCard, JCB, Diners Club, American Express, Access, AirPlus. They can be used for the payment of all standard services in hotels, restaurants, nightclubs, shops, car rentals, plane tickets, etc.

Bulgaria Value Added Tax

VAT in Bulgaria is 20%. There is a reduced rate of 9% for hotel services.

VAT is payable on assets and services in Bulgaria as well as on imports into Bulgaria.

Exports from Bulgaria are exempt from VAT.

Income from financial services such, as insurance and banking services are exempt from VAT.

Legal advice is also exempt from VAT subject to the terms specified in law.

Every business that had a turnover more than BGL 50,000 in the previous 6 months must register with the VAT authorities.

A 'VAT' bank account must be opened that will be used for payments of VAT and receipt of refunds.

<http://www.vatlive.com/vat-rates/european-vat-rates/eu-vat-rates/>

http://www.worldwide-tax.com/bulgaria/bul_other.asp

Time

Local time is GMT +2 (GMT +3 from April to October)

Electricity

Electrical sockets are 220 volts AC, 50Hz; round two-pin or three-pin plugs are in use.

Competition information

Schedule:

Date	Time	Event
Monday, March 7	All day	Official Practice
Tuesday, March 8	All day	Official Practice
Wednesday, March 9	12:00	JUNIOR ICE DANCE – Rhythm Dance
	17:30	Opening Ceremony on Ice
	18:15	JUNIOR PAIRS – Short Program
Thursday, March 10	12:00	JUNIOR MEN – Short Program
	19:00	JUNIOR PAIRS – Free Skating
Friday, March 11	10:45	JUNIOR WOMEN – Short Program
	19:00	JUNIOR ICE DANCE – Free Dance
Saturday, March 12	11:15	JUNIOR MEN – Free Skating
	16:15	JUNIOR WOMEN – Free Skating
Sunday, March 13	15:00	EXHIBITION

For any additional questions or information, please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Milena Valkova

Press Officer

E-mail: valkova.skate@gmail.com; office@bsf.bg

Phone: +359 899 105 703

<http://isujworlds2022.bsf.bg>

<https://www.isu.org/figure-skating/events/figure-skating-calendar/eventdetail/12913/-/isu-world-junior-figure-skating-championships?templateParam=11>

<https://www.facebook.com/FigureSkatingSofia>

#SkatingSofia2022, #WorldJFigure