

Attention all Coaches,

Please be aware of the following rule changes for the 2015 skating season. We are sending this information out to help you train your skaters for your Regional Championship.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Coaches Rep to help clarify any questions you may have.

Effective as of the Board Meeting - November 1, 2014

- All “C” events are unofficial for qualifying championships. Regions can determine their own beginner or development program
- Premier Skaters now need to remain non placement or non participating for 2 years **before moving down to another adult division.**
- Top quarter of skaters in creative solo placement are considered finalists for purpose of the “B” event and advancing to the “A” event for the following season
- CIPA figure events with more than 20 skaters are skated in two parts with a minimum of 2 hours between the segments.
- Junior precision skaters may also skate novice precision up to one quarter of the team to ensure enough in a club to create a team
- New division of Quartet with 3 divisions – May only skate one
 - World Class ages 12 and over - regulations to follow by CIPA rules
 - Youth ages 12 and under
 - Open ages 12 and over
- New division of International solo dance for younger skaters ages 12 and under called Elementary International Solo Dance
- Rule prohibiting skaters who had JWC placement in Junior Solo modified to allow all JWC skaters to skate Junior Solo, unless prohibited by a placement of first in Junior Solo at a previous nationals.
- Premier Silver age is changed to 45 rather than 46
- Eliminate Junior Team Dance
- Change in Challenge up rules
 - See attachment for details of B and A** (AR8.02.05 & AR8.02.12 copied below)
 - There is also a summary listed below to help to understand the wording of the rule
- Sliding scale qualification for “B” events remains as stated in rule book
- Sliding scale qualification for “A” events is modified to include one additional skater

1 to 6	contestants	5 qualify to nationals
7-10	contestants	6 qualify to nationals
11-14	contestants	7 qualify to nationals
15-18	contestants	8 qualify to nationals
19-22	contestants	9 qualify to nationals
23+	contestants	10 qualify to nationals

- Quartet rules until published by CIPA

Time 3min +/- 10	Participants 4 skaters acting as a group
Jumps limited to single rotation	Spins allowed except Class A
Rules for Show apply	
Elements	No more than 4 typical precision elements
	no limits on line maneuvers or blocks
	combination of elements counted as one
	Deductions same as listed for show
	Costumes same as listed for show
- The board of directors approved reinstatement of national championship box office admissions and the purchase of a National Program for the 2015 Championships.

****To help understand the A/B rule****

Skaters may no longer compete in both A and B of the same discipline (figures, free, solo dance, etc...) at the national championships.

An eligible skater may skate both A and B of the same discipline at the regional championships.

If the skater qualifies for nationals in the A event, then they may not qualify for nationals in the B event in that discipline.

Exception: The following applies only if the skater qualifies in an A event that is **uncontested** (i.e. if it has 5 or fewer contestants).

The skater may still be eligible to qualify for the nationals in the B event at regionals.

If the B event is also uncontested (i.e. if it has 4 or fewer contestants), then the skater must choose whether to register for the A or B event at the national championships by the **conclusion** of the Regional Championships.

If the B event is *contested* and the skater qualified for nationals in the B event, then they may only register for the B event at the national meet.

If the B event is contested but the skater does not qualify for Nationals in the B event, then they may register for nationals in the A event for which they qualified.

This rule **does not** apply to team events skating with different partners.

There are three scenarios:

1. A skater qualifies in a Contested A event. The skater may skate B in the same qualifying championship, but may not qualify for the national championships.
2. A Skater qualifies in an Uncontested A event and a Contested B event. The skater must skate the Contested B event at the national championships.
3. A skater skates an Uncontested A event and an Uncontested B event. The skater may choose which event to register for at the national championships by the end of the regional championships.

Any skater/team who has never placed 1st-2nd-3rd in USARS events in the National Championship in the event involved (e.g. - figures, dance, etc.) is eligible to compete in the USARS Level (B) and/or Level (C) divisions. Any skater/team who has reached the maximum age in a Level (A) event without placing in the National Championship in Level (A) or Level (B) events has the option to move up to the next higher division and continue to compete in the Level (B), as well as the Level (A) events. (e.g. - Juvenile (A), move to Elementary (B) & (A) events).

(a) All Level "C" division events will compete at Regional Championships Only.

- (b) Skaters/Teams may remain in Level (B) until they place 1-2-3 at the National Championships when there are six (6) or more contestants, after which the skaters/teams must move to the Level (A) division in that event in subsequent skating seasons. In Level (B) events of five or fewer contestants, ONLY the skaters/teams who have placed 1st at the National Championships will be mandated to move to Level (A) in subsequent skating seasons.
- (c) In the Men and Women Free Skating, NOVICE skaters who have placed 1-2-3 at the National Championships have the option to advance to the SOPHOMORE DIVISION or remain in the NOVICE FREE SKATING DIVISION.
- (d) Skaters/teams that participate in Level (A) Divisions that do NOT place at a National Championship event may advance to the next higher (A) or (B) event.
- (e) Any skater or team placing 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in an event that has five (5) or fewer contestants/teams shall have the option to remain in that division, or to move to the next higher division. This rule does not apply to divisions that have a maximum age limit. Placing in an event with five (5) or fewer contestants/teams has no effect on future eligibility. This exception does not apply to World Class events.
- (f) At a Regional Championship, cross-over (A) and (B) skaters/teams may skate both division events to qualify for the National Championships. *If A-level and B-level eligible participants qualify to participate at the National Championships in both events containing six (6) or more Regional contestants, the skater/team may register ONLY in the A-level event at the National Championships. If skaters/teams qualify in only one event containing more than six (6) Regional contestants, they must skate that event at the National Championships. If skaters/teams qualify in uncontested events (five or fewer Regional contestants), they may choose the event in which to compete at the National Championships.* Placements of 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships with six (6) or more skaters/teams will eliminate future participation in Level (B) in those events.
- (g) Any "B" division skater/team who participates in an "A" division event and qualifies for the final round of the "A" division at the National Championships when there is an Elimination/Final round of competition is mandated to remain in the "A" division of that discipline in subsequent skating seasons.
- (h) Skaters CANNOT skate Level (C) and Level (A) divisional events in the same qualifying Regional Championship. Level (C) division skaters may challenge the Level (B) division event of the same skating discipline during the same qualifying championships.
- (i) *At Regional and National Championships, dance teams and pairs teams MAY compete with different partners in A-level and B-level team dance and pairs events based on each partner's eligibility. In such instances, qualification is specific to that unique partnership. For example, qualification of the B-level team does not affect the eligibility of the A-level team or vice versa.*

AR8.02.07 Placements (1st -2nd -3rd) in any Level (A) event in the National Championship eliminates future participation in Level (B) and Level (C) in that event. (Refer to Team Dance and Pairs Divisions for move-up rules.) Placements (1st -2nd -3rd) in any Level (B) event at the National Championship eliminates future participation in Level (C) in that event. (Refer to Team Dance and Pairs Divisions for move-up rules.)

AR8.02.08 Any skater who has ever participated in CLASSIC, JUNIOR, JUNIOR WORLD CLASS, SENIOR or SENIOR WORLD CLASS events in a qualifying championships is not eligible to skate in the same Level (B) or any Level (C) event. Any skater who is, or has been, an Elite, Advanced, Certified or Registered coach is not eligible to skate in any Level (B) or Level (C) event.

AR8.02.09 Inline skaters may skate Inline and/or quad events (A)-(B)-(C) in the same year.

AR8.02.10 REGIONAL MOVE UP FOR ALL DOMESTIC EVENTS FOR 2015

- (a) To qualify for the National Championships in a Regional "B" Event, the following is the formula to send additional contestants on to the National Championships.

1 to 6	skaters or teams	4 qualify
7-10	skaters or teams	5 qualify
11-14	skaters or teams	6 qualify
15-18	skaters or teams	7 qualify
19-22	skaters or teams	8 qualify
23+	skaters or teams	9 qualify

- (b) *To qualify for the National Championships in a Regional "A" Event, the following is the formula to send additional contestants on to the National Championships.*

1 to 6	skaters or teams	5 qualify
7-10	skaters or teams	6 qualify
11-14	skaters or teams	7 qualify
15-18	skaters or teams	8 qualify
19-22	skaters or teams	9 qualify
23+	skaters or teams	10 qualify

- (c) **Sliding scale above is based on actual skaters in the eliminations, or if no eliminations then actual skaters in finals.** For the purposes of the above, entry means actual skating. Program listing will be disregarded in favor of score sheets.
- (d) Any skater or team placing 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, or 9th at the regional championships who qualifies to participate in the National Championships in both an (A) and (B) event in the same discipline (figures, dance, etc.), by virtue of the above mentioned regional move-up rule may enter *both events at the National Championships. only the A-level event at the National Championships See AR8.02.05(f).* Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in either the (A) or (B) event eliminates further participation in the level (B) event in the discipline involved in subsequent skating seasons. Failure to place 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in either level event has no effect on eligibility.

AR8.02.11 An automatic one-year suspension is established for any skater registering to compete in the Level (B) and/or Level (C) competition after having placed out of these divisions, or having been ineligible to participate in them. The Executive Director upon evidence of this rule violation will impose this penalty. Penalized skaters have the right to appeal to the Membership Eligibility Committee if they can establish that the evidence is incorrect.

AR8.02.12 CHALLENGE UP RULES

- (a) Solo dance skaters who participate in the International Youth Solo Dance Division may, during the same qualifying championships, participate in the Junior World Class Solo Dance division as well as their age appropriate domestic solo dance division. Placing 1-2-3 in the Junior World Class Solo Dance division at the National Championships will prevent participation in the International Youth Solo Dance division in subsequent skating season.
- (b) Loop competitors who participate in the Juvenile A, Elementary A, Freshman/Sophomore A, Freshman A, Sophomore A and Adult Open A Loop divisions may challenge into the Advanced A Loop division event during the same qualifying championship. National placement 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the Advanced A Loop division event mandates the skater to remain in the Advanced A Loop division event in subsequent skating seasons, except those participants challenging up from the Adult Open A Loop division events.
- (c) Solo Dance skaters who participate in the Freshman (A) or Sophomore (A) Solo Dance divisions may, during the same qualifying championships, participate in the Junior Solo Dance division. Placing 1-2-3 in the Junior Solo Dance division at the National Championships will prevent participation in the Freshman (A) or Sophomore (A) Solo Dance divisions in subsequent skating seasons.
- (d) Solo Dance skaters who participate in the Classic Solo Dance division may, during the same qualifying championships, participate in the Junior Solo Dance division. Placing 1-2-3 in the Junior Solo Dance division at the National Championships will not prevent participation in the Classic Solo Dance division in subsequent skating seasons. (Refer to the rules for the Classic Solo Dance division).
- (e) Solo Dance skaters who participate in the Junior Solo dance division may, during the same qualifying championships, participate in the Senior Solo Dance division. Placing 1-2-3 in the Senior Solo Dance division at the National Championships will prevent participation in the Junior Solo Dance division in subsequent skating seasons.
- (f) Solo Dance skaters who participate in the Premier Gold Solo Dance division may, during the same qualifying championships, participate in the Classic Solo Dance division. Placing 1-2-3 in the Classic Solo Dance division at the National Championships will not prevent participation in the Premier Gold or Silver Solo Dance divisions in subsequent skating seasons.
- (g) Skaters who participate in the Novice division at the Regional Championships in a specific discipline (Solo Dance, Team Dance, Figures) and are over the age of TWENTY-FIVE (25), may during the same championships challenge-up to their age appropriate Premier Silver or Premier Gold division in that specific branch of the sport. Placing in either or both divisions at the Regional Championships, allows participation at the National Championships. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in either the Premier Silver or the Premier Gold division will subject the skater or team to the Premier move-down rules in subsequent skating seasons.
- (h) Skaters who participate in the Esquire, Masters, Veterans or Golden division events at the Regional Championships in a specific discipline (Solo Dance, Team Dance, Figures), may during the same championships challenge-up to their age appropriate Premier Silver, or Premier Gold division in that specific branch of the sport. Placing in either or both divisions at the Regional Championships, allows participation at the National Championships. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in either the Premier Silver or the Premier Gold division will subject the skater or team to the Premier move-down rules in subsequent skating seasons.
- (i) Skaters who participate in the Premier Silver division at the Regional Championships in a specific discipline (Solo Dance, Team Dance, Figures), may during the same championships challenge-up to the Premier Gold division in that specific branch of the sport. Placing in either or both divisions at the Regional Championships, allows participation at the National Championships. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the National Championships in the Premier Gold division will subject the skater or team to the Premier move-down rules in subsequent skating seasons.
- (j) Skaters who participate in the Premier Silver or the Premier Gold divisions at the Regional Championships in a specific discipline (Solo Dance, Team Dance, Figures), may during the same championships challenge-up to the Classic division in that specific branch of the sport. Placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the Classic division at the National Championships will not prevent future participation in the Premier Gold or Silver divisions in subsequent skating seasons.
- (k) Skaters who participate in an Adult Team Dance division (Novice, Esquire, Masters, Veterans, Premier Silver, and Premier Gold) may within the same qualifying championship participate in the CLASSIC TEAM DANCE division with a different partner. Placing at the National Championships in the Classic Team Dance division will have no effect on the skater's eligibility to participate in the Adult divisions in subsequent skating seasons. These skaters/coaches will then be subject to the move-up rules for the division to which they return. Skaters/coaches returning to the Veterans Solo Dance division, at age SIXTY-FIVE (65), have the option to remain in that division, or return to the Premier Solo Dance Division. (See AR8.02.75 – for all complete move-down rules.)
- (l) At Regional Championships, B-level skaters/teams may challenge up to the A-level division. If the skater/team qualifies for the National Championships in both divisions, the skater/team may skate ONLY ONE event at the National Championships. See AR8.02.05 (f). Teams as described in AR8.02.05 (i) are excepted from this rule.*

AR8.02.13 CHALLENGE UP LIMITATIONS:

- (a) Youth division skaters who compete in more than one division of the same discipline; e.g. figures, solo dance, loops, team dance are limited to participate in no more than two divisions in each discipline of the sport, exclusive of World Class events.
- (b) Adult division skaters who compete in more than one division of the same discipline; e.g. figures, solo dance, loops, team dance are limited to participate in no more than two divisions in each discipline of the sport, exclusive of World Class events.