

# FIGURE SKATING CLUB OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND - FSCSM



## Welcome to November



For many, November is a time to give thanks. With this in mind, the club officers for the Figure Skating Club of Southern Maryland (FSCSM) would like to thank all of you – our members, partners, supporters, and volunteers – for your ideas, contributions, and encouragement. We are thankful for you!

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## FSCSM Shout-outs!

Happy Birthday to our club members!

Emma - November 5

Reagan - November 18

Chanel - November 7

Rashanikka - November 27



Congratulations to our FSCSM club members who recently competed in the 2022 October Skatefest!

Abbagail - 1st place, Interpretive Pre-Preliminary

Abbagail - 1st place, Showcase Preliminary

Abbagail - 3rd place, Excel Pre-Preliminary

Lillian - 2nd place, Interpretive Pre-Preliminary

Lillian - 2nd place, Free Skate Pre-Preliminary

Reign - 1st place, Showcase Free Skate 6

Reign - 4th place, Basic/Free Skate, Free Skate 1

Victoria - 1st place, Showcase Basic 1-6

Victoria - 3rd place, Free Skate Basic 4

And WELCOME TO OUR NEW CLUB MEMBERS: Kolbi, Cedric, and Jessica!

# Annual Holiday Spectacular On Ice



Skaters are already preparing for the **Capital Clubhouse Annual Holiday Spectacular on Ice**, which will be held on **December 18 at 5:00pm**. If you are interested in performing a solo, duet, trio, or quad, please register [here](#), including your first and second music choices.

Registration is \$25 per skater. Additionally, skaters who are interested in opening and closing routines may join practices beginning Sunday, November 6, at 5:25pm at no additional cost.

**And remember**, any adult who wants to volunteer for shows or events where they will be working directly with the athletes must complete SafeSport training and a background check. See more on the [compliance FAQs](#) or see the [SafeSport instructions from USFS](#).

## Join Evolution Theatre On Ice

Evolution Theatre On Ice Company is continuing to grow! Skaters are welcome to join as walk-ons until January 31, 2023. The team is looking for skaters who are interested in being a part of a new and exciting team experience. Skaters must be at basic 5/6 level or higher. For more information, please email [EvolutionTOIC@gmail.com](mailto:EvolutionTOIC@gmail.com).



## Did You Know?

**The first organized figure skating club**—which formed in the 1740s in Edinburgh, Scotland—required new members to pass an entrance test in which they completed a circle with each foot and jumped over a stack of three hats. *Source: [History.com – How Figure Skating Originated—and Became a Winter Olympics Favorite](#)*



## Support FSCSM on Amazon Smile

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select *Figure Skating Club of Southern Maryland*, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to our club!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November 2022

11/27: [November Critique Session](#), 3:30-5:15pm @ Capital Clubhouse

### December 2022

12/4, 12/11, 12/18: Gift Wrapping Fundraiser, 3:00-6:00pm @ Capital Clubhouse

12/9: Skate & Photos with Santa, 7:30-10:00pm @ Capital Clubhouse

12/11: [Girls Scouts Skate](#), 1:50-3:20pm @ Capital Clubhouse - [Sign up](#)

12/11: General club meeting, 4:15-4:45pm @ Capital Clubhouse

12/16: Movie Night and Food Drive, 6:00-9:00pm @ Capital Clubhouse - [Sign up](#) by 12/13

12/18: Holiday on Ice Show, 5:00pm @ Capital Clubhouse

Toy Drive (TBC)

### January 2023

1/14: Outdoor Ice Rink Outing (TBC)

1/16: [2023 Winter Open](#) (Gardens Competitive Series) @ Gradens Ice House, Laurel, MD - Entry deadline 12/23

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Looking for a club home ?  
Join us! Visit [fscsm.org/join](https://fscsm.org/join) for more information.

# Testing with U.S. Figure Skating (USFS)

The test structure is considered the foundation of U.S. Figure Skating (USFS). It determines a skater's level for qualifying competitions and participation in other skill-based activities. Testing is required for USFS competitive skaters, but recreational skaters can also choose to test to challenge themselves and measure their skating abilities. There are both standard test levels and adult levels for skaters aged 21 and older.



Skaters may test in five different disciplines: moves in the field, free skate, pairs, ice dance, and solo dance.

- **Moves in the field** consists of elements emphasizing basic skating skills, power, quickness, and edge control. The elements include patterns of turns, edges, spirals, and steps.
- Both **free skate** and **pairs** require well-balanced elements of jumps, spins, and step sequences, usually performed to music. Before testing a specific free skate or pairs level, a skater must pass the corresponding moves in the field test.
- **Ice dance** and **solo dance** require skaters to perform three to four set pattern dances per level. A skater must perform a free dance to test up a level.

As a skater advances through the [levels](#), the tests become progressively more difficult. When a skater passes the final test in a given discipline, he or she earns the designation of U.S. Figure Skating Gold Medalist. Therefore, it is possible for a skater to earn the gold medalist designation in multiple disciplines. According to USFS, “on average, it takes skaters six years to pass their senior moves in the field test and eight years to pass the senior freestyle test.”

Tests allow skaters to demonstrate their skills and advance to the next level. Traditionally, test sessions were conducted in person. However, during COVID-19 many clubs began offering virtual testing through USFS' new Virtual Judging of Tests.

Generally, in-person tests are hosted by a figure skating club, with skaters assigned specific times for their tests. Skaters are judged by panels of USFS officials and receive their results the same day.

Virtual tests can run similarly to in-person tests by scheduling skaters for specific test times but replacing the panel of officials with a videographer. Or the entire session can be virtual, with submissions uploaded through a system provided by the figure skating club and judged remotely. In the latter case, there is a delay in receiving testing results.

You can find test sessions by going to [EntryEeze](#) and selecting Find a Test Session. From there, you can enter your zip code to find the available test sessions closest to you.

## References:

USFS. (n.d.). *Test Structure*. <https://www.usfigureskating.org/skate/test-structure>