



ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating 2026/27
Skater/Couple Selection Procedures
June 12, 2026

1. General

Each of the six individual events will be composed of four disciplines with numbers as follows: 12 in Men, 12 in Women, 8 in Pairs and 10 in Ice Dance. Related to special circumstances, the number of participants in each individual event should not be less than two (2) skaters/couples to the confirmed numbers.

Each entrant to the Grand Prix six events must meet a minimum total score, determined from the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2026, earned at any ISU Event and the Challenger Series Competitions in 2025/26 or the current season 2026/27.

The minimum total score from ISU Events for this season is 3/5 of highest score per discipline at the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2026:

Women: 142.97 Men: 197.64 Pairs: 137.00 Ice Dance: 138.49

2. Seeded Skaters/Couples (Placements 1 – 6)

For the 2026/27 season, the number of seeded skaters/couples will be the top six (6) in each discipline of the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2026. If a seeded skater/couple is not available for participation (does not declare their participation in 2026/27 or is retired or split) by the time of the Selection Meeting, the next ranked skater/couple from the results of the World Championships 2026 will be moved up to fill their position as a seeded skater/couple.

The selection procedure should give the highest priority to guarantee that at least one medalist is seeded in each of the six events to guarantee a weighted field of athletes. The quality of each individual event has to have the highest priority. The ISU Grand Prix Coordination Group may change the selection result.

Each seeded skater/couple will be guaranteed assignment to two (2) of the Grand Prix events.

The ISU Grand Prix Coordination Group will take the following criteria into consideration when placing the skaters/couples into the six (6) events:

- a. first priority will be given to seeded skaters/couples participating in their host country's event;
- b. second, skaters/couples will be divided among the three continents in so far as possible so that only one overseas trip will be necessary;
- c. third, every attempt will be made to not assign skaters/couples to back-to-back events with a travelling into 2 different continents; and,
- d. fourth, each event should have – if possible – an equal number of medalists within the overall four disciplines.

3. Placements 1 - 3 (Skaters/Couples) 2026 Olympic Winter Games

Placements 1-3 in Women, Men, Pairs, and Ice Dance at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games who do not meet the criteria of section 2 will be guaranteed two (2) assignments.

4. Placements 7 – 12 (Women/Men); Placements 7-10 (Pairs/Ice Dance)

Placements 7 - 12 in Women/Men and Placements 7-10 in Pairs/Ice Dance at the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2026 will be guaranteed two (2) assignments. If a Women/Men skater who placed 7-12 or a Pairs/Ice Dance couple who placed 7-10 is not available for participation (does not declare their participation in 2026/27 or is retired or split) by the time of the Selection Meeting or has



already been included in the criteria as to paragraph 2 or 3, the next ranked skater/couple from the results of the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2026 will be moved up to fill their position as a Placement 7-12 skater or Placement 7-10 couple.

5. ISU World Standing / Season's Best Score (Ranking 1 – 24)

For the 2026/27 season, at the time of the Selection Meeting, skaters/couples with an ISU World Standing or Season's Best Score of 1 – 24, will be guaranteed one (1) event if they do not otherwise meet the criteria listed in categories 2 - 4 above, provided they meet the criteria of the minimum total score and space is available. The ISU World Standing and Season's Best Scores lists will NOT be adjusted/filled-up due to non-participation, retirements, or splits.

A listing of the top 75 Season's Best Scores will be compiled for the Selection Meeting.

The following events are considered for Season's best (Season 2025/26):

- a. ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating and Final
- b. ISU Senior Grand Prix of Figure Skating and Final
- c. ISU Championships
- d. Olympic Winter Games, Youth Olympic Winter Games and World Team Trophy (in applicable years)
- e. ISU Challenger Series Competitions

6. ISU World Junior Championship Medalists/ISU Junior Grand Prix Final Gold Medalists

For the 2026/27 season, medalists from the ISU Junior World Championships 2026 and gold medallists from the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final 2025/26 will be included in the selection process. Skaters/couples who have stated their intention to skate as Seniors in 2026/27 will be included into the selection process, provided:

- a) there is an available position
- b) they meet the requirements of the minimum total score

7. Host Country Skaters

A maximum of three (3) skaters/couples in each discipline from the host country may skate in the host country's event. This includes skaters/couples from the host country from any of the categories 2 - 6 above. If a country chooses to not exercise its option for three (3) skaters/couples in any discipline from its own country, the remaining slot(s) must be filled from categories 5 and/or 6 above. If the host country plans to invite the maximum of three (3) skaters/couples per discipline, one (1) at least per discipline must be in the top 1 to 75 SB and have the minimum required GP points to be invited. In the case there are no skaters in the top 75 SB, two skaters maximum may be invited per discipline.

8. Host Country Choice

If any slot(s) remains open and if all skaters/couples as defined in categories 5 to 7 above have been selected for one (1) event, the host country may select any Come-Back skater/couple (per paragraph 9) or any skater/couple with a top 75 Seasonal Best Score (as defined in category 5 and which would include any Returning Split Couple as defined in paragraph 10 and a Return Skater/Couple as defined in paragraph 11) to fill the open slot(s).

The selection, however, is only valid for skaters who fulfill the requirements of the minimum total score (with exceptions as noted per paragraphs 9 - 11.)

9. "Come-Back" Skaters/Couples

Skaters/Couples who were previously seeded (placed 1 to 6 within the past 4 years at an ISU Figure Skating World Championships) and subsequently did not participate in one or more competition seasons (i.e., do not have a previous season's best score) will be given priority consideration to re-enter the Grand Prix for selection of up to 2 assignments if they commit in writing to participating in 2 Grand Prix events and if such return is announced and confirmed by the date of the annual Selection Meeting. Such skaters/couples are defined as "Come-Back" skaters/couples. Come-Back skaters/couples do not need to fulfill the requirement of a minimum total score and would be considered for selection as a Host Country Choice (Category 8). A come-back under this clause is allowed only once in their competitive career for any skater/couple.

10. Return of a Split Couple - "Returning Split Couple"

Pairs or Ice Dance couples, who were previously in the top 10 of an ISU Figure Skating World Championships in the past three World Championships (2024, 2025 or 2026) but who split and now have a new partner, may always be chosen by their host country as a Host Country Skater (Category 7), and in addition, may be considered as a Host Country Choice (Category 8) and will be ranked in the list of season's best scores by taking the season's points of their partnership with their most recent previous partner, if proof is given in writing by their Member that they intend to continue their competitive career and their return is announced and confirmed by the date of the annual Selection Meeting. Such Pairs/Ice Dance couples are defined as a "Returning Split Couple" and such Returning Split Couples do not need to fulfill the requirement of a minimum total score. For clarification, except as a selection as a Host Country Skater, if such a Pairs or Ice Dance couple forms a new partnership AFTER the selection meeting, the new couple will not be given priority consideration during the current season's Grand Prix and may only be placed on the Alternate List by winning one of the ISU Challenger Series 2026/27 competitions.

11. Return of a ranked skater/couple - "Return Skater/Couple"

A skater or couple, not included among those defined in paragraphs 9-10, who was previously in the top 7 to 10 at the ISU Figure Skating World Championships 2024 or 2025 but since was injured and/or did not compete at all during the entire 2025/26 season, may be chosen, if applicable, as a Host Country Skater (Category 7), and in addition, may be considered as a Host Country Choice (Category 8) and will be ranked in the list of season's best scores by taking the season's best points of their most recent season, if proof is given in writing by their Member that they intend to continue their competitive career and their return is announced and confirmed by the date of the annual Selection Meeting. Such skater or couple is defined as a "Return Skater/Couple" and such a Return Skater/Couple does not need to fulfill the requirement of a minimum total score. For clarification, except as a selection as a Host Country Skater (Category 7), if such a skater/couple declares their intent to compete AFTER the selection meeting, the skater/couple will not be given priority consideration during the current season's Grand Prix and may only be placed on the Alternate List by winning one of the ISU Challenger Series 2026/27 competitions.

12. Alternates

For the 2026/27 season, it is mandatory that a host country replace any Skater who withdraws from the event with an alternate up to fifteen (15) days prior to the team leaders' meeting for that event. From fourteen (14) to eight (8) days prior to the team leaders' meeting of the event, it is mandatory for the host country to invite a replacement skater, however no travel contribution would be paid. At the seven-day (7) mark, consideration will be given by the ISU Grand Prix Coordination Group to leaving a position vacant because of visa requirements or unduly high travel costs. If an alternate is invited no travel contribution would be paid.

Skater/couples, who are part of the official Alternate List must be ready to accept an invitation for participation in an ISU Grand Prix event, even on short notice, except if the reasons for refusal are obvious (injury, illness, conflict with other competitions or with national activities, e.g. seminars, tests, etc.). The benchmark of such short notice is seven (7) days.

The official Alternate List will be initially established and distributed to the Grand Prix host organizers within two weeks after the Selection Meeting and will be updated throughout the season (and published on the ISU Grand Prix website page **after the first Challenger Series competition**). The Alternate List will include the following skaters/couples, provided they meet the criteria of the minimum total score:

- Any ISU Junior World Championships 2026 Medalist or ISU Junior Grand Prix Final gold medalists not yet chosen for a first event will be top ranked.
- Any skater/couple with a top 75 seasonal best score (as defined in category 5)
- Any Comeback Skater (per paragraph 9) for a first or second event in the order of the score.
- Any Return Skater/Couple (per paragraph 11), or Returning Split Couple (per paragraph 10) that may be chosen for a first or second event.

Skaters/Couples will be sorted by GP Points and the Host Countries must select the Skaters/Couples based on the order of the Alternate list (excluding any skaters from Members already included in a maximum capacity and subject to extenuating circumstances). Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the availability of visas to enter the Host Country. A selection out of strict order must be approved by the ISU. A three (3) day response benchmark is granted for the respective answer of a skater/couple until the host country may pick another skater/couple for participation.

If a skater invited from the Alternate list for a first GP Event, medals in that Grand Prix event, the skater will be the first alternate for a second event.

Once an Alternate List skater/couple has been selected for two events, the skater/couple is removed from the Alternate List.

A skater/couple from the host country, independent of the skater/couple status (seeded, invited, etc.) who withdrew participation may be substituted by another host country's skater/couple of any choice as long as the new selected skater/couple fits into the given criteria as defined in paragraph 7.

Skaters/couples, who had a season's best score from the previous season but cannot fulfill the requirements of the minimum total score at the time of the selection meeting, can be added to the Alternate List during the course of the season, if they obtain the minimum total score in an ISU Challenger Series 2026/27 competition between the time of the selection meeting and the Grand Prix events. Such skaters will then be included in the current Alternate List based on their season's best score from the previous season.

In addition, winners of an ISU Challenger Series 2026/27 competition, provided they have scored the minimum total score, will be reordered or placed on the alternate list, based on their winning score at the 2026/27 ISU Challenger Series competition. The ISU Grand Prix Coordination Group also reserves the right to add additional skaters/couples to the alternate lists based on results from the 2026/27 ISU Challenger Series competitions if the alternate list has fewer than 10 skaters/couples remaining.

Finally, any skater/couple, who is chosen for only one event, and then subsequently wins that one event, will be moved to the top of the Alternate List for possible selection for a second event.

13. Various

Skaters/Couples entered for an event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating may not participate in the same discipline of an event of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating in the same season. Only Skaters participating in different disciplines may enter into both the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating and the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating in the same year/skating season.



Any "TBA" name must be confirmed by the host Member by **September 15, 2026**. Until this date the criteria of "refusal of invitations will count as a participation" will not be in place for the host Member's TBA places.

As per Communication No. 2469, RUS and BLR skaters are currently not allowed to participate in any ISU Events or International Competitions and therefore may not be selected for any Grand Prix events until this Communication is revoked. Should this change the ISU Council would inform the Group accordingly.