



2025 John Nicks Pairs International Challenger Series

New York City, USA

September 2 & 3, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENT



2025 John Nicks Pairs International

An International Senior Competition

for

Pair Skating

organized by

U.S. Figure Skating

New York, New York, USA

September 2-3, 2025

A competition as part of the



Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26

under the authorization of the

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION



1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The **John Nicks Pairs International** will be conducted in accordance with the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2024, the Special Regulations & Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2024, and the relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the **John Nicks Pairs International** is open to all Competitors who belong to an ISU Member, and qualify with regard to eligibility according to Rule 102, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in Rule 108, paragraph 3 a) and they meet the participation, citizenship and residency requirements in Rule 109, paragraphs 1 through 5 and ISU Communication 2526 or any update of this Communication.

In accordance with Rule 109 of the ISU General Regulations and ISU Communication 2526 all Skaters who do not have the nationality of the Member by which they have been entered or who, although having such nationality, have in the past represented another Member, must produce an ISU Clearance Certificate. Passports of all Skaters, as well as the ISU Clearance Certificate, if applicable, must be presented at the accreditation of the event for verification.

All competitors must be entered through their respective ISU Member Federation.

2. ISU CHALLENGER SERIES IN FIGURE SKATING

The **John Nicks Pairs International** is part of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26 and will be conducted in accordance with additional requirements as specified in the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26 as well as ISU Communication 2683.

If the requirements specified in the above-mentioned documents are fulfilled the event will count towards ISU World Standing Points, Minimum Total Technical Score, Challenger Series in Figure Skating Ranking and Prize Money.

There is a limitation for the Skaters/Couples to three (3) participations in the events of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating. Participation in any of an ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events or an ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events does not limit the participation in events of the Challenger Series.

CHALLENGER SERIES IN FIGURE SKATING RANKING AND PRIZE MONEY

At the end of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating, after the last event of the season has been concluded, the two highest final scores in the up to three different Challenger Series in Figure Skating events of each competitor/couple will be added and taken into consideration to form a Challenger Series in Figure Skating Ranking which will be published on the ISU website.

The top three placed Skaters/Couples of the annual Challenger Series Ranking in Figure Skating after the last event of the Challenger Series in Figure Skating will receive ISU Prize Money as outlined in the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26 as well as ISU Communication 2683.

3. TECHNICAL DATA

PLACE

Main arena: Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers, Pier 61, New York, NY 10011

(The West Rink is an indoor ice-rink with the ice surface of 60 x 29m, air-conditioned and heated)

Practice arena: West Rink - 60 x 29m

(an indoor ice-rink with the ice surface of 60 x 29 m, air-conditioned and heated)

Main and Practice Rink are in the same rink



PAIR SKATING

Senior

Short Program The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2024, Rule 620, paragraphs 1 and 3 for 2025/26.

Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.

Free Skating In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Figure Skating & Pairs Skating 2024, Rule 621 and the respective ISU Communication. Special attention should be paid to the “well balanced program” and the element value.

Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.

4. ENTRIES

4.1 General

All Entries must be made by the ISU Member concerned based on the regulations for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26.

All entries for the **John Nicks Pairs International** must be done through the **ISU Online Registration System (ORS)** by the deadline indicated. Hotel and travel information should also be entered into ORS, as well as bank information. Declarations will need to be uploaded to the ORS as well.

4.2 Preliminary Entries

The preliminary entries must reach the Organizer by latest: **July 24, 2025** by entering the information through ORS.

4.3 Entries by Name

4.3.1 Entries of Competitors

Limitations of entries per ISU Member: maximum 3 entries per Member

The Entries by names must be made via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS):

<https://fsk-ors.isu.swisstiming.com>

and will be submitted via the ORS simultaneously to the:

The Skating Club of New York
59 Chelsea Piers, Suite 5925
New York, NY 10011
e-mail: events@thescny.org

and to:

ISU Secretariat
e-mail: entries@isu.org

not later than: **Friday, August 1, 2025 –20:00 ET**



4.3.2 Entries of Judges

Each participating ISU Member has the right to nominate one judge per discipline who has at least the qualification "Judge for International Competitions".

In case of too many nominated judges the organizer will draw the panel of judges immediately after the closing date for the entries. The result of such draw will be communicated to all ISU Members involved in writing immediately after the conclusion of such draw.

The Entries of Judges must be made via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) not later than: **Friday, August 1, 2025, 20:00 ET**

Each panel of Judges will consist of at least 7 Judges. In exceptional cases and if there is no possibility to compose a panel of judges with at least 7 Judges, the ISU Vice-President Figure Skating may exceptionally authorize the panel in question to have a minimum of 6 Judges.

In case that at the time of the competition more Judges will be available and entered as required to compose the panels of Judges in one or more disciplines, the Organizing Member in consultation with the ISU will conduct on site, a draw for the panel of judges in the discipline in question for the first segment. The Judges, not drawn for the first segment will be seated for the second segment.

The panel for the second segment (Free Skating / Free Dance) will in this case be completed by an open draw amongst the Judges serving in the first segment of the discipline in question.

4.1.4 Entries of Team Members

Official entries of Team Leaders, Assistant Team Leaders, Team Officials, Team Medical Staff and Coaches and the partner or relative of a Judge will be accepted. Accreditation will be provided to those who are officially accepted by the Organizer.

Please be advised that only one Coach per Skater will be accredited. An Assistant Team Leader will be accepted for Teams having six (6) and more Skaters. Only two Team Officials of each Member, including the Member President provided that they are Council Members, Technical Committee Members or Members of the Head Office of their Federation, will be accredited. Not more than one (1) Team Doctor and one (1) Team Physiotherapist will be accepted as the Team Medical Staff, for which the organizer requests the right to have a medical certification (document) presented before accreditation. An accompanying person to a Judge will only be accepted for accreditation if this person is a partner in life or a relative of the Judge. The Member Federations guarantee that the requested accreditation of Team Members will correspond to their function within the team and the Federation.

The names of all team members must be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) and must reach the Organizing Committee and the ISU Secretariat not later than **August 1, 2025 at 20:00 ET**

4.1.5 Entry Fee

With the entry to the competition, the entry fee must be paid as follows:

\$100 per pair

The entry fee will not be refunded in case of withdrawals for any reason.

If requested in advance, member federations will be allowed to wire funds directly to The Skating Club of New York. Please email events@thescny.org transfer information.

Payment is required by Monday, August 1, 2025, for entry fees. Failure to pay entry fees in full by Monday, August 4, 2025 may result in removal from the competition.



5. APPOINTED EVENT OFFICIAL

This Challenger Series in Figure Skating event will follow the requirements of the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26 as well as ISU Communication 2683 and principles of Rule 420, paragraph 5.a) of the ISU Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2024 for appointing the Event Officials.

The members of each individual Technical Panel (Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists) will not be from the same ISU Member. At least two Technical Panel members will have the qualification "ISU", however one of the three members may have the qualification "International".

The Referee will have at least the qualification "International" and could be of the same ISU Member as one member of the Technical Panel (Technical Controller and Technical Specialists).

The Data Operator and the Replay Operator will have at least the qualification "International".

6. MEALS, LODGING AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

The organizer will provide and cover the expenses for rooms and meals for all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and Judges participating, beginning with lunch on **Tuesday, September 2, 2025** until breakfast on **Thursday, September 4, 2025**

Should any of the above-mentioned persons arrive at the hotel before or stay longer than the period described above, their room costs and expenses will be the responsibility of the individual and must be paid on arrival.

The Organizing Committee will cover the costs for travel expenses for all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators.

In accordance with the General Announcement for the Challenger Series in Figure Skating 2025/26 as well as ISU Communication 2683, all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialist, the Data and Replay Operators and Judges officiating in the "senior" competitions of a Challenger Series in Figure Skating event will, at the expense of the organizing ISU Member, receive pocket money of USD 240.00 or the equivalent in the local currency. Any Official officiating besides in the "senior" category also in another category (for example junior), will at the expense of the organizing ISU Member receive an additional amount of USD 120 (or equivalent in another currency) of pocket money per additional day of service.

7. PRACTICE

Official practice for Competitors begins on **Tuesday, September 2, 2025**. The detailed schedule will be issued at the time of registration.

Additional practice ice will be available for purchase after the schedule is published.

8. MUSIC / PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT

Music will ONLY be accepted by email music upload. All music files must be emailed to events@thescny.org by August 13, 2025. Label each file with Last Name, First Name of the Partner who registered the team, Country Event Name SP (or FS). One example is O'Shea, Danny, USA Senior Pairs SP

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.



Teams 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 team's name, event and running time.

Penalty for Incorrect Music or Failure to Upload Music: The LOC will assess each team an additional charge of \$25.00 USD 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 teams will not receive their credentials at registration until they pay the penalty fee and upload the correct music to conform to the requirements above.

If music information is not complete and/or the music is not provided, accreditation will not be given.

Program Content Form

All Program Content Forms must be emailed to events@thescny.org by August 23, 2025. Label each file with Last Name & First Name of the Partner who registered the team, Country_Event Name SP (or FS). One example is **O'Shea, Danny, USA_Senior Men SP**

9. ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS / TEAMS

The two closest international airports to **Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers** are John F. Kennedy International **Airport (30.5km)** **Newark Liberty international Airport (38.6km)** to the Rink.

All Referees, the Technical Panel (Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators) Judges, Competitors, Team Leaders, Team Officials, Team Medical Staff and Coaches are requested to announce to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible but no later than **Friday, August 1, 2025** the name of the airlines, flight numbers, dates and times of arrival or any other information concerning transportation and arrivals. The detailed travel information need to be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS).

10. OFFICIAL HOTEL(S)

OFFICIALS HOTELS:

COURTYARD NEW YORK MIDTOWN WEST

461 WEST 34TH STREET

NEW YORK, NY 10001

Phone: +1 212-553-3000

Web: www.courtyardhudsonyardsdistrict.com

W Hotel Times Square

1567 BROADWAY, New York, NY 10034

phone: +1 212 930-7400

web: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/nycwh-w-new-york-times-square/overview/>

Official's hotel capacities can only be booked via the Organizing Committee. Booking requests have to be sent to the organizer by latest **by Friday, August 1, 2025**. The organizer cannot guarantee the availability of rooms, for bookings which are received after that date.

COMPETITOR AND COACHES/TEAM OFFICIALS HOTEL:

COURTYARD NEW YORK MIDTOWN WEST

461 WEST 34TH STREET

NEW YORK, NY 10001

Phone: +1 212-553-3000

Web: www.courtyardhudsonyardsdistrict.com

Link to reservations will be supplied and will need to be placed by August 1, 2025

11. ACCREDITATION

The official accreditation for Teams is planned at the **Registration Desk at Sky at Sky Rink located on the 2nd floor at Pier 61 on September 2nd** upon arrival.

Accreditation as a Team Member will be given to all entered Judges, Competitors and one Team Leader per participating team, one Coach per Competitor, a maximum of two Team Officials of ISU Members (including the Member President), provided that they are Council Members, Technical Committee Members or Members of the Head Office of their Federation and a maximum of two medical persons. Accreditation will only be granted to persons in those various functions if officially entered and named through their ISU Member. **The ISU Member certifies with the signed entry form the indicated functions within the team of all team members. Any misuse of any function will be sanctioned by the ISU/OC.**

Accreditation will be given to appointed Event Officials and Guests.
Chaperons will not receive accreditation.

12. RESULTS

The marking system (ISU Judging System) as described in ISU Technical Rule Single & Pair Skating 2024, Rule 352 and Rule 353 (Determination and publication of results) will be used.

13. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AND PRIZES

The three best placed Skaters/Couples in each event will be announced and honored. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the medalists. The national anthem of the winner will be played and the flags of the medal winners hoisted.

14. INSURANCE / LIABILITY

In accordance with Rule 119, it is the sole obligation of each Member participating in ISU Events, 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 of the ill or injured person to the home country by air transport or by other expeditious. It is an internal matter of each ISU Member to decide the issue who shall pay the premium for such insurance.

The ISU and the Organizing Committee assume no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred in connection incurred by Competitors and Officials.

15. EXHIBITION

There will not be an exhibition.

16. MEETINGS FOR ISU EVENT OFFICIALS AND JUDGES

All Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators and Judges are responsible to make their travel arrangements in order to be able to attend the respective event related meetings. If any other party makes the flight arrangements, the Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Data and Replay Operators and the Judges are responsible to check if such arrangements are in line with the detailed schedule as mentioned under paragraph 18.



17. INFORMATION AND VARIOUS

For information, please contact the Organizing Committee:

59 Chelsea Piers • Room 5925 • New York, NY 10011

phone: +1 646.638.0030

website: www.thescny.org

e-mail: events@thescny.org



18. EVENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday,

September 2, 2025

14:15	SENIOR PAIRS OFFICIAL PRACTICE
TBA	Team Leaders Meeting
TBA	Individual Technical Panel Meetings
TBA	Referees and Technical Controllers Meeting
	Judges Draw and Meeting
18:30	SENIOR PAIRS – Short Program

Wednesday,

September 3, 2025

10:15	SENIOR PAIRS UNOFFICIAL PRACTICE
14:00	SENIOR PAIRS – Free Skating
TBA	Pairs Technical Panel Review
TBA	Victory Ceremonies
TBA	Round Table Discussion for Judges

Please note:

This schedule is subject to changes and will be updated in accordance with the final number of entries.



FORMS AND DEADLINES

Number	Form	Format	Deadline
N/A	Preliminary Entry Form	ORS	<i>July 24, 2025</i>
N/A	Composition of Delegation	ORS	<i>August 1, 2025</i>
N/A	Entry Form for Competitors	ORS	<i>August 1, 2025</i>
N/A	Entry Form for Judges	ORS	<i>July 24, 2025</i>
N/A	Hotel reservation request – Officials only	ORS	<i>August 1, 2025</i>
N/A	Team Travel Form	ORS	August 3, 2025
Form X	Visa request form	Indicate if you will have this form	Indicate date
N/A	Press Information	ISU Portal	Valid for season 24/25
N/A	Competition Music Information	EMAIL	<i>August 13, 2025</i>
N/A	Ice Dance Music Information	ISU Portal	Valid for season 24/25
N/A	Program Content Form	ISU Portal	<i>August 23, 2025</i>