



Challenge Cup

January 22-25, 2026

Tilburg, The Netherlands

An International Competition and Dutch Championship for

Senior	Women	Men	Pairs	Ice Dance
Junior	Women	Men	Pairs	Ice Dance
Advanced Novice	Girls	Boys	Pairs	
Basic Novice A	Girls	Boys		



1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The Challenge Cup will be conducted following the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2024, the ISU Special Regulations & Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2024 and the relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the Challenge Cup is for skaters who belong to an ISU Member, as per Rule 109, paragraph 1, and qualify with regard to eligibility, according to Rule 102, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in Rule 108, paragraph 2 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 present an ISU Clearance Certificate.

All competitors must be entered through the ISU online registration system ORS by their respective ISU Member Federation.

2. TECHNICAL DATA

Venue address

Venue: IJssportcentrum Tilburg

Stappegoorweg 3, 5022 DA Tilburg

<https://www.sportintilburg.nl/>

(an indoor heated ice-rink with the ice surface of 60 x 30 m);

(practice rink covered rink non-heated 60 x 30 m)

Warming-up area heated (near practice rink, high enough for lifting (pairs/ice dance couples).

2.1 TECHNICAL DETAILS

CATEGORIES

SENIOR WOMEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 611. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 4:00 +/- 10 sec.
JUNIOR WOMEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 611. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.

	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 3:30 +/- 10 sec.
ADVANCED NOVICE GIRLS	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2699. Duration: 2:20 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	The program to be skated will be in accordance with Communication 2699. Duration: 3:00 +/- 10 sec.
BASIC NOVICE A GIRLS	Free Skating	The program to be skated will be in accordance with Communication 2699 for Basic Novice. Duration: 2:30 +/- 10 sec.
SENIOR MEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 611. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 4:00 +/- 10 sec.
JUNIOR MEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 611. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 3:30 +/- 10 sec.
ADVANCED NOVICE BOYS	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2699. Duration: 2:20 +/- 10 sec.
	Free skating	The program to be skated will be in accordance with Communication 2699. Duration: 3:00 +/- 10 sec.
BASIC NOVICE A BOYS	Free Skating	The program to be skated will be in accordance with Communication 2699 for Basic Novice. Duration: 2:30 +/- 10 sec.

SENIOR PAIRS	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 620. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.
	Free skating	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 621. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 4:00 +/- 10 sec
JUNIOR PAIRS	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 620. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 2:40 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024 Rule 621. For marking see Rule 504 and the respective ISU Communications. Duration: 3:30 +/- 10 sec
ADVANCED NOVICE PAIRS	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2699. Duration: 2:20 +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	The program to be skated will be in accordance with Communication 2699. Duration: 3:00 +/- 10 sec.
SENIOR ICE DANCE	Rhythm Dance	In accordance the ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2024, Rule 709, and all pertinent ISU Communications. Rhythms required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2704 and subsequent updates. Duration: 2 minutes and 50 seconds, +/- 10 sec
	Free Dance	In accordance with the ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2024, Rule 710. The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2704 and subsequent updates. Duration: 4 minutes, +/- 10 sec
JUNIOR ICE DANCE	Rhythm Dance	In accordance the ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2024, Rule 709, and all pertinent ISU Communications. Rhythms required elements and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2704 and subsequent updates. Duration: 2 minutes and 50 seconds, +/- 10 sec
	Free Dance	In accordance with the ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2024, Rule 710. The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2704 and subsequent updates. Duration: 3 minutes and 30 seconds, +/- 10 sec

3. Entries

3.1 Entries of Competitors

Each ISU Member can enter **up to three (3)** skaters/couples in each category. Preference will be given to those ISU Members which sent entries by number, in order of receipt of such entries. A reserve-list will be kept up to date daily. In case of too many entries, the organizer may reduce the final entries.

a) Limitation of number of entries

Basic Novice A Girls:	16
Basic Novice A Boys:	8
Adv. Novice Girls:	24
Adv. Novice Boys:	8
Adv. Novice Pairs	4
Junior Women:	18
Junior Men:	12
Junior Pairs:	4
Junior Ice Dance:	10
Senior Women:	18
Senior Men:	18
Senior Pairs:	12
Senior Ice Dance:	10

All Entries must be made by the ISU Member concerned based on the regulations for ISU in Figure Skating 2025/26. All entries for the Challenge Cup, must be done through the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) by the deadline indicated. Travel information should also be entered into ORS:

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

b) Entries by Number

The preliminary entries must reach the Organizer by latest: **November 24, 2025 – 20:00 h (CET)** by entering the information through the ORS.

c) Entries by Name

The Entries by names must be done through the ORS not later than **December 19, 2025 – 20:00 h (CET)**.

d) Entry fee

An entry fee of € 105, - per single skater (Adv. Novice/Junior/Senior), € 80, - per Basic Novice skater and € 180, - per pair/ice dance couple (Adv. Novice/Junior/Senior) will be asked and must be paid after confirmation of the official entry by name.

Invoices will be sent to the federations in advance.

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

Applications received after the entry deadline will be increased to the following amounts:

€ 90, - per Basic Novice skater

€ 115, - per single skater (Adv. Novice/Junior/Senior)

€ 190, - per pair/ice dance couple

3.2 Entries of Judges

Each participating ISU Member may nominate one ISU or International Judge and one substitute Judge.

The Entries of Judges must be done through the ORS no later than **December 19, 2025**.

Each panel of Judges will consist of 5 judges. In case of a too high number of entered Judges, the Organizing Committee will make a draw and inform ISU Members before **January 5, 2026**, whether Judges have been drawn or not drawn. For the Ice Dance panel, priority will be given to Judges who are qualified as International- or ISU Judge in both Singles & Pairs and in Ice Dance.

3.3 Team Leaders meeting

There will be no team leaders meeting. All necessary information will be published in the Sportity app.

We will create a groups app for all team leaders, so questions can be asked directly at the OC.

Team leaders, please forward your mobile phone number by email to challengecup@knsb.nl. By sending this information you agree to the privacy policy.

3.4 Draw for starting order

The draw will be held online (online is approved by the ISU)-on **Wednesday January 21, at 15.00 (CET)** in presence of one of the Referees, in accordance with Rule 512 and 513 of the ISU Constitution and General Regulations. Competitors/official representatives are welcome to be present in person.

The draw can also be followed via the live stream.

The starting order for the Free Skating shall be based on the reverse order of the result of the Short Program.

4. OFFICIALS

The organizer will provide and cover the expenses for rooms and meals for Judges and invited Officials taking part, beginning on **January 21, 2026, (dinner)** and ending on **January 25, 2026, (lunch)** in accordance with their travel plans and scheduled activities.

Officials hotel (only for Judges and invited Officials):

Auberge du Bonheur, Bredaseweg 441, 5036 NA Tilburg, website: Auberge-du-Bonheur.nl

If any Judge or invited Official arrive at the hotel before, or stay longer after the period described above, their hotel costs are at their own risk and must be paid on arrival.

All additional charges incurred by an Official/Judge are at their own risk and must be paid prior to departure.

5. PRACTICE

The official practices for competitors start on **January 22, 2026 / appr. 08:00 hrs**. The detailed schedule will be published in the Sportity app. There is also unofficial practise ice available. This schedule will also be published in the Sportity app in time.

6. MUSIC / PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT / PRESS FORMS

Music.

All competitors shall offer competition music of excellent quality on MP3, M4A or WAV format, following Rule 343 in the ISU Special Regulations, paragraph 2. A list of titles, composers and orchestras of the music to be used for the Short Program and Free Program for Single and Pairs, must be entered on the ISU Portal.

The Music files must be labelled with the following data:

1. Name of the ISU Member.
2. Name of the Competitor, category, and segment.
3. Exact running time (Not skating time) of the music, including any starting signal.

The competition music, **only MP3, M4A or WAV format**, must be send to music@challenge-cup.nl before the entry deadline of **December 19, 2025**.

Competitors must provide a backup drive (USB stick) for each program. This USB stick must also be labelled with all mentioned data. CD's will not be accepted by the OC.

Please note: Files in MP3 format may have a significant difference in the music quality when reproduced. The Organizing Committee is not responsible if the music quality would be insufficient.

If music information is not complete and provided as mentioned, accreditation will not be given.

Planned Program Content & Press forms.

The Planned Program Content, Music and Press forms must also be entered by the ISU Member or the Skater(s) on the dedicated ISU platform before the entry deadline of **December 19, 2025**. It is mandatory that the Program Content information be filled in precisely by each Skater/team in English using the terminology for the elements listed in the respective ISU Communication.

7. TRANSPORTATION

Arrival & Departure

Members are responsible for their own transportation upon arrival at Schiphol. For transfer from and to Schiphol airport please contact directly:

[Taxi Korthout Midden-Brabant Tilburg | +31 \(0\)13-4555555](mailto:Taxi Korthout Midden-Brabant Tilburg | +31 (0)13-4555555)

E-mail: TBA

This must be done in advance and pre-payment is required by Taxi Korthout.

Please follow all measures mentioned by Taxi Korthout for travel. If you book transportation with Taxi Korthout, make sure to mention that this is for the Challenge Cup. Pricing and reservation code will follow soon.

Travelling from Schiphol to Tilburg by train is also possible and easy to reach.

Multiple connections per day are available. More information on [Travel information | NS](#)

All invited Officials, Judges, Competitors, Team Leaders, Coaches and Chaperones taking part in the competition must inform the Organizing Committee as soon as possible, but no later than **December 19, 2025**, through the Team Travel Form and the dedicated ISU platform (ORS). Updates after the deadline should directly be e-mailed to challengecup@knsb.nl.

Shuttle

The organizing committee will provide a shuttle service from Thursday, January 22 till Sunday, January 25 between the official hotels and the ice rink. The shuttle fee will follow as soon as possible in an updated announcement.

Shuttle service will only be available from the following hotels:

IBIS Hotel | Van der Valk Hotel | Bastion Hotel | Auberge du Bonheur

Separate invoices will be sent to the federations in advance. As soon as the transportation fee has been paid, no refund is possible.

8. OFFICIAL HOTELS for Teams (competitors, coaches, team leaders, chaperones)

The expenses for rooms and meals for Team Leaders, Coaches, Competitors and other team officials are on the account of the team. All hotel payments to be made directly at the hotel. Only from these 3 hotels there is a shuttle bus from and to the ice rink. Hotel rooms can be booked based on availability, so it is advisable to do this as soon as possible to avoid disappointments.

Hotel Ibis (***)	Hotel Van der Valk (****)	Hotel Bastion (***)
Dr. Hub van Doorneweg 105	Dokter Bloemenlaan 8	Kempenbaan 2
5026 RB Tilburg	5022 KW Tilburg	5018 KT Tilburg
T + 31 13 463 6465	T + 31 13 8000800	T + 31 544 1999
reservations@ibis-tilburg.nl	sales@tilburg.valk.nl	info@bastionhotels.nl
Pricing on request	single use € 184,50 (incl. breakfast)	Pricing on request
Pricing on request	double use € 204, - (incl. breakfast)	Pricing on request
Reservation based on availability. Reservation code: Challenge Cup	Reservation based on availability. Reservation code: GF15036 Challenge Cup	Reservation based on availability.
city tax: 3,5% per room per night	city tax: 3,5% per room per night	city tax: 3,5% per room per night

Alternative hotel (no shuttle service):

Fletcher Hotel-Restaurant Oisterwijk-Tilburg*****

Almyststraat 12, 5061 PA Oisterwijk | Phone: +31 13 208 8099 | Email: info@fletcherhoteloisterwijk.nl

Reservations: directly by email, pricing on request.

Mercure Hotel Tilburg (city center)*****

Heuvel 37, 5038 CP Tilburg | Phone: +31 13 535 4675 | Email: reservations@mercure-tilburg.nl

Reservations directly by email, pricing on request.

9. ACCREDITATION

The accreditation office is located at the ice rink. Accreditation will be given to each official, skater, 1 coach per skater (on proof of the coaching license), 1 team leader per ISU member plus 1 chaperone per skater (only for basic novice and advanced novice).

10. RESULTS

The marking system (ISU Figure Skating Manager) as described in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating 2024, Rule 352 will be in place.

11. MEDAL CEREMONY

The medal ceremony will take place at the end of the competition. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the winning athletes in each category.

The best placed team will be honoured with the International Challenge Cup. In case of a draw the highest number of first and/or second places will be considered.

For the National Championship, gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the winning athletes in each category.

12. INSURANCE / LIABILITY

In accordance with Rule 119, it is the sole responsibility 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 the return to the home country by air transport or by other expeditious means of the ill or injured person. The KNSB is not responsible and/or liable for and with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred in connection incurred by competitors and officials.

13. MEDIA ACCREDITATION

For media accreditation and other media information, please contact the OC press officer Mr. Hans Nieuwenburg via persaccreditatie@knsb.nl.

14. FOOTAGE PURCHASE INFORMATION

For footage purchase information, please contact Ms. Anouk Kuiper, a.kuiper@knsb.nl.

15. COMMUNICATION | SPORTITY APP

For all communication concerning the competition the "Sportity" app will be available. You can download the "Sportity" app in your app store on your mobile device. After downloading you will have the option to add a channel. Submit the following password to gain access to the channel about the information for this event:

PASSWORD: CC2026

Please allow push notifications of the app to keep informed of all communication regarding the Challenge Cup.

16. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

For additional information (entries, visa invitation letter request), please contact the Organizing Committee:

KNSB Ms. Esther de Groot
E-mail: challengecup@knsb.nl
Website: [Challenge Cup & NK Kunstschaatsen - Schaatsen.nl](https://www.kunstschaatsen.nl)
Address: Mississippidreef 153, 3565 CE Utrecht, The Netherlands
Phone: +31 88 489 2000
Social Media: Instagram: [Instagram Challenge Cup](https://www.instagram.com/challengecup)
 Facebook: [Facebook Challenge Cup](https://www.facebook.com/challengecup)

17. DRAFT EVENT SCHEDULE*

January 21, Wednesday	15:00	Draw
January 22, Thursday	08:00	Start Official Practice
	TBD	Referees' and Technical Panel meetings
	TBD	Initial Judges' meeting
	11:45	Opening Ceremony Challenge Cup

12:00 Advanced Novice Boys Short Program
13:00 Advanced Novice Girls Short Program
16:30 Junior Men Short Program
17:30 Junior Dance RD
18.15 Senior Dance RD
20:30 End of competition

January 23, Friday

08:00 Start Official Practice
08:00 Basic Novice Boys Free Skating
08:15 Basic Novice Girls Free Skating
10:30 Advanced Novice Girls Free Skating
14:00 Junior Men Free Skating
15:00 Victory Ceremony
15:45 Senior Men Short Program
17:30 Junior Dance FD
18:00 Senior Dance FD
20:15 Victory Ceremony
20:45 End of competition

January 24, Saturday

08:00 Start Official Practice
08:00 Advanced Novice Boys Free Skating
09:15 Junior Woman Short Program
12:45 Senior Men Free Skating
14:15 Victory Ceremony
15.00 Senior Woman Short Program
17,15 Adv. Novice Pairs Short Program
18.00 Junior Pairs Short Program
18:45 Senior Pairs Short Program
20.00 End of Competition

January 25, Sunday

08:00 Start Official Practice
08:00 Junior Woman Free Skating
11:45 Senior Woman Free Skating
14.15 Adv. Novice Pairs Free Skating
15.00 Junior Pairs Free Skating

15.45 Senior Pairs Free Skating
 17:15 Victory Ceremony
 Award Challenge Cup 2026
 End of Competition

Draft: subject to change

18. SUMMARY OF DEADLINES

Form	Deadline	To be submitted via
Preliminary Entry Form	24.11.2025	ORS
Entry by Name for Judges	19.12.2025	ORS
Entry by Name for Competitors	19.12.2025	ORS
Composition of Delegation	19.12.2025	ORS
Travel Form	19.12.2025	ORS and separate Travel Form
Press Information	19.12.2025	ISU Portal
Competition Music Information	19.12.2025	ISU Portal
Ice Dance Music Information	19.12.2025	ISU Portal
Planned Program Content	19.12.2025	ISU Portal
Visa Request Form	19.12.2025	Form Visa Request
Hotel Reservations	19.12.2025	by email directly to the hotel
Payment invoices for entry fee, transport fee	20.01.2026	Bank transfer, invoices will be sent after confirmation of your entries