ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix 2026

NHK Trophy

ANNOUNCEMENT

NHK Trophy 2026

An International Senior Competition

for

Men, Women, Pairs, and Ice Dance

organized by

Japan Skating Federation

held in

Tokyo, Japan

November 27 – 29, 2026

A competition as part of the

ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix Series

under the authorization of the

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

The **NHK Trophy 2026** will be conducted in accordance with the ISU Constitution 2025, Competition & Event Regulations 2026 (CER), Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, and all relevant ISU Communications.

Participation in the **NHK Trophy 2026** is open to all Competitors who belong to an ISU Member and qualify with regard to eligibility according to Competition & Event Regulations 2026, Article 7.2, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in Article 9.3.1, and they meet the participation, citizenship, and residency requirements in Article 8, and ISU Communication No. 2526 or any update of this Communication.

In accordance with Article 8.3 of the CER 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.

Entries can only be made through the ISU Members. With reference to the Announcement of the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix 2026/27 the event is only open to invited competitors.

2. TECHNICAL DATA

Place	**Keio Arena Tokyo** 290-11, Nishimachi, Chofu-shi, Tokyo, 182-0032, Japan (an indoor ice rink with the ice surface of 60 x 30 m, air-conditioned and heated)	
MEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 611, paragraphs 1 and 2. Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communication. Special attention should be paid to the “well balanced program” and the element value. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.
WOMEN	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 611, paragraphs 1 and 2. Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 612 and the respective ISU Communication. Special attention should be paid to the “well balanced program” and the element value. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.

PAIR SKATING	Short Program	The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 620, paragraphs 1 and 2 for 2026/27. Duration: 2 min., 40 sec. +/- 10 sec.
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, 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.
ICE DANCE	Rhythm Dance	In accordance with ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 709. Rhythms, required elements, and guidelines are those listed in ISU Communication 2795 and subsequent updates. Duration: 2 min., 50 sec., +/- 10 sec
	Free Dance	In accordance with ISU Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 710. The required elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Communication 2795 and subsequent updates. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.

3. ENTRIES

3.1 Confirmation of Entries

In accordance with the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix 2026/27 announcement, entries can only be made for skaters/couples who are qualified and/or selected for invitation. The confirmation of the entries must be submitted by **August 30, 2026** latest to

Japan Skating Federation
Attn: Tomoko DOI
e-mail: jsf-figure-events@skatingjapan.or.jp

with a copy to

ISU Office
e-mail: entries@isu.org

Changes or substitutions require the approval of the ISU Grand Prix Management Group.

3.2 Entries by Name

All entries for the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix Events must be done through the **ISU Online Registration System (ORS)** by the deadline indicated. Hotel and travel information must also be entered into ORS, as well as bank information. Declarations will need to be uploaded to the ORS as well.

3.2.1 Entries of Competitors

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:

Japan Skating Federation
Attn: Tomoko DOI

e-mail: jsf-figure-events@skatingjapan.or.jp

and to

ISU Office
e-mail: entries@isu.org

not later than **Friday, October 16, 2026 – 20:00 (local time Tokyo, Japan)**.

The replacement of Competitors in the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix will be made in accordance with Paragraphs 3.5 and 7.6 of the Announcement for the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix 2026/27.

3.2.2 Entries of Judges

An entry of competitor(s) is not automatically followed by an entry of a Judge. Participating ISU Members may be invited by the Organizing Member to nominate one or more Judges for one event. Any substitution or changes for any of the invited judges need the approval of the Organizing Member.

The Entries of Judges must be made via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS).

Please observe the restrictions concerning the selection of Judges within the events of the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix 2026/27, that no Judge may serve in more than two ISU Grand Prix events.

Each panel of Judges will consist of a maximum of 9 Judges, but with a minimum of 7 Judges, if possible.

3.2.3 Entries of Team Members

Official entries of Team Leaders, Assistant Team Leaders, Coaches, Team Officials, Team Medical Staff, Member Press Officer (if applicable), and the partner or relative of a Judge will be accepted. Accreditation will be provided to those who are officially accepted by the Organizer/ISU in ORS.

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 life partner or a relative of the Judge. The ISU Member guarantees that the requested accreditation of Team Members will correspond to their function within the team and the Federation.

Chaperones will also be accepted. A maximum of one per skater entered. ISU Members will need to indicate the relation between the chaperone and the entered skater. Only family members or direct relations will be accepted as Chaperones.

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 Office not later than **Friday, October 16, 2026 – 20:00 (local time Tokyo, Japan)**.

4. MEALS, LODGING, and TRAVEL EXPENSES

4.1 Meals and Lodging

The organizer will provide and cover the expenses for rooms and meals for all Competitors and Judges participating, beginning with dinner on **Wednesday, November 25, 2026,** and continuing until breakfast on **Monday, November 30, 2026**.

Should any Competitor or Judge arrive at the hotel before or stay longer than the period described above, their room costs and expenses, including meals and ground transportation, will be the responsibility of the individual and must be paid directly to the hotel or transport company, except if an arrangement has been made with the organizer. The OC cannot guarantee airport transportation for those arriving prior to November 25 or leaving after November 30.

The organizer will provide and cover the expenses for rooms and meals also for the ISU Representative, the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the ISU Grand Prix Coordinator for the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix, the Data and Replay Operators during the same period as indicated for the competitors. Should any officials as described above arrive at the hotel before or stay longer than the period required by the ISU, their room costs and expenses, including meals and ground transportation, will be the responsibility of the individual and must be paid directly to the hotel or transport company, except if an arrangement has been made with the organizer. Attending spouses or partners of the persons listed above are the sole financial responsibility of the person above for housing and meals. Any accreditation requests for additional persons need to be entered in ORS and would be subject to ISU review and approval. The OC cannot guarantee airport transportation for those arriving prior to November 25 or leaving after November 30.

4.2 Travel Expenses

For the 2026/27 season, the invited ISU Member is responsible for the air ticket(s) of its invited Skaters/Couples and Judges to each ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix event. To help offset the expense of the air ticket(s), the Organizing ISU Member will pay a travel contribution determined by the Organizing ISU Member based on the economy airfare rate for all Skaters/Couples and Judges invited to its ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix event from their training site or gateway city in their country to the event and return. This travel contribution will be determined and communicated to the ISU Members of the Invited Skaters/Couples and Judges at the time of the invitation. The travel contribution will be paid to the ISU Member after the end of the respective ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix event, based on the procedures outlined in the invitation. The travel expenses of the Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, and Data & Replay Operators are covered by the ISU.

Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, and Data & Replay Operators must receive confirmation and approval from the ISU Office if they wish to purchase their own tickets.

If a Skater/Couple or Judge does not start an event, that Skater/Couple's or Judge's ISU Member is obligated to cover the expenses for travel, accommodation, and meals for the Skater/Couple or Judge.

4.3 Miscellaneous

All extra expenses incurred by any Team Member or any kind of Official will be the responsibility of that person and must be paid before departure.

Judges, Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, and Data and Replay Operators will receive remuneration in accordance with ISU Communication No. 2815 (or any update of this Communication). The honorarium will be provided in hard currency. The remuneration will be paid upon accreditation to the Judges.

5. PRACTICE

Official practice for Competitors begins on **Thursday, November 26, 2026**. The detailed schedule will be issued at the time of registration.

6. MUSIC / PLANNED PROGRAM CONTENT

In accordance with Rule 343 in the Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, the following method to submit the Competitor's music to the Organizing Committee must be followed:

- the ISU Member is responsible for submitting their Competitor's music as a direct attachment to an email to the Organizing Committee (music@skatingjapan.or.jp) with a reference "**NHK Trophy 2026" until November 16, 2026**.
  Please note: *some music files might exceed the size of a regular email. In this case, an email-based transfer service that allows sending large files could be used to send the file to the OC.*
- each submission shall be labelled with the name of the ISU Member, name of the category, segment, and the name(s) of the competitor(s):

  Example:
  GER_Men_SP_MUSTERMANN-Max
  GER_Men_FS_MUSTERMANN-Max

SUI_Pairs_SP_MUSTERMANN-Erika_MUSTERMANN-Max

- the music files must be sent as **WAV or MP3** file formats. Any other format is not acceptable.
  Please note: *Files in MP3 format may have a significant difference in the music quality when reproduced. The Organizing Committee in this case is not responsible if the music quality is insufficient.*
- Each Competitor must have their own backup drive (USB Stick) for each program in the format of a WAV or MP3 file.
- The exact running time of the music (not skating time) must be communicated to the Organizing Committee when submitting the music and shall be certified by the Competitor/Coach/Team Leader at the time of registration.
- During the 1st Official Practice, the music will be played as indicated in the Practice Schedule and will allow to verify the correctness of the submitted music. If there is an issue with the music, the Team Leader/Coach may be allowed to change the music by presenting an acceptable reproduction to the Organizing Committee's Music Team (USB Stick with file format of WAV or MP3 file).

If the music files have been submitted within the above-mentioned deadline to the Organizing Committee, then the music team of the Organizing Committee is entirely responsible for the correct execution of the music. In case of issues with submitted music files, the Organizing Committee may request, at the time of registration a secondary copy of the music files. In case the music files have not been submitted in time to the Organizing Committee, the skater(s) must present their music latest at the time of registration on the above-defined means and in the defined format.

ISU Members/Skaters are reminded that, in order for them to use music to accompany their routines, the following 'Music Accompaniment' rights/ licenses are required:

- the right to edit or adapt music into a mix, if more than one song is being used.
- the right to set choreography to the music, often referred to as a 'Grand Right', which is the right to perform musical compositions and recordings within the context of a "dramatic work" or choreography.
- the right to create any copies of the music that may be needed for training and competition purposes, also known as the 'mechanical rights'.

In order for music to be fully cleared for these uses, these rights need to be cleared for every track used in each mix that contains a license (backed by a warranty and legal indemnity) for appropriate territory(s) that covers both the master rights of the recording artist and the publishing rights of each writer and composer of the track.

There are several ways in which ISU Members and their Skaters can legally use or create a music mix to accompany their routine/performance:

1. For easy compliance with the above-mentioned requirements, it is recommended to use commercially released or production music which has been pre-cleared, such as from ClicknClear.com.
2. Use completely original music (specially commissioned) written and/or recorded by a AI, composer and/or artist. If you do this, please ensure you have contractually obtained the relevant rights required. ClicknClear's License Verification System has an online form that your composer/artist can use to confirm the rights they have granted you.
3. Use music out of copyright (otherwise known as music in the public domain). To be noted that the duration of copyright varies in each country, so ISU Members MUST check their local copyright law.
4. Secure a license directly from the owners of the music that the Skaters would like to use. In some cases, ClicknClear may be able to assist in the clearance of music not currently available on the ClicknClear platform. However, please note this route may be significantly more expensive, may take significant time, and there is no guarantee of a positive outcome.

The titles, composers and orchestras of the music to be used for the Short Program and Free Skating Program for Single, for the Rhythm and Free Dance Program for Ice Dance and for the Exhibition must all be entered, in detail, by the ISU Member or the Skater(s) on the dedicated ISU platform.

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

The Planned Program Content must also be entered by the ISU Member or the Skater(s) on the dedicated ISU platform. 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. ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS / TEAMS

The participating Teams and all respective team members, as well as all Event Officials, are required to announce to the Organizing Committee as soon as possible but no later than **Friday, October 16, 2026,** the name of the airlines, flight numbers, dates, times of arrival, or any other information concerning transportation and arrivals. The detailed travel information needs to be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS).

The nearest airports to Tokyo are **Tokyo Haneda International Airport (HND)** and **Narita International Airport (NRT) ,** which are approximately **23** and **70 km,** respectively, from the official hotel. The Organizing Committee will provide a shuttle bus to meet the teams on arrival in accordance with the first information document.

8. OFFICIAL HOTELS

Hotel information will be available in the first information document, which will be forwarded to the ISU Members at the time of publication of this announcement. Hotel capacities can only be booked via the Organizing Committee. Hotel reservation requests need to be submitted via the ISU Online Registration System (ORS) as soon as possible, but no later than **Friday, October 16, 2026**.

9. ACCREDITATION

The official accreditation will be located at the Official hotel.

The ISU Member certifies with the entries in ORS 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 all people officially registered and approved in ORS.

Chaperons will not receive accreditation. Only those chaperones listed within ORS with complete information will be included in the airport transfers provided by the OC. The Team Leader may request “bus permits” for the official registered Chaperons to join the official shuttle bus system of the Organizing Committee.

10. RESULTS

The marking system (ISU Judging System) as described in Sports Rules Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance 2026, Rule 352 and Rule 353 will be used.

11. STARTING ORDERS

As indicated in ISU Rule 513, paragraph 1. c) i), in each ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix event, the participating Competitors will be listed according to their ISU World Standing placement at the time of the event. The starting order in the Short Program/Rhythm Dance will be the reverse order of the ISU World Standings. In the case of any tie, there will be a draw to determine the starting order.

Skaters/Couples, who have not received any ISU World Standing points, will be listed at the bottom of the ISU World Standing list in alphabetical order of the ISU Member. There will be a separate draw between those Skaters/Couples with no World Standing points to determine the starting order, following the principles of ISU Rule 513, paragraph 1. a).

For the Free Skating / Free Dance, the starting order will be the reverse order of the result after the Short Program/ Rhythm Dance.

12. PRESENTATION OF MEDALS

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 winners will be played, and the flags of the medal winners hoisted.

13. POINTS FOR "ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix"

Points will be awarded as follows:

Men and Women	
1st place	15 points
2nd place	13 points
3rd place	11 points
4th place	9 points
5th place	7 points
6th place	5 points
7th place	4 points
8th place	3 point

Pair Skating and Ice Dance	
1st place	15 points
2nd place	13 points
3rd place	11 points
4th place	9 points
5th place	7 points
6th place	5 points

The points received are of value for the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix and the qualification for the ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix Final. If a skater/couple does not complete an event due to illness or injury, this event will be treated as "not skated", i.e. the result(s) of the initial round(s) completed will not count for the Grand Prix ranking order. However, such an event will count as one participation but without receiving credit in the ranking order.

14. PRIZE MONEY

Prize Money will be awarded to the top 5 of each category. The exact amounts are indicated in ISU Communication 2820 (or any update of this communication).

The individual prize money minus taxes and wiring fees will be transferred to the ISU Members concerned immediately after the conclusion of the **NHK Trophy 2026.**

Skaters/Couples qualified or invited for the exhibition of an event must participate with an appropriate show number different from their competition programs. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of US$ 3,000 from the awarded Prize Money.

Skaters/Couples are expected to be ready for any ceremony and/or prize award and to participate in press conferences and/or social events if asked by the ISU and/or the event's Organizer. Failure to do so may result in a reduction of the awarded Prize Money. The decision to reduce Prize Money will be made by the ISU Representative attending the event, subsequently to be ratified by the Council.

15. ISU WORLD STANDINGS

World Standing points will also be awarded according to the "World Standings Procedure", which can be found on the ISU website (www.isu-skating.com/) under Figure Skating – Results – World Standings.

16. ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS

Anti-Doping tests will be carried out according to the ISU Anti-Doping Rules and ISU Anti-Doping Procedures, as given in the applicable ISU Communications (ISU Communication No. 2742 or any update of this Communications).

17. INSURANCE / LIABILITY

In accordance with CER Article 17.3, it is the sole responsibility of each ISU Member participating in ISU Events to provide medical and accident insurance for their athletes, officials, and all other members of the ISU Member's team. Such insurance must assure full medical attendance and also the return to the home country by air transport or by other expeditious means of the ill or injured person. It is an internal matter of each ISU Member to decide the issue of who shall pay the premium for such insurance.

The ISU assumes no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred by Competitors and Officials.

18. MEETINGS FOR ISU EVENT OFFICIALS AND JUDGES

Please see the dates and times for all official meetings in the attached schedule. ISU Event Officials and Judges are responsible for making their travel arrangements in order to be able to attend their respective pre- and post-event meetings. If the event Organizing Member or any other party makes the flight arrangements, the ISU Event Officials and the Judges are responsible for checking if such arrangements are in line with the detailed schedule as mentioned under paragraph 20.

19. INFORMATION

For further information, please contact

Japan Skating Federation
Attn: Tomoko DOI
e-mail: jsf-figure-events@skatingjapan.or.jp
Phone: +81 3 5843 0415

or

International Skating Union
Chemin de Brillancourt 4
1006 Lausanne, Switzerland
e-mail: entries@isu.org
phone: +41 21 612 6666

20. EVENT SCHEDULE – Subject to Change

Wednesday, November 25, 2026	All day	Arrival day
Thursday, November 26, 2026		Official Practice
	08:00	Technical Panel Meeting – ICE DANCE
	09:30	Technical Panel Meeting – PAIRS
	10:30	Team Leaders Meeting
	10:45	Technical Panel Meeting – MEN & WOMEN
	12:00	Medical Meeting
	16:00	Referee & TC Meeting
	17:00	Judges Meeting
	19:30	ISU & Judges Dinner
Friday, November 27, 2026	12:35	ICE DANCE – Rhythm Dance
	14:35	PAIRS – Short Program
	16:15	WOMEN – Short Program
	19:00	MEN – Short Program
Saturday, November 28, 2026	12:00	ICE DANCE – Free Dance
	14:00	Technical Panel Review – Ice Dance
	14:00	PAIRS – Free Skating
		Victory Ceremonies Pairs & Ice Dance
	16:30	Technical Panel Review – PAIRS
	16:30	WOMEN – Free Skating
		Victory Ceremony Women
	19:30	MEN – Free Skating
		Victory Ceremony Men
	21:30	Technical Panel Review – MEN & WOMEN
Sunday, November 29, 2026	08:00	Round Table Discussion – ICE DANCE
	09:15	Round Table Discussion – PAIRS
	10:30	Round Table Discussion – WOMEN
	11:45	Round Table Discussion – MEN
	13:05	Exhibition