

Communication No. 2248

Challenger Series in Synchronized Skating Season 2019/20

1. GENERAL

The **Challenger Series Synchronized Skating** is a series of International Synchronized Skating Competitions financially supported by the ISU.

The ISU Council agreed to financially support a restricted group of identified ISU Members traditionally staging International Synchronized Skating Competitions in Europe being part of the ISU Event Calendar and new International Synchronized Skating Competitions in Asia and in the North America. The objective is to ensure the proper and consistent organization and conduct of up to five (5) International Competitions linked together within the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating giving adequate opportunities for many Teams to compete at the international level and earn World Standing Points and to get prepared for competing at the ISU Championships; as well to increase the opportunity for Officials to officiate at an international level.

2. COMPETITIONS INCLUDED

In recognition of the longstanding tradition and merit of the following International Competitions:

- **Three (3) Challenger Series events in Europe will be selected annually between existing International Competitions on the ISU calendar.**

For the 2019-20 season:

- Leon Lurje Trophy Gothenburg / Sweden January 24-26, 2020
- French Cup Rouen / France January 31-February 2, 2020
- Spring Cup Milan / Italy February 14-16, 2020

And

- **One (1) Challenger Series event in North America to alternate between Canada and the United States.**

For the 2019-20 season:

- California Cup Irvine / USA November 6-9, 2019

- **One (1) Challenger Series event in Asia**

For the 2019-20 season:

- Asia Trophy Hong Kong / HKG November 29-30, 2019

The above-mentioned group of 5 Challenger Series events has been approved for season 2019/20.

3. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating, the competition must have at least a minimum of entries per categories. The minimum number of entries per categories is as follows:

- **Junior / Senior Teams: minimum of five (5) entries** each, from at least **four (4) ISU Members**

Each competition must strictly comply with the ISU Constitution, General and Special Regulations and Technical Rules 2018, in particular but not limited to the current Rules in the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2018 and the Special Regulations and Technical Rules Synchronized Skating 2018.

4. ENTRIES

Participation is open to all Teams of ISU Members with a maximum of two (2) entries per category (except for the Host Member), who are eligible for International "Senior" and "Junior" Competitions by age (Rule 108) and by citizenship (Rule 109), and entered through the respective ISU Member. The participation of Teams from the Host Member into the respective Challenger Series Synchronized Skating event is not limited. **There is a limit for any one (1) Team to enter a maximum of two (2) Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Events.**

5. APPOINTMENT OF EVENT OFFICIALS AS PER ISU REGULATIONS:

- Following the principles of Rule 910, paragraph 5 a) of the ISU Special Regulations and Technical Rules Synchronized Skating 2018, the members of each individual Technical Panel (Technical Controller and the Technical Specialists) must not be from the same ISU Member. The Technical Panel members must have the qualification of "ISU", however one of the three (3) members may have the qualification "International".
- The Referee must have at least the qualification "International" and can 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 must have the qualification of at least "International".
- No exception can be granted with respect to the above-mentioned composition of the Technical Panels and the qualification of the Referees and Data & Replay Operators.
- The Technical Panel members, the Referee and the Data and Replay Operators of International Competitions included in the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating must be proposed by the respective ISU organizing Member to the ISU Secretariat latest 45 days prior to the first day of the competition. Based on the information received and further to internal ISU consultations, involving possible changes as necessary to comply with the above-mentioned minimum requirements, the ISU Vice President Figure Skating will decide upon the final appointments of the above-mentioned Event Officials. The respective organizing ISU Member will be informed through the ISU Secretariat and must inform the participating ISU Members accordingly.
- The panel of Judges must include at least seven (7) Judges, all from different ISU Members. The qualification of the Judges must be at least "International". The panel of Judges must be submitted to the ISU Secretariat latest seven (7) days before the first day of the competition for review and approval.
- The Organizing Committee 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. The Organizing Committee will cover the costs for travel expenses for all Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators.

6. OFFICIALS REMUNERATION

The Judges, the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists and the Data & Replay Operators officiating in the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating categories (senior and junior) of the event will, at the expense of the organizing ISU Member, receive pocket money of CHF 200.00 or the equivalent in the local currency.

7. CHALLENGER SERIES SYNCHRONIZED SKATING RANKING

At the end of the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating, after the last event of the season has been concluded, the highest final score in the up to two (2) different Challenger Series Synchronized Skating events of each Team will be added and taken into consideration to form a Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Ranking which will be published on the ISU website taking the following calculation principles and tie breaking criteria into consideration:

- The Total Competition Score will be added to the Team Total Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Score which determines the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Ranking / Result;
- If the Total Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Score is tied for two or more Teams the following tie breaking criteria's will be in use:
 - the higher sum of the two Free Skating scores of the 2 competitions used for calculating the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Score will break the tie(s);
 - if they remain tied, the higher Free Skating score of the 2 competitions used for calculating the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating will break the tie(s);
 - if they remain tied, the higher sum of the two Short Program scores of the 2 competitions used for calculating the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Score will break the tie(s);
 - if they remain tied, the higher Short Program score of the 2 competitions used for calculating the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating Score will break the tie(s);
 - If these criteria fail to break the tie(s), the Teams in question will be considered as tied.

8. ISU CONTRIBUTION

Each ISU Member, organizing an event included in the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating will receive an ISU contribution of **CHF 20'000**. This contribution will be paid when the event has been successfully completed in line with the requirements included in this ISU Communication, in the general announcement of the Challenger Series Synchronized Skating and all relevant ISU Rules and Regulations. The contribution must be used to cover the costs for the Officials Honorarium (see paragraph 5) and the Expenses for accommodation and travel (see paragraph 4.g). Any remaining funds may cover ice costs or other organizational expenses of the organizing ISU Member.

Tubbergen,
May 10, 2019
Lausanne,

Jan Dijkema, President

Fredi Schmid, Director General