

MEMORANDUM

To	2011 Competition Sanction CanSkate Challenge Committee's & Assigned Tech Reps
Date	September 21, 2011
Reference	Guidelines re 2011/2012 CanSkate Challenge Competitions

For the 2011/2012 Season the CanSkate Challenge Competitions will be run as they have in the past except that there will be no one minute solos for any categories (CanSkate Stages & Introductory) the competitions will instead offer only 'element' based events. However, new this year we will also be offering the CanSkate Challenge Element Event - this category is different from all the other categories at your competition in that the skaters performance is not ranked, instead of traditional podium presentations for 1st, 2nd & 3rd, all skaters will receive a certificate indicating their overall performance level award (Gold, Silver, Bronze or Merit) This process is set out in the Technical Package provided by Skate Canada for this pilot.

The EOS Section Board and Championship Committee has determined that each CanSkate Challenge competition this season will be assigned a Tech Rep who will be in control of the running of the whole competition on the ice as well as assigning and scheduling Officials. The Tech Rep will also, in consultation with the Competition local organizing committee, complete the CanSkate Challenge Element Event Feedback Form and return it to the Section Championship Chair once the competition is over.

This Memo contains the information/documents you will need to proceed with your event. Please see below:

1. CanSkate Challenge Announcement Template
2. Technical Package for CanSkate Challenge Element Event Pilot
3. CanSkate Evaluation Standards/Award of Merit Certificates for Stage 4 through & including Stage 6 with respect to the CanSkate Challenge Element Event
4. CanSkate Element Event –Sample diagram of Ice Usage Set-up
5. CanSkate Element Event Feedback Form

As this season is a transition year between what we have offered in the past and what will be offered in the future, bringing all Sections across Canada in line with the LTAD Philosophy, you will see from the Announcement Template that the categories to be offered at each Sanctioned event have been divided into two Sections:

- Section "A" is the new Skate Canada-CanSkate Challenge Element Event and Section "B" contains the element events we have offered in the past.
- As Section "A" is a pilot project that we are running in conjunction with Skate Canada national office – the process and format of this category **cannot** be changed in any way.
- Section "B" however will be run as normal with a Judging Panel and Data team to work those categories

In order to help you organize and plan your competition please see below a series of 'Questions & Answers' developed by the Section Board and Championship Committee after our 'Connections' Workshop.

Question #1 – Will the organizing and planning of our competition be different now than in the past?

A. The planning and organizing of your competition will be no different than in previous years. You will still need an organizing committee and volunteers on the day of the event. Officials and Data specialists will also be required. If this is your first time running a competition the Section is in the process of developing a "Competition Manual" which you can use as a guide and reference. The hope is to have this document posted on the Section Website in the Fall. In the meantime any questions or concerns you have can be directed to the Section Championship Chair.

Question #2 - How will we run the CanSkate Challenge Element Event on the Ice?

A. The instructions as set out in the Skate Canada LTAD Technical Package are very clear – it is a cross between what takes place during a normal CanSkate Club Session and a Test day. The event is essentially double-paneled but with the Officials assessing at the Boards, not on the Judges stands. Unlike an element event in the past this new event has PA's and a Coach on the ice to keep the event moving along – the Club granted a Competition Sanction to run this event (Organizing Committee) will be required to indicate the number of coaches and experienced PA's they have available to assist with the on-ice component– your Tech Rep will look after the scheduling and inviting Officials and will be in charge on the actual day of the competition. However it may be a good idea to practice a 'dummy run' prior to the actual day. You can do this on one of your regular CanSkate Sessions. This biggest difference between this format and previous events is the way skaters are assessed.

Question #3 – Can we give out medals for the CanSkate Challenge Element Event?

A. No, the skaters competing in this category will each receive an 'Award of Merit' Certificate. In order to provide legitimate feedback to Skate Canada National Office we must run this pilot project within their set guidelines.

Question #4 – What do we do if the Coach/Coaches working on the ice during the CanSkate Challenge Element Event bill us for their time?

A. The question regarding paying coaches who work the CanSkate Challenge Element Event either as a coach on the ice or an Official assessing at the boards will be driven by each individual competition's working budget. However, Coaches are expected by Skate Canada to volunteer some of their time – another consideration is to give them an honorarium as you would an Official in the form of a gift card.

Question#6 – Do we still need Judges stands?

A. Yes, you will still require Judges Stands for the Section "B" element events – these should be built to the EOS standard as outlined in the EOS Competition Manual and in conjunction with your Tech Rep's requirements

Question #7 – What about Data Specialists?

A. You will still require a Data team for the Section "B" events at your competition. These personnel will be assigned by the Section Data Specialist Chair or the Data Specialist Rep for your Regions prior to your event. The data tabulation required for Section "A" of your event is outlined in the Skate Canada Technical Package for the CanSkate Challenge Element Event and a team can be put together by your Organizing Committee – the Club's Treasurer or Test Chair may be a good choice to lead this team.

Question #8 - How do we give out the Award of Merit certificates to the participants in Section "A" of our competition?

A. As all the skaters in each flight will receive an Award of Merit Certificate & a copy of their original Scoring Standards Sheet it is hoped that they should all be presented to them together as a group in front of the Competition's Medal Presentation area and their parents, coaches and peers.

Please remember - once you have completed the draft CanSkate Challenge Announcement Template –in conjunction with your assigned Tech Rep - it must be forwarded to the EOS Championship Chair for approval before it can be posted on your Club's website or sent out into the community.

Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Section Championship Chair.

Yours in skating,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Monaghan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ann" and last name "Monaghan" clearly distinguishable.

Ann Monaghan
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