

Preparing For Test Day

When a Test Day is approaching and a coach feels that her skater has mastered the skills necessary to pass a test she will give him a Test application. This application must be fully completed by the parent including the skater's Skate Canada number and handed in to the skating office with the proper test fee by the due date. DO NOT BE LATE- LATE ENVELOPES ARE NOT ACCEPTED- NOT EVEN ONE DAY LATE! Notices of Test Days and due dates for applications are posted on the bulletin boards. The test fee isn't kept by the Club, it is passed on to the Skate Canada office in Ottawa. The administration fee is used by the Club to run the test day- paperwork, judges, etc.

A test day schedule will be posted on the bulletin board about a week before the tests. Your skater won't necessarily be trying his test during his usual skating time so make sure you check for details. You should arrive at the rink at least 45 minutes before the test is scheduled to start as tests often run early.

Skaters must be dressed appropriately for tests- skating dresses, beige tights and neat hair for girls, trim pants and a trim shirt or sweater for boys. Make sure your skates and laces are clean and neat. Skaters may wear a sweater and gloves for warm-up but these should be removed for the test. Hair MUST be tidy; pull it back if it is long. Girls customarily wear some makeup- blush and lipstick and usually have some kind of decoration in their hair. Appropriate skating attire can be found at reasonable prices in The Boutique at ice level at our Club or at one of the figure skating stores in the Toronto area. Skates should be properly sharpened and clean with neat laces. Do not arrive on the day of the test with freshly sharpened skates. If your child's skates need to be sharpened it is a good idea to do this a few sessions beforehand; skaters need a few times on them to get used to the sharpening. Skates can be cleaned with white shoe polish or white shoe dye. Laces should be taken out and washed. This should be done a couple of practices before the test so that the laces can be worked back into a comfortable and correct position for the skater.

There will be a short warm up before each set of tests. Certain tests require skaters to practice both directions and/or both feet of certain skills but only one will be chosen for the test. If this is the case the draw for direction or foot will take place just before the warm-up.

Skaters are assessed one at a time by an Evaluator on a Pass-Retry basis. The results of each test are recorded on a summary sheet that must be signed by the Evaluator before the results can be announced. Once this has been done (about 15-45 minutes after the test) the Test Chairman will hand out the results (usually with the Evaluator's comments) to each skater and/or their coach. Test results are final.

Skaters who receive a Retry may try their test again on the next test day. Unless the skater provides a doctor's certificate should he register for a test and then not take it the test will be recorded as a Retry and the entry fee will not be refunded.

Evaluators are trained volunteers. They are not paid because they must remain amateurs according to ISU (International Skating Union) rules.

Skate Canada Tests

At the CanSkate and Junior level badges are evaluated by coaches. There are no set test days; skaters earn badges as soon as they master the necessary skills. Unlike badges, Skate Canada tests are tried on special test days before an Evaluator. Skaters might start trying Skate Canada tests at the Junior level but more likely in Intermediate. To begin with there are Skate Canada tests available in Free Skating, Dance and Skills, each stream beginning with the Preliminary Test.

Preliminary Free Test

- * 14 Elements in isolation
- * 1½ minute Programme

These two parts make up one test. They may be tried separately. If one part has to be retried the skater can retry just that part on the next Test day.

Preliminary Dance Test

- * Dutch Waltz
- * Canasta Tango
- * Baby Blues

Each dance is a separate test and can be tried on separate days. When the skater has passed all 3 dances, he is credited with the Preliminary Dance Test. Dance tests are skated with a partner.

Preliminary Skills Test

- * Waltzing Threes
- * Waltzing Mohawks
- * Preliminary Circles

All 3 exercises are tried on the same day as one test.

When Are Test Days Held?

Skate Canada tests are tried on special Test days that are scheduled about every 3 months in the winter and every 4 weeks in the summer. The number of test days/year is allocated to each club by our Central Ontario Section office according to need and the number of judges available. Be aware of when Test days are scheduled by reading the bulletin board. Even if your skater is not trying a test you will still need to know about Test days because it may mean that regular skating is cancelled for that day.

Scarboro FSC Test days are divided into two levels:

Low Tests

Preliminary Free Skate, Dance & Skills
Junior Bronze Free Skate, Dance & Skills
Senior Bronze Free Skate, Dance & Skills

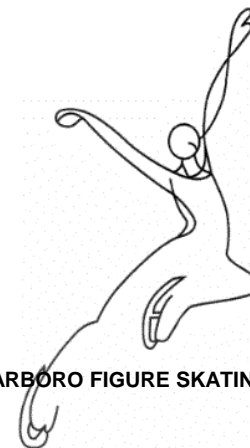
High Tests

Junior Silver Free Skate, Dance & Skills
Senior Silver Free Skate, Dance & Skills
Gold Free Skate, Dance & Skills
All Interpretive Tests

Diamond Dance and Competitive tests take place on special Centralized Test days held about once a month at various Clubs throughout the Central Ontario Section. Check with your coach for details.

PREPARING FOR TEST DAY

The Testing Process Skate Canada Tests Preliminary Tests Low and High Tests



SCARBORO FIGURE SKATING CLUB