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The Road to Greensboro Starts Today!

October 2, 2019, Greensboro, NC – Athlete qualifications for the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Greensboro, NC, get underway today with regional singles challenges and sectional pairs and ice dance challenges at three sites in the U.S.: Ashton, PA; Lansing, MI; and Mountlake Terrace, WA.

Altogether fourteen different regional challenges, which comprise the first step of skater qualifications for the U.S. Championships, will be held at seven locations across the country, beginning today and continuing through the month of October. Each competition runs from Wednesday through Sunday, and will be held as follows:

Eastern Challenges

- South Atlantic Singles Challenge, Aston, PA October 2 – 6
- Eastern Ice Dance and Pairs Challenges, Aston, PA October 2 - 6
- New England Singles Challenge, Westborough, MA October 23 – 27
- North Atlantic Singles Challenge, Westborough, MA October 23 – 27

Midwestern Challenges

- Eastern Great Lakes Singles Challenge, Lansing, MI October 2 – 6
- Midwestern Ice Dance Challenge, Lansing, MI October 2 - 6
- Southwestern Singles Challenge, Colorado Springs, CO October 16 – 20
- Midwestern Pairs Challenge, Colorado Springs, CO October 16 - 20
- Upper Great Lakes Singles Challenge, St. Paul, MN October 23 – 27

Pacific Coast Challenges

- Northwest Pacific Singles Challenge, Mountlake Terrace, WA October 2 – 6

- Southwest Pacific Singles Challenge, Irvine, CA October 16 – 20
- Pacific Coast Pairs Challenge, Irvine, CA October 16 - 20
- Central Pacific Singles Challenge, Salt Lake City October 23 – 27
- Pacific Coast Ice Dance Challenge, Salt Lake City October 23 - 27

Athletes advancing to the next round of qualifying will compete in sectional or U.S. final to be held next month, Tuesday, November 12 through Saturday, November 16. The competitions are:

- Eastern Singles Final, Hyannis, MA
- U.S. Ice Dance Final, Hyannis, MA
- Midwestern Singles Final, Allen, TX
- U.S. Pairs Final, Allen, TX
- Pacific Coast Singles Final, Wenatchee, WA

Those top athletes at the sectional and U.S. finals at the junior and senior level (as well as some top novice competitors) in ladies, men, pairs, and ice dance will then go on to compete in Greensboro at the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships which will be held January 20-26, 2020, at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex in Greensboro, NC. Select athletes at the novice, intermediate and juvenile levels will be named to the National High Performance Development Team and will participate in a camp held in conjunction with U.S. Championship.



This marks the third time that the U.S. Championships have been held in Greensboro as the 2011 and 2015 Championships were also held in the city. Hill Carrow, Chairman of the North Carolina 2020, Local Organizing Committee for the Championships, described part of Greensboro's attraction: "The Greensboro Coliseum Complex features a unique presentation for the event, with the three major components – competition, practice, and FanFest – all in one building, under one roof, making it highly popular with the athletes, coaches and officials as one of the most convenient and compelling Championship layouts."

The U.S. Figure Skating Championships, will be celebrating their 105th edition in North Carolina in 2020. It is the nation's most prestigious figure skating event, with past champions including Michelle Kwan, Kristi Yamaguchi, Brian Boitano and Scott Hamilton. Champions will be crowned in ladies, men's, pairs and ice dance at the championship and junior levels of the U.S. Figure Skating competitive structure. Reigning senior U.S. champions include Alysa Liu (ladies), Nathan Chen (men), Ashley Cain-Gribble and Timothy LeDuc (pairs), and Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue (ice dance).

The 2020 U.S. Championships will be broadcast live on NBC and streamed live on the Figure Skating Pass on NBC Sports Gold. Recent U.S. Championships were held in St. Paul, Minnesota (2016), Kansas City, Missouri (2017), San Jose, California (2018), and Detroit (2019).

Tickets for the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships are available through the event website at ncskate2020.com, Ticketmaster.com, the Greensboro Coliseum Box Office and Ticketmaster's charge-by-phone system at 1-800-745-3000.

To purchase tickets, to receive 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships news and ticket alerts, and for more information, visit www.ncskate2020.com.

About U.S. Figure Skating: *U.S. Figure Skating is the national governing body for the sport of figure skating in the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and the International Skating Union. U.S. Figure Skating is comprised of more than 765 member clubs, collegiate clubs, school-affiliated clubs and more than 1,000 registered Learn to Skate USA programs representing more than 203,023 members. U.S. Figure Skating is charged with the development of the sport on all levels within the United States including athletes, officials, sanctioning of events and exhibitions, and establishing the rules and guidelines by which the sport is governed. For more information on U.S. Figure Skating, visit www.usfigureskating.com.*

About North Carolina 2020: North Carolina 2020 (NC 2020) is the local organizing committee for the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships to be held in Greensboro, N.C. NC 2020 encompasses a collaborative team consisting of the Greensboro Coliseum Complex, the Greensboro Sports Foundation, the Greensboro Sports Commission, the Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau, Sports & Properties, Inc., and North Carolina Figure Skating. Official Local Sponsors of the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships are Gold Sponsors: Greensboro Convention & Visitors Bureau, BB&T, Greensboro Coliseum Complex, and Cone Health; Silver Sponsor: Graphic Visual Solutions; Bronze Sponsors: The City of Greensboro, Vela Agency, and Trone Brand Energy; Official Sponsors: Ice Rink Events, Pepsi Bottling Ventures, and The Cemala Foundation; Official Supplier: Hagan Barrett Law Firm; Official Patron: Systel Business Equipment; Diamond Media Partner: WGHP-TV Fox8; Platinum Media Partners: iHeart Media and Capitol Broadcasting Company; Premier Media Partner: The News & Record; and Medal Media Partners: Guilford Woman Magazine, Forsyth Family Magazine, and O.Henry Magazine. For more information on North Carolina 2020 and the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, visit www.ncskate2020.com.