

Hope Cup 2026

Technical data

A CLASS

All the ISU categories (Basic Novice, Intermediate Novice, Advanced Novice, Junior, Senior) will be judged in accordance with the latest ISU rules and communications.

- Any skater who has not met the lower age limit (is younger) of the category, but their skills meet the technical requirements of the category can be allowed to skate in the higher category.
- No skater can change from Class A to Class B and from Class B to Class C within the season in competitions listed in the Estonian Skating Union Competition Calendar.
- Any protests can be filed in accordance with ISU Rule 123. Protest fee of 50 EUR or other convertible currency to the same value must be deposited with the Referee. The protest must be submitted to the Referee of the event in writing. In case the Referee cannot be reached, the protest can be submitted to the Competition Office. All protests must be submitted no later than 24h after the announcement of the segment results.
- Any protests can be lodged by:
 - Competitors or team leaders accredited for the competition concerned.
 - With the approval of such Competitor(s), or team leaders, members of the committee organizing the competition or any official representatives of affiliated clubs that have entered Competitor(s).
 - Protests must be filed with the Referee in writing and within the stated time limit. At the same time the protest is filed 50 euro must be deposited with the Referee. In the case where the protest is successful the protest fee will be refunded, otherwise the Referee will remit it to the Organizing Committee. If the Referee is not available in person at the site or hotel, the Protest shall be sent by email to the Competition Secretariat which will forward it to the Referee concerned.
- Protest must be submitted within the published time frames:
 - against incorrect mathematical calculation may be filed until 24 hours after the Victory Ceremony of the category concerned.
 - Concerning the participation of a Competitor must be filed before the competition starts. If an immediate decision cannot be reached, the

Competitor is permitted to start, but the announcement of the final result and the distribution of the prizes shall be deferred until a decision has been reached.

- Concerning the composition of the panel of Officials must be filed within 30 minutes of its announcement.
- Any other protests must be filed immediately, thus not later than 30 minutes after the end of the Segment concerned.
- No protests against evaluations by Referees, Judges and the Technical Panel (Technical Controller, Technical Specialists) of Skaters' performances are allowed.
- Protests against results are permitted only in the case of incorrect mathematical calculation. A wrong identification of an element or of a level of difficulty, although it results in a lower or higher score is not an incorrect mathematical calculation.

PRE-CHICKS A Girls/Boys (born 2019 and younger)

Free Skating only

Duration: 2 min. +/- 10 sec.

- maximum of four (4) jump elements
 - maximum of two (2) jump combinations or one (1) jump combination and one (1) jump sequence. Jump combinations and the jump sequence consist of two (2) jumps. In the jump sequence the second jump must be an Axel type jump with a direct step from the landing curve of the first jump into the take-off curve of the Axel jump. One full revolution on the ice between the jumps (free foot can touch the ice, but without weight transfer) keeps the element in the frame of the definition of a jump sequence. Jumps executed in a jump sequence receive their full value.
- maximum of two (2) spins of a different nature.
- one (1) Choreographic Sequence consisting of at least two (2) different skating movements.

The choice of music should be appropriate for the skater and his/her age.

Costumes must be age-appropriate and suitable for skaters participating in a competitive environment. Attention should also be paid to the amount of cosmetics used by a young athlete.

Additional information:

- The Program Components are only judged in: **Composition, Presentation and Skating Skills**. The factor for components is 1.67.
- In all elements, which are subject to Levels, only features up to Level 2 will be counted. All additional features will not count for Level requirements and will be ignored by the Technical Panel.
- Evaluation is in accordance with ISU Communication No.2701 (or any update).
- No jump with the same name can be executed more than twice including Axel type jumps.
- Time violation: 0.5 point deduction for up to every 5 seconds in excess.
- Interruption of performance will be deducted as follows:
 - more than 10 sec. up to 20 sec. – 0.5 point
 - more than 20 sec. up to 30 sec. – 1.0 point
 - more than 30 sec. up to 40 sec. – 1.5 point
- Interruption of the program with allowance of up to three (3) minutes to resume from the point of interruption – 2.5 point deduction per program.
- Falls: 0.5 point deduction per fall outside the element. Falls in elements will be called by the Technical Panel but with no deduction(s).
- There will be no special factor of 1.1 for jump elements performed in the second half of the program.
- A skater's outlook (costume, makeup) and program music selection must be appropriate to the skater's age and competitive environment of the sport.
- Warm-up time is 4 minutes and there can be up to 8 skaters in a warm-up group.

CHICKS A Girls/Boys (born 2017/2018)

Free Skating only

Duration: 2 min. +/- 10 sec.

- maximum of four (4) jump elements:
 - one of which must be an Axel-type jump
 - maximum of two (2) jump combinations or one (1) jump combination and one (1) jump sequence. Jump combinations and the jump sequence consist of two (2) jumps. In the jump sequence the second jump must be an Axel type jump with a direct step from the landing curve of the first jump into the take-off curve of the Axel jump. One full revolution on the ice between the jumps (free foot can touch the ice, but without weight transfer) keeps the

element in the frame of the definition of a jump sequence. Jumps executed in a jump sequence receive their full value.

- maximum of two (2) spins of a different nature (minimum of four (4) revolutions each). If with a change of foot, only one level feature per foot will count.
- one (1) step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface and including at least one skating movement such as a spiral, spread eagle, Ina Bauer, hydroblading etc. If the skating movement is missing, no Level will be given. At least 2 difficult turns and steps must be executed on clean edges for Level basic. The Technical Panel will not award Feature 3) Use of body movements for at least 1/3 of the pattern and Feature 4) Two combinations of 3 difficult turns on different feet.

The choice of music should be appropriate for the skater and his/her age.

Costumes must be age-appropriate and suitable for skaters participating in a competitive environment. Attention should also be paid to the amount of cosmetics used by a young athlete.

Additional information:

- The Program Components are only judged in: **Composition, Presentation and Skating Skills**. The factor for components is 1.67.
- In all elements, which are subject to Levels, only features up to Level 2 will be counted. All additional features will not count for Level requirements and will be ignored by the Technical Panel.
- Evaluation is in accordance with ISU Communication No.2701 (or any update).
- No jump with the same name can be executed more than twice including Axel type jumps.
- Time violation: 0.5 point deduction for up to every 5 seconds in excess.
- Interruption of performance will be deducted as follows:
 - more than 10 sec. up to 20 sec. – 0.5 point
 - more than 20 sec. up to 30 sec. – 1.0 point
 - more than 30 sec. up to 40 sec. – 1.5 point
- Interruption of the program with allowance of up to three (3) minutes to resume from the point of interruption – 2.5 point deduction per program.
- Falls: 0.5 point deduction per fall outside the element. Falls in elements will be called by the Technical Panel but with no deduction(s).
- There will be no special factor of 1.1 for jump elements performed in the second half of the program.

- A skater's outlook (costume, makeup) and program music selection must be appropriate to the skater's age and competitive environment of the sport.
- Warm-up time is 4 minutes and there can be up to 8 skaters in a warm-up group.

CUBS A Girls/Boys (born 2015/2016)

Free Skating only

Duration: 2 min. 30 sec. +/- 10 sec.

- maximum of four (4) jump elements:
 - one of which must be an Axel-type jump
 - maximum of two (2) jump combinations or one (1) jump combination and one (1) jump sequence. Jump combinations and the jump sequence consist of two (2) jumps. In the jump sequence the second jump must be an Axel type jump with a direct step from the landing curve of the first jump into the take-off curve of the Axel jump. One full revolution on the ice between the jumps (free foot can touch the ice, but without weight transfer) keeps the element in the frame of the definition of a jump sequence. Jumps executed in a jump sequence receive their full value.
- maximum of two (2) spins of a different nature:
 - one of which must be a spin combination with change of foot (minimum of eight (8) revolutions in total) or without change of foot (minimum of six (6) revolutions in total). If with a change of foot, only one level feature per foot will count. Flying entry is not allowed.
 - one a spin in one position with change of foot (minimum of three (8) revolutions in total) or without change of foot (minimum of six (6) revolutions in total). Flying entry is allowed.
- one (1) step sequence fully utilizing the ice surface and including at least one skating movement such as a spiral, spread eagle, Ina Bauer, hydroblading etc. If the skating movement is missing, no Level will be given. At least 2 difficult turns and steps must be executed on clean edges for Level basic. The Technical Panel will not award Feature 3) Use of body movements for at least 1/3 of the pattern and Feature 4) Two combinations of 3 difficult turns on different feet.

The choice of music should be appropriate for the skater and his/her age.

Additional information:

- The Program Components are only judged in: **Composition, Presentation and Skating Skills**. The factor for components is 1.67.
- In all elements, which are subject to Levels, only features up to Level 2 will be counted. All additional features will not count for Level requirements and will be ignored by the Technical Panel.
- Evaluation is in accordance with ISU Communication No.2701 (or any update).
- No jump with the same name can be executed more than twice including Axel type jumps.
- Time violation: 0.5 point deduction for up to every 5 seconds in excess.
- Interruption of performance will be deducted as follows:
 - more than 10 sec. up to 20 sec. – 0.5 point
 - more than 20 sec. up to 30 sec. – 1.0 point
 - more than 30 sec. up to 40 sec. – 1.5 point
- Interruption of the program with allowance of up to three (3) minutes to resume from the point of interruption – 2.5 point deduction per program.
- Falls: 0.5 point deduction per fall outside the element. Falls in elements will be called by the Technical Panel but with no deduction(s).
- There will be no special factor of 1.1 for jump elements performed in the second half of the program.
- A skater's outlook (costume, makeup) and program music selection must be appropriate to the skater's age and competitive environment of the sport.
- Warm-up time is 4 minutes and there can be up to 8 skaters in a warm-up group.

BASIC NOVICE

Basic Novice category will be held in accordance with latest ISU regulations and communications.

INTERMEDIATE NOVICE

Intermediate Novice category will be held in accordance with latest ISU regulations and communications.

ADVANCED NOVICE

Advanced Novice category will be held in accordance with latest ISU regulations and communications.

JUNIOR and SENIOR

Junior and Senior categories will be held in accordance with latest ISU regulations and communications.