



Impact of COVID-19 Social Restrictions on the 2020 Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut Wild Rose Competition and Skate Canada National Summer Series

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From: Lisa Hardy, Executive Director Skate Canada: Alberta-NWT/Nunavut

The COVID-19 virus continues to have a significant impact on Skaters, Coaches, Clubs and Volunteers in our Section but also across Canada. In times of so many unknowns and uncertainties the skating community has been showing their creativity and resourcefulness to stay connected where possible and to do our part in ensuring we follow the recommendations and protocols put in place by our health authorities to protect each other and practice physical distancing measures. We are all anxiously waiting for when we can return to the rink and start the new season, so we know and also feel the disappointment felt by all at yesterday's Provincial announcement that major summer events and festivals in Alberta are cancelled.

With that, in conjunction with the Alberta Figure Skating Foundation, we regretfully announce that the **2020 Wild Rose Competition July 31st – Aug 3rd, 2020 in Leduc has been cancelled**. Several factors have contributed to this decision however, the health and safety of our skaters continues to be and will remain to be our utmost priority and focus during these times.

As a result of event cancellations due to COVID-19, the Section is currently working on the qualifying mechanism for 2021 Sectionals, as well as updating guidelines for the Leading Edge program this season. Updates will be provided along with the 2020-2021 competition schedule as soon as the details have been finalized.

Additionally, in response to COVID-19 and the uncertainty regarding a formal start date to the 2020-2021 competitive season, it was announced today that Skate Canada will not be sanctioning the National Summer Series which typically runs in July and August. Additionally, in an effort to reduce potential obstacles related to competitive participation as the season unfolds, the Challenge Minimum Score requirement will be removed for the upcoming competitive season. As clarification, some Sections may still be running summer competitions this season however they will not be sanctioned as part of the Skate Canada National Summer Series.

Additional information, online resources

April 23, 2020 Province of Alberta Update: <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=701529E951954-0FCB-FEB4-CE8DADF81DD3ECD0>

Skate Canada Update to Competitions: <https://skatecanada.ca/covid-19-response/>

Supports for Albertans: <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-supports-for-albertans.aspx>

Supports for Businesses: <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-financial-support-for-businesses-and-organizations.aspx>

Sincerely,

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