AB INT I NU

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2023

Skate AB I NT I NU Competition Restructure Announcement

Skate AB I NT I NU Section has recently undergone a full review of our current competition structure and event calendar. As a result of the review, we are implementing changes effective July 1, 2023, and will be in place for the 2023 Wild Rose Competition.

Following changes to the Skate Canada Event Calendar in 2022-2023, to align with Skate Canada's new Long Term Development Framework (LTD), and to address capacity issues at all levels of competitions it was determined that our current structure and calendar was no longer sustainable, and required changes to align with the new LTD.

Leading Edge Series Suspended for the 2023-2024 Season

The STARSkate and Podium Pathway Leading Edge Series will be suspended for the 2023-2024 season. This will allow the Section time to review the implementation of the new competition structure and determine the criteria to best fit within the new structure for each of the Leading Edge Series.

Changes to the Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile Singles Categories

Pre-Juvenile <u>Singles</u> categories will no longer be offered and will be replaced by a new Juvenile U10 <u>Singles</u> category. This change aligns with the LTD and assists in keeping skaters of similar ages competing together.

Juvenile U10, U12 and U14 singles categories will be offered at competitions that offer the podium pathway categories: Spring Combined Invitational, Summer Combined Invitational, Winter Combined Invitational, Fall Invitational and Sectionals.

Note: There are <u>no</u> changes to the Pre-Juvenile Dance category

Competition Restructure

A comparison of alignment with the LTD, a review of registration statistics (where skaters compete and where they travel to and from), number of entries at events, Competition Calendar, categories offered at competitions, and consultation with stakeholders were part of the review process used to develop the new competition structure.

NEW STAR Series #1-4 will replace the STARSkate Regional Invitationals

- STAR 4 category will only be offered at STAR Series #1-4 competitions, and Combined Summer Invitational (Wild Rose)
 - STAR 4 is no longer offered at Combined Winter Invitational, Spring Combined Invitational (Sunsational) or the StarSkate Championships
- Synchronized Skating Star 3 & 4 categories will be offered at the Star Series #3 & #4 competitions.
- Star 1- 3 categories are not part of the Star Series competitions
 - o STAR 1-3 categories will continue to be offered through local club competitions

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NEW Competition Zones 1-4

Skaters whose home club is located in the host competition zone will be given a 2-week pre-registration window to register in the competition. Once the pre-registration period has elapsed, and if capacity allows, the competition registration will then open to all skaters in the Section. Skaters are encouraged to take advantage of the first opportunity to register for their home Star Series competition.

Click <u>here</u> to view the STAR Series Competition Zone listings

NEW STAR Series Restriction of Entry:

- Skaters may enter a maximum of two (2) competitions choosing from the STAR Series competitions and Combined Winter Invitational.
 - The Spring Combined Invitational (Sunsational) and Summer Combined Invitational (Wild Rose) are not included in the restricted number of competitions requirement. Skaters may enter as space permits.
- Skaters that have registered and skated in the Star Series #1 (Calgary area) will not be allowed to register for STAR Series #2 (Edmonton area) or vice versa.
 - o If a skater registers for the STAR Series #1 and then withdraws (does not compete in the competition), they are eligible to register for STAR Series #2.

NEW Qualification required to enter STARSkate & Adult Championships

Skaters, coaches, and parents have questioned why this event has been called a Championship in the past as championship events have a qualification requirement which has not been the case for this event. This change will provide a season end event for skaters in the STARSkate and Adult stream to strive and work towards through-out the season.

- Qualification to compete will be required Qualifying structure will be announced by July 1, 2023
- STAR 4 category will not be included in the STARSkate & Adult Championships

2023-2024 Competition Calendar Click here to view

2023-2024 Section Technical Package Click here to view

2024 Sectionals Qualifying Scores Click here to view

2023-2024 Section Sectionals/STAR Crossover Eligibility Chart Click here to view

Questions regarding the restructure and the competitions may be directed to the Section Office at info@skateabnwtnun.ca