

YOUTH INTERPRETIVE

Youth Interpretive is divided into four divisions based on skill level: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Elite. Youth Interpretive grades are only open to those skaters who are not also competing in Free Skating events during the domestic competition season.

Men and Ladies will be judged separately.

Eligibility:

Competitors must have reached the age of 12 years but not reached the age of 18 years before the 1st of July preceding the championship. Skaters may only enter a youth interpretive or a standard singles skating grade, not both.

The entry into Youth Bronze, Silver, Gold and Elite Interpretive levels is self-selecting with no test requirements. However, the skater's highest Stroking/Pattern Dance test level provides an indication of the appropriate grade as follows:

Grade	Indicative NZIFSA test level	Programme Duration
Bronze	No test or Elementary	1 minute and 30 seconds +/- 10 seconds
Silver	Preliminary or Inter Bronze	1 minute and 30 seconds +/- 10 seconds
Gold	Bronze or Inter Silver	2 minutes +/- 10 seconds
Elite	Silver and above	2 minutes +/- 10 seconds

Vocal music is permitted.

The Interpretive programme will be judged only on the basis of the five Component Marks. The programme should consist of a variety of skating moves selected for their value to enhance the skater's interpretation of the music rather than for their technical difficulty. Skaters will be judged on their ability to interpret the music and develop a theme by using their skating skills.

The Interpretive programme must include:

- a) A minimum of one and a maximum of two jump elements
- b) A minimum of one and a maximum of two spins

Jump combinations of up to three jumps are permitted. In Bronze and Silver only single jumps, excluding Axel, are permitted. Gold and Elite have no limits on the number of jump revolutions. However, credit for jumps and spins is based solely on the ability of such movements to enhance the chosen theme and support the music, no credit will be given for their technical difficulty.

Falls are not subject to a deduction but may have a negative impact on the Program Components.

Elements exceeding the maximum number will be judged as an illegal element and receive a 1.0 deduction. Elements lacking in number will receive a 1.0 deduction. Violations of the below requirements will also receive a 1.0 deduction.

- The programme must be developed through skating skill and quality rather than through non-skating actions such as sliding on one knee or excessive use of toe steps which should be used only to reflect the character of the programme and to underline the rhythm and nuances of the chosen music.
- The skater must not remain in one place for more than five (5) seconds.

- Costumes should be simple, tasteful and selected to enhance the performance by appropriately reflecting the character of the music and theme.
- Props may not be used in any part of the programme. Any item that is held in the hand or removed during the performance is considered a prop. A hat worn throughout the programme is not considered a prop unless intentionally removed.
- Objects on the ice, thrown to the audience, placed on the boards or on the Judges' tables are not permitted.
- Costumes that contain particles that may mar or leave anything on the ice surface (feathers, boas, excessive beading) are considered unsafe and are not permitted.

Illegal elements

- Somersault type jumps
- Lying on the ice and prolonged and/or stationary kneeling on both knees on the ice.