

Central Minnesota *Compete USA* Competition Series



We are pleased to announce the 14th annual Central Minnesota Compete USA Competition Series; an exciting skating opportunity for the Learn to Skate skater.

The Central Minnesota Compete USA Competition Series is sponsored equally by the Diamond Edge Figure Skating Club of Willmar, St. Cloud Figure Skating Club, Alexandria Figure Skating Club, Fergus Falls Skating Club, and the Vacationland Figure Skating Club. This is a Learn to Skate approved Compete USA competition series with the approval posted in each participating arena. Competition announcements and packages are available through all participating figure skating clubs and/via the club websites or at our series website www.centralminnesotaseries.org. Each competition has its own online entry forms, please make sure to read the entire announcement for details. Any questions regarding this series are to be directed to any of the contacts listed below.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the competition is to promote a FUN, introductory, competitive experience for the beginning skater.

2023 COMPETITION LOCATIONS:

 <p style="text-align: right;">EVENT #1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAKES AREA CLASSIC JANUARY 14, 2023 – WILLMAR, MINNESOTA REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 20, 2022 Registration at www.diamondedgeskating.com</p>	 <p style="text-align: right;">EVENT #2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GRANITE CITY COMPETE USA FEBRUARY 4, 2023 – ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 8, 2023 Registration www.stcloudfigureskatingclub.org</p>
 <p style="text-align: right;">EVENT #3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SKATE VACATIONLAND COMPETE USA COMPETITION FEBRUARY 18-19, 2023 – BRAINERD, MINNESOTA <small>(INTERPRETIVE EVENTS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY NIGHT)</small> REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 22, 2023 Registration at www.vacationlandfigureskatingclub.com</p>	 <p style="text-align: right;">EVENT #4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FERGUS FALLS COMPETE USA MARCH 4-5, 2023 – FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA <small>(ONE BEGINNER THRU PRELIMINARY EVENT WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY NIGHT)</small> REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12, 2023 Registration at www.fergusfallsskatingclub.com</p>
 <p style="text-align: right;">EVENT #5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BATTLE OF THE BLADES MARCH 11, 2023 – ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 12, 2023 Registration at www.alexandriafigureskating.org</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.CENTRALMINNESOTASERIES.ORG OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK @CENTRALMNSERIES</p>

RULES: These individual competitions will be conducted under the rules set forth by the Learn to Skate USA Competition Manual.

ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR PARTICIPANTS: The competition is open to ALL skaters who are current members of either Learn to Skate USA and/or those who are full members of U.S. Figure Skating. Eligibility will be based on skill level as of the closing date of entries. All **Snowplow Sam and Basic 1-6** skaters must skate at the highest level passed or one level higher and NO official U.S. Figure Skating tests may have been passed, including Moves in the Field or individual dances.

For the **Pre-Free Skate, Free Skate 1-6, Excel, and Well-Balanced levels** eligibility will be based only upon the highest badge level or free skate test level passed. Moves in the Field test level will not determine the skater's competitive level. Skaters may skate at the highest level passed OR one level higher, but not both levels in the same event during the same competition.

It is very important to the success of the competition that skaters are placed in the correct divisions. If for whatever reason, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) discovers that a skater has been placed in a category that is below his/her badge or test level, the chair and referee will have the option to move the skater into the proper level, even if this has to be done the day of the competition. This will ensure that every event is as fair as possible to the competitors. It is an ethical violation for coaches to sandbag an event.

COMPETITION ENTRIES AND FEES: Each individual competition has its own online registration form and a registration must be completed for each of the individual competitions being entered. All registrations will need to be completed online with a secure credit card payment. Please go to each individual club website and click the individual competition link. Online entries will be accepted until MIDNIGHT of the deadline date noted for each event (see the cover page of this announcement and/or individual registration forms per site). Late entries will not be accepted following the deadline date. Space may be limited by site so please submit your registrations early.

Entry fees are per person, U.S. dollars. The first event is \$45, the second event is \$25 and the third and fourth events are \$15. Entry fees are not refundable unless the competition is cancelled. There will be a \$30.00 fee for contested credit card charges.

SERIES ENTRIES AND FEES: Entry into the Central Minnesota Compete USA Series is **OPTIONAL and not a requirement to participate in any of the hosting clubs' competitions.** To be included in the Central Minnesota Compete USA Series and eligible for the 2023 season-end awards ceremony, you must be a Central Minnesota Compete USA Series participant and pay a **ONE-TIME FEE** of \$25. You may enter the Series at any point during the season. Your points will not begin to accumulate until the **ONE-TIME FEE** is recorded. Each hosting club registration form will have a space to enter the Series and/or a check-box to acknowledge those already participating as a part of the Central Minnesota Compete USA Series to ensure points are tracked accordingly. Skaters participating in all FIVE (5) individual competitions will be eligible for a drawing for a FREE Zuca Frame and Bag.

PRACTICE ICE: No official practice ice is included in your registration fee. Practice ice will be available at each of the individual club sites for purchase. Details are provided for each competition on the attached registration forms and/or via the online individual competition online sign-up. Additional details regarding practice ice will be provided by email or on the hosts' website prior to each of the competition dates.

MUSIC: The music for all free skating programs must be uploaded to the competition site. Skaters should have a duplicate copy of their music readily available at all event times requiring music.

JUDGING: The 6.0 Majority Judging System will be used. Individual Judging Worksheets are private and will not be shared with Skating Professionals or Parents.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: Information regarding groups and skating times will be emailed to you. Event schedules will be posted on each hosting clubs' website within a week prior to the competition.

REGISTRATION: The registration table at each location will be open 1 hour before the competition begins. Skaters will not be allowed to compete until they have registered. Please register at least 30 minutes before your competition time. All schedules will be posted at each individual competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor to check the postings for official schedules and notices.

VIDEO TAPING AND PHOTOGRAPHS: Personal photography and videotaping may be done of your skater(s). No parents/spectators or skating professionals will be allowed within the judges' area of the rink.

ON-ICE RINK DOOR AREA: The area by the on-ice rink door gets very busy during a competition. No parents/spectators will be allowed in the area.

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION AWARDS: All competitors will receive an award at each of the individual competitions. All events are final rounds with awards handed out at appropriate times throughout the competition and a podium available for group and individual photos. Compulsory, Spins and Interpretive event participants will be awarded medals. Freeskate event participants will be awarded a trophy. Please report to the Awards area following the conclusion of your event.

CENTRAL MINNESOTA COMPETE USA SERIES POINT SYSTEM/AWARDS: During the competition season, skaters have the opportunity to compete at five different arenas and earn points towards a final standing. Skaters must be registered with the Central Minnesota Compete USA Series to be eligible for accumulating points. Each event will have a maximum of six skaters.

The point system used to calculate skater points to determine Series placement will be as follows:

1 st place	6 points
2 nd place	5 points
3 rd place	4 points
4 th place	3 points
5 th place	2 points
6 th place	1 point

If an event has 2 – 6 skaters, points will be awarded as if there were six skaters in the group. If an event has only one skater, they will be awarded three points only.

In addition, a skater will earn three additional points toward their overall standing for each level of advancement throughout the duration of the series. In order to be awarded the extra three points, he/she must compete at the new level in at least one competition. All points follow the skater throughout the series, so as a skater moves up to higher levels, the points follow the skater. Once a skater moves on to a new level, they may not compete at any time at a lower level. The points for skaters moving up levels will be awarded at the conclusion of their events at the Battle of the Blades Competition in Alexandria.

Final Central Minnesota Compete USA Series trophies will be awarded for 1st through 3rd places in each level from Snowplow Sam through test levels. Skaters who place 4th and beyond will receive a participation trophy. The Central Minnesota Compete USA Series trophies are awarded to skaters based on the last level they competed in during the Central Minnesota Compete USA Series. Final trophies will be handed at the conclusion of events throughout the Alexandria Battle of the Blades Competition held on March 11, 2023. You need not be present at the season-end ceremony to receive your award.

CENTRAL MINNESOTA COMPETE USA SERIES TRAVELING TEAM TROPHY: The traveling team trophy will be awarded to the figure skating club with the most combined series skater entries throughout the Series competitions. This is open to any figure skating club participating in the series at each individual competition and is not limited to the five hosting sites. The current traveling team trophy earner is the Diamond Edge Figure Skating Club for having the most series participants during the 2022 skating season.

COVID-19: The Central Minnesota Compete USA Series and all participating competitions will follow local and state guidelines current at the time of each competition. Competition-specific guidelines (i.e., mask required inside except when on ice, etc.) will be communicated to each participant at least one week prior to the competition so our skaters are prepared when arriving at the rink.

QUESTIONS: Your questions and concerns are important to us so please feel free to get in touch with any of the contacts listed regarding individual competitions or participation in the Series. You can visit our website at www.centralminnesotaseries.org or contact any of the following Series organizers:

Lakes Area Classic:	Michelle Behl 320-220-5541 Email: jmabehl@gmail.com Katie Fransen 320-583-6143 Email: katie.ann.fransen@gmail.com
Granite City Compete USA:	Janelle Honer 320-493-6362 Email: stcloudlts@gmail.com
Skate Vacationland:	Megan Bistodeau 218-330-5633 Email: skatevacationland@gmail.com
Fergus Falls Compete USA:	Traci Finseth 218-332-0196 Email: ffscopsdirector@gmail.com
Battle of the Blades:	Nicole Arvidson 218-639-7880 Email: nmarvidson@gmail.com