



## SOUTH AFRICAN FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

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Dear SAFSA members

### **Rule change for Juvenile and Pre Novice sections for the season 2020/2021**

**Background:** The recent interactions and discussions with Skate Canada have allowed the SAFSA to consider some of their recommendations for the upcoming SAFSA season. The SAFSA Council has approved the following rule changes for the season 2020/2021. The NTC will review this rule at the end of the season and advise on the section criteria for the 2021/2022 season.

The SAFSA council has agreed with the NTC that we implement 2 pathways for competing at nationals for Juvenile and Pre-novice sections. A high-performance stream and a competitive stream. This allows for wider participation, encouragement of athletes and the prevention of athletes competing in sections beyond their abilities.

It has been decided that for the upcoming season at **Nationals only**, there will be 2 streams for the Juvenile and Pre-novice sections (Girls and boys). This would mean that there will be a:

- Juvenile high-performance section;
- Juvenile competitive section;
- Pre -Novice high-performance section (Component program and Free Skate); and
- Pre-Novice competitive section (Component program and Free Skate).

It is important to note that at Provincials and at Inter Provincials there will only be 1 Juvenile and 1 Pre-novice section, as per the current rules.

The 2 streams have the same program and age requirements ie the 2 Juvenile sections have the same elements, age and time criteria, and the 2 pre novice sections have the same elements, age and time criteria.

The following pass scores for the athletes to qualify to skate in the sections at nationals are listed below. These pass marks would still need to be attained in the Provincial, Inter-provincial or Star test events as per the current requirements. Only the high performance athletes would be eligible for international selections and the criteria remains as per the current rules for selection. Provincial colours will be awarded to all athletes who compete at nationals for both streams.

NB: If an athlete obtains the high performance score in one of the qualifying events, they **CANNOT** compete in the competitive section, as this would defeat the purpose of allowing athletes with similar abilities competing against each other.

This rule change is backdated to 1 July 2020, meaning any tests that a skater has conducted and achieved the scores below with be accepted as having been completed and qualified.

Section	Nationals qualification pass mark
Juvenile high performance section	7,64
Juvenile competitive section	5,64
Pre-novice high performance section	9,58
Pre-novice competitive section	7,64

President: R. Jacobs; National Secretary: D. Rees;  
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*Member of the International Skating Union & South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee*





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Yours in skating

Etienne Dreyer  
Chairman SAFSA NTC