

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2015 Prudential U.S. Figure Skating Championships Begin Saturday in Greensboro, N.C.

U.S. Figure Skating to Name 2015 World Team at Conclusion of Event

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (Jan. 16, 2015) – The 2015 Prudential U.S. Figure Skating Championships will be held Jan. 17-25, in Greensboro, North Carolina. Competition and practice will be held on two ice surfaces at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex.

More than 370 figure skaters will compete at the juvenile, intermediate, novice, junior and senior levels for 20 U.S. titles in ladies, men's, pairs and ice dance.

This year, the U.S. Championships serve as the final qualifying competition before U.S. Figure Skating names the 2015 U.S. World Figure Skating Team, World Junior Team and Four Continents Team. Team USA will send three ladies, three men, two pairs teams and three ice dance teams to the 2015 World Championships, March 23-29 in Shanghai.

Official practice begins today. Competition starts at 9:35 a.m. Saturday with the intermediate pairs short program. Senior-level competition begins Thursday, Jan. 22, with the pairs and ladies short programs.

NBC will provide live coverage of senior-level events, beginning next Saturday at 3 p.m. ET and continuing in primetime at 8 p.m. ET. Live coverage on Sunday, Jan. 25 begins at 4 p.m. ET. NBC will also present the Smucker's Skating Spectacular exhibition on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 2:30 p.m. ET. NBC's broadcast crew will feature three-time U.S. figure skating champion Johnny Weir, 1998 Olympic gold medalist Tara Lipinski, play-by-play announcer Terry Gannon, 2006 Olympic ice dance silver medalist Tanith Belbin and reporter Andrea Joyce.

In addition, this weekend NBC will present two preview programs for the U.S. Championships, hosted by Weir, Lipinski and Gannon. The one-hour previews will feature athlete profiles, event analysis and competition highlights. The first show, airing Saturday, Jan. 17, at 5 p.m. ET, focuses on the ladies and ice dance events. Sunday's special, airing at 3 p.m. ET, will feature the men's and pairs' events.

Icenetwork will provide live and on-demand coverage to Season Pass subscribers. The icenetwork team, led by Mike Mancuso (play-by-play), features former Olympic, World and U.S. medalists. Returning to the booth are John Coughlin, a two-time U.S. pairs champion; 2011 U.S. champion Ryan Bradley; Tonia Kwiatkowski, a three-time U.S. medalist; and two-time World bronze medalist Michael Weiss. Charlie White, the 2014 Olympic ice dance champion with Meryl Davis, and Ben Agosto, a five-time U.S. ice dance champion with Belbin, will make their icenetwork debuts.

In addition to subscription video, icenetwork will offer extensive free coverage of the U.S. Championships, including video, live results, event recaps and photo galleries. Free video content will include interviews, features, press conferences and live technical analysis. Belbin and Weiss will host "Ice Desk Live" throughout the senior events, offering their insight and analysis on the competition. They will be joined by panelists Coughlin, Bradley, White and Agosto. In addition, YouTube personality Michael Buckley will conduct behind-the-scenes interviews and sit on the Ice Desk. Icenetwork will provide a unique second-screen experience for fans throughout NBC's live coverage of the U.S. Championships Saturday and Sunday. To subscribe or to become a registered user, please visit www.icenetwork.com.

For additional event information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.northcarolina2015.com. To follow the event on Twitter, follow U.S. Figure Skating (@USFigureSkating) and use the event hashtag #NC015.

2015 Prudential U.S. Figure Skating Championships

NBC Broadcast Schedule (all times Eastern, subject to change, check local listing)

BROADCAST DATE	EVENT	TIME (ET)
Saturday, Jan. 17	Preview show	5-6 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 18	Preview show	3-4 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24	LIVE pairs free skate and free dance	3-6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24	LIVE Ladies free skate	8-11 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 25	LIVE Men's free skate	4-6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 31	Smucker's Skating Spectacular	2:30-4 p.m.

2015 Prudential U.S. Figure Skating Championships
Icenetwork Broadcast Schedule (all times Eastern, subject to change, all events live unless noted)

BROADCAST DATE	EVENT	TIME (ET)
Saturday, Jan. 17	Intermediate pairs short program	9:35 a.m.
	Juvenile pattern dance	10:45 a.m.
	Juvenile girls free skate	1 p.m.
	Juvenile pairs free skate	2:30 p.m.
	Intermediate pattern dance	3:05 p.m.
	Juvenile boys free skate	5:35 p.m.
	Intermediate men's short program	7:20 p.m.
Intermediate ladies short program	8:45 p.m.	
Sunday, Jan. 18	Juvenile free dance	12:50 p.m.
	Intermediate men's free skate	2:55 p.m.
	Intermediate ladies free skate	4:40 p.m.
	Novice pattern dance	6:10 p.m.
Novice ladies short program	8:55 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 19	Intermediate pairs free skate	10:15 a.m.
	Intermediate free dance	Noon
	Novice pairs short program	1:30 p.m.
	Novice men's short program	3:25 p.m.
	Novice ladies free skate	5:05 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 20	Novice free dance	9:30 a.m.
	Novice men's free skate	11:35 a.m.
	Junior pairs short program	6:05 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 21	Junior men's short program	1:50 p.m.
	Novice pairs free skate	3:35 p.m.
	Junior short dance	6:15 p.m.
	Junior ladies short program	8:20 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22	Junior pairs free skate	11 a.m.
	Senior pairs short program	4:35 p.m.
	Senior ladies short program	7:50 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23	Junior men's free skate	10:30 a.m.
	Junior free dance	12:35 p.m.
	Junior ladies free skate	2:45 p.m.
	Senior short dance	5:15 p.m.
	Senior men's short program	8:15 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 24	Senior free dance (groups 1 & 2)	10:45 a.m.
	Senior pairs free skate (group 1)	12:30 p.m.
	Senior ladies free skate (group 1)	7 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 25	Senior men's free skate (groups 1 & 2)	2 p.m.

– U.S. Figure Skating –

U.S. Figure Skating is the national governing body for the sport of figure skating in the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Skating Union. U.S. Figure Skating is comprised of more than 680 member clubs, collegiate clubs, school-affiliated clubs and more than 950 registered Basic Skills skating schools representing more than 170,000 members. U.S. Figure Skating is charged with the development of the sport on all levels within the United States including athletes, officials, sanctioning of events and exhibitions, and establishing the rules and guidelines by which the sport is governed.