Grand Prix of Figure Skating

Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final

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A N N O U N C E M E N T

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION

GRAND PRIX OF FIGURE SKATING 2009/2010

TECHNICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

1. GENERAL

The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating consists of six international senior invitational events and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. All six events will be held with the approval and the assistance of the International Skating Union, under the responsibility of the Members concerned and in accordance with the ISU Constitution and General Regulations 2008 edition, the ISU Special Regulations Single & Pair Skating/ Ice Dance, 2008 edition, the Technical Rules Single & Pair Skating 2008 and the Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, and all relevant ISU Communications.
The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final belongs to the ISU and will be organized by the Japan Skating Federation.

The six events and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final are only open to Competitors who belong to an ISU Member and qualify with regard to eligibility according to ISU Constitution and General Regulations Rule 102, provided their ages fall within the limits specified in ISU Rule 108, paragraph 2.b) and they meet the participation, citizenship and residency requirement in ISU Rule 109, and ISU Communication No. 1420 or any update of this Communication. Entries can only be made through the ISU Members.

Skaters/couples entered for an event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating may not participate in the same discipline of an event of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating in the same season, except for Pairs. Only skaters participating in different disciplines with the exception of the Pair category may enter into both the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating and the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating in the same year/skating season.

No skater or couple may skate in the exhibition of an event or the Final without having participated in the event itself.

This regulation does not reflect any participation at the ISU Championships or any other international event not included in the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating or the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating.

For the 2009/10 season, the six events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating are:

Trophée Eric Bompard	**Oct. 15 – 18, 2009**	**Paris, France**
Rostelecom Cup	**Oct. 22 – 25, 2009**	**Moscow, Russia**
Cup of China	**Oct. 29 – Nov. 1, 2009**	**Beijing, China**
NHK-Trophy	**Nov. 5 – 8, 2009**	**Nagano, Japan**
Skate America	**Nov. 12 – 15, 2009**	**Lake Placid, NY, USA**
HomeSense Skate Canada International	**Nov. 19 – 22, 2009**	**Kitchener, ON, Canada**

The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final will be organized for the 6 best ranked Men, Ladies, Pairs and Ice Dance couples in:

Tokyo, Japan

from December 3 to December 6, 2009

A point system within the six events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating has been established to qualify the skaters for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. Points will be obtained according to the results in each of the six events comprising the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating.

2. DESIGNATION OF THE SKATERS

2.1 Seeded Skaters/Couples

a) Skaters/couples who have placed 1 – 6 in each of the 4 categories (Men, Ladies, Pairs, Ice Dance) at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009 will be considered to be seeded skaters/couples and will be assigned, by draw, to skate in two events.

b) If a seeded skater/couple withdraws from an assigned event, even for medical reasons, that skater/couple will not be assigned to another event.

c) If any vacancies remain after having filled the places as to a) to b) of this paragraph, the next priority will be given to those skaters/couples not meeting the above criteria but who have achieved a seasonal best (as posted on the ISU website for season 2008/2009) score equal to or better than the top six from the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009.

d) If vacancies still remain after having filled the places as to a) to d) skaters/couples placed 7th and below at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009 will become seeded skaters in order of placement.

e) If a seeded skater/couple withdraws from one of the assigned events or declines an invitation to one of the assigned events, that skater/couple will still be considered and the next highest placed skater/couple at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009 will not become a seeded skater/couple.

2.2. Invited Skaters/Couples

a) Skaters/couples who have placed 7 – 12 in each of the 4 categories (Men, Ladies, Pairs, Ice Dance) at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009 will be guaranteed to be selected for two ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events. If there are any retirements from placements 7 – 12, the next priority will be given to those skaters/couples not meeting the above criteria but who achieved a seasonal best score equal to or better than those placed 7 – 12 at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009. If vacancies still remain, skaters/couples placed 13th and below at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2009 will be selected in order of placement.

b) Skaters/couples with an ISU World Standing placement of 1 – 24 (after season 2008/2009) and skaters/couples with seasonal best scores in the top 24 (for season 2008/2009) who do not hold an ISU World Standing placement of 1 – 24 will be guaranteed one (1) event if they do not otherwise meet the criteria listed in categories 2.1 or 2.2 above.

   A listing of seasonal best scores for each season will be compiled to include the following events:

   * ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating and Final
   * ISU Senior Grand Prix of Figure Skating and Final
   * ISU Figure Skating Championships
   * Olympic Winter Games (if applicable in the year concerned)
   * Other ISU controlled Events as identified each season by the ISU Council.

c) Medallists from the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships 2009 and the medallists from the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final 2008/09 will be included in the selection process. Skaters/couples who have stated their intention to skate as Senior in 2009/10 will be guaranteed one (1) event.

d) A maximum of three (3) skaters/couples in each discipline from the host Member may skate in the host Member's event. This includes skaters/couples selected according to category 2.1 and 2.2 above. If the host Member chooses not to exercise its option for the three (3) skaters/couples in any discipline from its own country, the remaining slot(s) must be filled from categories 2.2 a) and b) above.

e) Skaters/couples, seeded in any previous year (place 1 to 6 in the respective World Championships), and who due to injury or no fault of their own, were forced to sit out competitive season(s) could be considered for selection for up to 2 assignments, if they return to competitive skating.

f) If any slot(s) remains open and if all skaters/couples as defined in paragraph 2.2. a) and b) above have been selected for one (1) event, the host Member may select any skater/couple with a top 75 seasonal best score to fill the open slot(s).

g) Pairs or Dance couples, who were placed amongst the ranks as previously mentioned in criteria a) and b) in the year 2007/2008 or 2008/2009, but have split, will be considered in the alternate list with the new partner, if proof is given that they intend to continue the competitive career.

h) In addition to the seeded skaters/couples and the above-mentioned invited skaters/couples, each host ISU Member may select additional skaters/couples in accordance with selection procedures established

by the ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group. The maximum number of entries per event, however, is set as follows:

Men and Ladies	not more than 12 but not less than 10 entries
Pairs	not more than 8 but not less than 6 entries
Ice Dance	not more than 10 but not less than 8 entries

i) No invited skaters/dance couples may compete in more than two events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating. These events will count for points and prize money will be awarded according to placements.

j) A maximum of three skaters/couples from the same ISU Member may compete in the same category of any individual event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating.

k) Non-seeded skaters/couples will not be assigned to another event if they choose not to skate in an assigned event.

l) Non-seeded skaters/couples will not be assigned to another event if, by medical reason, they withdraw from an assigned event.

If a skater/couple (seeded or non-seeded) does not finish an event, that skater/couple's Member Federation is obligated to cover the expenses for travel, accommodation and meals for the skater/couple and for the Judge, if the Judge is not drawn for another panel.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION

3.1 Confirmation of Participation of Seeded Skaters/Couples

The ISU Members must confirm the participation of the seeded skaters/couples in the two events designated for points to the ISU Secretariat by **August 15, 2009**. If a seeded skater/couple does not participate in the event(s) for which they are designated, there will be no substitute event(s).

3.2 Confirmation of Participation of Invited Skaters/Couples

The invitations for participation for skaters/couples, besides the seeded ones, will be forwarded to the ISU Members concerned through the host Member of the respective ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating event. The Members of these invited skaters/couples must confirm participation to the ISU Secretariat, and the host ISU Member by **August 15, 2009**.

3.3 Restrictions for Participation in Junior and Senior Grand Prix Events

Please refer to paragraph 1 of this announcement.

3.4 Obligation of seeded skaters/Members

It is of the highest importance that Rule 136 paragraph 6 of the ISU Regulations be respected and implemented by all Members and skaters. To assure compliance with Rule 136, paragraph 6, the following directive is issued by the ISU Council.

All seeded skaters/couples as to paragraph 2.1 of this General Announcement are categorized as "Seeded" skaters/couples and, as such, will be expected to participate in two (2) ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating individual events during the 2009/10 season. The Grand Prix events will take place from October 15, 2009 to November 22, 2009. ("the Grand Prix Period").

Seeded skaters/couples who fulfill their Grand Prix obligations may also skate in other competitions, shows and exhibitions as authorized by their Member during the Grand Prix Period and, for seeded skaters/couples who do not qualify for the Final, also in the period immediately following the last individual event (HomeSense Skate Canada International).

If any seeded skater/couple elects in advance of the Grand Prix Period not to participate in their assigned events (for whatever reason), they will not be permitted to participate in any other competitions, shows, and exhibitions during the Grand Prix Period.

In addition, depending on the circumstances, the seeded skater/couple may be subject to sanctions in accordance with Rule 136, paragraph 6 of the General Regulations.

Seeded skaters/couples who agreed to participate in the Grand Prix Series and skaters who qualify for the Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final must skate in their assigned events and in the Final. Withdrawals are permitted only for illness or injury duly confirmed by a timely Medical Certificate as outlined below and subject to review by an ISU appointed Medical Doctor and/or for other justified serious reasons, such as e.g. bereavement in the close family.

In the case a Skater is withdrawn for injury or illness, a Medical Certificate is required to be submitted to the ISU as per Rule 140, paragraph 5. The Certificate must be issued on the stationary of a Medical Doctor or on an ISU withdrawal form in case of in-competition withdrawal and duly signed by the Medical Doctor. If the certificate is not in English a translation signed by the President or General Secretary of the Member of respective Skater must be attached;
In addition, upon request of the Chair of the Sports Directorate the Certificate must be received by the ISU within 72 hours after the notice of withdrawal and the Member or the skater must include or attach the following additional information:

i) the history which clearly indicates the date of injury or date of onset of illness, the type of injury or illness and severity of injury or illness as well as the physical findings on examination;
ii) copies of laboratory or radiological reports that were conducted in the investigation of the injury/illness;
iii) the recommended treatment by the physician including medications, therapy, advice on training frequency and intensity, date for follow-up examination (a copy of this assessment should then be forwarded to the ISU), expected date of return to full activity, planned further investigations and/or criteria for return to full activity.

3.5 Confirmation of Replacements with respect to Invited Skaters/Couples

All skaters/couples invited to replace assigned skaters/couples in an individual event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating must be approved by the ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group in accordance with the procedures outlined in Item 7.6

4. POINTS/RANKING ORDER

4.1 Points

A point system based on the ranking of each individual event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating is established as follows:

Men, Ladies, Ice Dance

1st place	15 points
2nd place	13 points
3rd place	11 points
4th place	9 points
5th place	7 points
6th place	5 points
7th place	4 points
8th place	3 point

Pairs

1st place	15 points
2nd place	13 points
3rd place	11 points
4th place	9 points
5th place	7 points
6th place	5 points

4.2 Points considered

The two results of a skater/couple as announced/confirmed will be used to calculate the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating ranking order. The points will be added to give a final total to determine the skater/couple's ranking for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating with the highest total being first.

4.3 Final Ranking Order

The ranking by points will be published immediately after the last event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating (for the 2009/10 season, the "HomeSense International Skate Canada"). The following will qualify for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final:

the top 6 ranking Men
the top 6 ranking Ladies
the top 6 ranking Pairs
the top 6 ranking Ice Dance couples

4.4 Ties

If there is a tie by added points, the following criteria will be taken into consideration for tie-breaking:

a) the best place obtained in the two designated events will count for the better place/ranking;

If there is still a tie,

b) the higher total of the added total scores obtained in the designated events will count for the better place/ranking:

If there is still a tie,

c) participation in two events will be considered better than having participated in only one event;

If there is still a tie,

d) the higher total of the added scores in Free Skating/Free Dance obtained in the two designated events will count for the better place/ranking;

If there is still a tie,

e) the higher total score in Free Skating/Free Dance obtained in one of the two designated events will count for the better place/ranking;

If there is still a tie,

f) the higher total of the added scores in the Short Program/Original Dance obtained in the two designated events will count for the better place/ranking;

If there is still a tie,

g) the number of participants finishing the two individual events in which the tied skaters/couples have completed, will be added to the total. The higher number of participants will count for the better place/ranking.

If there is still a tie, all skaters tied are qualified for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final.

5. PRIZE MONEY FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL EVENT AND EXHIBITION FEE

All prize money in favour of the awarded skaters/couples will be paid at the end of each individual event through the hosting ISU Members and subsequently through the ISU Members of the awarded skaters/couples. Withholding tax, if any, will be deducted according to the respective law of the host ISU Member taking into account double tax treaties with the countries of the awarded skaters/couples. The ISU is not responsible for any taxes, fees, or other costs.

5.1 Prize Money for Each Individual Event

The Global Prize Money per individual event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating will be:

U.S. $180,000.00

Awarded to winners and placed skaters/couples as follows:

	Men and Ladies	**Pairs and Ice Dance (per couple)**
1st place:	US$ 18,000.00	US$ 18,000.00
2nd place:	US$ 13,000.00	US$ 13,000.00
3rd place:	US$ 9,000.00	US$ 9,000.00
4th place:	US$ 3,000.00	US$ 3,000.00
5th place:	US$ 2,000.00	US$ 2,000.00

Skaters/couples qualified for the exhibition of an event or the Final must participate with an appropriate show number different from their competition programs. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of US$ 3'000 from the awarded prize money.

Skaters/couples are expected to be ready for any ceremony and/or prize award and participate in press conferences and/or social events if asked by the ISU and/or the event's Organizer. Failure to do so may result in a reduction of awarded prize money. The decision to reduce prize money will be made by the assigned ISU Delegate attending the event, subsequently to be ratified by the Council.

5.2 Exhibition Fee

An exhibition fee to be provided by the host Member will only be paid to skates/couples who are not awarded prize money. The exhibition fee is set at US$ 200.00 for single skaters (Men and Ladies) and US$ 300.00 for Pairs and Dance couples.

6. TECHNICAL DETAILS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

6.1 Technical Details

Men:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rule Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 510, para 1 and 2 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 520 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec.
Ladies:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 510, para 1 and 2 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 520 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.
Pairs:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 513, para 2 and 3, group A and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less;
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 521 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec.

Ice Dance: Compulsory Dance

One of the two Compulsory Dances announced for 2009/2010 will be executed in each of the six events. The prescribed Compulsory Dances determined by the IDTC for each event are as follows:

Trophée Eric Bompard, FRA	Golden Waltz
Rostelecom Cup	Tango Romantica
Cup of China, CHN	Golden Waltz
NHK Trophy, JPN	Tango Romantica
Skate America, USA	Golden Waltz
HomeSense Skate Canada, CAN	Tango Romantica

Original Dance

In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, Rule 609 and all pertinent ISU Communications.

The rhythm for the Original Dance is the

Folk / Country Dance

Any type of fold/country dance music can be used. For the chosen type, there are no restrictions on the number of musical selections. Although the dance may consist of different musical selections – fast and/or slow – there must be a consistent theme based on a specific country or region.

Vocal music is permitted. Variation of tempo within one selection of music is permitted. Each selection of music may have a different tempo.

Duration: 2 minutes and 30 seconds (plus or minus 10 seconds)

Free Dance

In accordance with ISU Technical Rule Ice Dance 2008, Rule 610 and all pertinent ISU Communication. For the value of the required elements and components see the respective ISU Communication.

Duration: 4 min. +/- 10 sec.

ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, Rule 610 paragraph 2 (required elements) and the respective ISU Communication must be observed.

6.2 Starting order

In each individual Grand Prix event the participating skaters will be listed according to their ISU World Standing placement at the time of the event. The starting order in the Short Program or Compulsory Dance segment will be the reverse order of the ISU World Standing placements. In the case of any tie, there will be a draw to determine who skates first.
Skaters/couples, who have not received any ISU World Standing points will be listed at the bottom of the ISU World Standing list in country order. There will be a separate draw between those skaters/couples with no World Standing points to determine the starting order, following the basic principles of ISU Rule 579.

For Free Skating/Original Dance/Free Dance the starting order will be the reverse order of the result after the previous segment.

7. MARKING SYSTEM / OFFICIALS / REPLACEMENTS

7.1 Marking System

The marking system as described in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating/Ice Dance 2008, Rule 352 and 353.

7.2 ISU Appointed Officials

The ISU will appoint all Officials (Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Assistant Technical Specialists, Data & Replay Operators, OAC) for each individual event and the Final in accordance with the 2008 Regulations.

The ISU Secretariat will inform the Organizing Committees of the names of the Officials assigned to their Events. No changes will be accepted unless confirmed by the ISU Secretariat.

7.3 Panel of Judges

The panel of Judges in each individual event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating will consist of 9 Judges of different ISU Members in each discipline if possible, but not less than 8 Judges. Only International or ISU Judges who have participated in one of the ISU Seminars for the ISU Judging System are eligible to serve in the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events. Each Judge may participate in no more than two ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events plus the ISU Grand Prix of Skating Final.

7.4 Officials Remuneration

The Judges, the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and the Officials Assessment Commission, will receive remuneration in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1401, paragraph I (or any update of this Communication). Only hard currencies are acceptable. The remuneration should be paid upon accreditation.

7.5. Expenses

The Organizing Member will pay travel expenses based on economy airfare rate for all Competitors invited to its ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating event, for all Judges invited, for all Referees and for the appointed Technical Controllers from their domicile to the event and return. The travel expenses of the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and the OAC Members are covered by the ISU.

The Organizing Member will pay accommodation and meal expenses for all Competitors, Judges, Referees, Technical Specialists, Technical Controllers and Data/Replay Operators from dinner on the day preceding the first official practice through breakfast on the day after the Exhibition. This period may be extended due to individual flight arrangements.

7.6 Replacements

It is mandatory that a host Member replaces any skater/couple who withdraws from the event with an alternate up to fourteen (14) days prior to the draw for that event. At the seven day mark, consideration will be given by the ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group to leaving a position vacant because of visa requirements or unduly high travel costs that would be incurred by the host country.

The alternate list will include the following skaters/couples:

a) Any skater/couple with a top 24 seasonal best score (for season 2008/2009) (as defined in paragraph 2.1 and 2.2) for a second event.

b) Any skater/couple with an ISU World Standing placement in the top 24 (at the end of season 2008/2009) for a second event.

c) Any skater/couple with a top seasonal best score (as defined in paragraph 2.1 and 2.2) of 75 or higher provided the priorities listed above have been exhausted.

d) Skaters/couples, seeded in any previous year (place 1 to 6 in the respective World Championships), and who due to injury or no fault of their own, were forced to sit out competitive season(s) if they returned to competitive skating could be considered for selection for up to 2 assignments.

In the skater/couple selection process, for Pairs and Ice Dance, who were placed amongst the ranks as mentioned above in the year 2007/2008 or 2008/2009, but have split, will be considered in the alternate list with the new partner, if proof is given that they intend to continue the competitive career.

8. ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS

Anti-Doping tests will be conducted at each of the six events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating as well as at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final.
The Anti-Doping tests will be conducted in accordance with the current ISU Anti-Doping Rules & Procedures (ISU Communications No. 1546 and 1547 or any further update of these Communications).

The tests will be carried out on the winning skater/s in Singles (after the final Free Skating), Pair Skating (after the Free Skating) and Ice Dance (after the Free Dance). One skater from the remainder of the skaters shall be selected by random draw in Singles, Pair Skating and Ice Dance. In Pair Skating and Ice Dance, either the man or the lady, but not both, shall be tested and shall be selected by random draw.

9. ISU GRAND PRIX OF FIGURE SKATING FINAL 2009/2010

According to the ranking order by points

the top 6 Men and Ladies,
the top 6 Pairs, and
the top 6 Ice Dance Couples

who have participated in at least two (2) ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating events 2009/2010 are invited to the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, which will take place in

Tokyo, Japan
December 3rd to 6th, 2009

The ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final (for Seniors) and the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final will be held during the same time period in the same venue. Details of qualification for the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final will be available in a separate announcement.

9.1 Prize Money

The ISU will make available the Global Prize Money for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final of:

U.S. $272,000.00

to the skaters/couples through their ISU Members. All prize money in favour of the awarded skaters/couples will be paid immediately after the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final via bank transfer from the hosting ISU Member to the Member of the awarded skater. Withholding tax, if any, will be deducted according to the law of the host Member taking into account double tax treaties with the countries of the awarded skaters. The ISU is not responsible for any taxes, fees or other costs.

	Men and Ladies	**Pairs and Ice Dance (per couple)**
1st place:	US$ 25,000.00	US$ 25,000.00
2nd place:	US$ 18,000.00	US$ 18,000.00
3rd place:	US$ 12,000.00	US$ 12,000.00
4th place:	US$ 6,000.00	US$ 6,000.00
5th place:	US$ 4,000.00	US$ 4,000.00
6th place:	US$ 3,000.00	US$ 3,000.00

Skaters/couples qualified for the exhibition of the Final must participate with an appropriate show number different from their competition programs. Failure to do so will result in a reduction of US$ 5’000 from the awarded prize money (see also paragraph 9.10 below)

Skaters/couples are expected to be ready for any ceremony and/or prize award and to participate in press conferences and/or social events if asked by the ISU and/or the event’s Organizer. Failure to do so may result in a reduction of awarded prize money. The decision to reduce prize money will be made by the assigned ISU Delegate, subsequently to be ratified by the Council.

9.2 Technical Details for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final

Organizing Committee:		**Japan Skating Federation**
Place:		**Tokyo, Japan**
Men:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rule Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 510, para 1 and 2 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 520 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec.
Ladies:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 513, para 1 and 2 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 520 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., +/- 10 sec.
Pairs:	Short Program	The prescribed elements to be skated are those listed in ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 513, para 2 and 3, group A and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: max. 2 min., 50 sec., but may be less;
	Free Skating	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Single and Pair Skating 2008, Rule 521 and the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min., 30 sec., +/- 10 sec.
Ice Dance:	Original Dance	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, Rule 609 and all pertinent ISU Communications. The rhythm for the Original Dance is the **Folk / Country Dance** Any type of folk/country dance music can be used. For the chosen type, there are no restrictions on the number of musical selections. Although the dance may consist of different musical selections – fast and/or slow – there must be a consistent theme based on a specific country or region. Vocal music is permitted. Variation of tempo within one selection of music is permitted. Each selection of music may have a different tempo. Duration: 2 minutes and 30 seconds (plus or minus 10 seconds)

Free Dance	In accordance with ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, Rule 610 and all pertinent ISU Communication. For the value of the required elements and components see the respective ISU Communication. Duration: 4 min. +/- 10 sec. ISU Technical Rules Ice Dance 2008, Rule 610 paragraph 2 (required elements) and the respective ISU Communication must be observed.

9.3 Special Regulations for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final
Skaters/couples will start the Short Program/Original Dance in reverse order of the ranking order in which they have qualified for the Final. In the case of a tie, there will be a draw to determine who skates first. The skating order for the Free Skating/Free Dance portion is the reverse order of the ranking order in the Short Program or the Original Dance.

9.4 Marking System
The marking system as described in ISU Special Regulations Single and Pair Skating/Ice Dance 2008, Rule 352 and 353.

9.5 ISU Appointed Officials
The ISU will appoint all Officials (Referees, Technical Controllers, Technical Specialists, Assistant Technical Specialists, Data/Replay Operators, OAC) for the Final in accordance with the 2008 Regulations.

The ISU Secretariat will inform the Organizing Committee of the names of the Officials assigned to the Final. No changes will be accepted unless confirmed by the ISU Secretariat.

9.6 Panel of Judges
The panel of Judges will consist of 9 Judges of different ISU Members in each discipline, if possible, but not less than 8 Judges. Judges must have the qualification of “ISU Judge”. Only ISU Judges, who have participated in one of the ISU Seminars for the ISU Judging System are eligible to serve in the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final. The invitations to the Judges will be issued by the ISU Secretariat.

9.7 Officials Remuneration
The Judges, the Referees, the Technical Controllers, the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and the Officials Assessment Commission, will receive remuneration in accordance with ISU Communication No. 1401, paragraph I (or any update of this Communication). Only hard currencies are acceptable. The remuneration should be paid upon accreditation.

9.8 Ties
If two or more competitors (Singles, Pairs, Ice Dance) receive the same Segment Score, the Total Element Score will break the tie in the Short Program and the combined score of all 5 Program Components will break the tie in the Original Dance and in the Free Skating/Free Dance.

9.9 Entries
Confirmation of entries will be forwarded to the Member of the qualified skaters/couples by the ISU Secretariat. The official entry to the host Organizing Committee of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final must be forwarded by the respective Members using the official entry forms.

If a skater or couple cannot participate due to injury or illness, they must inform the Organizing Committee and the ISU Secretariat in writing through the respective ISU Member immediately so that the Organizing Committee can extend an invitation on behalf of the ISU to the next ranked skater/couple. The skater or couple will be required to forward a medical certificate to the ISU Secretariat as mentioned in paragraph 11.

9.10 Exhibition
The invited skaters/couples for the final Exhibition Gala are expected to participate with an appropriate show number. Encores as an additional show number are expected from the Gold Medallists. Skaters/Couples who fail to meet these requirements will have their prize money reduced by US$ 5’000 in accordance with paragraph 9.1.
The final exhibition is a part of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final.

9.11 Schedule (Subject to Change)

Wednesday, December 2, 2009	Arrival of Teams Unofficial Practice (late afternoon) Team Leaders Meeting Referees and Technical Controllers Meeting Judges Meeting and Draw Officials Dinner
Thursday, December 3, 2009	Official Practice Opening Ceremony on Ice
Friday, December 4, 2008	Competition (Short Programs Men and Ladies and Original Dance)
Saturday, December 5, 2009	Competition (Short Program Pairs, Free Skating Men and Ladies)
Sunday, December 6, 2009	Competition (Free Dance, Free Skating Pairs) Exhibition Closing Banquet

The departure for all teams is planned for December 7, 2009.

9.12 Expenses

The Organizing Member will pay travel expenses based on economy airfare rate for all Competitors qualified for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, for all Judges invited (see paragraph 9.6), for all Referees and for the appointed Technical Controllers from their domicile to Tokyo and return. The travel expenses of the Technical Specialists, the Data and Replay Operators and the OAC Members are covered by the ISU.

The Organizing Member will pay accommodation and meal expenses for all Competitors (Senior Final) from dinner on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 through breakfast on Monday, December 7, 2009. This period may be extended due to individual flight arrangements.

The Organizing Member will pay accommodation and meal expenses for all Judges, Referees and Technical Officials (Technical Specialists, Technical Controllers, Data/Video Operator, Swiss Timing Sport Service Gmbh (4 persons), etc… as indicated in cost chart) from dinner on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 through breakfast on Monday, December 7, 2009. This period may be extended due to individual flight arrangements.

9.13 Insurance / Liability

In accordance with Rule 119, it is the sole responsibility of each Member participating in ISU Events, to provide medical and accident insurance for their athletes, officials and all other members of the Member's team. Such insurance must assure full medical attendance and also the return to the home country by air transport or by other expeditious means of the ill or injured person.

The ISU assumes no responsibility for or liability with respect to bodily or personal injury or property damage incurred by Competitors and Officials.

9.14 Travel Documents and Permits

Due to the limited time between the last event of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating (HomeSense Skate Canada) and the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, all qualified Team Members are requested to take care of their individual travel documents and permits (visa, etc.) on a timely basis.

10. REPLACEMENTS

10.1 Replacement for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final

A qualified skater/couple for the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final who is not able to participate will be replaced by the immediately following skater/couple, based on the Grand Prix ranking order of points.

The skaters/couples placed 7 – 9 of the Grand Prix ranking order of points must remain on stand-by as possible alternates until three days before the Opening of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, i.e. until Monday, December 1, 2009 – noon local time Tokyo / Japan. These skaters/couples are responsible for their own necessary visa or travel documents.

Replacements do not influence the invitation of Judges or the composition of the panel of Judges.

10.2 Decision for Replacements

The ISU Coordinator of the ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group will make the final determination of any replacements for the Final in accordance with paragraph 10.1

11. INJURIES OR ILLNESS OF TOP SEEDED SKATERS

In the case a Skater is withdrawn for injury or illness a Medical Certificate is required to be submitted to the ISU as per Rule 140, paragraph 5. The Certificate must be issued on the stationary of a Medical Doctor or on an ISU withdrawal form in case of in-competition withdrawal and duly signed by the Medical Doctor. If the certificate is not in English a translation signed by the President or General Secretary of the Member of respective Skater must be attached;
In addition, upon request of the Chair of the Sports Directorate the Certificate must be received by the ISU within 72 hours after the notice of withdrawal and the Member or the skater must include or attach the following additional information:

i) the history which clearly indicates the date of injury or date of onset of illness, the type of injury or illness and severity of injury or illness as well as the physical findings on examination;
ii) copies of laboratory or radiological reports that were conducted in the investigation of the injury/illness;
iii) the recommended treatment by the physician including medications, therapy, advice on training frequency and intensity, date for follow-up examination (a copy of this assessment should then be forwarded to the ISU), expected date of return to full activity, planned further investigations and/or criteria for return to full activity.

Skaters/couples who cannot complete the Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, will not receive any prize money or other appearance fee. It is also at the discretion of the ISU Coordination group, whether skaters/couples, who cannot finish the Grand Prix Final due to any reason, must cover the travel expenses, as well as the local costs for hotel and full board by themselves.

12. ANTI-DOPING

Anti-Doping tests will be conducted at each of the six events of the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating as well as at the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final.

The Anti-Doping tests will be conducted in accordance with the current with the current ISU Anti-Doping Rules & Procedures (ISU Communications No. 1546 and 1547 or any further update of these Communications).

The tests will be carried out on the winning skater/s in Singles (after the final Free Skating), Pair Skating (after the Free Skating) and Ice Dance (after the Free Dance). One skater from the remainder of the skaters shall be selected by random draw in Singles, Pair Skating and Ice Dance. In Pair Skating and Ice Dance, either the man or the lady, but not both, shall be tested and shall be selected by random draw.

13. ISU GRAND PRIX OF FIGURE SKATING FINAL ORGANIZING STRUCTURE & CONTACT INFORMATION

International Skating Union

Mr. Ottavio Cinquanta, ISU President

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(**Any late changes regarding an event (entries, etc) must be communicated simultaneously to the ISU Secretariat and Peter Krick (e-mail: peter.krick@eventint.com or telefax: +49 721151322036**)

ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group:

Mr. David Dore, ISU Vice-President of Figure Skating
& Coordinator ISU Figure Skating Event Coordination Group

Mr. Peter Krick, ISU Chair Sports Directorate
Ms. Felicitas Babusikova, ISU Sports Director Figure Skating
Ms. Patricia Mayor, ISU Sports Coordinator Figure Skating
Mr. Mario Meinel, ISU Event Coordinator
Ms. Rita Zonnekeyn, Member S&PTC
Ms. Halina Gordon-Poltorak, Member IDTC

Organizing Members of the 6 individual events:

Canada	Skate Canada
China	Chinese Skating Association
France	Federation Française des Sports de Glace
Japan	Japan Skating Federation
Russia	The Figure Skating Federation of Russia
United States	The United States Figure Skating Association

Organizing Member 2009/2010 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final:

Japan Skating Federation