



## Technical Notification 254

**Dated: August 6, 2020**

**Updated: August 17, 2020**

### **Re: Partnered Pattern Dance Tests**

Rule 8216 (A) requires that all tests within a level must be taken and passed as partnered pattern dance tests to complete a partnered pattern dance test level.

The Board of Directors has approved the following exceptions to this rule 8216 (A) from August 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020:

To complete any level partnered pattern dance test from preliminary through gold, candidates may elect to take one or two pattern dances within a level without a partner and receive partnered credit.

1. Candidates completing a level under this exception must have already taken and passed at least one pattern dance within the level with a partner prior to the test date for the solo dance(s) receiving partnered credit.
2. Candidates beginning a new level under this exception may take one or two pattern dances solo during this time period, prior to taking the partnered test(s) at a future test date when partnering will be allowed by their rink/city/county/state.
3. Each candidate will be limited to taking a maximum of four pattern dances solo (i.e. a skater may advance from silver to pre-gold by taking two silver dances solo in addition to taking two pre-gold dances solo), so a skater may advance a maximum of one level and start progression of their next level.

For example: Jane Doe Skater has passed the American Waltz and Tango (silver dances) with a partner. She needs to test the Rocker Foxtrot to complete the silver partnered pattern dance test level. This waiver allows her to test the Rocker Foxtrot (following the partnered dance requirements) as a solo dance.

Candidates taking part in this exception must perform the same number of patterns as required in the partnered portion of the test, and the judging panel must meet the requirements for the partnered test.

Furthermore, candidates must meet all required prerequisites prior to taking any new tests (i.e. a skater must have completed the silver partnered pattern dance test to begin taking any of the pre-gold partnered pattern dances (with a partner or solo for partnered credit).

**Clarification:** The intent of the exception allowance outlined in this technical notification is to help our membership in areas where they are unable to skate with their coach or partner due to local rink, city, county or state restrictions, or general comfort level of skating that close to someone (until it is a safer overall environment), or lack of testing opportunities during this health emergency. It is not intended that a skater test multiple dances at the same test session, with some dances as partnered (with a coach/partner) and other dances using the Pandemic

Partner/solo option. If the skater is allowed to skate with a partner and is comfortable doing so, then all the tests should be completed as standard partnered tests.

Tests taken under this exception will be input in the system as partnered pattern dance tests with "Pandemic Partner" as the selected partner for the test.

**Implementation date:** Retroactive to August 1, 2020