

CHALLENGING GOLD TESTS

Many questions are being asked about Skate Canada's rules regarding challenging the Gold Tests. Hopefully the following explanations will help!

There is the opportunity for a challenge of the Gold Free Skate test, Gold Dance test and Gold Interpretive Test. The Gold Skills test ***may not*** be challenged.

Reference: BC/YK Communication 2013-03 General Information Update: March 2013 and Skate Canada Technical Handbook > Section 4000 STARSkate Program > Page 41 in the Skate Canada Rule Book, under 2.0 (5)

GOLD FREE SKATE

A skater may try the Gold Free Skate test without passing the previous free skate tests. The challenge fee to Skate Canada for this is \$50 for Part 1 and \$50 for Part 2. The skater must also pay a test fee (i.e., the current rate 2013 rate is \$10 per part) and ***applicable*** regional administration fees per part.

At **test days** a skater registers for and takes each part separately. If successful, the skater will be given credit for previous free skate test parts not yet passed.

Example 1: A junior bronze skater may only wish to Challenge Gold test Part 1. If successful the skater would receive credit for Senior Bronze, Junior Silver and Senior Silver part 1 tests. Total cost: \$50 (Challenge fee part 1) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee part 1) + \$12 (BC Coast admin fee part 1) = \$72

Example 2: A junior bronze skater may wish to Challenge both parts of the Gold test. They must skate both parts and if successful would receive credit for Senior Bronze, Junior Silver and Senior Silver parts 1 and 2 tests. Total cost: \$50 (Challenge fee part 1) + \$50 (Challenge fee part 2) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee part 1) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee part 2) + \$12 (BC Coast admin fee part 1) + \$12 (BC Coast admin fee part 2) = \$144

(a) At **competitions** a skater without the pre-requisite tests may challenge both parts of the Gold Free Skate test in a non-qualifying event if entered in a **competitive category**. When registering for the test, the skater will pay the fee for Part 1 and Part 2 regardless of the outcome. If successful, the skater will be given credit for both parts of previous free skate tests not yet passed.

For example, if a skater has passed the Junior Bronze Free Skate test and then passes the Gold Challenge Free Skate test in a Juvenile competitive event, he or she would get credit for the complete Senior Bronze, Junior Silver, Senior Silver and Gold Free Skate tests. Total test cost calculation: \$50 (Challenge fee part 1) + \$50 (Challenge fee part 2) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee part 1) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee part 2) = \$120

The Gold Free Skate test cannot be challenged in competition if the skater is entered in a STARSkate category. A skater taking the Gold Free Skate test in the Gold Free Skate competition event must have passed all of the previous tests and if successful will receive credit for Part 2.

GOLD DANCE

A skater may try the Gold Pattern Dances without passing the previous Pattern Dance tests. If a skater **successfully challenges 4 of 6 Gold dances** they will be given credit for previous dance tests not yet taken and be awarded the Gold Dance set. A skater challenging one Gold dance at a time does not get credit for previous dance tests not taken and if they decide not to challenge any further gold dances they must first obtain the previous dance tests first.

The fee to Skate Canada is \$50 for **each** Gold Pattern Dance tested plus test fees plus administration fees.

(a) One dance:

For example, if the skater wants to challenge the Viennese Waltz but has not passed any Senior Silver dances the total cost is: \$50 (+challenge Gold dance fee) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee) + \$10 (BC Coast admin fee) = \$70.

(b) Dance set:

For example: If the skater wants to challenge all (4 of 6) of the Gold dances but has not passed any Senior Silver the total cost is: \$50 (challenge Gold dance 1) + \$50 (challenge Gold dance 2) + \$50 (challenge Gold dance 3) + \$50 (challenge Gold dance 4) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee Gold dance 1) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee Gold dance 2) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee Gold dance 3) + \$10 (Skate Canada test fee Gold dance 4) + \$10 (BC Coast admin fee 1) + \$10 (BC Coast admin fee 2) + \$10 (BC Coast admin fee 3) + \$10 (BC Coast admin fee 4) = \$280

GOLD INTERPRETIVE TEST

A skater may try the Gold Interpretive Test without passing the previous Interpretive tests **ONLY IF THE SKATER HAS ACHIEVED HIS OR HER GOLD CERTIFICATE IN EITHER FREE SKATE OR DANCE OR SKATING SKILLS AND HAS MADE A SPECIFIC REQUEST TO SKATE CANADA BEFORE THE TEST IS TRIED.**

The Club Test Chair must send the request to the Skate Canada National Office in writing (copying the Section Office) and must include the skater's name, Skate Canada membership number, tests passed (i.e., current level of test certification) and a rationale/circumstances surrounding the request. The Member Services Department will verify skater's test levels and communicate the results of the request directly to the club test chair. These requests will be treated on a case-by-case basis.

If the request is approved the skater will skate one performance of their Interpretive program and it will be evaluated at the Gold level. If passed, the skater will be awarded the Gold Interpretive test plus all tests not previously taken.

The skater must pay the regular test fees for the tests and for any lower level Interpretive tests not previously passed and applicable administration fees.

For example, if the skater has previously passed the Introductory Interpretive test, the fees must be paid for the Bronze, Silver and Gold Interpretive tests. Total cost: \$10 (test fee) + \$12 (BC Coast admin fee tests) + \$20 (Skate Canada test fees for tests not taken) = \$42

GENERAL

There are specific codes to be used on the summary sheet for Gold tests that are challenged. This document is posted on the Club page of the Skating in BC website.

Only the following dance tests have the option of being tried either solo or with a partner:

- a) Junior Silver Dance Test – the American Waltz and the Keats Foxtrot.
- b) Senior Silver Dance Test – the Blues and Kilian
- c) Gold Dance Test – the Quickstep and Silver Samba
- d) An evaluator may request a solo of a partnered dance in certain circumstances. However, solo skating at the request of the evaluator is not permitted for Preliminary and Diamond Dance test levels. Also, it is not permitted to request a candidate who is 25 years of age or older to skate a solo.

CHALLENGE TEST CODES

Gold Freeskat

PART 1: ELEMENTS- GOLD FS CHALLENGED TEST	GDE - CH
PART 2: PROGRAM- GOLD FS CHALLENGED TEST	GDP - CH

Gold Dance

GOLD DANCE TESTS			CHALLENGE TEST*
Viennese Waltz	VIE	VIE-P	VIE - CH
Westminster	WES	WES-P	WES - CH
Quickstep	QUI		QUI - CH
Argentine Tango	ARG	ARG-P	ARG- CH
Silver Samba	SAM	SAM-P	SAM - CH
Gold Creative Dance	GCD		GCD - CH

Gold Interpretive

There is no code for a gold interpretive challenge test but all of the details will be known since Skate Canada **must approve** the test taking before it can proceed.