

Local Organizing Committees (LOC): Planning STAR Events

Sections may choose to offer all STAR events, or a selection of STAR events based on the size of the competition and anticipated number of entries. However, all Freeskate events at this level must be offered in STAR and not in the 6.0 system.

STAR 4 is an optional event that Sections may choose to offer if they believe there will be demand and enough entries to offer this in addition to STAR 3. The requirements to compete and the program content are exactly the same for STAR 3 and STAR 4. The difference between them is that STAR 3 is an assessed event (i.e Gold, Silver, Bronze, Merit) and in STAR 4 the skaters are ranked in their group and do not receive an overall assessment. STAR 4 has been designed to help skaters transition from being assessed against a standard as in STAR 1,2 and 3 – to being ranked against their fellow competitors as in STAR 5 and higher.

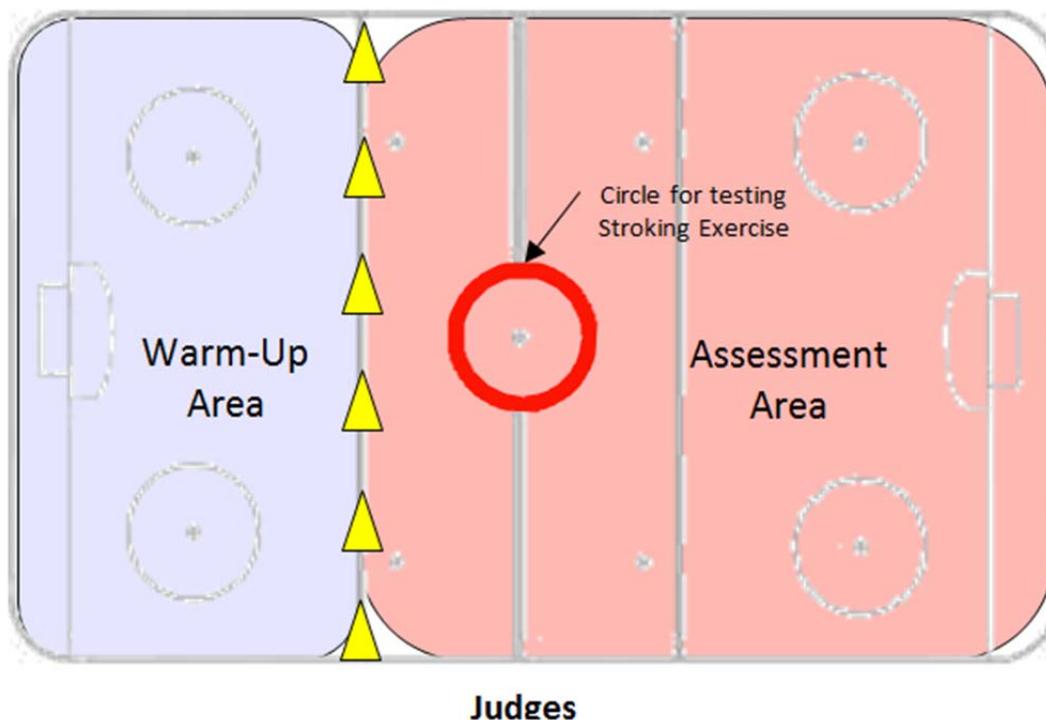
For example, if a Section/LOC feels that it does not have enough entries to warrant offering both STAR 3 and STAR 4, they could choose to only offer STAR 3. Unless there are obvious entry concerns, Sections may wish to offer all events during the Pilot year and then make adjustments as needed for subsequent years.

Local Organizing Committees: Running STAR Events

STAR 1 Events

STAR 1 is a group element event for entry level figure skaters. The purpose of STAR 1 is to introduce skaters to performing elements in a non-competitive and fun environment. At the conclusion of each STAR 1 event, skaters are given a report card and ribbon corresponding to their overall assessment rating. Creating an atmosphere which is relaxed and encourages participation is of paramount importance.

During the STAR 1 event, each group of skaters takes to the ice with their coaches to warm up elements in the designated warm-up area. After the warm-up is complete, coaches lead skaters to the assessment area (see rink diagram below) where skaters take turns performing a stroking exercise, 3 jumps, 2 spins, a spiral sequence and a creative expression exercise. As soon as the first group completes the assessment of spins, the next group enters the ice to commence their warm-up.



Planning STAR 1 Events

Arena Set Up: A row of cones along the blue line may be used to designate the warm-up and assessment areas. If the judges' stand is not at ice level (i.e., situated in the players' box) the judges (3) will be at the boards rink side. All assessments are initially written on paper so no computer equipment or power is required rink side.

Ice Captain: As each group being assessed completes their spin elements, the ice captain will invite the next group of skaters and their coaches to begin warming up in the designated area.

Name Tags: Each skater requires a name tag. Sticky tags to be worn on a warm-up jacket are preferred. Tags attached by neck strings or lanyards are not permitted.

Announcing & Music: Music for the 30-second creative routine is provided by the Section. A different selection of music should be played for each group, rotating through all the selections. Depending on the number of groups some music selections may need to be repeated. The music is played for the skaters twice: once to listen to and then again to perform. Soft background music is to be played during warm-ups and element assessments.

The procedure for announcing skaters in STAR 1 is as follows:

To Start (Group 1)

“We invite the following skaters to take to the ice to warm up for the STAR 1 event: (read names). For this event, skaters will perform a stroking exercise, three jumps, two spins and a creative routine.”

When Group 1 (and subsequent groups) move to the assessment area:

“We will now begin our assessment for Group _ skaters: (read names).”

When Group 2 (and subsequent groups) comes on the ice for warm-up (while previous group assesses spins)

“We now invite Group _ skaters to take to the ice for their warm-up (read names).”

STAR 2 and 3 Events

STAR 2 and STAR 3 introduce skaters to performing elements in a program. It is very similar to how former Pre-Preliminary and Preliminary events were run: there is a timed warm-up for each group of skaters followed by performances of individual programs. Judges assess each program as per regular competition set-up and procedure. At the conclusion of the STAR events, each skater is presented with a report card and a ribbon or rosette corresponding to their overall assessment.

Head Sets:

A set of headsets must be provided for the Referee and two judges. If available, an additional headset should be set up on the panel for training purposes. If double panels are used for STAR 2 and 3, three additional headsets are required.

Timers: Timers are not required for STAR 2 or 3 events.

STAR 4 and STAR 5 Events

STAR 4 marks the entry point into competitive skating where skaters are scored and ranked. Medals (or ribbons – at the discretion of the section) are awarded to top finishers. STAR 4

competitors will receive a report card listing assessments for each element and program component as well as their ranking. STAR 5 skaters receive a standard CPC report card with scores and ranking.

Head Sets:

A set of headsets should be provided for the Referee and two judges. If available, an additional headset should be set up on the panel for training purposes.

Timers: Timers are not required for STAR 4 or 5 events. The Referee should time each programs to ensure it meets the required time limit.

STAR Presentations

The STAR system is designed to introduce skaters to performing and eventually competing. Ensuring that STAR 1-3 is conducted in a fun, relaxed and non-competitive environment is essential. The presentation of report cards and ribbons is a very important part of the process for skaters and parents and can greatly affect their overall experience. **Overall assessment ratings may NOT be posted.**

Ribbons:

There are separate ribbons for each level for STAR 1-3 and for each of the assessment levels of Gold, Silver, Bronze and Merit. It is recommended that a simple ribbon design be used for STAR 1, a more elaborate design for STAR 2 and even a rosette be given for STAR 3 to reflect the achievement of skaters at each level. Medals (if used) should be reserved for 4 and higher events where skaters are ranked.

Estimating Ribbons:

While numbers vary between areas, a rough estimate of ribbon distribution at each level is as follows. Note that averages will change over a season as skaters improve in each category.

Level	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Merit
STAR 1	15%	40%	35%	10%
STAR 2	10%	40%	40%	10%
STAR 3	10%	50%	35%	5%

Report Cards:

An individual report card is produced for each skater in STAR 1-4 including the overall assessment rating for STAR 1-3 or the ranking for STAR 4.

The ribbon and report card is presented at the same time for STAR 1 - 3.

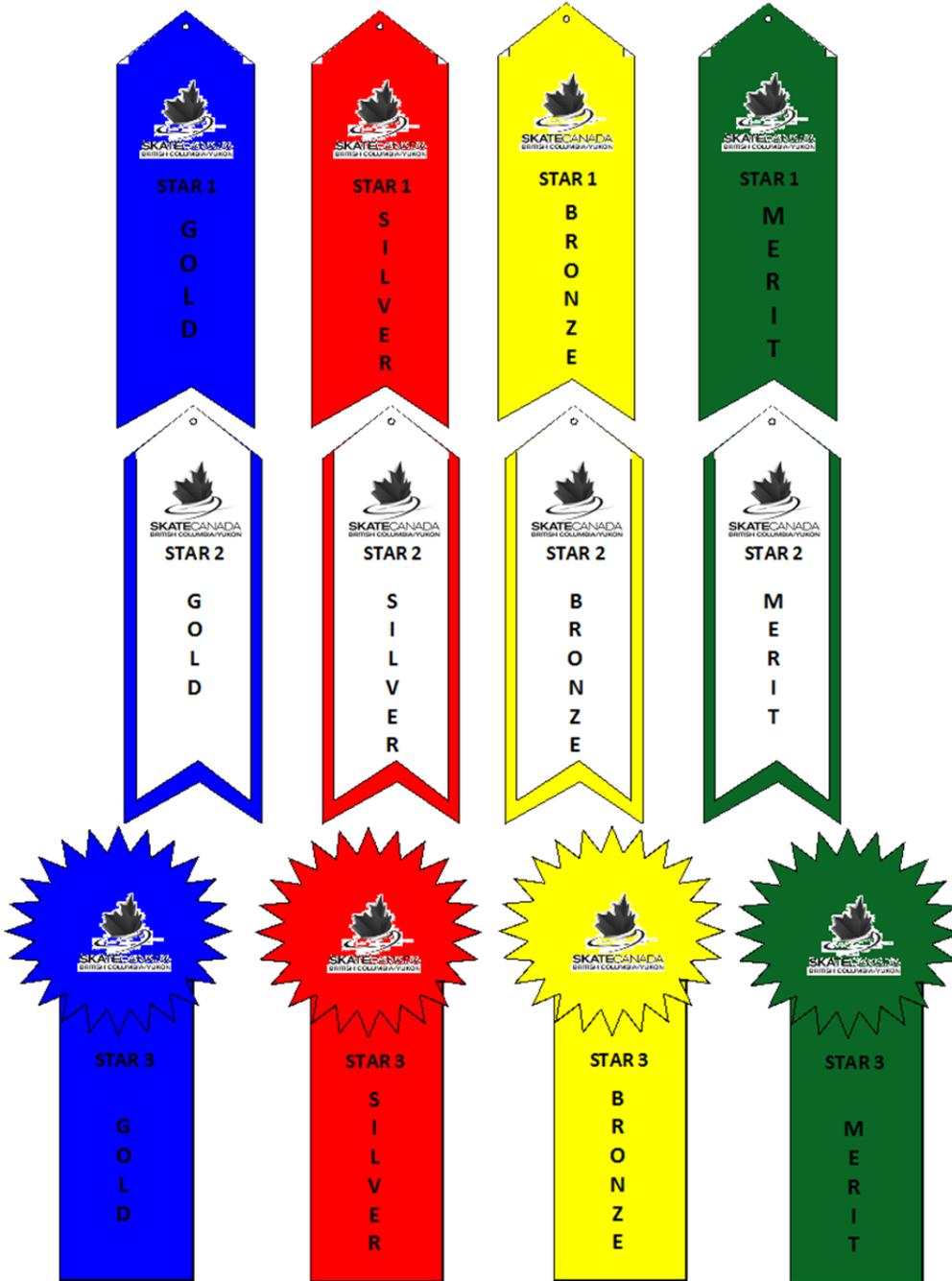
Tip: Attach the ribbon to the report card for STAR 1 and 2 so it is easier for small hands to hold.

Presentation Procedure:

1. **Announce the name of the group that will be receiving presentations.** Explain that each skater will be called and presented with their ribbon and report card and parents may take a picture of their skater. Parents have the first opportunity to photograph their skater. If a professional photographer is on site, they may take photos *after* the parents.
2. **Call up each skater to the podium according to the starting order for their group and present them with their report card and ribbon. Do NOT announce the overall rating.** Congratulate the skater. If there is no applause, start clapping and others will join in. *Tip: If an assistant is available, have them check with skaters on the pronunciation of their name prior to presentations. They can also help the skater onto the podium for their presentation.*

When each skater is made to feel special, they and their families leave the competition with good memories regardless of their performance. Choosing the right person(s) to perform the presentation ceremonies and create this positive atmosphere should not be overlooked. While teens and other skaters are valuable volunteers at a competition, ribbon and medal ceremonies should only be performed by adults.

Sample Ribbon Design:



Technical Representatives: Scheduling and Staffing STAR Events

Note: For all Technical information regarding STAR 1-5, please refer to the STAR 1-5 Technical Package.

Scheduling Events

Scheduling STAR 1 Events:

Grouping Skaters:

1. **Sort skaters by age and place into groups of 6.** Six skaters is the maximum number per group for on-ice management and the result calculation software cannot handle more skaters per group. Girls and boys may be grouped together if numbers warrant this.
2. **Review and alter groupings to keep some skaters with the same coach together.** Because coaches will be on the ice with the skaters, it can be helpful for a coach to have some of their skaters together. Regrouping should NOT result in having all the skaters from the same club together. A reason for regrouping would be Groups 1 and 2 contain skaters of all the same age. A coach has one skater in group 1 and one skater in group 2. Place those 2 skaters in the same group.

Event Timing:

1. **Group 1: 25 minutes for 6 skaters.** This includes a 3-4 minute warm up.
2. **Groups 2+: 20 minutes.**

Groups 2+ will start warming up when the group before finishes assessing spins. Warm-up times are approximate and not meant to be exact.

Scheduling STAR 2 Events:

STAR 2 consists of one 1:00 or 1:30 (+/- 10 seconds) program. Warm-ups are 3:00 minutes in duration. A review time of 1:00 to 1:30 per skater should be included to allow the judging panel time to review elements and verify well balanced program criteria have been met.

Grouping Skaters:

1. **Sort skaters by age and divide into groups.** We recommend a maximum of 12 skaters per group (flight), however, 8 is optimal as only one warm-up group is required. Although skaters are not competing against each other, keeping the groups to a maximum of 12 skaters helps skaters have a sense of who is in their group. Girls and boys may be grouped together if numbers warrant this.

Event Timing:

Timing Guide for STAR 2

# Skaters	# Warm-Ups	Total	# Skaters	# Warm-Ups	Total
2	1	10 min	8	1	35 min
3	1	15 min	9	2	40 min
4	1	20 min	10	2	40 min
5	1	20 min	11	2	45 min
6	1	25 min	12	2	45 min
7	1	30 min	-	-	-

Scheduling STAR 3 & STAR 4 Events:

STAR 3 & 4 consist of one 1:30 or 2:00 (+/- 10 seconds) program. Warm-ups are 4:00 minutes in duration. A review time of 1:00 to 1:30 per skater should be included to allow the judging panel time to review elements and verify well balanced program criteria have been met.

Boys and girls may be grouped together in STAR 3 if numbers warrant this. Boys and girls must compete separately in STAR 4 events. Groups should be kept small, no larger than 12 skaters.

Event Timing:

Timing Guide for STAR 3 & STAR 4

# Skaters	# Warm-Ups	Total	# Skaters	# Warm-Ups	Total
2	1	15 min	8	1	35 min
3	1	15 min	9	2	40 min
4	1	20 min	10	2	45 min
5	1	25 min	11	2	50 min
6	1	30 min	12	2	55 min
7	1	30 min	-	-	-

*STAR 3 & STAR 4 timing guide uses the assumption that all skaters will skate a 2:00 program.

Scheduling STAR 5 Events

STAR 5 events are judged events in the CPC system. Skaters have a 2:00 (+/- 10 seconds) program and a 4:00 minute warm-up. A review time of approximately 2 minutes per skater should be included to allow the judging panel time to review of elements and verify well balanced program criteria have been met.

There are 3 age categories for STAR 5: U10, U13 and 13&O. If there are not enough entries to form a separate age category for one of these groups, age categories may be combined if necessary. For example, if there are not enough entries to form a group in the Under 10 category, they may be grouped with skaters that are Under 13.

Staffing STAR 1-4 Events

Active Skate Canada Judges or Technical Officials (i.e. Technical Specialists, Technical Controllers or Base Level Technical Officials) who have completed STAR training may officiate in STAR 1-4 events. However, only judges trained to judge in CPC may judge STAR 5 events.

In STAR 1-4 the Referee plays a key role ensuring that standards are consistently applied and the events run smoothly (see Technical Package, page 13). Only experienced judges or technical officials should be used in this role. Likewise, the role of Judge 2 is important and should be filled by a judge or technical official who can write the proper element codes as their marking sheet is submitted to the data specialists for entering. The position of judge 3 is an excellent position for less experienced or new judges or technical officials to fill so they can learn and observe the assessment process. If additional head sets are available, do make use of them to expose new judges and technical officials to the process prior to participating on panels.

It is also advisable not to rotate judges between positions after each event. Keep the composition of the panels the same for several events so panels can develop a rhythm, flow and better understanding of each role.

- [Panel Marking Sheet STAR 1 \(EN\).pdf \(100 KB\)](#)
- [Panel Marking Sheet STAR 2, 3 & 4 \(EN\).pdf \(100 KB\)](#)
- [Feuille de notation du jury pour STAR 1 \(FR\).pdf \(1 MB\)](#)
- [Feuille de notation du jury pour STAR 2, 3 et 4 \(FR\).pdf \(1 MB\)](#)