



South African Figure Skating Association

COMMUNICATION S25-020

Clarification of Star Test, Medal, and Federation Colour Requirements – Synchronised Skating

Date Approved: 25 April 2026

Effective Start Date: 25 April 2026

Purpose

The purpose of this communication is to formally advise all Provincial Associations, coaches, team officials, and athletes of the decision taken by the SAFSA Executive to align Synchronised Skating Star Test medals with those applied across all other skating disciplines. This alignment ensures consistency in star recognition, competitive structure, and federation colour awards, and gives effect to amendments to Rule F.7, read together with COMM 25-018 regarding the Mixed Age Level.

Details

The SAFSA has approved the alignment of Synchronised Skating Star medals with the established star structure used across all SAFSA disciplines, as detailed in Annexure D (attached). This decision applies to all Synchronised Skating competitive sections and replaces the previous Syncro-specific star structure in its entirety.

Accordingly, Rule F.7 is amended in totality, and the revised structure is now fully aligned with competition levels, star recognition, and ISU frameworks.

Details of the Changes (Refer to Annexure D)

With immediate effect, the following star medal alignment applies to Synchronised Skating:

Every Discipline (Synchronised Skating) Section Star Medal Recognition

Senior	Gold Star
Junior	Inter-Gold Star
Advanced Novice (Novice Section for Syncro)	Silver Star
Intermediate Novice (Mixed Age Syncro)	Inter-Silver Star
Basic Novice	Bronze Star
Juvenile	Pewter Star

This structure mirrors star progression in all other disciplines and provides clarity and consistency across SAFSA competitions and awards.

These changes align explicitly with COMM 25-018, which clarified the revised status and requirements of the Mixed Age Level within Synchronised Skating.



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FEDERATION COLOURS – SYNCHRONISED MIXED AGE TEAMS

Federation Colours – Transitional Provision

For the current and transitional period, up to and including the 2025/2026 season until Communication S25-012 became effective, competitors in the Mixed Age section remain eligible for federation colours, provided that they have achieved either of the following:

1. The published ISU score for the previous season, up to and including Nationals 2025; and
2. The current ISU score as published for the 2025/2026 season.

Where these criteria are met, federation colours may be awarded by the relevant Provincial Association, in accordance with existing provincial procedures.

Federation Colours – Effective 2026/2027 Season

With effect from the 2026/2027 season onwards:

Competitors and athletes participating in the Mixed Age Synchronised Skating section will no longer be eligible to receive federation colours.

This change is based on the Mixed Age section having requirements that are lower than the ISU-recognised Novice Section and higher, and reaffirms that federation colours are reserved exclusively for official ISU-recognised sections.

Rule Book Update

These clarifications and amendments will be formally incorporated into the SAFSA Rule Book prior to the commencement of the 2026/2027 season, ensuring full alignment between:

1. Rule F.7
2. The Synchronised Skating competition structure
3. Star Test recognition
4. Federation colour awards



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Responsibility of Coaches and Team Officials

Coaches, team managers, and provincial officials are reminded that they are responsible for:

1. Ensuring athletes and teams are entered in the correct competitive section
2. Clearly communicating Star Test, medal recognition, and federation colour implications to skaters and parents
3. Verifying eligibility and compliance prior to entry deadlines

The SAFSA Executive