



Skate Canada Prince Edward Island

Music Copyright in Figure Skating Info Package

I. Rights Involved

1. Composition

- **Reproduction Right:** Making a copy of the underlying melody and lyrics (the musical composition).
- **Performance Right:** Playing the composition publicly (e.g., in practice, competitions, or shows).

2. Sound Recording

- **Reproduction Right:** Making a copy of a specific sound recording (the master track).
- **Performance Right:** Playing that recording publicly.

II. Basic Coverage by Skate Canada

1. Practice and Competitions

- Skate Canada has obtained performance licenses through Entandem (SOCAN and Re:Sound) on behalf of all Skate Canada clubs and schools. These licenses allow music to be performed during practices and competitions.

2. Year-End Ice Shows and Special Events

- Clubs must inform Skate Canada about special events (e.g., year-end ice shows). Additional or special arrangements may be required, especially if the event is recorded or broadcast.



III. Personal Recordings (Family and Friends)

1. Non-Commercial Use
 - Family or friends who record a skater's performance for personal, non-commercial purposes and share it privately (e.g., among family or on personal social media) are typically acting within acceptable boundaries.
2. Public Broadcast
 - If a sponsor, organizer, or professional entity records and publicly broadcasts or monetizes the video, additional licensing obligations apply.

IV. Event Organizer Recordings and Live Streaming

1. Non-Commercial Use
 - If the organizer records for archival or internal club purposes only (no public broadcast/streaming), no additional licensing is usually needed.
2. Public Broadcast
 - If the organizer or sponsor live-streams or publicly broadcasts an event, additional reproduction and performance licenses may be required.

Note: Platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram may mute or block music even if the use is legal under Skate Canada's licenses, because these platforms apply their own systems

V. Skater/Coach Responsibilities

1. Music Selection and Acquisition
 - Skaters and coaches must obtain music from legal sources (e.g., Apple iTunes downloads, ClicknClear, Soundstripe, Epidemic Sound).



2. Editing or Modifying Music

- Minor Edits (allowed, not derivative works):
 - Trimming a track to fit the program length.
 - Adding simple fade-ins/fade-outs.
 - Sequencing one song after another.
- Significant Changes
 - Altering tempo or pitch beyond small shifts.
 - Overlapping or merging multiple songs (mash-ups).
 - Making other major edits that create a “new work.”
- Practical Note
 - Simple trims/sequencing are not considered derivative works under Skate Canada’s Q&A. Larger edits (derivative works) require additional licensing (e.g., ClicknClear).

3. Social Media Use

- Family or skaters posting performances online for personal, non-commercial purposes is common.
- However, platforms (YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, etc.) may block or mute videos regardless of legality due to their own licensing systems.

4. Public Broadcast or Commercial Distribution

- If an event is streamed or recorded for public/commercial use, organizers must secure the proper licenses. Coaches/skaters should confirm with organizers that coverage is in place.

VI. Resources for Licensing

Websites and organizations that can help:

- ClicknClear (specialized for sport/performance music)
- Soundstripe / Epidemic Sound (royalty-free music libraries)
- Entandem (SOCAN + Re:Sound joint licensing)
- Re:Sound
- SOCAN
- CMRRA (for reproduction rights if needed)



VII. Event Organizer Responsibilities

1. Public Venue Performances
 - Once music is submitted, the organizer is responsible for ensuring that event performance rights are covered (via Entandem licenses).
2. Recording and Live Streaming
 - Additional licenses may be required for live-streaming, broadcasting, or archiving.
3. Coverage and Platform
 - Skate Canada's Entandem agreements cover in-person performance use.
 - Organizers must confirm with Skate Canada which streaming platforms are permitted under national coverage before broadcasting events.

Each stakeholder — skaters, coaches, clubs, and organizers — plays a role in respecting Canadian copyright law. By using legal music sources, following Skate Canada's guidance, and checking when special permissions are needed, skating in PEI can stay compliant while still enjoying high-quality music.

Appendix: Skate Canada Music Rights 101 — Questions & Answers



Music Rights 101
Question/Answers

1. What does this mean if I am a STAR Skater?

- You are required to obtain the music to which your programs will be choreographed legally. As an example, purchasing music from Apple Music is entirely legal.
- If you choose to heavily mix/alter the original recordings you are responsible to obtain the appropriate licenses to create a derivative work for the Compositions and Sound Recordings you have selected. A derivative work is where music has been heavily adapted: mixing with other songs, adding voice overs, adding sound effects, altering tempo, etc.
- The simple editing of music selections; trimming of songs, sequencing one song after the other, is not considered a derivative work.
- No other action is required.

2. What does this mean if I am a Podium Pathway skater participating in Skate Canada Qualifying Events?

- You are required to obtain the music legally. As an example, purchasing music from Apple Music is entirely legal.
- If you choose to heavily mix/alter the original recordings you are responsible to obtain the appropriate licenses to create a derivative work for the Compositions and Sound Recordings you have selected. A derivative work is where music has been heavily adapted: mixing with other songs, adding voice overs, adding sound effects, altering tempo, etc.
- The simple editing of music selections; trimming of songs, sequencing one song after the other, is not considered a derivative work.
- Skate Canada is responsible to obtain the required licenses to allow you to perform your choreographed program in Skate Canada Qualifying Events.



3. What does this mean for Skate Canada Skating Clubs/Schools?

- Skate Canada has obtained all necessary licenses from Entandem (SOCAN and Re Sound) on behalf of Skate Canada Clubs and Skating Schools. These licenses provide our registrants of Skate Canada the right to perform to their selected compositions and sound recordings during practices, training, and to perform to the sound recordings during competitions.

4. What does this mean if I am competing in ISU events?

- The International Skating Union (ISU) will be issuing formal communication on the requirements for music rights clearances internationally.
- The ISU has informally communicated that no competitor will be denied accreditation to ISU events if they have not obtained appropriate music clearance for their programs. However, athletes will be fully liable for any repercussions due to competing with uncleared music.