

Hello Starskate Families,

Please find for reference the following important updates.

Competitions

Congratulations to everyone competing at Sectionals on Nov 2-5, 2017 in Lethbridge! A special recognition to Dawson Nodwell and Grace Johnson, with coach Natasha Taylor, and Tim Pomares with coach Greg Berezowski for advancing to Skate Canada Challenge in Montreal, Nov. 29 – Dec 3. 2017. Best of luck to all!

Our Club has an increased number of skaters registered for upcoming competitions in Edmonton Regional Nov 24 – 26, 2017 and Calgary Region Dec. 15 – 17, 2017. Thanks to our Starskate families for embracing the full skating experience and proudly representing our “small but mighty club.” Remember to take pictures of your skaters and send them to Arlene Abboud, our Publicity Chair and Lucy Hyndman, our Website Administrator, so that we can celebrate their achievements. Website is looking amazing by the way – thanks Lucy!

Figure Skating Room

Winter is definitely upon us now, we are kindly asking our figure skaters to please hang up their winter coats on the hooks provided as the room is getting crowded. A friendly reminder that the figure skating room is cleaned by SPFAS every second Thursday of the month. Please have personal belongings picked up off the floor prior to the cleaning.

Thank you to the families who have communicated to us about the supervision in the figure room during the Jr/Int sessions. We kindly ask that during these sessions, parents enter the figure skating room for a couple of minutes at a time. We hope that more adult presence in the figure skating room will decrease potential issues that arise among the children. Do let us know if this does not resolve potential conflicts and requires more formal adult supervision, as we will look into setting up a supervision schedule if necessary.

Over-Due Accounts

Thanks to everyone monitoring their accounts. A friendly reminder to frequently access your accounts on the website and if it shows up in big red letters “over due” we are kindly asking everyone to please pay your outstanding balance. Partial payments arranged at the beginning of the season is excluded from this, thanks to all for using this option provided.

Payments Changes

Effectively immediately, cash and cheques will no longer be accepted for payment for drop-in, registrations, test fees, etc. Paying online through your account will be the only transaction approved. Currently, submitting the required \$350 volunteer cheques and Christmas Tree Wreath Fundraiser payments are allowed by cheque. Thanks for your understanding.

High Test Day

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, Dec 14, 2017, as we will be holding our first High Test Day of the season. More information will be coming soon regarding volunteer opportunities, test fees and test schedules. Low Test will be taken place during regular session. Your coaches are working on a schedule and information will be communicated soon.

Music Booth

Thanks to the music coordinators Christine Baker and Mary Townson for getting our members trained and organized to work music and attendance for the club. Please see below notes:

Music Volunteers and Attendance:

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered in the music booth. Overall, things are going well, it is terrific to have volunteers learning the systems, taking attendance and playing music. The iPod is now restored (thank you Stacey Will) and we are working with Springbank Park to fix the microphone inconsistencies.

Our goal is to have everyone feeling comfortable with the new online attendance and music system. If you have any questions or feel better having someone working in the box with you, please let us know and either Christine or Mary will work the shift with you or arrange for an experienced volunteer to be there when possible.

On-ice coaches require music volunteers to pay close attention to the music volume and timing. It is difficult to gauge music volume (too high or too low) from within the booth, so please open the door to listen and watch for coaches and skaters giving you volume signals, starting and ending programs.

We have also had feedback from volunteers indicating that the booth can be distracting with too many people coming and going, talking, on the phone or, giving instructions - please be respectful if you are in the booth. Many of you welcome others into the booth to visit or work with you but, scheduled volunteers should feel comfortable asking others to leave the booth, or not engage in distracting behaviour.

Christine & Mary @ springbankfsc.music@gmail.com

Fundraising Events

A special thanks to those who put forward some great ideas for fundraising for SFSC. As SFSC is a non-profit organization all money raised through fundraising goes towards all aspects of running the skating program at all levels including: subsidizing ice cost; paying for dryland space; paying for dryland equipment; cleaning the figure skating room; advertising and much more. We have a couple more exciting fundraising opportunities coming soon, please stayed tuned!

Changes to 3:30 - 3:45 Session

Due to the lack of registrations, SFSC will unfortunately be cancelling Mon, Tues and Wed. 3:30pm – 3:45pm sessions effective Jan 1, 2018. All skaters registered for these sessions will be notified and will receive a refund. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Tues, Wed and Thurs Morning Sessions

A friendly reminder that SFSC has availability on:

Tuesday and Thursday mornings 6:30am – 7:45am Stroking and Edges

Wednesday from 6:30am – 7:45am – Open session

If any skater is interested in the above session, we ask that you contact your coach prior to registering.

SPFAS – Sandwich Board No Access Signs

Many members have seen these wonderful signs the Park gave to us to use for the safety of our skaters. We are asking assistance from the skaters and music volunteers to put them out at the beginning of the sessions and place them away at the end of the sessions.

Any skaters being at the rink early to please place the safety signs around the rink. For example, in the hallway entering the penalty box, in front of JP rink door and behind the benches for room 2 or 4. Music volunteers at the end of the Senior sessions to please gather the safety signs and store them in the figure room. Thanks.

SPFAS Heat

SPFAS is trying a pilot process of somewhat heating the bleacher stands throughout the day. We thank the Park for continuing working with SFSC on our concerns and thank our members to continue their patience regarding the heating issues.

Last Day of Skating

A friendly reminder that last day of regular session skating before the holiday is Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017.

Happy Skating,

SFSC