



Jamesriver Figure Skating Club

Skating News

www.jrfsc.org

November 2009

Rink Parents

Rink parents are a very important part of our skating program. We appreciate their willingness to help our young skaters. Our Rink Parents for the 2009-2010 season are as follows: Basic 1-2 and Hockey 1-2 – Jill Morin, Maria Rockne, Jessica Platt; Basic 3, 4, & 5 – Kristen Hoff, Amy Elhard, Mary Knutson; Basic 6, 7, & 8 – Deb Struble, Lonna Schmidt.

A few of the responsibilities of Rink Parents are: take attendance, keep the skaters in the skating box until class time begins, watch for gum or candy as it is not permitted on the ice, encourage parents to watch their skaters from the bleachers as parents are not allowed in the skating box or near the ice, and to be prepared to assist skaters during the season as needed. This may include: providing tissues or finding gloves to use from the Boutique, wiping tears after a fall, lacing skates, giving hugs and words of encouragement to our young skaters. When a Rink Parent is unable to attend they should call another Rink Parent from the list for that level and if one cannot be reached the Rink Parent Coordinator should be contacted before the class is held. If a skater of a Rink Parent moves up to the next level the Rink Parent Coordinator needs to be notified so a replacement can be found and their name will be added to the list of Rink Parents for the next level. The Rink Parent Coordinator for this season is Lonna Schmidt.

Thank you to the Rink Parents that have already volunteered this season! Any Rink Parent that has a question or concern or if anyone would like to volunteer to be a Rink Parent **PLEASE** give Lonna a call at 252-1588.

Rink Closing Due to Bad Weather

If school closes due to bad weather, assume that the rinks will also be closed and that there will be no competitive training or classes those evenings. If adverse weather starts while at the rink, the arena manager will use his discretion to close the rinks.



We are a member of USFSA

JRFSC Coach

Mark Vasarhelyi 252-5282

Board Members

Kristen Allen, Pres 763-6466

Brenda Jensen, VPres 252-7948

Meredith Meidinger, Sec. 252-8474

Missy Soulis, Treas. 320-3366

Lance Allen 763-6466

Rodney Ruzicka 845-9491

Rita Huber. 251-2195

USFSA Basic Skills Program

The USFSA Basic Skills program is a beginning skating program that is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Skaters will learn to skate, earn badges, meet new friends, and have fun. At JRFSC, the Basic Skills program consists of eight Basic Levels and six Freeskate Levels. The eight Basic Levels allow the beginning skater to feel comfortable on the ice while learning basic skating techniques. They will learn forward and backward skating techniques, turns, and stops. To pass from one Basic Level to the next, the skaters will be tested by Coach Mark. Once a skater has passed all eight Basic Levels they will advance to the Freeskate Levels. There are the six Freeskate Levels, in which skaters will learn jumps, spins, footwork, and other moves. To move from one Freeskate Level to the next, the skaters will be tested by Coach Mark.



Parents' Participation in Basic Levels

Believe it or not, your views and attendance really makes a difference in how your child feels about skating. You can support your child by the following:

- 1) Attend the child's skating sessions. The more often a child attends classes, the more progress you will see.
- 2) Get involved in the club's activities.
- 3) Don't be overly concerned with other skater's progress, remember this is an individual sport.
- 4) Be a good cheerleader no matter how your child performs.
- 5) Remember each level adds difficulty and builds upon skills that were learned in earlier levels. It is good that a child masters each level before she/he passes.



Basic Level Testing, A Parent's Perspective

Oh my, what is Coach Mark doing? He is testing that skater? Why isn't MY skater being tested? I KNOW my skater can skate just as good as that OTHER skater. Shouldn't the skaters be tested every two weeks or so? Oh my, we missed the testing day, what can we do now????

Do these questions sound familiar? They certainly do to me. I had all of them the first year my child was in skating. I just didn't know what to expect so I expected it all to happen very fast. When it didn't always happen as I thought it should I was a little upset. When it happened quicker than I thought it should I was surprised.

Testing is simply a part of skating that comes when an individual skater is ready to advance to the next level. Coach Mark relies on information given to him by the Junior Coaches as well as what he sees when teaching. All skaters are treated as individuals. There are no testing days per se, though it does seem to cluster.

I believe that it is my responsibility to let my child progress in her own time and not to allow MY ambitions to interfere.



Lettering Reminders

Lettering calendars for each month need to be turned in by the 10th of the next month. Please put the calendars in the Lettering File in the black file box. Please remember to only list actual times skated and both skater and parent need to sign the calendars. Any questions, please contact Meredith Meidinger.

Happy Birthday!

Congratulations to all skaters who will be celebrating their birthdays in November:

Synneva Sortland – Nov. 11th

Jessica Schmitz – Nov. 17th

Leta Diede – Nov. 20th

Jayden Struble – Nov. 27th



Granite City Classic

The St. Cloud Figure Skating Club is sponsoring their 18th annual competition. The 2009 Granite City Classic is scheduled for November 13-14, 2009. The Granite City Classic Competition will be held at the MAC Arena in St. Cloud, MN. Three skaters from the Jamesriver Figure Skating Club will be skating in the competition. They are: Libbie Allen, Sami Buhl, and Emily Suckow. **Good luck skaters!**

Competitive Skaters

This year JRFSC has 17 competitive skaters. They are: Libbie Allen, Sami Buhl, McKenzie Darling, Sophie Dilocker, Jessi Gellner, Paige Gellner, Chelsea Huber, Morgan Huber, Beth Jensen, Hannah Jorgenson, Jocelyn Meidinger, Kaitlin Mullowney, Christina Radi, Madison Ruzicka, Emily Suckow, Annika Tweten, and Abby Wenzel. These skaters will be attending several competitions and testing sessions this year. Any questions on competitions should be addressed to Deb Buhl.

Schedule Changes

Calendars with class times noted will be sent out with the monthly newsletters. Please watch the calendars closely from month to month for changes. There may be some changes to the schedule from time to time due to hockey tournaments, competitions, etc., so please watch your calendar closely and check the bulletin board for unexpected changes.



From The Registration Committee

We had a good turn out for registration so far this year. We had 52 skaters registered with the club during session 1 and have 67 skaters registered with the club for session 2. If you know of someone who would still like to join skating, it is not too late. Please have them contact Deb at 320-7757.



Basic & Freeskate Tests Passed

Congratulations to the following skaters who have passed Basic and Freeskate levels during Session 1:

Hockey 1 – Dominick Franchino

Basic 1 – Gissel Arevalo, Jayden Luck, and Sydney Zalumskis

Basic 2 – Abby Helm and Olyvia Morin

Basic 3 – McKenna Becker

Basic 4 – Amber Earnest, Paige Earnest, and Karla Sherfy

Basic 5 – Emma Bennett, Amber Earnest, Mara LeFevre, Samara McDermid, and Allie Struble

Basic 6 – Caitlin George, Haley Sortland, and Katie Suckow

Basic 7 – Jayden Struble and Katie Suckow

Basic 8 – Chelsea Huber and Abby Soulis

Freeskate 1 – Kelsey Bear, Kaitlin MULLowney, Taylor Olson, and Madison Ruzicka

Freeskate 2 – Teah Mielke



Calendar

JRFSC Board Meeting -- November 10, 2009 -- First United Methodist Church -- 7:00 PM
Granite City Classic Figure Skating Competition -- November 13-15, 2009 -- St. Cloud, MN
Magic City International Competition -- January 9-10, 2010 -- Minot, ND
Northern Star International Competition -- January 22-23, 2010 -- East Grand Forks, MN
Northland Competition -- January 28-31, 2010 -- Duluth, MN
Hiawathaland Open Figure Skating Competition -- February 5-7, 2010 -- Rochester, MN
Red River Valley Figure Skating Classic -- February 12-13, 2010 -- Moorhead, MN

Thank you

Thank you

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We would like to extend a big thank you to all the skaters (and their friends) and parents who helped with scraping and painting Eagles Arena. Thank you Tom, Deb & Sami Buhl, Lonna, Emily, & Katie Suckow, Rita, Morgan, Logan, & Chelsea Huber, Brenda, Alex & Beth Jensen, Brittany McIntyre, Meredith & Jocelyn Meidinger, Kristen & Libbie Allen, and Missy Soulis. It was a lot of hard work. We couldn't have done it without you!!

Fundraising

We hope that your poinsettia selling is going well. Please try to sell to local businesses, and churches etc. We need to sell as many as we can! Remember, that the first delivery of poinsettias will be November 18th and the forms are due on or before the 13th. Poinsettias need to be picked up on Wednesday, the 18th from 4-6 p.m.

Presidents corner:

Welcome back! As always, it is so much fun to see everyone back on the ice and skating again!!

Our club is growing which is very exciting! We have doubled our competitive team this year. Three of those competitors are driving from Langdon ND to skate with us. We are thrilled to have them be a part of our team!

As a club you need to know that Coach Marks contract is up this year. The board will be looking at our finances, parent/family participation in the club and the future wants and needs that will most benefit the long-term goals for our skaters and organization. The board would appreciate any comments you may have. Please feel free to call us anytime. The names and numbers of your board are available on the newsletter and the website.