



Skate Talk

A newsletter for Members of Riverview Skating Club
A member of Skate Canada-Nova Scotia
www.riverviewskatingclub.com
SPRING 2009



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD WINNERS FOR THE 2008 – 2009 Season



CanSkater of the Year
Brianna Partridge

CanSkate Spirit Medals
Rhiannon Gilby
Eli Schmidlin

Volunteer on the Year
Bev Deal

StarSkater of the Year
Jessica Lake-Crossley

PA of the Year
Emma Bishop

Graduating Skaters
Lindsey Parker
Sarah Sherman

Skaters Representing the Club at National Events
Gillian Baldwin
Jessica Lake Crossley
Sarah Leopold

Your Chance to Own a Piece of Canadian Skating History ...

Through the generosity of a former Avon Skating Club (Windsor) member, Jill Harvey, and former World Ice Dance Champion, Victor Kraatz, Riverview has acquired a priceless item to be used as a fundraiser. We are selling tickets on leather Roots Olympic 2002 Team Jacket, owned by Victor Kraatz.

Tickets are \$1 each and are available at the Rink during regular skating times or by contacting Terry Hart.

**Riverview Skating Club
Annual General Meeting**
Wednesday May 6th - 7pm
Upstairs in the Seniors Room
All members are encouraged to come

*****NOTE TIME CHANGE!*****

Saturday April 25th we have lost our ice due to a Hockey Tournament. Our Make up for this session is Sunday April 26th the schedule as follows:

5:30 – 6:20	CanSkate & Jr Development
6:20 – 6:30	FLOOD
6:30 – 6:45	Jr Development / JR / SR stroking
6:45 – 7:45	JR / SR Free
7:45 – 8:00	JR / SR Spin
8:00 – 8:30	JR / SR Skills/Dance

SPRING FUNDRAISERS

For our Spring Session, the only Fundraiser is The Spring Competition we host. Skaters from all over the Maritimes enter, usually about 150 skaters and it are being held April 18 this year. We collect money from each skater at registration to be used toward the cost of this event. There are two places that we can use everyone's help as well, the Bubble Gum Draw and Goody Bags. For those of you who have never seen one, the bubble gum draw is quite simple, loads of fun, and the kids absolutely love it. It involves buying a ton of individual bubble gum, marking some with numbers, and wrapping each piece in foil. The numbers correspond to a particular prize, some small, some medium and some large. People purchase the gum 3 pieces for a dollar, then unwrap it to see what prize they have won. Most of the money collected at Registration goes toward this fundraiser, to purchase supplies, and prizes.

Goody Bags are given to all competitors when they register. They are made up of a few small items skaters could make use of. We are asking everyone if they might have donations for either prize for the Bubble Gum Draw, or for the Goody Bags. Maybe your employer has merchandise, such as ball caps, T-shirts, pens and pencils, any promotional item they could contribute, or maybe you have small gifts you have received and set aside for re-gifting- the possibilities are endless. Anything you can contribute may be left in the music room prior to April 15.

RIVERVIEW INVITATIONAL SKATE

Sat Apr 18th from 8:00am to 9:00 pm

Come out and watch and cheer on our skaters as they compete with skaters from NS and NB

See the bulletin board for schedule of events for the day. We will also be looking to use skaters and parents in many positions for this day. From runners, working the bubble gum draw, working in hospitality to playing music to being an ice captain all are important positions to make this event a success each and every year!

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE MOVIE STARS FROM OUR CLUB?

Many members from our club have been participating in the filming of the new Ice Castles movie. To date these skaters and parents have had an opportunity to work in the film

Gill Baldwin, Danielle Pettipas, Alyssa Cross, Jacob Beaulieu, Chelsea Beaulieu, Mora Johnston, Heidi Levy and their parents.

There are more shooting dates available. If you are interested in being in the movie contact Lee-Anne and she can give you more information

Leeanne.cross@ns.sympatico.ca

WHAT HAPPENS AS WE PREPARE FOR TEST DAY

(Skaters in the JR and or SR Programs only)

Skate Canada Tests?

At the CanSkate level, badges are evaluated by coaches. There are no set test days; skaters earn badges as soon as they master the necessary skills. Unlike badges, Skate Canada tests are tried on special test days before an Evaluator. Skaters might start trying Skate Canada tests at the Jr Development level but more likely in Junior StarSkate level. To begin with there are Skate Canada tests available in Free Skating, Dance and Skills, each stream beginning with the Preliminary Test.

Tests are what enable the skaters to move ahead, and they spend countless hours perfecting the skills needed to pass the tests. Evaluators from outside the club are brought in to assess the skaters according to national standards that are pre-determined by Skate Canada. There is usually one test day scheduled near the end of each of our schools. When your coach feels that your skater is ready to take a test, his or her name will be forwarded to the test chair. A time will be reserved for your skater to take the test and you will be notified. There is also a fee that must be paid in order for your skater to take the test. Ask your coach to explain the process to you so you'll know what to expect

What Happens on Test Day

-Your skater should arrive at the rink one hour before their scheduled time. This will give enough time to warm up properly and prepare mentally without feeling rushed.

-Your coach will advise your skater on what to wear. Some prefer competition clothing (if available), while others say regular practice wear is fine. A warm-up jacket and gloves are acceptable for warming up, but must be removed for the actual test unless the temperature in the arena prohibits it.

-A schedule will be posted by the doors outside the ice surface. When your skater first steps on the ice, it will be for a short warm-up of anywhere from three to 10 minutes.

-For higher level tests, test days may be centralized, with skaters from other clubs in the surrounding area coming to a central location to be tested. This gives everyone equal opportunity and makes it easier for evaluators.

-Following the warm-up, your skater will perform for the evaluator. The evaluator will observe and make comments on the test sheet.

-Periodically, the test sheets will be collected and handed to the skaters. The test sheet will indicate whether your skater has passed or must retry the test. Evaluators are trained by Skate Canada to provide positive feedback to help skaters progress.

?Don't be surprised if your skater does not pass the test. Sometimes it takes two or more attempts to pass a given test.

-Your skater should discuss the evaluator's feedback with your coach as soon as possible.

Skaters are assessed one at a time by an Evaluator on a Pass-Retry basis. The results of each test are recorded on a summary sheet that must be signed by the evaluator before the results can be given out. Once this has been done, (about 15-45 minutes after the test) the Test Chairman will hand out the results (usually with the Evaluator's comments) to each skater and/or their coach. Test results are final. Skaters who receive a Retry may try their test again on the next test day.

Evaluators are trained volunteers. They are not paid because they must remain amateurs according to ISU (International Skating Union) rules.

OUR FINAL TEST DAY OF THE SEASON IS PLANNED FOR SUNDAY MAY 17th.

LOOKING TO SKATE THIS SUMMER? ADVANCE YOUR SKILLS?

There are a few clubs around that offer both Figure Skating and CanSkate programs in the summer. If you would like more info on summer programs contact one of our coaches.