

Let's Skate and Communicate

London Skating Club

London Skating Club
P.O. Box 9011
Sub. Station 40
London, Ontario
N6E 1V0
(519) 681-2640
(Office Located in Earl
Nichols Arena)

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE - STEPHEN KOMARNICKY

Perfection. Something we all strive for but know we will never obtain. Why? Because we can always do a little better, no matter how well we do. As you learn how to skate, practice for competitions or are in competitions, keep this in mind. Good luck happens to those that work hard. The same goes for the board or other volunteers. We all do this for the love of the sport and are not paid for the work. We are not perfect, so do not expect us to be perfect. And if we do not make any mistakes, then we are not taking enough chances on improving. So expect mistakes, as we work on improving the club.

The board this year has many great ideas, and great enthusiasm. But at the same time, we have new challenges and realities we need to adjust to. With the loss of the bingo revenue steam we will be experiencing a large impact on individual ice fees. It also means we need to change how we encourage volunteers to give up what little time they have in their lives to support the club. Will it be a perfect formula? No. But we will improve. Fortunately, we have had a very strong Treasurer for the last few years, and he has managed the loss of the bingo revenue by reducing the expected revenue over the last few years.

So what do we do to help? The new Fundraising Convener has many ideas and is investigating how to implement them. We cannot do them all in one year, but he is laying out a multi-year plan to implement the new opportunities. The same with the Seminar Series we would like to run, beginning with the Seminar in August.

So what does this mean? We need a strategic plan. A plan for growth, a plan for excellence. A plan that is five years out because we cannot do it all in one year, not from a financial perspective and not from a capacity perspective (since we are a 100% volunteer organization). With a five year plan, we can build to the future and ensure all initiatives and activities are for a common purpose and build to the plan. The strategic plan needs to be Our plan, the skaters, the parents, the boards, the coaches and the volunteers. Over the next while, as we build the plan, you may be asked for your opinion and / or your ideas. Please help where you can and when you can. The plan will help shape the club's future. But once in place, it is all of us that needs to own the plan and work on it, or we will not be striving for perfection. Good luck happens to those that work hard.

SEPTEMBER 2007
NEWSLETTER

Inside this issue:

Brian Orser Seminar	2
Synchro Report	2
Adult Session	3
The Historical Column	3
Test Day Results	4
Competitions Results	4
Car Wash and Garage Sale	4

FUNDRAISING REPORT - RICK CRAMPTON

This year, the London Skating Club is facing a huge challenge. The loss of the Bingos has left a real deficit in the amount of money coming into the club. As you may have already noticed, fees have increased and the Contingency cheques have disappeared.

To offset the opportunity to work off the old Contingency cheques, the club has instituted a credit system for volunteering. It is a start; by no means does it cover everything yet, but we are always willing to add to the list. Volunteers are desperately needed for all activities of the club. We are all busy, but a few hours of your time makes for a better program for your skater, no matter what level they are at.

I invite anyone with ideas for fundraisers, and anyone willing to help run or monitor fundraisers to contact me through the club (londonsc@execulink.com). Especially needed is someone to help organize the Skate-a-thon.

Let's Skate and Communicate London Skating Club

BRIAN ORSER SEMINAR - DEB NEALE

The London Skating Club hosted our first seminar in London August 31st featuring Brian Orser. This was offered to our membership exclusively first, then offered to out of club skaters. Many skaters traveled from outside our section to attend and we had more than 80 in total, from Canskate to adults.

Brian, who had surgery on his wrist only the week before, demonstrated his commitment to the sport as well as our seminar by teaching tirelessly for 6 hours, never rushed, always patient and fun. We could see first hand some of the determination that makes a world champion. To make the

seminar the high quality that he is accustomed, Brian brought an assistant, Adrian Oleksyszak who was a welcome addition. Brian was amazing with the very youngest, right on up to skaters turning 80, who were thrilled with what they learned that day.

We also offered off-ice sessions by Laurie-Ann Graham and her son Joshua, an award winning dancer. She demonstrated two different dance styles which were fun and challenging.

Following the on and off-ice, we set up the meeting room for a talk and question and answer conducted by Brian. The skaters, coaches and parents were all welcome. Brian began his talk stating the obvious, that he skates because he loves it. He relayed many personal stories and gave suggestions to the captivated audience on planning their season, the day of competition etc. He concluded his visit with us by signing every autograph.

We will not soon forget this amazing, down to earth champion.



Many thanks to all who attended and helped that day. Special thanks to Cathy Alguire who gave many hours to ensure this ran smoothly as well as Janie Nichol and Trish Layne who provided lunch for everyone.

It was a great success.

“Brian was amazing with the very youngest, right on up to skaters turning 80”

SYNCHRO REPORT—DEB NEALE

Our synchronized skating teams completed very successful auditions this spring. We have added new teams to our program which continues to grow every year.

This season we look forward to a new “learn to synchro team” coached by Traci Boland, a pre-juvenile team coached by Sara Shrub-sall, a Novice team coached by Laura Plank and Tammy Horton, a Junior

team coached by Shannon Moxey, an Open team coached by Traci Wells and Shannon Moxey, an Adult team coached by Traci Wells and a new “adult learn to synchro” coached by Traci Wells.

During auditions, the skaters from pre-juvenile to adult cannot wait to hear their music and find out their theme for the up- coming season. The music has now been unveiled

and the hard work and fun will now begin.

If you missed the auditions, and would like to join this very rewarding team sport, there may be positions available on some teams.

Please contact Deb Neale at clasma@rogers.com for any questions and inquires.

LONDON SKATING CLUB

ADULT SESSION – EVELYN BASTOW

The Adult Spring And Summer Sessions Were Very Successful With Many Skaters Participating This Year. Beverly Dodge And Avu Koskela Along With Shari Spada And Simone Nikolova Performed In The Fanshaw College Ice Fashion Show In July At The Western Fair Arena. Congratulations To All The Adult Skaters Who Passed Tests This Past Spring And Summer. Maisie, John & Stephanie Allen Have Spent The Summer Cruising The European Waterways.

Some Of Our Adult Skaters Are Participating In The Brian Orser'S Stoking Clinics On Friday August 22Nd At Nichols Arena.

A Quick Recovery Is Wished For Rith Bucknell Who Suffered A Foot Injury Caused By Her Horse This Past Summer. We Hope That She Will Soon Be Back On Her Blades Dancing With Her Husband Don.

The Fall And Winter Sessions Will Commence In Early October At The Thompson Recreation And Athletic Centre At Uwo. Brochures Will Be Mailed In Early September And Information Will Be On The Web Site Then Also. All Skaters Age 18 And Over Are Welcome At The Adult Sessions. So Come Out For Fun, Fitness And Improving Your Skating Skills!

For Further Information – Please Call Ev Bastow At 519-434-1973 Or Maisie Allen At 519-451-4527

THE HISTORICAL COLUMN – EVELYN BASTOW

Our Centennial Year Will Soon Be Coming To A Close. How Wonderful It Was To Have Our Gale Ice Show At The John Labatt Centre And I Hope All Our Members Will Have Happy Memories Of That Event. I Know I Will Add It To My Wonderful Memories Of 58 Years Of Skating With Our Club. We Should All Thank Our Wonderful Committee That Produced This Historical Event For Our Club. They Worked Incredibly Hard To Achieve Such Success.

One Of The Most Interesting And Fulfilling Jobs I Had For This Particular Event Was Trying To Locate Past Members So They Could Be Invited To The Show.

Two Of The Most Elderly Members I Was Able To Locate Were Hugh Pope From Florida And Ruth Shuttleworth Miller From Stratford. Hugh Is 89 And Ruth Is 87. Hugh Had A Very Successful Career In Skating. He Joined The London Skating Club In 1926 At The Age Of 7 Years. He Went On To Be Both Club Champion And Section Champion Before Turning Pro In 1938. He Taught In England And Toured With An Ice Show In Holland Until World War Two Started. He Returned To Canada And Then Signed With Sonja Henie'S Hollywood Ice Review And Travelled The States. This Show Later Became The Barbara Ann Scott Show And Hugh Skated With Muriel Sheare And Her Husband In This Show. (Muriel Was Happy To Talk With Hugh While He Was Here At Our Show). When The Show Finally Closed As Barbara Ann Was Getting Married Hugh Took A Holiday In Florida And Met His Wife Joanne Who Wasn'T Interested In Skating At All So Hugh Changed Careers And Started Filming Travelogues All Over The World. He Often Brought Them To London.

Hugh Of Course Is Now Retired But Still Skates In Florida At The Sun Blades Rink In Clearwater And The Local Tv Station Has Recently Done A Piece On Him And Also The Local Paper Has Taken Pictures And Published An Article On Hugh. He Is Now Ordering New Boots And Blades As He Nears 90 Years. He Has Always Been A Wonderful Athlete As He And His Younger Brother Joe (Also A Skating Pro) Were Canadian Tennis Champions And Hugh Has Published A Book On Tennis. The Pope Brothers Came From A Very Old And Distinguished London Family And Hugh Has Also Published His Family'S History Which Is In Our Public Library Main Branch. It Was Such A Pleasure To Have Hugh In London For Our Centennial Gala And He Was So Happy To Have Been Invited To Share It All With Us As He Still Calls London His Home. Hugh'S Scrapbook Is Being Placed In The London Skating Club Rechives.

Next Newsletter – Ruth Shuttleworth Miller

TEST DAY RESULTS

Congratulations to the following skaters upon the successful completion of the following Skate Canada Tests which were achieved at the July 20th Summer Session Test Day:

Preliminary Skating Skills: Leslie Linton
Junior Silver Skating Skills: Shelby Nielson & Alexa Pravongviengkham
Senior Silver Skating Skills: Alana Dahl
Gold Skating Skills: Maranda Dahl

Preliminary Free Skate Elements & Program: Alexa Pravongviengkham
Junior Bronze Free Skate (Elements): Holly Bilinski
Senior Silver Free Skate (Elements): Marissa Bradley
Juvenile Competitive Singles: Alexandra DeSando
Gold Interpretive Singles: Kasey Farmer

Preliminary Dances:
Dutch Waltz: Emme Chute
Canasta Tango: Katie McDonald
Baby Blues: Maddison Chute

Junior Bronze Dances:
Swing Dance: Rebecca Reed
Willow Waltz: Rachel Lafleche & Simona Nikolova

Senior Bronze Dances:
Fourteenstep: Vanessa Tran

Senior Silver Dances:
Kilian: Andrea Neale

Gold Dances:
Argentine Tango: Kayleigh Nichol

**A special congratulations are extended to Maranda Dahl (Gold Skating Skills), Kasey Farmer (Gold Interpretive Singles) & Kayleigh Nichol (Gold Dances). These three ladies have now completed the highest achievable level of these Skate Canada disciplines.

Competition results from Summer Sizzle and Thornhill

Summer Sizzle: Cara Nicholas - Preliminary B - 3rd;
Shelby Komarnicky - Preliminary B - 6th; Brittany Everitt - Preliminary Starskate 2nd; Alexa Pravong - Preliminary Starskate 10th; Emily Galan - Snr. Bronze Starskate 5th; Tyler Hearn - Juvenile Men 3rd.

Thornhill: Tyler Hearn - Juvenile men 5th; Alex De-sando - Juvenile Ladies 10th.

Coaches should email results to david@proudfeet.ca

Congratulations to the following skaters upon the successful completion of the following Skate Canada Tests which were achieved at the August 10th Summer Session Test Day:

Baby Blues: Abby Bilinski
Natalie Rothwell
Katie McDonald
Canasta: natalie Kinzie
Fourteen Step: Leslie Linton
Harris Tango: Holly Bilinski
Vienesse Waltz: Kasey Farmer

Junior Bronze Freeskate: Holly Bilinski
Junior Bronze Freeskate Elements: Julia Taylor
Senior Bronze Freeskate Elements: Clarisse Fata
Senior Bronze Freeskate Elements: Kaileigh Nichol

Silver Interpretive: Kayleigh Nichol

Preliminary Skills: Abby Bilinski
Senior Bronze Skills: Venessa Tran
Senior Bronze Skills: Kinsey Greenfield
Junior Silver Skills: Julia Taylor
Tyler Hearn
Brooke Marshall
Brittany Everitt
Cara Nicholas

Gold Skills: Holly Bilinski



The September 8, 2007 Garage Sale and Car Wash to raise funds for Synchronicity was a great success. Please support out teams at upcoming events.

Novice Team BBQ Fundraisers

10-4, Sat. Sep. 29 - Canadian Tire - Wonderland/Southdale
10-4, Sat. Oct. 13 - Wal-Mart - White Oaks Mall