



In The LOOP Ed. #2

Message from the President:

Here we are, about to start a new season. And here I am, sitting in the stands of Rink A at Nichols as I type this message, the very place I was a few years back when the 'Big Blackout' occurred. That was one of those days that you remember everything that happened. I recall watching my daughter skate in her silver outfit, a big smile on her face, while working hard. Something I still see to this day. If there is one thing young skaters will take away from this sport besides the friendships, it will be strong work ethics...a highly transferable trait that can carry into any aspect of their lives.

A new season brings a new schedule and new fees. The board continues its theme of empowering the coaches to manage the on-ice delivery (specifically the coaches developed the Fall and Winter schedules based on guiding principles set by the board). The board then manages these activities required to allow the ice activities to happen, and to remove road blocks to maximize skating opportunities for the skaters in a cost responsible manner. If you recall, the ice fees in the spring rose by double digits in 2009 compared to a year earlier. The fall and winter costs (ice and other costs) continue to rise as well. But, because we had better registrations last year than we budgeted for, we are able to bring some of those dollars forward and keep the coming session prices overall about the same as last year (some a few pennies per hour more, and some less).

There are three things that will stand out in the schedule I would like to point out:

1. The feedback from the membership agreed that Stroking was an important and necessary development tool for the skaters, but you preferred that this be part of the regular session as opposed to a separate session. To this end, Stroking is now built into most of the Junior and Senior sessions. This is the primary reason for the sessions being two hours, yet we have kept the 'per hour' cost about the same as last year.
2. We are piloting an off-ice program in one of the winter session nights. Because this is a pilot, the fees are being covered by the overall club budget and all Junior and Senior skaters are welcome to register for the program. If attendance is strong and the membership wishes for this to continue, next year we will build the program into specific nights and budget the cost within that session
3. Because of the unknowns due to the current economic conditions, we have reduced the number of Junior and Senior sessions in the initial winter schedule. That said, if the club finds sessions filling up quickly, we will look for additional opportunities for the skaters. If we do, skaters already registered will be given the opportunity to transfer between sessions with no 'administration costs' or to add to their schedule. This was a difficult decision. We had to balance the need to provide skating opportunities to the skaters against ensuring we do not have too many sessions with so few skaters that we cannot cover our costs. Ensuring the club exists in future years had to outweigh the immediate need for this year.

I strongly encourage you to provide feedback during the year, both positive and negative, specifically to the scheduling, but also in general. The club needs the feedback to help re-visit the parameters when developing the schedules. Please utilize the 'Contact Us' section of the webpage to send in your thoughts, concerns and complaints. Continual improvement is a must in any organization. We will never be perfect, but by continually addressing our faults and improving bit by bit, we will at least get closer to that ultimate goal. Just as any skater does each time they step on the ice. And from the darkness, your guiding light will help ensure we are on the right path.

Stephen Komarnicky

News from the Office

by Kelly Farmer

SUMMER 2009 SKATING:

It's hard to believe that we are half way through the summer skating program.

All skaters have been working extremely hard on the ice and in off-ice programs.

Keep up the good work!

Congratulations to the following skaters on passing Skate Canada tests during the first test day of summer that was held on July 16, 2009:



Dances:

Canasta Tango: Angela Lee, Jinha Lee

Ten Fox: Emma Tiede, Emme Chute

14 Step: Zoe Ellacott, Maddison Chute, Alicia Harris

European Waltz: Anda Rogers

Skating Skills:

Preliminary Skills: Kaitlin Farren, Deanna Gooden

Junior Bronze Skills: Emma Tiede, Emme Chute

Free Skate:

Junior Bronze Elements: Anda Rogers

Junior Bronze Program: Olivia Akena, Anda Rogers

Junior Silver Program: Courtney McMurter

*****My sincere apologies to Shelby Komarnicky who passed her Rocker Foxtrot on the June 8th test day, and mistakenly was left not given any recognition.*****

Congratulations on a great effort to all other skaters who tried tests!

Reminder, when filling out your test day envelopes please take a double glance and make sure that all required information is filled out!!

****Don't forget that there is skating during the Civic Holiday, on Monday, August 3rd. All sessions will be running on a normal schedule and Nichols is open****

SEPTEMBER & WINTER PROGRAM:

Pre-register for Pre-school and CanSkate is available now until July 27,2009 for both the September program (Aug. 31st-Sept.27th) & for the Winter Program, (Sept. 29,2009-Mar.28,2010). Regular registration will begin very soon for all programs for the September & Winter schedule! Keep an on the website: www.londonskatingclub.com

BULLETIN BOARD:

Just a reminder to all, that the London Skating Club has a bulletin board that is located at Earl Nichols Arena, next to the concession stand. To stay on top of things, take a wander down. Of course, regular up-dates are put on the LSC website as well.

Special Note:

On the winter application you will note that there is a \$40.00 Promotional Contest Booklet that each family within the club is asked to participate in supporting. It is a one book per family request. This promotional booklet is in conjunction with the Western Ontario Section of Skate Canada. The draw will be held in March 2010. A few years back, LSC had the winner of the car. WOW! The Majority of funds raised from the sales of tickets are given to the London Skating Club. These funds help significantly to keep ice costs down for all programs in the club. Without your support of this fundraiser, this wouldn't be possible. Thank you in advance for your

SKATE CANADA REGISTRATION:

Skate Canada memberships are valid from September 1st-August 31st each year. All skaters going on London Skating Club ice must pay the \$30.00 Skate Canada fee each Skate Canada fiscal year. All skaters are registered on-line through the London Skating Club office directly to Skate Canada in Ottawa. When the registration is processed by Skate Canada, Skate Canada will send the club via mail, a membership card for each skater. This card is of great importance. There is a 10-digit number on the card. This is the skater's membership number that stays the same for life. This number should be written on registration forms, competition forms etc. The smaller number on the card 1000375, is the London Skating Club's number. For insurance purposes, it's mandatory that every skater on the ice be registered for the current Skate Canada fiscal year.

The \$30.00 Skate Canada membership fee is paid only once per the Skate Canada fiscal year.

Coaches Corner

WE WILL MISS YOU:

- Coach Candace Evans has been given a career opportunity in Calgary and is moving there after spending several years as a skater at the London Skating Club, and recently as a member of the coaching staff. Good luck Candace!
- Coach Aaron Stewart is extended congratulations on moving to Hamilton to begin her Masters Degree in Physiotherapy at McMaster University. We will miss seeing Aaron out on the CanSkate and Preliminary sessions.
- We will also miss the following summer coaches who have been at the London Skating Club for the summer, and we hope you will drop by for visits throughout the year:
 - Have fun in Europe to summer coach, Justin Junior, who will be heading across the pond to travel throughout Europe as a cast member of Disney!
 - Kasey Farmer our summer off-ice conditioning instructor and new on ice coach will be returning to York University in Toronto to begin her 3rd year in the Bachelor of Fine Arts Honours Dance Program. Kasey will likely be dropping by throughout the year to see how everyone is “staying in shape”.
 - Penny McDougall, Amy (Boo) Farrell, along with Kathy McElwain will be returning to their respective home clubs for the coooooooold months!

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK:

Congratulations to all the coaches who have recently completed NCCP coaching courses. The spring and summer are certainly a very busy time for coaches. Best of luck to all coaches on successfully completing their Ethics exam!

An early congratulations is extended to Coach Tammy Horton and her soon to be husband Dane, who will be married on August 22nd☺

ATTENTION ALL ADULT SKATERS

Time: Monday evenings from 8pm-10pm @ Thompson Arena
UWO→FREE PARKING

Date: August 10th - 31ST.

Sessions: Free Skating, Dance & Learn to Skate.

Fees: Membership= \$50.00. Guest Fee= \$14.00

****If not registered with Skate Canada a \$30.00 fee is applicable****

For more info call Evelyn Bastow @ 519-434-1973

Synchronicity's 2nd Annual Boot Camp Weekend!

Boot Camp will be held at the end of August, with a focus on fun, programs and choreography.

Synchronicity's boot camp weekend is a chance for all teams to come together and bond as a team. Boot The weekend consists of on ice and off-ice practices, and allows the teams to get an early start to their program.

This year, Synchronicity has a total of 7 teams, what an accomplishment! The teams are as follows:

***Intro to Synchro**

***Beginner II**

***Juvenile**

***Pre-Novice**

***Intermediate**

***Adult II**

***Adult III**