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**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Zorra Skating Club’s mission is to provide quality training in a fun, safe environment so that each skater can achieve his or her own goals and develop their skills to their maximum potential through excellence in coaching, team spirit and a family atmosphere.

**GOALS**

To keep the sport as affordable as possible for families.

To help all of our skaters achieve regardless of their level or ability.

To provide a friendly, harmonious, family environment.

**EXECUTIVE & BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**2017-2018**

**PRESIDENT** Suzanne McRoberts 519-469-9782

**VICE PRESIDENT** Sarah Pletsch 519-285-5810

**SECRETARY**  Jacquelynn Hewitt 519-475-6238

**TREASURER** Kathy Dodd 519-462-1333

**DIRECTORS**

Laura Alexander 519-788-3878

Nicole Barnett 519-475-4319

Angela Langlois

Christa Minler 519-475-0534

Kelly-Jane McKague-Member 226-883-1635

 Teresa Pullen 519-462-1781

 Greg Smith 519-475-9046

**COACHING REPRESENTATIVE**

Debbie Roefs 519-475-4933

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Oct. 3, 2017 ZSC P.A. Training

Oct. 4, 2017 ZSC First Day of CanSkate

Oct. 5, 2017 ZSC First Day of StarSkate

Oct. 9, 2017 **NO SKATING** – Thanksgiving

Oct. 27, 2017 Halloween Party

Nov. 16, 2017 Fun Competition and Skate Swap

Nov. 17, 2017 MacMillans Fundraiser Delivery Date

Dec. 8, 2017 2nd Session Registration – CanSkate A

Dec. 22, 2017 Santa Skate & P.A. Christmas Party

Dec. 25, 2017 **NO SKATING**

Dec. 27, 2017 **NO SKATING**

Dec. 28, 2017 Cheers on Ice Draw (During the holiday ice show)

Dec. 28, 2017 Holiday Ice Show

Dec. 29, 2017 **NO SKATING**

Jan. 1, 2018 **NO SKATING**

Jan. 3, 2018 Canskate 2nd Session Begins

Jan. 4, 2018 STARSkate Resumes

Jan. 22, 2018 Test Day (Tentative)

Jan. 27, 2018 Bids for Blades Dinner & Auction

Feb. 23, 2018 MacMillans Fundraiser Delivery Date

Mar. 5, 2018 Carnival Technical Rehearsal & Pictures

Mar. 7, 2018 CanSkate – Wed & Fri Skaters

Mar. 8, 2018 Carnival Dress Rehearsal

Mar. 9, 2018 **No CanSkate**, Skating for Jr, Inter,Sr. StarSkate

Mar. 11, 2018 ZSC Carnival

Mar. 12, 2018 **NO SKATING**

Mar. 23, 2018 FUN NIGHT, Last Day of Skating for CanSkate

Mar. 29, 2018 Last Night of StarSkate

Mar. 29, 2018 Test Day

Apr. 27, 2018 Awards Night & AGM

\*\* Dates subject to change. **\*\***

\*\*\*Please watch the bulletin board for more information. **\*\*\***

**Test Day Information**

 The ZSC is required to offer two test days during the winter skating season. Judges and evaluators that attend our test days are volunteers and only receive compensation for their mileage. The club supplies them with a hot meal as many of these persons come directly from work. Judges are qualified at different levels set out by Skate Canada.

 In order to try a test a skater must be in good standing. This means that all professional fees and club registration fees are paid. If a skater is in arrears they will not be allowed to test until all fees are paid in full.

 **\*NEW this year:** Under the new star format, star 1 – 5 tests are evaluated by a skater’s coach. These tests will still involve fees. After the star 1 – 5 tests are completed, then the skater attends a test day with an evaluator.

 Tests are determined by your coach. They are the ones who submit the tests to the test chair. Once all tests have been finalized, a schedule will be posted. You as a skater or skater parent will receive a test envelope with the total amount that must be paid in advance of the skater taking the ice on test day. The test fees for each test are set by Skate Canada and are $10.00 per test. This money is forwarded to Skate Canada with the Summary Sheets from the test day. You will also notice a $3.00 administration fee per skater. This money is used to cover some of the expenses for running the test day (i.e. Judges’ Mileage & food for judge).

 In some cases your skater may be partnered for a dance test by an amateur partner. This amateur partner volunteers their time prior to test day and on the test day to partner your skater. Since a volunteer can't be paid an hourly rate for their time we follow the Skate Canada guidelines of what an amateur partner can receive in payment for partnering tests on test day. The fees are $5.00/test for Preliminary and Jr. Bronze Dances, $10.00/test for Sr. Bronze and Jr. Silver Dances, and $15.00/test for Sr. Silver, Gold and Diamond Dances. If your skater requires an amateur partner their fee will also appear on your test envelope. Also the test envelope will show the test or tests that are being tried along with the warm up time for each test

 On the test day all skaters are asked to be at the arena 1 hour prior to their warm up time as test day may be running ahead of schedule. This also allows the skater time to get ready without being rushed. Please note any skater who does not show up for a test is responsible for the test fees.

If your skater is trying a test in another club the skater must have a letter of permission from their club’s test chair in order to try their test. This letter would be taken to the test day and given to the test chair holding the test day.

**COMMITTEES**

ADVERTISING Laura Alexander

AUCTION Kelly-Jane McKague-Member

 Kathy Dodd

BADGES / AWARDS Debbie Roefs

BOND Greg Smith

CANTEEN CHAIR Angela Langlois

 Nicole Barnett

CARNIVAL CHAIR Becky Graves

CO-CARNIVAL CHAIR Greg Smith

CATERING Kelly-Jane McKague-Member

CARNIVAL PRODUCER Debbie Roefs

COSTUME CONVENOR Teresa Pullen

CONSTIUTION Executive

FINANCE Executive

FUNDRAISING Sarah Pletsch

 Christa Minler

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR Angela Langlois

MUSIC COORDINATOR Teresa Pullen

NEWSLETTER / EMAIL Jacquelynn Hewitt

NOMINATING Whole board + 2 others

PRO CONTRACTS Suzanne McRoberts

PROGRAM ASSISTANTS Teresa Pullen

REGISTRATION Angela Langlois

 Kathy Dodd

 Laura Alexander Greg Smith

TEST CHAIR Kate Belbeck

CANSKATE A & B REP Jacquelynn Hewitt

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE REP Kelly-Jane McKague-Member

SENIOR REP Suzanne McRoberts

WEBSITE Jim Taylor

**CARNIVAL 2018**

 Carnival is a special time for the Zorra Skating Club where our skaters show family and friends what they have learned throughout the skating season.

 Carnival is no small undertaking. Costumes and props need to be made from scratch or revamped from our inventory. Volunteers are always needed to sew or mend costumes and create props. Volunteers are also required to supervise dressing rooms and help with make-up, hair and admissions.

 All parents are asked to volunteer in some capacity. Strong ticket sales provide money to put on our carnival. Carnival practices begin in January.

Watch the bulletin board in January for more Carnival information... BOND HOURS ARE NOT AWARDED FOR CARNIVAL VOLUNTEERING

**Once practice starts for Carnival, it is extremely important that skaters attend every practice**

**Carnival Date**

Sunday, March 11th, 2018

With two performances at

2:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

**WELCOME**

 The board of directors of the **Zorra Skating Club Inc.** would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our skating club. Our club belongs to Skate Ontario which is a section of Skate Canada. We offer CanSkate which is a learn to skate program designed by Skate Canada. It is followed by StarSkate which is another Skate Canada program.

 The CanSkate badge program leads skaters through the various skills they require to become competent skaters. There are 6 stages within the Canskate Program. Our program is taught by qualified, paid, professional Skate Canada Coaches with the help of our volunteer program assistants. Our CanSkate program has been evaluated by Skate Canada and received very high praise. Parents enrol their children in CanSkate for a variety of reasons. Some will see their skater choosing to continue advancing their skills in our Star Skate program. Others wish their skaters to develop strong skating skills before moving to a different skating sport such as hockey or ringette. Some parents just want their skaters to be able to skate well enough to truly enjoy skating at the recreational level.

 The **Zorra Skating Club** **Inc.** is a not for profit organization run by volunteers who work very hard to provide excellent programming at a reasonable cost. Some fundraising is required as registration fees do not cover all costs. In this booklet, we have provided not only information about skating, but have also included information about topics such as programs, our professional coaches and testing.

 The **Zorra Skating Club** Board hopes that your skater(s) will have lots of fun as they become more competent and confident on their skates. If you have any questions about our program or club, please contact anyone on our board of directors or our coaching staff.

Have a great skating season!

**REGISTRATION**

**Saturday, September 9th, 2017 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Wednesday, September 13th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Registrations will take place at the Embro Arena – small hall**

Skaters must register for the program that they are qualified for. Some programs may be combined or deleted at the discretion of the Board of Directors depending on registration numbers. If you have any questions about where your child fits in to our programs or need help filling out your forms please ask anyone on the registration committee listed in this guide.

**Methods of Payment:**

Full Payment- due October 1st, 2017 2nd Session – due January 1st, 2018

Payment Plan for full year registrations - 5 payments (post-dated cheques). October cheque must include Skate Canada fee & Cheers on Ice tickets & Equal registration fee.

 October 1st, November 1st, December 1st, 2017

January 1st, and February 1st, 2018

Each registration will include the Program Fee, Skate Canada Fee & Insurance, Cheers on Ice tickets (1 per family) and a cheque post-dated March 10, 2018 for Family Bond.

A grace period to October 30th, 2017 for Session Fees only will be refunded to skaters not wishing to continue skating. Skate Canada Membership & Cheers on Ice tickets will not be refunded. Bond Cheques will be returned only upon completion of Family Bond Requirements. Should you require a receipt for registrations fees paid, please contact our Treasurer – Kathy Dodd \* A $25.00 service fee will be charged for all NSF cheques. \* Should a cheque be returned to ZSC due to insufficient funds, the family has 10 days to pay the required fees incl. NSF fees. If payment is not received, skaters will not be permitted on the ice. **\*NEW POLICY\*** Should two cheques be returned due to insufficient funds the family shall be required to make all payments (incl. fundraising) in CASH for the remainder of the year. If another cheque is returned the following year the family will be required to pay cash for as long as their child/ren skate. Extenuating circumstances may be discussed with a board member.

**PROGRAM ASSISTANTS**

**WHO ARE THEY?**

Program Assistants, are volunteers who play a very important part in the CanSkate Program, and contribute greatly to the success of a club's program.

**WHAT IS THEIR ROLE?**

\* Assist the Skate Canada Coach in on-ice program delivery

\*Demonstrate skills and teaching progressions

\*Supervise practice time

\*Lead warm-ups and cool-downs under the direction of the Skate

 Canada Coach

\*Reinforce learned skills (follow up on coach’s instruction)

\*Lead exercises, drills, learning activities and creative expression

\*Hand out awards & incentives

\*Assist with On-ice circuits

\*Provide individual and group assistance

\*Be trained on an annual basis

**HOW ARE PROGRAM ASSISTANTS SELECTED?**

Program Assistants must:

\*Must be 12 years of age or older and passed the Preliminary

 Freeskate test

\*Have a patient helping nature

\*Be able to communicate ideas clearly

\*Shadow PAs must be at least 10 years of age or older

Applications will be available and must be filled out at registration

*We welcome adults with skating experience to volunteer as program assistants*

**FAMILY FUNDRAISING**

Fundraising is a very important part in helping our club’s operational expenses. Through fundraising we have the ability to keep the cost of registration down so that every child that would like to learn to skate may do so. Registration alone accounts for about 40% of what is needed every year to run our club. To make fundraising fair and equitable, each family will be asked to write a bond cheque post dated for March 10th, 2018. This cheque will be returned to you upon completion of your bond requirement. If this requirement is not completed by March 10th, 2018, **your cheque will be cashed. BOND WILL NOT BE PRORATED.** Fundraising after March 30, 2018 will count toward 2018/2019 skating season’s bond.

There are a variety of ways to earn back your fundraising bond. You may use any combination of these items to complete your fundraising bond.

1. Sign up to work fundraising events. 1 hour of volunteering equals $10 bond. Fundraisers include Embro Tractor Pull, Embro Fair food booth, Embro arena canteen and the Annual Skater Dinner Auction. Sign up sheets will be available at registration for some of these events.
2. Participate in fundraisers. $40 of product sales equal $10 of bond. Elmira Chicken sales are $5 per box sold off of your bond. We are asking families to send cash and/or one cheque for their order this year. This will help our fundraising reps and treasurer when handling money.
3. Buy and use gift cards for your everyday shopping. Gift card rebates come directly off your bond. See additional information on this easy fundraising option.

*The ZSC Board is always interested in new fundraising ideas. Should you have any ideas or suggestions, please speak to any board member.*

**BOND**

Bond requirements have remained the same for the 2017-2018 winter season. The rates depend on how many skaters are in a family. The layouts are as follows:
1 skater = $100.00
2 skaters = $200.00
Family rate (3 skaters or more) = $250.00

Canskate A = $50.00 per session per skater.

Your bond can easily be completed by volunteering for many different events or participating in the many fundraisers we hold throughout the winter season.

 **SCHEDULE: MONDAY & THURSDAY**

**JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATES** 5:30-5:50 – JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE DANCE 5:50-6:20 – JUNIOR BADGE/INTERMEDIATE GROUP FREESKATE 6:20-6:40 – JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE STROKING/SKILLS 6:40-7:00 - INTERMEDIATE SKILLS/ SOLO PRACTICE 7:00-7:10 – FLOOD 7:10-7:40 - OFF ICE TRAINING FOR INTEREMEDIATES (Mondays only) **SENIORS** 6:30-7:00 – OFF ICE TRAINING FOR SENIORS (Mondays only)7:10-7:20 – SENIOR STROKING 7:20-7:40 – SENIOR DANCE 7:40-7:55 – SENIOR SKILLS 7:55-8:50 – SENIOR FREESKATE **NEW**: SENIOR HARNESS TRAINING – Thursday nights 7:55-8:25

**ICE COURTESY & SAFETY**

\* Notify a Professional Coach immediately if a skater is hurt.

\*Skaters must do Stroking on Stroking time, Skills on Skill time, Freeskate on Freeskate time, and Dance on Dance time, unless you have been instructed to do otherwise by your Coach.

\*Do not have food or gum on the ice.

\*Skater's skating with a partner have the right of way as it is more difficult to stop quickly or see oncoming skaters.

\*Skaters with music playing receive right of way next

\*Skaters and coaches giving lessons will then have the right of way

\*Do not stand in the way of others at any time. If stopped for any reason, please stand at the boards.

\*Do not bother the music operator. Music may only be requested by the Pros.

\*Do leave the ice at the end of the session and take all belongings & garbage.

\*Do ask your pro for permission before leaving the ice during a session.

**All Coaches will have the right to give skaters time outs for not following rules!**

**WHY PRIVATE LESSONS?**

All skaters in the CanSkate and Junior programs are entitled to group lessons. These are included in your registration fee. In addition to these lessons, you can arrange private or semi-private lessons with a coach. You may consider looking into extra lessons if...

* Your skater would like to progress through the badges and test program at a faster rate because they love the sport.
* Your skater is having difficulty accomplishing an element on their badge and could benefit from the extra one on one instruction.
* Your skater would like to participate in competitions.
* Your skater is having difficulty working in a group setting.

**PICKING A PROFESSIONAL COACH**

**How do I arrange for private lessons?**

All of ZSC Pros are well qualified to teach your skater. You must contact the Pro of your choice and all scheduling of lessons and costs are between you and the Pro.

**What to consider when choosing a Pro.**

Talk to the Pros! Introduce yourself and advise them that you considering private lessons for your skater and Ask if the Pro is accepting students. Talk to other skating parents for added information if desired.

1. Watch the Pros. Check out how they conduct themselves and how they interact with the skaters.
2. Fees! Fees for lessons vary, so feel free to ask the coach what they charge. For the younger skater, you may wish to ask whether the Pro is offering small group lessons.

**PROFESSIONAL COACHES**

Our coaching staff is certified which means that they have completed components of the National Coaching Program (NCPP) from Level 1 to Level 5. The NCPP is a 5 level educational program for coaches in over 60 sports. Levels 1-3 cover three components of coaching: Theory, Technical and Practical. Levels 4 and 5 prepare coaches for roles in national and international sport with high performance athletes.

**DEBBIE ROEFS** 519-475-4933

Thursday Group & Freelance

* NCPP Level 2 Certified in all disciplines including Dance, Freeskate, Pairs and Singles.
* Level 3 Theory and Technical

**MARCIA COULL** 519-475-6430

Wed/Thurs/Fri Group & Freelance

* NCPP Level 2 Certified plus Level 1 Special Needs

**BETH LOCHHEAD** 519-456-6033

Monday Group & Freelance

* NCPP Level 2 Certified
* Level 3 Theory and Technical
* Gold medallist Dance, Skills

**JACLYNNE McINTYRE** 519-537-1495

Mon**/**Wed/Thurs/Fri Group & Freelance

Off Ice & Group Harness Training

* NCCP Level 2 Certified
* Level 3 Theory and Technical
* Gold Skills, Freeskate, Dance and Interpretive
* Novice Competitive

**Skills, Tests, Achievements, Recognition!** This is what StarSkate is all about. StarSkate offers opportunities for skaters of all ages to develop fundamental figure skating skills in the areas of ice dance, skating skills, free skate and interpretive skating. Unique in Canada, this program teaches figure skating skills in a group and/or private lesson format in a progressive and sequential manner and includes specifically designed awards and incentives. The new star 1-10 program will be implemented in the 2017-2018 season. Skaters have the opportunity to take Skate Canada Tests through their coaches or through a nationally standardized testing system depending on the level of skater. Please see the equivalency charts insert for levels star 1-5.

**Junior /Badge Program**

**Qualifications** – Skaters will be working on CanSkate stage 6. This is part of the CanSkate Program. This session includes group instruction. This session is geared to skaters who show an interest in pursuing the sport of figure skating and possibly trying Skate Canada Tests and participating in recreational competitions.

**Intermediate Program**

**Qualifications -** Skaters will have passed their Dutch Waltz dance, passed stage 6 and be working on their preliminary skills, or under the recommendation of a professional coach. This session includes limited group instruction so skaters should be under the direction of a private coach.

**Senior Program**

**Qualifications** – Skaters will have a private coach to skate at this level.  Skaters will choose the appropriate skill and dance session based on their levels.  Must have Preliminary Skills. They must also have one of the following: ALL Jr Bronze Dances or Prelimimary FRSK Elements.

**ADULTSkate** offers opportunities for adult skaters of all levels to develop skating and figure skating skills. Skaters may wish to continue testing skills acquired from earlier skating experience, or simply learn to skate. This program is geared towards adults that enjoy skating as a recreational sport.