



# ICE CHIPS

## President's Letter

March 1, 2021

Dear Fort Collins Figure Skating Club Members,

We are coming up to the one-year anniversary of the start of the pandemic. There is no doubt that this has been a trying year, but we are persevering as figure skaters must. We fall and we get back up again.

After a tough winter, spring is finally around the corner and with it comes a host of upcoming club and city activities. We plan to continue as normally as we can and hope that we can count on all of you to fill our many volunteer needs that are upcoming. We cannot do this without you.

This spring we will host our 30th annual Fort Collins Classic competition on April 8-11. This is a 3-and-a-half-day competition that attracts competitors from all over the region. This is usually our biggest event of each year. However, we are also busy at work planning the upcoming National Showcase Competition this August 3-8th. Additionally, the City of Fort Collins will hold the annual Summer Spectacular Ice show. These are all very large events to plan during the COVID-era and we will all be working hard to make these events safe and successful. We depend on all your support and compliance to make these events the best they can be.

Please read the newsletter carefully to understand some of the changes that will be in place this year at all these events. We remain committed to following state, county and city public health guidelines and we strive to keep you as up to date as possible. For now, please continue to use the COVID-19 online form from our website for all club sponsored events.

One annual event has been forced to be postponed until it is safe to hold it: our annual senior and awards banquet.

Normally, we would be holding this event around now. Unfortunately, that is not possible this year. But don't worry! Our fabulous banquet committee is hard at work to find safe, alternate options for later in the spring/summer that we can honor our seniors and skaters in a safe and fun way. Stay tuned for more details.

This winter hasn't been all doom and gloom. We have had some fun too! We were able to host two outdoor skating exhibitions at the Foothills mall: one for the holidays and one this past weekend. It was a real treat to watch our club members perform in a safe and fun environment. As the temperatures are nearly too warm to hold outdoor ice events, I'm afraid they are over for this year. I am sure we will work hard to bring them back next winter.

We were also able to hold a weekend skating seminar with Boston figure skating coach Garrett Lucash. This was a wonderful 2-day seminar that focused on skill building for jumps. Garrett is a coach on the US National development team, and we were lucky to have him here.

The City is gearing up to start rehearsals for the Summer Spectacular Ice Show. We will work with them to plan and organize this event. We don't yet know what the show will look like this year, so please be patient while all the details get worked out. Safety is always the priority. A safe show is a show that goes on.

To close, I will make one last call for volunteers. Please do not be shy. Please reach out to any board member to help you find a place to volunteer this spring and summer. The skaters are counting on you. Please go to the "Volunteer" link on the top menu of our website to let us know what you want to do to help.

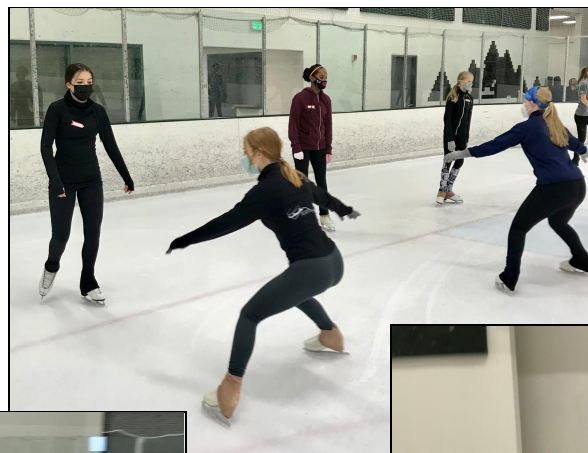
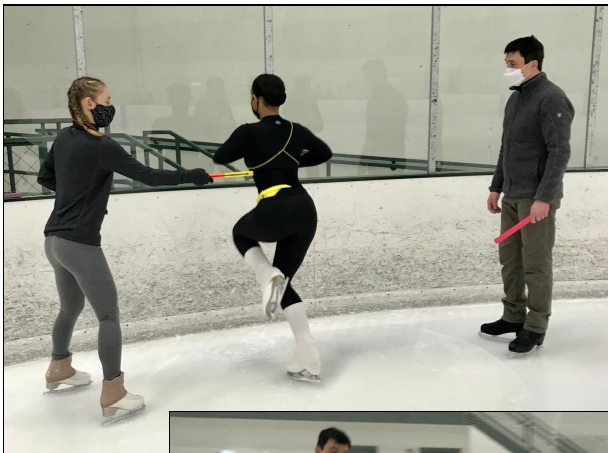
Be safe and have a wonderful competition season!

- Amy Aspelund  
FCFSC President

## Garrett Lucash - Athlete Centered Skating Seminar



On Feb 6th and 7th we were so excited to have Boston Figure Skating Coach, Garrett Lucash, come and teach the ASC 2 day seminar of freeskate and moves exercises and skills. The skaters were split into two groups depending on jump level and received up to 3 hours of on ice and 1 hour of off ice instruction. Strict Covid-19 precautions were abided by with all having a great time. Approximately 25 skaters attended this seminar and we hope to have ASC Boston coaches back in the future for a full week seminar.



## Testing

Congratulations to our skaters who passed their tests at our February 5th test session!

**Mackenzie Irish** Pre-Preliminary Moves in the Field, Canasta Tango & Dutch Waltz

**Mady Seeber** Preliminary Moves in the Field

**Mayley Miller** Preliminary Free Skate

**Addison Lambrect** Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field, Dutch Waltz, Rhythm Blues & Canasta Tango

**Katherine Pietras** Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Kara Richardson** Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Winton Miller** Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Katherine Hicks** Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Sutton Kreutzfeldt** Pre-Juvenile Free Skate

**Olivia Melchert** Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Addison Mitchell** Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Adrianna Cohen** Juvenile Moves in the Field

**Elise Daly** Intermediate Moves in the Field

**Merritt Cramer** Novice Free Skate

**Rowan Martey** Senior Moves in the Field, Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues & Dutch Waltz

**Emily Caldwell** Adult Pre-Bronze Moves in the Field

**Stephanie Hopkins** Adult Gold Moves in the Field Adult-21+

**Azelyn Pendleton** Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues & Dutch Waltz

**Aubrey Tyrell** Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues & Dutch Waltz

**Zoe Anderson** Canasta Tango



Our next test sessions are scheduled for Thursday April 8<sup>th</sup> (before the Fort Collins Classic Competition) and Friday May 7<sup>th</sup>. We are expecting that the April test session will be very big! We have reserved the rink for an extended time period and plan to start the test session at 7am. We will be capping the test session at 55 tests so **\*don't wait to the last minute to register\***! The deadline to register is March 24<sup>th</sup> to register without a late fee. The hard deadline is March 31. Please check your family folders in the Green Rink file cabinet for your USFSA Certificates for passing your tests. There are many families that have multiple certificates in their files from prior tests just waiting for you! As soon as certificates come from US Figure Skating they are placed in your folders. So if you are looking for a certificate from a recent test and it's not there yet, be patient, as they are a couple months behind.



## Competition - Kelly

**Mark your calendar! The Fort Collins Classic is April 8-11, 2021.**

This is the biggest event of the year for our club. **Officials will be in the stands** to comply with COVID social distancing regulations... opposite as it has been in previous years. Make sure you are performing TO the officials!

Registration closes on 3/6/2021 at 1:59am ET

Go here for all the info: <https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/fort-collins-classic/>

We will need many volunteers! More information to come!



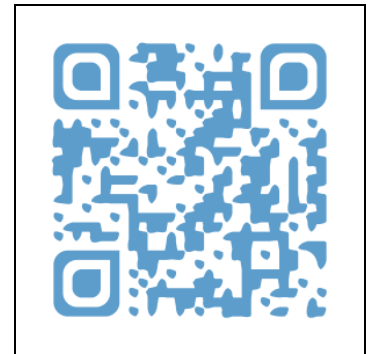
## Program Run Throughs on Saturday, March 27th from 4:00 - 6:00pm in the blue rink

Here's a chance to get some excellent run-throughs in with no one in your way! Or to try out the dress / costume you were planning to wear! \$15 per skater per run through. (Yes, you can go twice or more if there's time!) Check in when you arrive to sign up for your specific time spot. Skaters will be placed into small groups and those groups will get a short warm up and then individual skaters will be announced and perform just like a competition or test session. And for clarification, you can do a free skate test program, competition program or artistic program ... or 2 moves from a moves in the field test. The ice is yours! **Please remember to bring your music on a CD!**

To sign up to do a program run through go [HERE](https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/887023720355350014/false#/invitation) or use this QR code or go to <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/887023720355350014/false#/invitation>

If you have questions contact Coach Katie Holmes ([1skatinglesson@gmail.com](mailto:1skatinglesson@gmail.com)) or Amy Aspelund ([aspelua@yahoo.com](mailto:aspelua@yahoo.com)) Skating order is scheduled a half hour before the event at the rink contingent upon you turning in your music on a CD. No phones please!

Remember this is a club event so you will have to fill out the COVID-19 health form either onlinet. We will move fast, so come prepared!



## Gold Medal Banners - Update

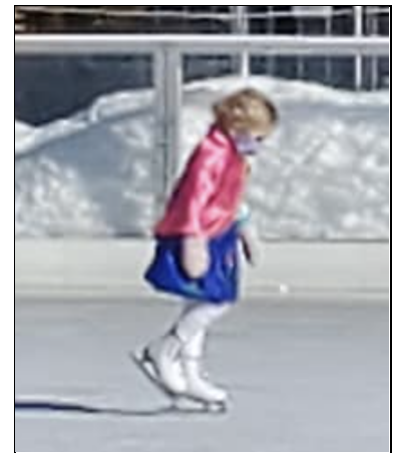
The club has revised the gold medal banner policy. Previously banners were for double gold medalists. Now skaters who have passed a single gold medal test can request a banner. The club will pay for only one banner for each skater. For example if a skater passes their senior moves in the field test in 2021, they may request a gold medal banner in 2021. If the skater's goal is to pass the senior free skate test at a later time, then they can wait and request a banner when they have passed that test.



## Exhibition at the Mall - Saturday, February 20th



Thank you to all who came out to the mall ice rink - it was so much fun! Thank you to coach Denaysa, Stacy Morse and Laura Hicks for organizing this fun event!









## EPIC Productions Prepares for the 2021 National Showcase Competition

The FCFSC showcase group, EPIC Productions is thrilled to announce that we're back in rehearsals and gearing up for the USFS National Showcase competition here in Fort Collins in August.

We're a group of preliminary through senior level skaters who work in theatrical ensembles that compete in national and local competitions each year. This year will be our 4<sup>th</sup> competition, after a great showing in 2019, and there are 19 skaters in the group this year.



We were thrilled to learn that the 2021 showcase competition will still be held here in Fort Collins at EPIC rink on August 3 – 7, 2021. Our group will perform three mini ensembles of 5 – 8 skaters and a large ensemble that includes all skaters in the EPIC Productions group. There are solo and duet events open to all skaters at the competition, too, so we encourage all preliminary and above as well as adult skaters to check it out!

The 2021 EPIC Productions mini-ensembles are Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, SpongeBob SquarePants the Musical, and Six the Musical. The large ensemble with all skaters is The Little Mermaid. Director Marianne Strobel, Artistic Director Denaysa Sisemore, and Programming Director Lomi Christiansen are creating choreography and teaching the skills skaters need for success.

But you don't have to wait until August to see what we're up to! You can see a "sneak preview" of the large program, The Little Mermaid, at the FCFSC ice show in June!

Meanwhile, the group's skaters, parents, and coaches will be hard at work designing and sewing costumes, creating props and set pieces, and learning the key skills for theatrical skating, including group skating skills and acting on the ice. Keep working on those edges!





## Skaters of the Quarter



### Sipun Wongsathapornchai

Age: 10

Skating Level: Pre-Preliminary

Coach: Mrs. Katie Holmes

How many days a week do you skate: 3-4 days

What are your most celebrated skating accomplishments:  
Camel spin

What do you love the most about skating: Skating makes me feel happy and free.

Tell us something that we don't know about you: When I was five, I used to be a kid model in Thailand.

What is a pastime that you enjoy outside of skating:  
Playing violin and playing with my friends.

Who are your favorite skaters on TV: Yuzuru Hanyu and Kim Yuna

What is your favorite jump: Toe Loop Jump

What is your favorite spin: Sit Spin

What is one of the favorite parts you have had in the Ice Show: CoCo 2019

## Skaters of the Quarter



### Megan Doherty

Age: 12

Skating Level: Preliminary

Coaches: Marianne and Katie

How many days a week do you skate: 4-5 days

What are your most celebrated skating accomplishments:  
2nd place at sectionals with my synchro team in Jan 2020  
and 4th place at nationals with the EPIC productions  
showcase team in Aug 2019

What do you love the most about skating: Doing what I  
love with my friends!

Tell us something that we don't know about you: I'm a  
drummer and a singer

What is a pastime that you enjoy outside of skating: I love  
theater and dance, and I love to bake

Who are your favorite skaters on TV: Alysia Liu, Jason  
Brown, Nathan Chen, Gracie Gold, Bradie Tennell

What is your favorite jump: Flip

What is your favorite spin: Layback

What is one of the favorite parts you have had in the Ice  
Show: I really liked being Mad Maddie Mim in  
Descendants and a British soldier in Hamilton and Boo in  
Pixar Nation (sorry, I couldn't pick just one!)



## Membership - Melody

We currently have 222 members!

All club parents should be receiving club emails. If your skater would like to be added to the email list or if you have not been receiving emails, please let me know at [fcfscmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fcfscmembership@gmail.com)

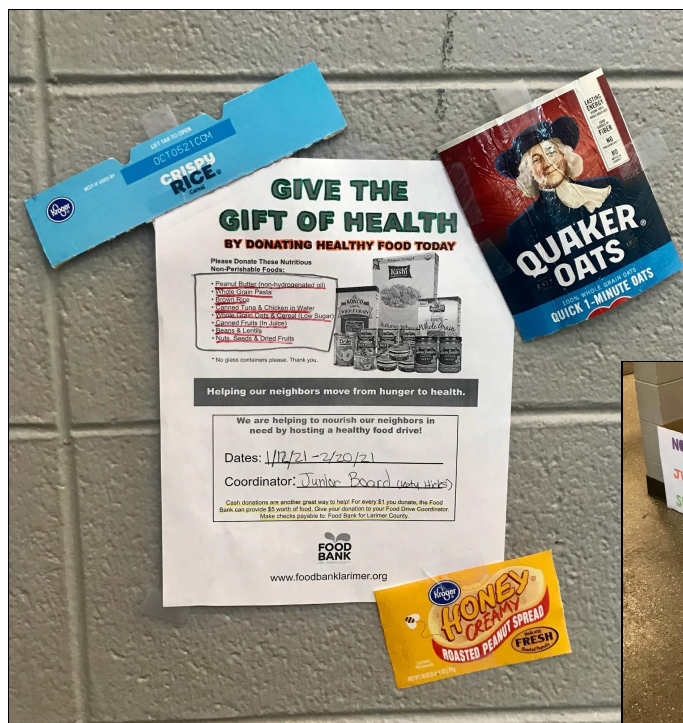
Member folders have been updated to include all new members! All club members have a club family folder located in the filing cabinet next to the coaches' office in the green rink (by the coach's door). This is a great place to exchange notes, checks, etc that you want to leave for other club members to pick up next time they are at the rink. Has your skater recently passed a test? They receive a special certificate and patch that you will find in your folder within a few months of completion. Be sure to check your folders regularly!

## COVID-19 Policy for Fort Collins Figure Skating Club

Please visit our club website and click the COVID-19 button to read about our club policies and guidelines for participation with club events. It is very important to fill out the COVID-19 online form on the day of the event **\*BEFORE\*** coming to the rink to participate in club events including club ice, synchro team, and test sessions! If you have any symptoms of illness PLEASE do not come to the rink!

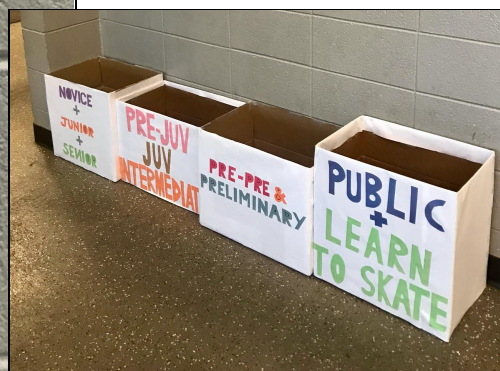
Thus far, our club and rink has managed to avoid an outbreak of COVID but we need to remain steadfast for the benefit of all. Please wear your masks at all times while inside EPIC, use hand sanitizer frequently, and maintain 6ft of distance between people.

<https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/covid-19/>



## Junior Board

The junior board is going strong for the upcoming spring season! The can and food drive at epic near the skate rentals is going well but there is still one month left! To combat this cold weather we want to bring warm smiles and meals to people who could do with a little extra support. So please donate anything non-perishable!



The junior board has some other big plans and we will give you awesome readers a hint. Be ready to look cool and own something new!



## Rowan Martey & Stephanie Hopkins - FCFSC's Newest Gold Medalists!

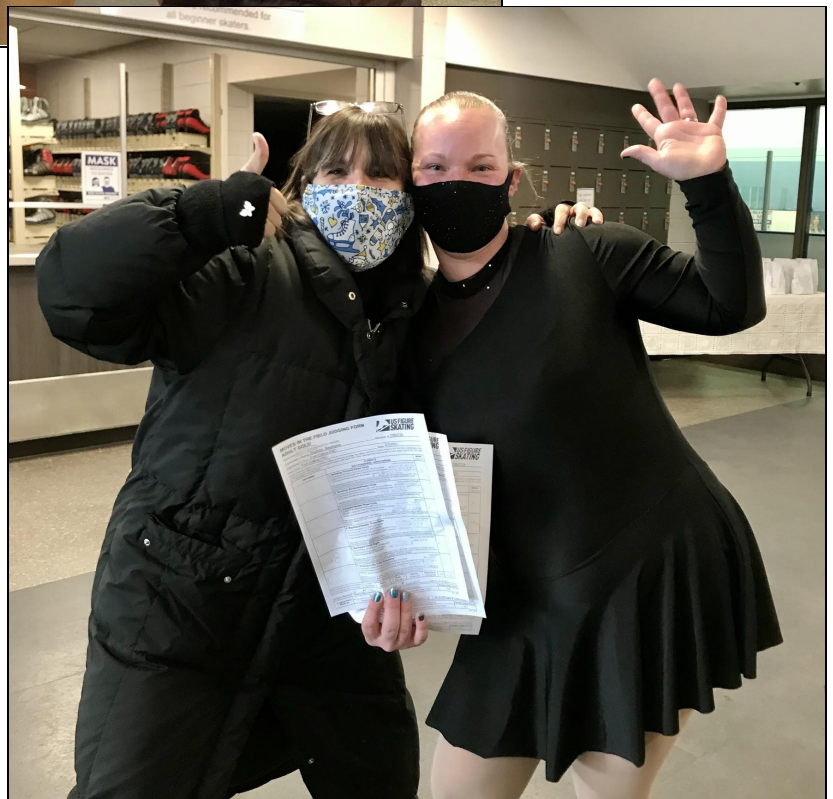
On Friday, February 5th both Rowan & Stephanie became a Gold Medalist!

Rowan passed her Senior Moves in the Field Test and Stephanie passed her Adult Gold Moves in the Field test. We are so proud of you both! Congratulations!!!



## Skates for Sale

If you have pre-owned (used) skates / blades feel free to put up a flyer on the FCFSC bulletin board in the green rink lobby with description, pictures, size, price and contact information.



## Calling ALL Volunteers!

The Volunteer sign up for Fort Collins Classic will be posted soon, please take a look at the job descriptions and think about how you would like to help. We will need lots of volunteers – there is a job for everyone! This is a great way to learn about competitions and work with an amazing group of skaters, parents, and coaches. \*\*\***Note that this year we are looking for 2 Registration Desk Chair and 1 Practice Ice Chair.**\*\*\*

**Hospitality:** Hospitality volunteers prepare food trays and stock drinks and food. They run items from the kitchen to various sites throughout EPIC and then return them. Self-motivated workers appreciated. A task checklist will be provided each day.

**Messenger:** Collect judges' score sheets for accounting, copy/post results, supply results for the awards room and skaters. Work under adult supervisor, follow procedures. No previous experience is necessary. Minimum age: 11

**Awards:** This is a great job for parents to volunteer with their child. A parent can announce the names and the child can hand out the awards. Must be at least one adult per shift.

**Set Up Crew:** Set up rental tables, chairs, and signs. The crew also will prepare anything additional which needs to be completed in preparation for the competition

**Tear Down Crew:** Tear down and store the judges' platforms before other events at EPIC. Also help hospitality clean up, return tables and chairs to appropriate places, take down signs, gather supplies, and finish picking up.

**Registration - 2 Chairs needed!** Registration volunteers are the first contact many skaters have with our club/competition. It is important registrars leave a positive impression – professionalism is very important. They should be comfortable using computers, checking in skaters and coaches, and giving out goodie bags. These volunteers will also act as an information booth and volunteer check-in. Minimum age: 16

**Temp Check Station:** Volunteers will check temperatures of all participants attending FCC and collect Covid-19 forms.

**Ushers:** Ushers will coordinate spectator groups in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines.

**Gate Monitor:** Ice Monitors must be on cue to open the gate to allow the skaters to enter and exit the rink for warm-ups and practices as well as competition times. This position requires a seamless change from shift to shift. Dress warmly. Arrive at least 10 minutes prior to your shift start time for transition. One monitor must be an adult; the other must be minimum age 13.

**Announcer:** Works with the judges to keep on schedule while allowing them enough time to tally scores. This person is in charge of introducing the skaters and their clubs and starting/ending the session on time. Arrive 30 minutes before starts for transition. Minimum age: 16

**Music:** The music assistants will play the designated selection for each skater using a computer preloaded with the music. Experience is not required but preferred. Format is similar to iTunes. Minimum age: 13





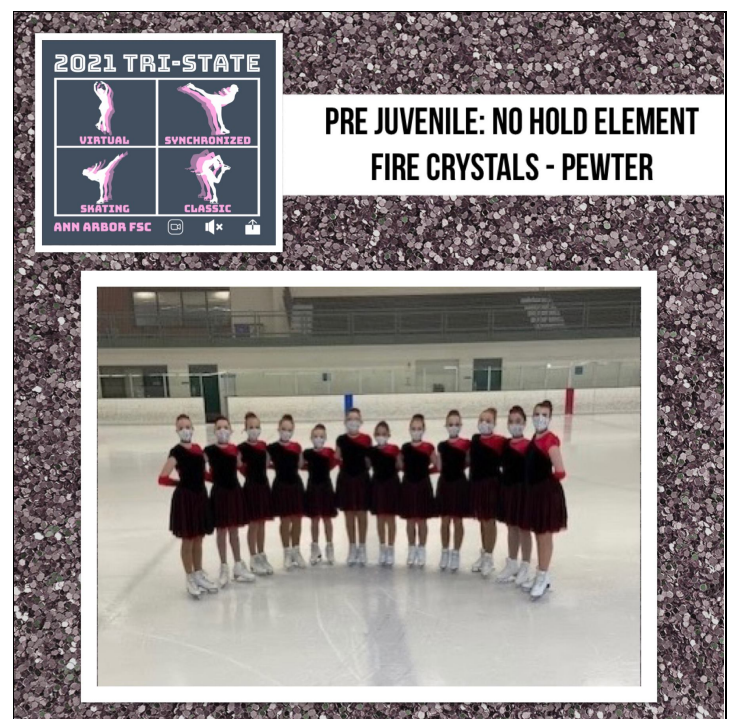
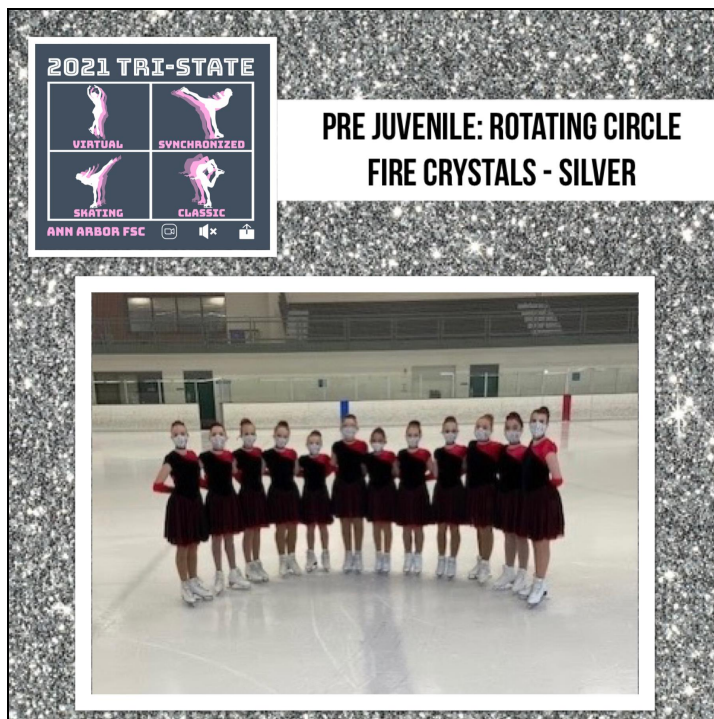
**Goody Bags:** Gather and assemble all materials for competitor goody bags. May require coordinating with donors and the Fort Collins Visitors Center.

**Programs:** Produce programs and sell ads in these competition programs. Programs will then be sold at the competition.

**Practice Ice - 1 Chair Needed!** Sell available practice ice time to skaters, check skaters in, and make sure the correct number of competitors are on the ice. Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your shift start time to allow for hand off of responsibilities. Minimum age: 15

**Security:** Secure curtained area by blue rink so only coaches, competitors, and volunteers with proper passes enter gate/dressing room areas.

## Synchro Virtual Competition Results



## Dates to Remember

3/27: Program Run Throughs from 4-6pm in blue rink

4/8: FCFSC Test Session

4/8 - 4/11: Fort Collins Classic Competition

5/7: FCFSC Test Session

6/11 & 6/12: Summer Spectacular Ice Show

8/3 - 8/7: US Figure Skating's Showcase Nationals