



ICE CHIPS

President's Letter

Dear Club Members,

We know the rink is buzzing about the rather shocking news that the FCFSC is taking over the ice show this upcoming May. This was not something that any of us expected or desired, but we are resilient people, and we will persevere and build something new that will hopefully be sustainable and will last for years to come. The city has generously paid for the show for more than 30 years. This was never something that they were obligated to do. We were a lucky club to have had this show as it was for as long as we did. The city has a strong desire to keep the show going and are fully supporting the club in this new endeavor. We welcome their support and know that we can all come together to build a show that will make fiscal sense and that will last hopefully another 30 years! It will take the entire village to make this work, so once again we are counting on your support. The BOD has voted on a budget and a plan, and I will explain it to you in this letter. We don't have all the answers now, we will be working out many of the details as the year goes on, but rest assured we are committed to doing our best.

We met a few weeks ago all day for a board retreat. We do this annually to plan the upcoming season and as you can imagine much of our time this year was spent on the ice show plans. One of the most important things we did was we drafted a mission statement. We will use this mission statement as our "north star" as we navigate this process. When we inevitably run into issues, we will return to this

statement to guide us through. We ask that you all read this mission statement and use it if you ever feel frustrated or unhappy with the process. So that we all remember what it is that we are doing and why we are doing it.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Fort Collins Figure Skating Club ice show is to host an event that celebrates figure skating and brings our skating community together in collaboration to share our passion for the sport in a creative, equitable, fiscally responsible, and inclusive way.

I'm going to highlight some of the major changes here, but please refer to the "ICE SHOW" section of the newsletter for more details.

- The show will be managed and paid for by the club
- All decisions regarding the show will be made by committee
- Coaches will be hired by the club to work with the committees to cast, plan music and they will choreograph the show.
- Volunteers will be needed to fulfill all the roles that the city has previously covered. i.e., costumes, music, set up/tear down, tickets etc.
- We will need all your help to make this work! The show will only be as good as our volunteers can make it! So please plan to participate.

- Learn to skate will have their own programs and they will sign up through the recreator.
- All tested skaters (pre-pre and Pre-Bronze Adult and above) will register through Entryeze.
- Registration deadlines for LTS will be set by the city in the Recreator.
- Registration deadlines for Entryeze will be February 1, 2022.
- The show WILL LOOK DIFFERENT. Different doesn't mean bad, but just prepare for change and help us all make the best of this situation. We can build something great!

Please refer to the "ICE SHOW" section of this newsletter for more comprehensive details about this year's show. Please remember that this is all new to us and we have worked hard to come up with a fiscally responsible plan that will still make a fun Spring Ice Show. Please be patient as we work out all the details of this new show. There is going to be a steep learning curve. And remember, we are all volunteers that have jobs and families and lives outside of this club. We promise to do our best, but we ask that you all come into this understanding that we all have positive intent. We want to build a show that will last for 30 or more years. One that will fulfill the ideals of our mission statement. In short, we want this to be a collaborative effort that will be fun for the skaters and that we can all celebrate our shared love of skating and our skaters in a financially sustainable way.

Before I sign off, I want to be sure that everyone knows about the Holiday exhibition skating opportunities available to all skaters this December.

1. The mall has donated an hour of ice on Monday December 6th for exhibitions. Sign up here:
<https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/skating-exhibition-at-the-pond-december-6th-6-7pm>

2. The city has generously donated 2.5 hours of ice on December 18th. Sign up here:
<https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/winter-exhibition-saturday-december-18-2021-930am-rough-noon-sign-up-here>

We also are trying an experimental group "flash mob" finale for this exhibition. We hope all tested skaters (pre-pre, pre-bronze and prelim dance and above) will participate. Watch your emails for more information.

Once again, thank you all for being an important part of this community we have. We know that 2022 will present challenges, but I know that we can get through them by working together.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season!

Amy Aspelund

FCFSC President

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Testing

Congratulations to the following skaters for passing their recent tests:

September 24th

Eden Blad | Pre-Preliminary Moves
Claudia Schuster | Pre-Juvenile Moves
Anya Schuster | Juvenile Moves
Rebecca Rezak | Juvenile Moves
Sadie Coatman | Juvenile Moves
Grace Carpenter | Intermediate Free Skate
Colten Allen | Novice Moves
Merritt Cramer | Senior Moves
Lauren Paul | Rhythm Blues, Canasta Tango, Dutch Waltz

October 22nd

Olivia Stephens | Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Vanna Rhey | Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Lauren Paul | Pre-Preliminary Moves
Kennedy Magalhaes | Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Braelyn Banning | Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Charlotte Barstow | Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Lillie Jessop | Pre-Preliminary Moves
Lesedi Bonda | Pre-Preliminary Moves
Shawna Park | Pre-Preliminary Free Skate
Alice Lang | Pre-Preliminary Free Skate
Ava Bailey | Preliminary Moves
Lauren Knuckey | Preliminary Moves
Rebecca Rezak | Preliminary Free Skate
Eric Anderson | Adult Pre-Bronze Moves
Zoe Anderson | Juvenile Moves
Adrianna Cohen | Juvenile Free Skate
Olivia Melchert | Intermediate Moves
Regina Bower | Adult Gold Moves 21+
Rowan Martey | Senior Free Skate—passed with HONORS



Our next test sessions will be December 3, 2021, January 28th, 2022, and February 11th, 2022. We are able to offer live judging for moves and free skate tests at all our test sessions and will be offering virtual judging for dance tests at each of the test sessions as well. Please find registration links for our upcoming available test sessions here: <https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/testing/>

For any questions about testing please ask Gayleen Carpenter or Betsi Mead. Gayleen.carpenter@gmail.com
betsimead@gmail.com

>>>US Figure Skating seems to have revived their recognition for tests passed for Novice and above tests! However if you would like your skater's school to receive this recognition I would suggest that parents fill out the form for USFSA for this recognition letter. *The form for this recognition can be found on the members only site.* Log in on usfsaonline.org with your membership number and password. The form can be found under Testing, then Overview. Scroll down to find the highlighted link for the "School Recognition Request Form" USFSA says they will only honor this request if the test was completed within the past 2 months. Reach out to Gayleen Carpenter if you have further questions.



Colorado High School Competition!

When: January 9th 2022

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: South Suburban Sports Complex
Highlands Ranch, CO.

Get your team together, 2-6 team members!

For more information go to

<http://www.denverfsc.org/competitions>

Registration now open!

<https://dfsc.wufoo.com/forms/mdbrk9v0ulp7gd/>



FCFSC's 3 Newest Gold Medalists

On September 24th Merritt Cramer passed her Senior Moves in the Field test to become a Gold Medalist. Congratulations Merritt!



Rowan Martey became a Double Gold Medalist on October 22 after passing her Senior Free Skate test. She passed this test with Honors! Bravo Rowan!



On October 22 Regina Bower passed her Adult Gold Moves in the Field test to become a Gold Medalist. Way to go Regina!

Fort Collins FSC Membership

Membership count: 217

I will be sending out a club directory soon! This will include everyone's name, address, phone number and email as well as your USFS number. If you wish to opt out of the directory or have any other membership questions, please email Melody at melodyking26@gmail.com.

Fire Crystals - Synchro

The FCFSC Fire Crystals competed at the Glacier Falls Synchronized Skating Fall Classic in Irvine, CA in November. This year's team is the largest in many years, with 17 skaters representing the FCFSC. This season is the first season the Fire Crystals are competing in the IJS system, so much was learned by both the team and their fan club! In between early morning hair and makeup and 3 practice ice sessions, the team (and team parents) had a great time bonding at the beach and around Orange County, CA! The next competition for the Fire Crystals will be Pacific Coast Sectionals in Kalamazoo, MI.



Junior Board

Hello everyone! We've had a fabulous start to the junior board this year, and we are so proud of the board's hard work and enthusiasm thus far. We began the year with our junior board retreat at Loveland Laser Tag, in which everyone was able to share their goals for the board and plan our activities for the year (and have fun while doing so.) In September, Katy Hicks led a fundraiser with Chipotle in which we raised more than \$200 for the club. In October, Megan Doherty ran our annual on-ice Halloween party, which was a major success and lots of fun! Moving forward, we are working on rolling out some fun FCFSC/ice skating merchandise such as embroidered skate towels, stickers, hats, and more! We'll also have some fun holiday stuff in December, including a spirit week, so keep an eye out for more information on that. Unfortunately, we won't be able to host a holiday party due to a spike in COVID cases, but, we look forward to celebrating the holidays with you all from afar! Lastly, we'd like to acknowledge Zoë Anderson's contributions to our club Instagram page, and we encourage you all to send in your skating videos to @foco.skate on Instagram!

Sincerely,

Brooklyn King

Co-President



Junior Board Halloween Skate Party



SkateSafe

Last weekend, I traveled with my daughter, her Fort Collins Fire Crystals teammates, and various team parents to California while the team competed in the Synchro Fall Classic. Although they were there to compete, the trip reminded me that figure skating is a community. One that encourages positive self image, teamwork, and a healthy lifestyle. It also reminded me that team sports need everyone pulling in the same direction for success. In California, everyone played a role in making sure the four-spoke traveling wheel looks good to getting the team assembled and to dinner on time.

Similarly, I witnessed the figure skating community pulling together in the same direction to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for the numerous athletes participating in the competition. Luckily, this was not unique to this particular event. US Figure Skating has created a program called SkateSafe, a program designed to educate athletes, parents, coaches, officials, volunteers, etc. on expectations, monitoring, and reporting misconduct/harassment. In short, the US Figure Skating Association does not tolerate or condone any form of misconduct or harassment of its members. Fort Collins Figure Skating also endorses this philosophy.

Being a somewhat anxious and slightly overprotective parent, I decided to become SkateSafe certified. The subject matter is difficult, and some of the situations described are uncomfortable. However, for my daughter, her friends, and other local athletes, I decided it was worth my time to learn how to empower our club and to play my part in ensuring that skating remains a safe, fun, and positive activity. I would encourage you to do the same by visiting:

<https://www.usfigureskating.org/skatesafe>

Please contact Kyle Lambrecht at klambrecht2016@gmail.com with any Skate Safe questions.

Club Education

Our Club Education Committee is dedicated to offering several educational opportunities for our skaters in 2022. We are looking forward to hosting workshops with coaches from across the U.S. with a variety of specialities from Theatre on Ice to athlete-centered training techniques. In addition, we will be focusing on off-ice training opportunities for skaters to help with injury prevention and strength development. The “Nice on the Ice” program is returning in the new year to help with welcoming new club members. Keep an eye out for additional information to come!

If you have any questions, please contact Ali at sturtevant.ali@gmail.com.

EPIC Productions Showcase

Casting Call and the upcoming season

The organizing team for our club National Showcase group EPIC Productions is gearing up for the 2022 season. USFS has not yet announced the location, but that won't stop us from preparing a great team! The competition is generally held the first weekend of August.

We will hold our annual casting call for all interested skaters - including previous members - on January 8th, 2022, from 3:15 - 4:15 this year.

[Click here to sign up for casting call by December 20th!](#)

All skaters, old and new, must fill out the sign-up form. You will need your USFS number. Skaters must be Freeski level Preliminary or above (by Feb testing session) to qualify.

See the [EP website recent post](#) for details on the process.

We are also considering, depending on interest, creating an adult skater team for a mini-ensemble. Please sign up with the form above if you're an adult skater who is interested!

The casting call is not an "audition," and you do not need to prepare anything. Instead, skaters do a series of activities like skate in a block, demonstrate fun tricks, or show us their best jump and spin. If you participate in the casting call you are NOT obligated to join the team - you'll be asked to finalize your decision by January 30th.

What is EPIC Productions?

EPIC Productions develops and competes with a group of 20 - 30 skaters each year, and it is open to skaters test level Preliminary and above. It requires attending weekly rehearsals March - May, and then 3 rehearsals per week in June and July. The competition is a 5-day event, usually held the first weekend of August.

How Much Does It Cost?

The program has a \$250 deposit, due by January 30th, and we estimate total cost to be no more than \$2,000 - this covers all rehearsals, competition registration and coaching, and costumes/props (*final cost TBD; depends on number of skaters*). Members receive over 65 hours of training in theatrical and ensemble skating, along with leadership opportunities such as serving as ensemble captain, costume manager, and more.

Rehearsals during the school year are 1 hour per week, likely on Saturday mornings. In the summer, we'll have 3 on-ice and 1 off-ice hours of practice per week, likely on Tues, Wed, and Thursday mornings.

Read more about EPIC Productions on our group website, epicproductionsFoCo.org.

We sure hope you will join us, so sign up today! [Click here to sign up for the casting call by December 20th!](#)

Ice Show

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Fort Collins Figure Skating Club ice show is to host an event that celebrates figure skating and brings our skating community together in collaboration to share our passion for the sport in a creative, equitable, fiscally responsible, and inclusive way.

Here are the details of the plan for the Spring Spectacular 2022 Ice Show:

1. There will be 2 shows on May 7, 2022: 1pm and 6pm
2. There will be a dress rehearsal Friday, May 6th at 4:45pm
3. Registration for TESTED SKATERS (Pre-Pre-FS, Adult Pre-Bronze FS or Preliminary Dance) will be through EntryEeze starting in January. Deadline to register is February 1, 2022.
4. Registration for all non-tested (skaters that do not have Pre-Pre-FS, Adult Pre-Bronze FS or all 3 preliminary dances) will register through the Winter Recreator.
5. All skaters (tested or not) will need to be club members. Learn to skate membership in the Fort Collins Figure Skating Club is \$28 and can be purchased through the club's website.
6. Testing/Enrollment deadline is February 1, 2022.
7. Management of the ice show will be done by majority vote by ice show co-chairs and committee chairs.
8. Committee chairs will be selected by the BOD and priority will be given to club members that currently serve as competition committee chairs.
9. Committees:
 - a. Co-Chairs (all volunteer): Amy Aspelund, Kelly Cann and Gayleen Carpenter (President and two Vice Presidents)
 - b. Committees (all volunteer):
 - i. Costumes
 - ii. Music
 - iii. Set-up/Tear Down
 - iv. Merchandise
 - v. Volunteers
 - vi. Tickets
 - vii. Advertising
 - viii. Props
 - ix. Fundraising
 - x. Lighting
 - xi. Announcing
 - c. Coaching committee (PAID): 6-8 coaches will participate in a coach committee and work with skaters both on and off the ice.
10. **All club members are encouraged to join a committee to make this year's show a success. The more of you that chose to participate, the better the show will be.**

11. All decisions regarding casting, music, lights, costumes, props, etc. will be decided by majority vote by committee chairs. There will not be one person in charge of these decisions.
12. The ice show will have a THEME that will be decided by the BOD with input from the coach committee.
13. Coaches will apply to be on the coaching committee, and they will be responsible to work together as a team to choreograph and plan the show and will be paid for their efforts.
14. Rehearsal time will be both ON and OFF ice and will begin sometime after Spring Break (March 21, 2022). More details to come.
15. EntryEeze enrollment deadline will be February 1, 2022. We hope to have it open by winter break.
16. Testing deadline to participate in EntryEeze vs Recreator part of the show will be February 1, 2022.
17. Rehearsals for LTS and non-tested skaters will take place as defined in the Recreator during normal LTS class times.
18. LTS skaters will have their own group numbers
19. Tested skaters will have the opportunity to apply to be a "Junior helper" for the LTS classes at no additional charge. They will be required to purchase an additional costume.
20. We will have a detailed ICE SHOW CODE OF CONDUCT form that each participant (and their parents if under 18) will need to sign before they can enroll in the ice show.
21. There will be a defined path for conflict resolution that will be via a formal complaint through the club's website. We will require it to be this way so that no volunteer will have to take time from their jobs and families to handle conflicts. They will be handled by the BOD in a timely manner.
22. LTS (non-tested) skaters will be required to pay a costume deposit fee to the club by February 1, 2022.
23. Tested skaters will be required to work with the costume committee to purchase their own costume(s).
24. Tickets for the show will be \$15/ticket. All tickets will be General Admission and will go on sale in Late March.
25. There will be multiple opportunities for skaters to participate in the show:
 - a. Non-tested skaters will be in one group number each. (Price set by the city through the Recreator).
 - b. Pre-pre, Adults, Preliminary dance and Special Olympics skaters will be eligible to sign up for one group number each (\$75 each).
 - c. Preliminary FS, Pre-Bronze dance (under 18) and up will be eligible to sign up for up to two numbers (\$75 each).
 - d. High School Seniors and Senior FS skaters will be invited to skate a solo as one of their two numbers if they choose (\$75 for group and \$50 for solo (solo practice ice and choreography will not be included in group ice practice time)
 - e. Synchro and EPIC production teams will be invited to participate at a charge of \$200/team. Practice ice and coach costs will not be covered for these groups by the entry fees. These group numbers will not count toward maximum enrollment numbers.
 - f. Collegiate skaters that train at EPIC will be invited to have their own group number for (\$50/skater). Practice ice and coach costs will not be covered for these groups by the entry fees.
 - g. Skate with parent will cost \$15/family
 - h. Group finale will be at no additional cost and will be open to all tested skaters.
 - i. There might be additional opportunities that will be decided once we see the enrollment numbers in February.

26. The set up of the rink will be different than in previous years. There will be one large partition on the North end of the blue rink and that will serve as the entry and exit point for all numbers.
27. The green rink will be set up during Dress rehearsal and both shows for warming up.

I'm sure you all have or will have a million questions. I ask that you not call/text me or any of the other members of the BOD. We all have jobs and families and cannot be distracted by show questions when we are busy. Instead, I have set up a "QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS" form on the club's "Spring Spectacular Ice Show" web page. Please use this to communicate your questions, comments, or concerns. The BOD will address each one in a timely manner.

Change is hard. We all know this. But we are committed to making this change be the best that it can be!

Amy Aspelund

FCFSC President

Dates to Remember

- 12/3 Test Session
- 12/6 Holiday Show at the Foothills Mall
- 12/18 Winter Exhibition at EPIC
- 12/20 EPIC Productions Casting Call signup Deadline
- 1/8 EPIC Productions Casting Call
- 1/9 Colorado High School Competition
- 1/28 Test Session - deadline to register is January 20th at midnight
- 2/1 Ice Show Registration Deadline
- 2/11 Test Session- deadline to register is February 3rd at midnight
- 4/7 Test Session - deadline to register is March 31st at midnight
- 4//7 - 4/10 Fort Collins Classic



The End!