

Upcoming Basic Skills Instructor Workshops

July 12 – San Antonio, Texas Aug. 16 – Rochester, Minn.
July 12 – St. Louis, Mo. Aug. 22 – Highland Park, Ill.
July 20 – Novi, Mich. Sept. 6 – Atlanta, Ga.
Sept. 20 – Eagle, Colo.

Materials and Resources

The Basic Skills DVDs are here! Each Basic Skills program should have received one free copy. If more are needed, they are \$15 each. The order form can be found on the U.S. Figure Skating web site at <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=305>. You will see a link for the price list under "Resources" on the right-hand side of the screen.

We are restructuring the Basic Skills page! There will be additional information listed and a new look. We are hoping this revision will make it easier for you to navigate your way around the web site to find the information you are looking for. Stay tuned!

2008 Honnen Ice Arena Bridge Camp in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Linda Alexander – Colorado Springs, Colo.

It's summer time in the Rockies. Schools are out for the summer, too. All our young skaters are excited to be hanging out at the Honnen Ice Arena! As the director of the facility, I have kick-started our summer training program with the Basic Skills Bridge Camp.

Our objective in creating the camp was to create a FUN environment while providing the skaters with a fantastic learning experience. This is our third successful year hosting the bridge camp. We have skaters from the other rinks in town as well as Wyoming.

We are educating all these skaters on various topics such as ice etiquette, skating biomechanics with biofeedback, psychology of sport, ice dance (with focus on edge control) and many other facets of the sport.

Due to the incredible coaching staff and their individual expertise in structuring this camp, remarkable results have been produced. The kids are leaving with several new accomplished elements and a heightened level of intrinsic motivation. They have reported the experience as being truly rewarding and very educational. This is the type of feedback for which any coach or instructor strives. It has been a great experience and a priceless event for all.

Based on the success of this grass-roots program, we are confident this is a positive contribution toward program development within the skating community as a whole. We look forward to drawing new skaters to the next camp. Our recipe for success involved combining FUN, socialization and the development of new friends to share new skating skills.

We recommend this great experience for all!



2008-2009 Membership Year

The 2008-2009 Basic Skills membership year will be a 10-month membership, as the Basic Skills membership year will coincide with the U.S. Figure Skating membership beginning July 1, 2009.

Basic Skills Competition Series

The Basic Skills Competition Series has been a huge success and has made an enormous impact on the skating communities in Michigan, Colorado and Florida. Wisconsin is in the middle of its first Basic Skills competition series as well. This is a great way to form a working relationship with the other Basic Skills programs in your community and will greatly benefit everyone involved. If you are interested in kick-starting this wonderful event in your state, please let us know! We encourage all programs to join forces with their skating community, and we will walk you through the process every step of the way! For more information on the Basic Skills Competition Series, please contact U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters at 719.635.5200.

Applying for a Basic Skills Competition

To improve the quality and uniformity of the Basic Skills competitions, the Basic Skills Subcommittee requires all Basic Skills competitions to follow the guidelines as set forth in the Basic Skills Competition Manual.

The APPOINTED Basic Skills representative must approve these competitions before the announcement is made public.

Appointed Basic Skills Competition Approval Representatives:

EAST

Michael Masionis, IceXpo@aol.com

Roland Bessette, rolandb7@gmail.com

MIDWEST

Suzy Malloure, malkidsx4@aol.com

Carolyn Clausius, csclausius@hotmail.com

WEST

Julie Patterson, juliep@coyotesice.com

Cathy Whalen, cw3eng@sbcglobal.net

Steps to follow for approval:

1. Fill out the Basic Skills Competition Approval Request Form.
2. E-mail a copy of your competition announcement, application and approval request form to one of the approval representatives for your area.
3. The approval representative will issue your competition an official approval, and U.S. Figure Skating will send you the approval certificate.
4. Display the certificate throughout the duration of the competition.
5. Requests for approvals must be e-mailed to the approval representative 30 days prior to the distribution of competition materials.

Online Registration Process

We would like to take this time to share with you the benefits of using our online registration system.

Immediate Current Status: Once the participant's registration has been paid for online, the membership status and number are current with U.S. Figure Skating. A temporary membership card can be printed for the participant's use while waiting for his or her card from U.S. Figure Skating.

Payment Options: Both credit cards and checks (electronic funds transfer) are accepted online. The payment process is quick and easy to use, and you receive a receipt and confirmation for each transaction. If your program requires the use of a purchase order, please contact Julie Dudman at jdudman@usfigureskating.org or 719.635.5200 ext. 469 to see how we can help expedite the processing of your registrations.

Turn-Around Time: Registrations received online are printed three days a week. Thus, the materials the skaters and instructors receive leave here within five business days of being processed online. Packages sent via a ground within the continental United States take no more than five days to reach their destination. This means you will generally have your packets returned to you in as little as two weeks after you registered them.

Already using our online system? U.S. Figure Skating wants to know what you think.

Advertise your web site on our web site! If you have a web site link that you would like to have on usfigureskating.org under your program name, please send in a request to have it posted on our web site. All you need to do is send the program name and/or number along with the link to your web site to Jill Hare at jhare@usfigureskating.org. This is a great way to make your program more visible and bring in more members!