

ALEXANDRIA FIGURE SKATING CLUB

WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Jan. 26.** – MANDATORY Parent Meeting
- **Feb. 2** – deadline to order AFSC clothing from Cowing Robards
- **Feb. 2** – 2nd payments due
- **Feb. 9** – Pick up raffle tickets
- **Feb. 16** – Registration for Battle of the Blades due
- **Feb. 23** – Testing
- **Mar. 1** – Practice for Annual Ice Review begins (pick up schedule on Feb. 16)
- **Mar. 14** – Battle of the Blades Series Competition
- **Mar. 27** - Dress rehearsal
- **Mar. 28 & 29** – Annual Ice Review



HELLO FROM THE PRESIDENT

Whether you just started skating this session or you've been a long-time skater with the AFSC, we are looking forward to working with you and your skater to make this session great!

Sandy Sheets, Club President

REMINDER: PAYMENTS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 2, 2015

Please mail your payment to PO Box 471, Alexandria, MN 56308, or stop by the AFSC office. Thank you for helping to keep costs down by not requiring billing statements.

Fees for the Annual Ice Review must be PAID IN FULL prior to your skater taking their costume home (**more information to follow*).

Please note, statements are available upon request by contacting AFSC Treasurer, Amy Klimek.

PARENT MEETINGS

Parent meetings are MANDATORY. Please be sure to attend the meeting scheduled for Monday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m.

This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY for you to become more informed and involved in the skating program. Please ask questions during the meeting.

***The meeting will be held in the upstairs viewing area of the main rink unless otherwise posted.**

CLASSES

If your skater seems like he/she is struggling or appears to be leaps and bounds ahead of the other skaters, please let us know. Our coaches are aware of these challenges and usually bring them to our attention first. We can't change or correct something if we are unaware. Parent feedback is always welcome. Please let your Basic Skills Director (Kris Juettner) know of any such issues. Skaters will be moved into appropriate levels based on their performance of skills. REMINDER TO PARENTS, please remember to sit in the bleachers or upstairs viewing area during your skater's classes. You are **not** allowed to sit in the hockey boxes.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private lessons are available to all skaters who wish to enhance their skills, move faster, work on struggles, and work towards competition or testing. If you would like to learn more about private lessons, please speak to a coach or board member. REMINDER TO PARENTS who have children in private lessons, please remember to sit in the bleachers or upstairs viewing area during your skater's lessons. You are **not** allowed to sit in the hockey boxes.

WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

If weather/driving conditions are poor, it is the AFSC's policy to remain **in session**. Ice time cannot be easily rescheduled as the AFSC shares ice with other organizations. Your coach may choose, at his/her discretion, to cancel their private lessons, and your respective coach would be responsible for contacting you. The RCC has, in the past, closed due to weather/road conditions. If that is the case, an announcement would be made on local radio stations and/or we would post notices to Facebook, our website, and send a mass e-mail. *To receive e-mails, please be sure to go to the AFSC website and enter your e-mail information were indicated.

TESTING NIGHT – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

On this evening we evaluate your skater to see if he/she is ready to move into the next level of skating. No need to tell your skater that this is happening. The skaters will be tested by their coaches as they are working on their skills. Please stop by the AFSC office to see what level to sign your skater up for next session. They will either receive a "passing certificate" or a "needs improvement" certificate.

BASIC SKILLS COMPETITIONS

BATTLE OF THE BLADES is open to skaters in all levels, including Basic 1, and is set for **MARCH 14, 2015**. You must register your skater(s) on or before February 16, 2015. You can find the registration information at our website or in the AFSC office. For more information about the Battle of the Blades or the other series competitions, please speak to Kris Juettner. Note: there is still time to register for the Fergus Falls competition. (Fergus Falls registration closes February 7.)

ANNUAL ICE REVIEW –THEME: "IGNITE"

Our 36th annual spring show is set for **March 28 & 29, 2015 (dress rehearsal will be March 27)**.

Costumes have been ordered and will begin arriving within the next few weeks. All skating fees associated with the Annual Ice Review must be paid in full prior to your skater taking their costume home and participating in the Annual Ice Review.

PHOTOGRAPHS

If your skater is registered to be in the Annual Ice Review, there will be professional photos taken of your skater for each routine your skater is participating in. You have the option to purchase photos if you would like; however, it is required that your skater be in the group photo whether you choose to purchase pictures or not. It is your responsibility to get your skater

to Magic Moments Photography at the date/time scheduled for your skater. Please make sure your skater is dressed in their show costume with hair/makeup done (if applicable) at the time scheduled. For planning purposes, photos will be taken late February or early March. The date/time list will be posted in mid-February.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! It takes a village to keep this club running smoothly. If you haven't already, please sign up to help at the Battle of the Blades series competition and/or the Annual Ice Review. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside the AFSC office on January 26, and will be with the Ice Monitor during private ice times. Also, you can contact the volunteer coordinators directly: Kris Juettner at kjuettner02@gmail.com or Mary Bakker at mtbakker1@gmail.com (Battle of the Blades) and Coach Tessa Dutcher at tess0031@yahoo.com (Annual Ice Review). Attached to this newsletter is a more detailed description of volunteers needed for the Annual Ice Review. Your help is expected and is GREATLY appreciated!

FUNDRAISING

The AFSC is a 501(c)(3) organization, and to keep costs down for our skaters, we need to get community support. Currently we are trying to get sponsors for our digital signage and we need help from all parents to accomplish this. Digital signage sponsorships include: name/logo on AFSC digital signage for 1 year, name printed in Battle of the Blades and Annual Ice Review programs, and name on the t-shirts for the annual Awake the Grapes 5K and 10K run. The AFSC gets a LARGE group of viewers due to the RCC activities throughout the year. If you or someone you know owns a business who would potentially like to advertise on our digital signage, please contact Mary Bakker at mtbakker1@gmail.com. Forms are available at the office which details what the cost and benefits are of advertising of AFSC digital signage.

This year the AFSC will be doing a raffle ticket fundraiser. Prizes will include: one \$500 Elden's gift certificate, two \$250 Elden's gift certificates, and five \$100 Elden's gift certificates. **Each skater** will be **required** to sell **10** raffle tickets. The cost of each ticket is \$10. Tickets will be distributed to your skater on February 9, and must be turned in on March 27. The raffle will be held on March 29 at the Annual Ice Review during intermission.

AFSC MERCHANDISE/APPAREL

Back by popular demand! Another order will be placed with Cowing Robards for AFSC apparel. Please stop by the office and complete an order form, or swing in to Cowing Robards directly. Order forms must be turned in on or before February 2. We are hoping to have the apparel back before Battle of the Blades.

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the fact that the RCC closed due to weather on November 10, anyone who purchased private ice on that date has received a credit on their account.

A typographical error was made on the Winter Session forms. Please note the Thursday LO/FS ice was printed at \$91, this is a mistake and should have been printed at \$45.50. If you have signed up for ice at that time, you will receive a credit toward your account if you have already paid in full.

AFSC COACHING STAFF

Our coaches this season are: Sara Linow, Kelsey Krawiecki, Kelly Cabana, Kasey Corcoran-Peterson, Tessa Dutcher, Kassandra Gibbons, Connie Brunkow, and Anna Thieschaefer (Student Coaches: Morgan Hess, AnaLea Sheets, Lexi Dirkes, and Madeline Cabana). Several of these coaches are currently coaching private lessons as well as classes. You can obtain more information about each of them at the AFSC office or on the AFSC website: www.alexandriafigureskating.org.

2014/2015 AFSC BOARD MEMBERS

A list of the current Board Members is posted on the AFSC bulletin board along with their contact information.

WAYS TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE CLUB

- 👤 Website: www.alexandriafigureskating.org (make sure to sign up via our website to receive e-mails from the club)
- 👤 Facebook – “like” us on Facebook to see newsfeeds and receive notifications
- 👤 Newsletters
- 👤 Attend the parent meetings
- 👤 Bulletin board outside the AFSC office and dry erase board
- 👤 Ask questions of any AFSC board member

The AFSC is very excited to be working with you and your skater!

Volunteers needed for Annual Ice Review (Spring Show)

Ignite!

The Annual Ice Review (AFSC Spring Ice Show) will be held this year the last weekend in March (March 28 and 29). This is the “big event” of the year for many of the skaters, and we need help to make it a successful show for them! Coach Tessa Dutcher will be the parent volunteer coordinator and will serve as a point person for ensuring we have help where we need it.

Volunteers are needed for:

Prior to the Show (days/weeks leading up to show)

- 1) Prop construction/decorations
- 2) Picture day at Magic Memories/Photo Magic

Dress Rehearsal – Friday 3/27 afternoon/night

- 1) Finalizing the set up of decorations and props
- 2) Room Moms

Saturday Show – 3/28 evening

- 1) Ticket sales
- 2) Flower/balloon sales
- 3) Merchandise/gear sales
- 4) Room Moms
- 5) Prop crew (will need skates)

Sunday Show – 3/29 afternoon

- 1) Ticket sales
- 2) Flower/balloon sales
- 3) Merchandise/gear sales
- 4) Room Moms
- 5) Prop crew (will need skates)
- 6) Clean-up

Sign-up sheets will be posted on skating nights at the rink during classes and with the Ice Monitor during private ice. You can also contact Tessa directly via email at tess0031@yahoo.com or cell at 320-460-0462.

Every little bit of your time helps. The more volunteers we have equals less work for everyone. Let's make **Ignite!** a great show for our skaters!