



Gloucester Skating Club Glider

Winter Edition 2007 February

EOSIC At GSC and STARSkate Update

GSC will be hosting the 2007 Boston Pizza EOSIC Championships, February 16-18th, 2007 at the Elizabeth Manley Rink and the Orleans Arena.

The GSC will be well represented by 43 skaters from the Pre-Preliminary Level to the Gold Triathlon level in singles and dance.

It will be a wonderful opportunity for our athletes to showcase their talents and hours of dedicated training. Be sure to come out to support this event!

STARSkaters from all over Eastern Ontario will participate, for a total of 574!

Those who qualify from EOSIC will go on to represent Eastern Ontario at the Trillium STARSkate Championships (All-Ontario) Championships in March in Waterloo, ON; and the National STARSkate Championships being held March 22-24 in Calgary, AB.

The 43 GSC skaters had a month of additional on and off ice seminars, and a simulation and gala presentation preparing them for their upcoming EOSIC experience.

We wish all our skaters the very best!

Raffle and Draw during EOSIC!

Two great items will be raffled during EOSIC: pair of GAM boots and blades and a hotel stay at Suites at Albert at Bay.

Be sure to purchase your tickets at the main entrance to the rinks during EOSIC!

This is a GSC fundraiser, please support the Club and purchase a ticket or two!

The draw will be held Sunday afternoon, and the winners will be contacted!

Skate for Diabetes Coming Soon!

by Sheilagh McCaskill

Mark your calendar....March 4th!

The Gloucester Skating Club is hosting our 6th and **final** "Skate for Diabetes" Skate-a-thon on Sunday, March 4th.

Over the past five years, our club has raised an amazing \$33,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, an organization dedicated to finding a cure for juvenile diabetes.

Children with this disease face daily challenges in their lives. They must take insulin by injection on average three times a day and have to follow a restrictive diet to stay healthy. As they grow older, they face many life threatening complications due to the disease.

The mission of the Juvenile Diabetes Research foundation is very simple...to find a cure for diabetes through research. They are driven by the knowledge that this could be the first chronic disease to be cured in the history of mankind.

All your child needs to participate in this fun-filled event is a total of \$20.00 in pledges.

Participants will enjoy on-ice games with their friends and skating coaches from 1:20 to 2:20 p.m. followed by a pizza party at 2:30 pm. sponsored by JDRF!

We are encouraging all our members including Pre-school, CanSkate, CanPowerSkate, STARSkate, and Competitive to participate in our last "Skate for Diabetes" Skate-a-thon and make it the most successful yet!

Please call the Club Office at 830-1610 to confirm your child's participation by Saturday, February 24th. Pledge forms are available in the Club Office, on the bulletin boards or from the coaching staff.

**COME JOIN THE FUN AND RAISE
MONEY FOR A GOOD CAUSE!!**

Boston Pizza Fundraiser!

GSC Skaters and Families help our Club earn valuable fundraising dollars!

When you (or any family member or friend) eat at the participating Boston Pizza on Innes Road, the GSC will receive a 10% cash rebate on all food purchases (excluding alcohol and tax).

All you have to do is save your receipt and then drop it off at the Club office. Specify that it is for the Boston Pizza Fundraiser. A Board Member will then compile all receipts and submit quarterly for the 10% Club rebate. It is that simple! Start Today! Thank you for participating!

Synchronized Skating News

by Katy Hodgkinson, Director of Synchro

It's almost the end of another exciting synchro season here at GSC.

This year's "**Synchro Showcase**" held January 20th at GSC, featured both GSC teams and welcomed teams from Nepean, Goulbourn, and five teams from Kingston.

Coach Heather Byers, of the Green Machine team, had the team skating to a medley of Cindy Lauper classics, a real crowd pleaser! Thank you to all who came out to the show!

The **Green Machine Masters team won a bronze medal** at the Lloyd Ogilvie Memorial in Dresden, and have finished their season with a fifth place finish at the Central Regional Festival of Synchronized Skating in North Bay.

Fine Line Adult Festival team has qualified for the Skate Canada Synchronized Championships in Chicoutimi, after a fifth place finish at Central Regional's in North Bay.

Fine Line has also competed at the St-Hubert Invitational, where they placed fourth; and at Winterfest 2007, also placing fourth.

Coached by Natacha Saintonge, this year's program is choreographed to "Xotica" from Cirque du Soleil by Rene Dupre.

Congratulations to Green Machine on a successful season, and good luck to Fine Line at Canadians!

Coming Soon! Gloucester Skating Club's

**16th Annual
Spring Festival Competition
April 13-15**

Volunteers welcome!

Watch the notice board for further details!

GSC Competitive Skate Update

Eastern Ontario Sectionals, Eastern and Western Challenge, National Canadian Championship, Junior Nationals, and Ontario Trillium Cup

ALLIE HANN-MCCURDY AND
MICHAEL CORENO

Canadian Championships Senior Dance (8th)

ELIZABETH COMEAU

EOS Juvenile Ladies Champion (1st),
Junior Nationals (9th)

ANDREW HODSON / DAPHNE LIU

EOS Pre-Novice Pairs (2nd),
Eastern Challenge (13th)

BENJAMIN GUTHRIE

Pre-Novice Men (2nd, Northern Ontario Section),
Western Challenge (11th)

LAURA LISTON

EOS Pre-Novice Ladies (6th),
Qualifies for Ontario Trillium Cup

HELENE LETOURNEAU / KEVIN BOCZAR

EOS Novice Dance Champions (1ST),
Eastern Challenge (12th)

PATRICK GOODMAN

EOS Novice Men (3rd),
Eastern Challenge (17th)

KIM FICARA

EOS Novice Ladies (6th),
Qualifies for Ontario Trillium Cup

Good Luck to Laura Liston and Kim Ficara at the Ontario Trillium Cup being held March 10-11 in Waterloo, Ontario!

Allie Hann-McCurdy selected 2006 top skater in Ottawa

Gloucester Skating Club congratulates ice dance skater Allie Hann-McCurdy for her nomination as the 2006 top skater in Ottawa at the 54th Annual Ottawa Sports Awards.

Each year the Ottawa Sports Awards recognizes the top amateur athlete in over 60 sports.



The awards ceremony took place February 1st, 2007 at Algonquin College in Ottawa. The Ottawa Sports Awards' goal is to recognize the best athletes in Ottawa, regardless of age group. This will be the 54th edition of the Ottawa Sports Awards, previously known as the ACT Sportsman's Dinner prior to 2003.

Hann-McCurdy and her ice dance partner, Michael Coreno, were crowned the 2006 junior ice dance champions last January in Ottawa at the 2006 BMO Financial Group Canadian Championships.

Hann-McCurdy and Coreno placed 8th in the Senior Dance event at the 2007 BMO Canadian Championships in Halifax in January 2007.

Elizabeth Comeau places 9th at Junior Nationals, Juvenile Ladies

Congratulations to Elizabeth Comeau for her 9th place showing at the Junior National Championships in Brampton, Ontario. Elizabeth proudly represented the Gloucester Skating Club and the Eastern Ontario Section as the 2007 EOS Juvenile Ladies Champion. Well done Elizabeth and congratulations as well to Coach Sheilagh McCaskill.

GSC AdultSkate Update

Adults, have you out grown Canskate but would like to learn how to skate or improve your skating skills?

GSC AdultSkate program on Thursday evenings from 8:30 -9:20 p.m. has been busy with lots of new skaters joining in. It is a great evening of skating and socializing while developing basic and more advanced figure skating skills. It is a great form of exercise and lots of fun for both the skaters and the coaches. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the office at 613-830-1610 or check the website at www.gloucesterskatingclub.ca.

Coaches and Judging

CEP—Continuous Education Program for Coaches

Coaches Jodie Bierko, Sheilagh McCaskill, Nathalie Roy, Debbie Montgomery, Emery Leger, Heather McMahan and Darlene Joseph all have attained their Gold Level CEP for continuing their Professional Development for Years 2006-2008 with Skate Canada courses, seminars and workshops. Congratulations!

Thank you to Jodie Bierko for recently updating the showcases! They look great!

How Do I Become a Judge or Evaluator?

by Donna Bierko, volunteer figure skating judge

Have you ever sat at a competition or test day and wondered what is involved in becoming a competitive judge or evaluator? Have you ever wondered what kind of people are judges and evaluators?

In order to become a judge / evaluator, you must be a current / former skater who has at least passed a Senior Bronze Test or two Junior Silver Tests. You must be willing to participate in a training session that takes one weekend.

During this session you will be taught the basic elements of judging (both in the new judging system – CPC - and the old judging system – OBO). You will be taught what standards must be met in order for the skater to pass an evaluated test. As part of the session you will do trial judging of competitive events via video and review tests to ensure that you understand the standards.

Once you complete the training session, you will be sent home with a binder full of information and work that needs to be completed before you can receive your first promotion. The work that needs to be completed includes trial judging at both competitions and test days, completing exam type questions and finally having a supervised session with a certified judge. Once this is completed (and this can normally be done in less than one year at the first level) you are required to submit your workbook / binder for final approval. When your promotion has been approved, you will receive a formal letter from the Section Judges Chairperson.

Now do you want to know who the judges are at the competitions or the evaluators at the test days? They are doctors, teachers, lawyers, students, nurses, engineers. They are former skaters, former coaches, or parents of skaters. They are people who enjoy working with others and seeing people succeed while participating in a sport they love.

I am proud to say that I am an active evaluator and judge for the Gloucester Skating Club. I judge at the club level and the Sectional level and have been judging for over 20 years.

You may ask why I judge, as it is something that I do as a volunteer. The answer is simple, I love to see the skaters reach their goals, and I enjoy being around my special group of friends who are also judges.

Editor's Note: Judges and evaluators are not paid to judge/evaluate a test or competition. The judges and evaluators you see on these designated days are volunteers. Hence, yummy treats, warm drinks, and hot food in the hospitality room is one small way for our Club to say thank you for being part of the sport of figure skating.

Dartfish at GSC!

by Darlene Joseph

The GSC Professional Staff successfully completed an intensive 2-day training session with Michelle Leigh from Mariposa School of Skating, a Dartfish trained expert, in November 2006.

Along with this training, the GSC will be provided with a file of World-Class Skaters executing elements to be used as a teaching and visual aid, and also for comparative analysis.

The benefits for skaters using Dartfish include: refined jumping technique, learning from elite skaters, and experience of working with a technology-based training tool.

Skaters will also become more aware of the following: balance in jumping, creating rotation, key jumping positions (head, shoulders, arms, core, hips, legs and feet), and pivoting in the air, the landing process, and visualizing technique

Make sure to check out the showcases for the cool “stromotion” photos using Dartfish technology!

Test Days in March

by Francis Boteler, Test Chair

Skate Canada has an extensive testing program to enable STARSkaters and Competitive Skaters to test their improvements and qualify for certain competition levels by participating in Skate Canada’s Test Program.

Tests are offered for STARSkaters in freeskate and skills from Preliminary to Gold, and in Dance from Preliminary to Diamond. GSC has 6 STARSkate test sessions per year, in March, May, July, August, October and December.

New to the Winter Session of 2006-2007 is a centralized test day for the Ottawa region for competitive tests and diamond dance tests. Under the centralized testing system, each of the 3 major Ottawa Clubs (ie, GSC, Minto and Nepean) take it in turn to host competitive and diamond dance tests. Gloucester is hosting its first centralized test day in March 2007.

Volunteers are always welcome to help with hospitality for test days. If you’re able to help out in some way, please contact Hospitality Chair Eleanor Zeindler by calling the GSC office.

Congratulations to All our GSC Skaters who achieved personal success on their tests, and at Morrisburg Invitational, Carleton Place Loves to Skate, and Prescott Invitational competitions!

News from the GSC Board of Directors

Note from the President

by Kathy Ganz, GSC President

I hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful winter weather! As a result of our plea in the last newsletter for volunteers to join the Board of Directors, I am please to announce that Judith Halls and Marlene Shepard have joined the board.

GSC Board of Directors

President- Kathy Ganz
 Treasurer- Laura Burchill
 Senior Vice President- Christina Comeau
 Vice President- Pauline Salamani
 Vice President- Judith Halls
 Hospitality- Eleanor Zeindler
 Website- Yue Tang
 Test chair- Frances Boteler
 Director at Large- Marlene Shepard
 Volunteer Coordinator- Jennifer Walters
 Director of Special Events- Melissa Gnomes
 Director of Synchro- Katy Hodgkinson

Positions currently vacant

Communications and Public Relations
 Fundraising

While these individuals are responsible for the day to day operations of the club there are a number of individuals that participate in activities on an on-going basis and at various events. Without their volunteer efforts the quality and quantity of activities offered to the skaters would not be possible, so thank you to the many people who have volunteered to date.

If you have not yet volunteered, there are a number of events coming up that will be more successful with your help. Please call the Club office if you would like to volunteer for a specific task and your name will be forwarded to the appropriate person. Otherwise expect that you will be contacted!

While this list is not all inclusive I would like to thank a few individual volunteers that have been outstanding during the last couple of months. **Bev McConnell** graciously accepted the position of the 2007 EOSIC chairperson and while the event is almost here, she continues to work tirelessly with her organizing committee to ensure a most successful event. **Marc Comeau** has been front and center clicking his camera and ensuring that the skaters that participated in this year’s Sectional and EOSIC training programs had a memento to add to the scrap-book. Additionally, Marc

continues to ensure that any IT issues are dealt with in the office and with Dartfish.

Kay Bierko is once again working her magic with this years Spring Festival organizing committee. This is Kay's third consecutive year!

I'd like to wish all skaters Good Luck at the upcoming competitions. Have a great skate!

Concerning the Children's Fitness Tax Credit

Gloucester Skating Club is in the process of preparing receipts for skating fees paid after January 1, 2007. A notice will be posted indicating that the receipts are available for pick-up.

The government information clarifies that a receipt for income tax purposes will be issued for amounts paid in 2007 only. Amounts paid in 2006 do not qualify even if all or part of the activity takes place in 2007. For further information on the Children's Fitness Tax Credit, please see the CDN government web sites.

www.cra-arc.gc.ca/whatsnew/fitness-e.html

www.fin.gc.ca/news06/06-084e.html

Thank you for your patience and support as we implement this new requirement.

Lamontague Fundraiser

The Lamontague fundraiser held during the fall and early winter, **raised \$2300**. This money will be directed for future skater seminars and skater development programs. Thank you to everyone who participated and **special thanks to Pauline Salamani** for coordinating this fundraiser!

Office Hours

The GSC office has three new customer service representatives, allowing for more evening hours for the office to be open.

Office Hours are:

Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Monday and Thursday evenings 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday evenings 4 p.m. - 7p.m.

Saturdays 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The office is closed Wednesday evening, Friday and Sunday.

Office phone: 613-830-1610

Dates to Remember

BMO Canadian Synchronized Championships
February 22, Chicoutimi, Quebec

Special Olympics
February 24

World Junior Figure Skating Championships
February 26 – March 4, Germany

Skate-a-thon for Juvenile Diabetes Research
March 4, Gloucester Skating Club

Trillium Cup and Trillium STARSkate
Championships
March 10-11, Waterloo, Ontario

World Figure Skating Championships
March 19-25, Tokyo

National STARSkate Championships
March 22-24, Calgary, AB

GSC Centralized Test Days
March 28, 29, 30

GSC Spring School starts April 2

Gloucester Skating Club's Annual Spring Festival
April 13-14

GSC Board of Directors AGM
May 16

GSC Annual Banquet and Awards
May 11

GSC Spring School ends May 17

Joe Bierko Memorial Golf Tournament
June 2

Resources

www.isu.org

www.skatecanada.ca

www.skate-eos.on.ca

www.gloucesterskatingclub.ca