

The Slippery Times

News from Highland Skating Club

Dear Families and Friends of Highland Skating Club,

How do we measure success?

As President of the board of Highland Skating Club and a skater at heart, I am thrilled to be an integral part of our skate club's newsletter. The club has a rich, long history dating back to 1980, and its primary purpose has always been to further the enjoyment of the sport for all.

Those involved in the club, past and present, recognize the club instills a sense of community and fosters success. From our club's perspective, success is not measured by placing first in a competition, rather it is about the journey of challenges and maintaining an ongoing thirst for reaching new individual heights. The journey builds personal characteristics in each skater - motivation, perseverance, dedication, and compassion, as well as the ability to cultivate long-lasting friendships, yet stand on one's own and positively face challenges along the way. The very nature of the club nurtures and supports the development of these characteristics into adulthood.

To foster the club's success, our goals are to raise more money to "buy back" an hour of our club skate time on Tuesdays, which we lost due to lack of funds last year, and to raise more grant money for our skaters. To do so, we need to increase our revenue. To put the costs in perspective, the club pays approximately \$10,000 per year for one hour of skate time per week.

There is so much more we would like to do for our skaters, such as having more money to subsidize the cost of coaching at major competitions, but we do not have the financial resources to do so. We have many passionate, talented club skaters and we want them to succeed in reaching their dreams. As a small club, we cannot do this alone.

Simply put, we need your help. Continuing to build our skaters' skills and ensuring that they reach their potential in all aspects of life is how we measure success. Please help our club succeed.

Sally Crowell on behalf of HSC Board of Directors



Ways to contribute:

- Join the Club
- Renew a Membership
- Buy a Chinook Book
- Write a check
- Volunteer at Winterfest

Contact Sallie if you wish to contribute.

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Coaches' Corner....

Welcome, Highland Skating Club Members and alumni, to Coaches' Corner. First of all, on behalf of all of the coaches who participated in this past summer's skating school, we want to extend our sincere thanks to all of our students and their parents for making this a very successful summer.

As many of the skaters from summer school head to regionals during the week of October 7th through the 13th, in Medford, Oregon, we want to congratulate all of you on your achievements over the summer and wish you all a brilliant skate.

A quick thank you to Darin for opening the rink each morning and for structuring our summer school program. To Corrie, we say thank you as well, for your wonderful stretch class. To all of the students who attended Corrie's stretch class, she sent me a note to share with all of you: "I was happy with everyone's improvement and focus. Attendance was very consistent and everyone really tried to improve in all areas of the class -- great summer school!"

Take care, everyone, and remember to keep your eye on the prize!!! See you in Medford.

Coach Bente



Left to right: Natalie, Bente, Becci, Corrie, Darin

Parents' Perspective....

It is a Tuesday in August, another beautiful summer day. It is 6:00 a.m. Our daughter, Jane, walks into our room half asleep, and with a long yawn, directs us to "get up and get ready" to take her to the rink for another day at summer skate camp. As we rush to take a shower and figure out what to wear for our work-day ahead, Jane hollers, "Where are my favorite tights, the ones with all the holes?"

We grab the newspaper on our way out of the house and arrive at the rink at 7:15 am (or so). With a tired smile, Jane gets ready for her own work-day: dartfish, stroking, freeskate time, a lesson with her coach, and stretch class.

As we sit at one of the vacant rink-side tables, sipping 50 cent cups of hot chocolate from the 10 year old vending machine (which is currently "out of order"), we realize that we will miss these days.



Each day, we treasure Jane's enthusiasm as we drive her to the rink and the smile on her face when she greets her club mates. Jane, 9 years old and one of the youngest, admires each club member. The older skaters greet her with a smile or a hug – in Darin's words, they are all "sisters."

Years from now, as much as we will miss observing the day-to-day camaraderie between the club members and coaches, we will embrace the connections we have made with other parents. We are a group of parents who pride ourselves in being able to "sit on the sidelines." We leave the coaching to the coaches, but acknowledge each daughter and son's accomplishments. Like our daughters and sons, we are "all for one and one for all."

*CJ Murray & Robin Duberow (Parents of Jane Li Duberow)
Photo left to right: Amanda, Savannah, Selina, Jane*