

# Welcome to the SSFSC Parents' Meeting!

July 26, 2024



# What is a Figure Skating Club?

- ▶ U.S. Figure Skating is a membership-based organization serving more than 750 full, collegiate and school-affiliated clubs and more than 1,000 registered Learn to Skate USA programs nationwide. The best way to be a part of U.S. Figure Skating is to be a member of a U.S. Figure Skating-affiliated club.
- ▶ All U.S. Figure Skating member clubs are charged with the responsibility of creating a safe environment that allows their members participate, develop and achieve success in the sport of figure skating. Most clubs are run by a board of dedicated volunteers and offer test sessions, competitions, exhibitions, ice shows and a variety of other programming options for their skaters and the surrounding community.

# About the Sunshine State FSC

- ▶ Mission Statement
  - ▶ The goal of the Sunshine State FSC is to serve the members to the best of its abilities. The club will work to offer a multitude of diverse opportunities to ALL skaters, coaches, and members to help further their skating journey and goals in life.
- ▶ Received Club Interim status on February 14th, 2023
- ▶ Received Provisional status at US Figure Skating Governing Council in Las Vegas on May 6th, 2023
- ▶ Received FULL MEMBER CLUB status in May of 2024
- ▶ Currently have 232 members for the 2024-2025 season, and supports AHCI skaters, the SunCoast Skating Team & USF Collegiate Team

# Club Membership Benefits

- ▶ U.S. Figure Skating Membership year is July 1st to June 30th (must be renewed annually)
- ▶ Reduced fees for testing at SSFSC Test Sessions
- ▶ Opportunity to purchase SSFSC club merchandise
- ▶ Opportunity to participate in Club Sponsored Events
  - ▶ Frequent Virtual Test Sessions
  - ▶ Social Events (Annual Banquet, Back to School/ Valentines/ Beach/ Pool/ Bowling/ Halloween/ Holiday Parties, Busch Gardens Ice Show)
  - ▶ Fundraisers (Dinner Nights, 5K Skate, Flip Give, etc)
  - ▶ Skater Recognition (Graduating Seniors, Axel Club, Qualifying Competitor Send-Off)
  - ▶ Competitions (Fall Basic Skills – hopefully grow into Full Non-Qualifying, Bid for USFS Qualifying/National Events – 2024 Solo Ice Dance Final, Synchro Classic)

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2024-2025



 <b>JUNE</b> <b>**Membership Renewal Opens June 1st**</b> <b>Old Membership EXPIRES June 30th</b> 6/10: Annual Meeting	 <b>JULY</b> 7/26: Parent Education Meeting 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	 <b>AUGUST</b> 8/4: Busch Gardens Back to School Trip 8/24: SSFSC Basic Skills Competitions
 <b>SEPTEMBER</b> 9/4: Main Event Fundraiser (6:00 PM - 9:00 PM) 9/12-9/15: National Solo Dance Series Final	 <b>OCTOBER</b> <b>**COACH APPRECIATION MONTH**</b> 10/25-10/27: Sunshine State Synchro Classic 10/26: Hallowrink (TBD): Dinner Fundraiser	 <b>NOVEMBER</b> 11/2: Friendsgiving
 <b>DECEMBER</b> 12/7: AHCI Tree Lighting 12/14: Winter Show Dress Rehearsal 12/15: Winter Show	 <b>JANUARY</b> <b>**NATIONAL SKATING MONTH**</b> 1/12: Frozen 5k (3:30 PM - 4:30 PM) 1/16: Synchro Sectionals Exhibition & Sendoff (6:30 PM - 8:00 PM)	 <b>FEBRUARY</b> 2/7: Valentine's Day Skate (6:30 PM - 8:30 PM)
 <b>MARCH</b> (TBD): Chipotle Fundraiser	 <b>APRIL</b> 4/27: Annual Banquet (2:00 PM - 6:00 PM)	 <b>MAY</b> (TBD): Sunshine State Games (TBD): Fundraiser

## EVENTS CALENDAR 2024-25 SEASON

# Types of Membership

## ***Full Membership (Minor): \$165***

- ▶ For skaters aged 17 and under, includes one free non-skating parent membership
- ▶ Voting Rights

## ***Full Membership (Adult): \$125***

- ▶ For skaters 18 and older
- ▶ Voting Rights

## ***Full Membership (Additional/Subsequent): \$65***

- ▶ For subsequent skaters or family members (must accompany full membership)
- ▶ Voting Rights

## ***Associate: \$75***

- ▶ For skaters who want to have SSFSC privileges and belong to another home club
- ▶ Non-Voting

## ***Full Membership (Introductory): \$75***

- ▶ For first-time SSFSC and USFS skaters (only eligible for one membership year, this restriction includes prior memberships with other USFS clubs)

- ▶ Non-Voting

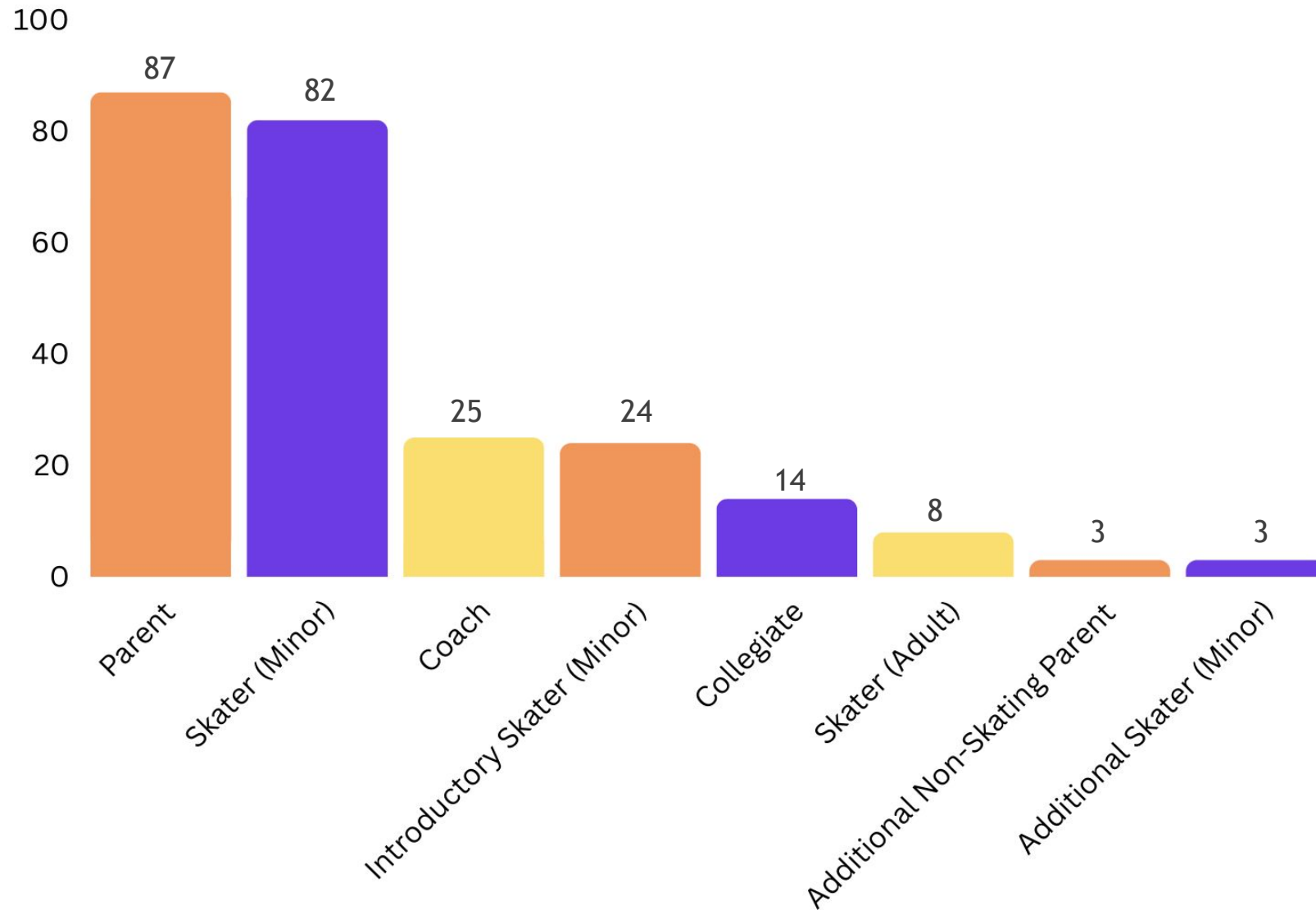
## ***Full Membership (Collegiate 4-year): \$150***

- ▶ For full-time undergrad or graduate students (valid for one continuous period of 4 years)
- ▶ Skater can attend any college - not just USF!
- ▶ Voting Rights

## ***Full Membership (Coaches): \$75***

- ▶ For professional coaches
- ▶ Voting Rights

# SSFSC Member Demographics





# Membership Updates for 2024-25

## Volunteer Hour Requirements for ALL Members:

-5 volunteer hours per member required within the membership year June 1 to May 31.

-If a member registers within the last two months (April 1-May 31) of the current season, they will be exempt from this.

-An alternative to completing required volunteer hours is a financial donation to the Club of \$50.00 per member.

-We will put these options in the membership renewal and registration portal in EntryEeze.

## NEW Committees:

-**Competition** - appointed under the Test & Competition Chair

-**Fundraising** - appointed under the Events Chair



# Testing

## Background Information

- Testing is important for all skaters to demonstrate progression through the sport
- Needed in order to qualify for competitions
- Tests available in several disciplines, Skating Skills (formerly Moves in the Field), Ice Dance Partnered/Solo, Pairs and Singles
- Testing levels use the medal color designations (Bronze/Silver/Gold)
- When passed the final Gold level test, considered a 'Gold Medalist'

## Virtual Testing

- New method of USFS testing vs traditional in-person testing
- Test session generally every month
- \$40 members/\$55 non-members
- Video tape your video NO EARLIER than 14 days before deadline
- Video requirements on USFS
- Result usually come out in 7 days or less after deadline

# Competitions

## Non-Qualifying

- *Compete USA* (Basic Skills) events promote a fun, introductory competition experience for beginner skaters. Provide a positive opportunity to compete at the grassroots level
- Skaters of all ages can participate in nonqualifying competitions to earn awards and showcase skill mastery.
- Nonqualifying competitions are divided into two tracks: one is more recreational (**Excel**) and the other is more competitive in nature (**Well-Balanced**).
- Excel Series, skaters compete at certain nonqualifying competitions to earn an invitation to the Excel National Festival.

## Qualifying

- The pipeline for singles, pairs and ice dance teams to advance to the U.S. Championships, international competitions, World Championships and Olympic Winter Games.
- The top skaters advance in the juvenile to senior levels and compete for various titles based on age and test level.
- Synchronized skating has its own qualifying competition system, which leads to the U.S. Synchronized Championships, international competitions (junior/senior) and the World Junior and World Synchronized Skating Championships.

# Upcoming Florida Competitions

- **Summer Swan Classic**
  - August 3-4, 2024
  - Lakeland Ice Arena - Lakeland, FL
- **1st Annual Sunshine State FSC Basic Skills Competition**
  - August 24, 2024
  - AdventHealth Center Ice - Wesley Chapel, FL
- **National Solo Dance Final**
  - September 12-15, 2024
  - AdventHealth Center Ice - Wesley Chapel, FL
- **Southwest Florida Fall Classic**
  - September 27-29, 2024
  - Ellenton Ice and Sports Complex - Ellenton, FL
- **Florida Figure Skating Championships**
  - October 4-6, 2024
  - Community First Igloo - Jacksonville, FL

# Collegiate Skating / Scholarships & Funding

## Collegiate Skating

- Whether you have been skating since you were young, learned to skate in college or are returning to the ice after a long absence from the sport, U.S. Figure Skating's collegiate programs are a great opportunity to make friends with shared interests, assimilate to a new life at school, obtain leadership skills and stay in shape, regardless of level or experience.
- U.S. Figure Skating collegiate membership, four-year full membership at a reduced rate
- U.S. Collegiate Figure Skating Championships
- Intercollegiate team competitions
- Synchronized skating
- Stay involved - be a coach, judge, technical panel official, accountant, etc.
- Leadership roles - collegiate club president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, etc.

## Scholarships & Funding

- U.S. Figure Skating will distribute more than \$750,000 in the upcoming year to qualified athletes. Below is a listing of scholarships and funding opportunities for U.S. Figure Skating athletes.
- More information via USFS Members Only - Skating Journey - Scholarships & Funding
- Different opportunities available year round



# SunCoast Skating Team

## Synchronized Skating



### What is Synchro

- Synchronized skating is a team sport in which 8-20 skaters perform a program to music together. This form of skating is often characterized by teamwork, speed, intricate formations and challenging step sequences and the objective is for the team to perform and move as one unit.
- Scholarships and Collegiate competitions available

### Teams

- Aspire Non-Travel - for Basic 5 to JCP skaters
- Aspire Travel - for Basic 5 to JCP skaters
- Open Juvenile - IJS Competitive team
- Preliminary - IJS Competitive team
- Pre-Juvenile - IJS Competitive team
- Is not too late to join! Come and try synchro.

**Join the Team Now! Contact Coach Felicity for more information**

# Online Portals

## Entryeze

- System used for club memberships, some competition (mainly non-qualifying) and test session registration
- Must be signed in to receive member testing fees
- You have to be signed in to access this discount, if you are not signed in you will have to pay an extra \$15 per test!

## USFS - Members Only

- System used for some competition registrations (mainly qualifying), member profile information including required forms and access to USFS resources

# SkateSafe

## What is SkateSafe?

U.S. Figure Skating strives to provide a safe environment for its members that is free of misconduct and harassment. The association will not tolerate or condone any form of harassment or misconduct of any of its members, including athletes, coaches, officials, directors, employees, parents, volunteers or any other persons while they are participating in or preparing for a figure skating activity or event conducted under the auspices of U.S. Figure Skating.

## Types of Misconduct:

- Sexual Misconduct
- Physical Misconduct
- Emotional Misconduct
- Bullying, Threats & Harassment
- Hazing
- Willfully Tolerating Misconduct



# SkateSafe Training

## Who needs to be SkateSafe Trained?

- ALL Skaters aged 18+
- ALL Coaches
- Volunteers who would be in close contact with athletes
  - Ex: Room parents during Winter Show, locker room monitors, etc.
- Staff and officials at USFS events
- Synchro Team Personnel

I TAKE THE PLEDGE TO SKATESAFE BY...

SUPPORTING  
— all —  
SKATERS



SkateSafe Policies



Report a Concern



# Parent Q&A

# Board Members

- ▶ President - Jenna Dispenza [president.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:president.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Vice President - Kim McBride [vp.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:vp.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Treasurer - Morgan Novotny [treasurer.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Secretary - Maxwell Christopher [secretary.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Membership Chair - Jackie Bellino [membership.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Test Chair - Julie Kim [test.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:test.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Events Chair - Felicity Lothrop [events.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:events.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Media & Social Chair - Veronika Khokhryakova [media.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:media.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Skate Safe Chair - Krista Rojas [skatesafe.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:skatesafe.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Parent Liaison - Michelle Romonosky [parent.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:parent.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Coaches Liaison - Sandra Strong [coach.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:coach.ssfsc@gmail.com)
- ▶ Collegiate Liaison - Maria Gruszczynski [collegiate.ssfsc@gmail.com](mailto:collegiate.ssfsc@gmail.com)



# SSFSC Website & Entryeze

Website:



Entryeze:





# Club Merchandise

The SSFSC will be working in collaboration with Rinkside Sports to provide club merchandise!

Scan the QR code to be brought directly to the Rinkside link.

