

Ayr Figure Skating Club Newsletter – November 2011

Welcome to all new stepping stone and full club members. We hope you have settled in and are enjoying being part of Ayr Figure Skating Club.

Skaters' news

- Well done to Ellie Holmes who came second in the beginner ladies age 9 competition at the Kent Open on Monday 7th November.
- NISA tests will be held on Saturday 19th November. Good luck to all of the skaters who have entered for tests.
- Big pad ice is available on Friday 25th November. It will cost £4 for 1 hour of free skating plus ½ hour of group class (5.00pm until 6.30pm). Ayr Force will pay the full costs for the last half hour ice and coaching. Sign up at the tuck shop if you want to attend.
- There will be no off ice class on Saturday 10th December as neither the church hall nor the curlers' lounge is available

Christmas Events

- Brush up your routine and enter the Gala on 10th December. We know that Skate UK will put on a display, as will Ayr Force. And for the first time ever the Adult Skate UK class will perform in public! It's an event you cannot miss. Sign up at the tuck shop. The event will run during our normal skating session of 7 – 10.30 am, but the exact starting and finishing time will be determined after all the entries have been received.
- The Christmas party will be held in the curlers' lounge between 6.30 pm and 8.30 pm on the 10th December. If you haven't been to an AFSC party before check out the pictures on the website of last year's party. Great fun was had by all. This is open to all club and Skate UK members.
- Christmas hampers (one for adults and one for children) will be raffled in the weeks running up to Christmas. ***Please hand your donations in at the tuck-shop. We need to have the hampers complete before the Gala event on the 10th December. See the tuck-shop door for details.***

Dates for your diary

Saturday 19 th November	Test Session. No club skating. Off ice class at 11.00am as usual
Friday 25 th November	Big pad ice available. 5 - 6.30pm Free skating and group class for £4
Saturday 3 rd December	Curling weekend. Club skating 7am – 9am wee pad. Off ice class to be arranged
Saturday 10 th December	Morning Gala with coffee & mince pies etc. in the curlers lounge
Saturday 10 th December	Christmas party, 6.30 – 8.30 in the curlers lounge
Tuesday 20 th December	Big pad ice 4 - 8 pm
Thursday 22 nd December	Big pad ice 4 - 8 pm
24 th / 25 th / 26 th	Rink Holiday – no skating
Tuesday 27 th December	Big pad ice 4 - 8 pm
Thursday 28 th December	Big pad ice 4 - 8 pm
31 st Dec, 1 st and 2 nd January	Rink Holiday – no skating

We are trying to get extra big pad ice during the day between Christmas and New Year. Is this something that would interest you? Please let us know if it will be worthwhile.

Safety on the Ice

Parents - would you reverse out onto a busy road without looking? We have had a few close shaves lately as skaters have moved from the barrier onto the rink without looking. This is dangerous for everyone on the ice. Please take time to explain to your child why they must be aware of the other skaters on the ice and reinforce all of our safety rules, especially this one:

Please check out the whereabouts of other skaters before moving off from the barrier.

All members received a copy of the safety rules in October but if you require a replacement there are a few available at the tuck-shop.

Referee's report on the Ayr Open Competition.

We have now received the official report from the referee. She has rated all the factors that we could control as either excellent or very good.

2011 – 2012 Handbook

This is available on the website. Please add your name to the list at the tuck-shop if you want a paper copy. We will get it printed for you as soon as possible.

AFSC Facebook Group

All parents and skaters aged 13 years or over are welcome to join this closed group. It can be the quickest way to be notified about news items and events. Committee meeting minutes have been posted this week.

Membership

At present our membership stands at 42 full club members and 4 Stepping Stone members.

Volunteers

Thanks to the following people who, in addition to their tuck-shop or music duties, have volunteered for specific jobs to help the club run smoothly:

Brian, Joyce, Pat, Susan Y, Anne, Ros, Kevin, Stacey, Maryanne, Elaine, Aileen, Lynsey, Audrey, Hayley, Susan L, Iain, Hugh

Thanks to the tuck-shop troopers:

Alison, Marion, Maureen, Catherine, Alastair, Linda W, Sheena, Margaret, Andrew, Jacquie

Thanks also to those who play the music to allow the skaters to skate their routine:

Alan, Avril, Elizabeth, Helen E

However, we definitely need more people to take their share of tuck-shop and music duties. The rotas are on the tuck-shop door. Please have a look and see when you could offer to help. Neither the tuck shop duties nor the music duties are difficult. If you volunteer to help someone will train you so that you know exactly what to do. The one thing that we ask is that if you volunteer to help at a specific time you must be reliable in turning up at that time, or else find a substitute.

If you can't commit to a certain time each week you could always add you name as a reserve.

And finally

Well done to Elise for coming first in the level 10 ladies at the Kent Open. We wouldn't have a club without our coaches. We are very lucky to have such a talented group of people coaching our skaters.