

Midwest Conference Call September 28, 2007

Marlys Larson, TCFSA Representative

Synchronized Skating Programs:

- Sectional Midwesterns-Pacific Coasts January 30-February 2nd, 2008 - Nashville, Tennessee. The schedule will be posted on-line. It is a two-rink schedule.
- Most non-quals are in the secondary arena due to time and cost of the competition
- All teams will practice on their event's surface.
- On-line registration is mandatory-Team Manager or contact person registers team on their profile.
- Registration opens October 15th, 2007. Registration deadline is December 1st, 2007 deadline.
- Program music must be registered online with title, composer and orchestra. This is the same as for singles and pairs skating.
- Number of officials used at sectionals will be the same as last year.
- Competition will not run simultaneously in both rinks so teams may watch each other.
- 6.0 will be used for non-qualifying events, IJS for all others. The two rinks are in different facilities.
- Concerns have been expressed with the housing company for Nashville; rates are high and cancellation fees are high. Bill Fauver, chair of Sectionals will work with individual teams and their concerns.

Synchronized Skating Bids:

- To host Syncro-Mids- Pacific Coast for 2009 bids are due by October 1, 2007. This can be a profitable Competition making a club \$40,000 to \$60,000 dollars. Also now accepting bids for 2009 Synchro Nationals. This has the same earning potential as Sectionals.
- Dates of Nationals are based on entry deadline for Synchro Worlds. 2008 Dates are February 20th thru 23rd. 2009 dates are February 25th thru 28th. The number of teams at 2007 Mids-Coast Sectionals was 157. 2007 Nationals was 100.
- Seating requirements for Sectionals is 2500. For Nationals 5,000-8,000. Nationals needs one surface with a second surface near by. Sectionals needs 2 ice surfaces.

New Programs:

- New Program: Three beginner synchronized skating levels have been created. These can be integrated into a basic skills competition. The three levels are by age. Rules are not in the rulebook but in the basic skills instruction manual and on line on the Synchro home page.

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Example: Beginner II, ages 9-11, also meets Pre-Juv. requirement for synchro at non-quals.

- USFS has established a Learn-to-Judge Synchro program. The first seminar was held in Anaheim, Ca as a pilot program.
- There will be monitoring of all the top teams at three competitions. The first competition used for monitoring is Saturday November 17th, 2007 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. There is a \$50.00 entry fee that gives the team 20 minutes on ice and an evaluation. Deadline for registration is Oct. 1st, 2007. No late entries will be accepted due to limited space.
- There was a conference call with coaches based on new ISU communication.

Synchronized Skating Camp:

- Next year's Synchro camp is on the East coast at the University of Delaware. There will be a coaches seminar on Friday. Head coaches of all the International envelopes will be there.
- Applications are available in November 2007. Register early, as space is limited to the first 200 skaters. This is for individual skaters; they need not have had synchro experience.
- Coach's cost is \$75.00 for Friday and \$150.00 for full session includes lunches and one dinner. Skater cost \$375.00, which includes lunches and one dinner.

Miscellaneous Item:

- Concerns were expressed about the timing of Sectionals and Nationals. Dann Krueger would like member clubs to express concerns about the timing of Synchro sectional competition around Figure Skating Nationals. Because Single and Pairs Nationals changes dates especially in an Olympic year the timing of Synchro Sectionals and Nationals is affected. These dates need to work backward from Synchro Worlds to allow for timing of airfare purchases. Clubs should make their concerns know as a unit to the USFS Board of Directors.

Board Updates:

- USFS is on target fiscally.
- Ice-Network: Promo material will be sent the 1st week of October to clubs with their promo code for getting the \$5.00 rebate on their club members' registration. Registration will also require a USFS number. This is a clarification from last month's call. As stated last month, the price is \$19.95 with \$5.00 going back to the clubs. Basic Skills Program registrants signing up for Ice Network will get a lower rebate.
- Ice-Network is a wholly owned subsidiary of USFS.

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- 2008 Governing Council will be held in Denver, Colorado
- Send in ideas for topics/seminars to USFS. Suggestions so far:
 - Collegiate/NCAA Status
 - Program Development
 - Parents Committee
 - Athlete Programs
 - Ice- Network
- Nominating committee meets Sunday, October 1st. Closing date on nominations is December 31, 2007
- Nationals 2008 – single tickets go on sale October 12, 2007.

Statistics - Singles, Pairs and Dance:

<u>Regional Registrations</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
UGL Intermediate Ladies	92	110
Novice Ladies	41	38
Junior Ladies	37	22
Senior Ladies	26	19
Total Ladies entered	267	249
Men	40	44
(Increase was in Novice & Juvenile)		
EGL Juvenile Ladies	62	71
Juvenile boys	10	6
Total boys	43	37
Total Ladies	288	260
SW Men	34	39
Juvenile Ladies	70	61
Total Ladies	263	229

The next Midwest Conference Call is Thursday October 25, 2007

Twin City Figure Skating Association Agenda

October 8, 2007

1. Call to Order Lubratt
2. Roll Call Schmidt
3. Quorum Lubratt
4. Secretary' s Report Schmidt
5. Treasurer' s Report Kaufmann
6. Open Forum Lubratt
 1. 100 Day Event Lubratt
7. Committee Reports
 1. Midwest VP Call Larson
 2. Rink Link Kastner
 3. Consolidated Testing
 - a. Moves/Freeskate Lambert
 - b. Dance Lubratt
 4. Membership Larson
 5. Finance Kaufmann
 6. Internet Committee Schmidt
8. Continuing Business
 1. Calendar Lambert
 2. 2008 Nationals Lubratt
 3. Champion for Skating Lubratt
 4. MN State Farris
 5. Officials Dinner Ingraham
 6. November "Club Presidents" Meeting Lubratt
9. New Business Lubratt
10. Adjournment

Twin City Figure Skating Association
MINUTES
Monday, September 10, 2007, 7:00 pm
Breck Arena

Braemar City of the Lakes Figure Skating Club	Doris Johnson
Brooklyn Park Figure Skating Club	Mike Itzin, James Kjorsvig
Burnsville-MN Valley Figure Skating Club	Paula Nelson, Elizabeth Harty
Chaska Figure Skating Club	Margo Ingraham, Barb Houts-Swanson
Eagan Ice Crystal Figure Skating Club	Colleen Hoffman
Eden Prairie Figure Skating Club	Joan Murphy, Lorri Steen
Elk River Figure Skating Club	
Figure Skating Club of Bloomington	Gigi Farris, Nancy Burke
Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis	Georgeann Vogel Marion Curry
Lake Minnetonka Figure Skating Club	Julie Knapp
Mankato Figure Skating Club	Candace Mortenson-Klimpel
Maplewood Figure Skating Club	James Drury
Northern Blades NSC Figure Skating Club	
Rochester Figure Skating Club	Caryl Geschwind
Roseville Figure Skating Club	Cathy Taylor-Sharp
St. Cloud Figure Skating Club	Patty Yarbrough
St. Paul Figure Skating Club	Carolyn Marker
Starlight Dance Club	Janae Williams
Tri County Figure Skating Club	Diane House
Woodbury Figure Skating Club	Barb Johnson, Deb LeCuyer

Members at Large Attending:

Lynda Lubratt, President	Nancy Kaufmann, Treasurer
Marlys Larson, Vice President	Wally Gelecinskyj
Kelli Glaublitz	
Kathy Lambert	

Also in Attendance:

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Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Roll taken and quorum declared.

Secretary's Report: Motion made & seconded to approve the minutes.

Treasurer Report: Motion made & seconded to approve the minutes.

Open Forum:

- **Minnesota State Fair** - Was a great event. Several member clubs participated. Skaters had one practice on the small sheet of ice the day before the event. This turned out to be a great promotional event for Nationals. The big attraction was having Emily Hughes, Nancy Kerrigan and Elliot Halverson and the fact that skaters were skating outside in August. An article about the event will be in the next Rink Link.

Carolyn Marker asked if there is a way to do this each year at the State Fair. One drawback would be the cost. The fair was working in cooperation this year with Xcel, US Figure Skating and TCFSA. We paid a reduced rate, \$25,000, and this might not be applicable next year.

Elizabeth Harty reported that 700 packages for Nationals were sold at the Fair. Interest was very high. The Media exposure they received for this day would have cost \$250K. Everyone was very happy with this event.

- **Photo Wall** - Photo wall was started 8/25/07 and will be set up around the perimeter of the arena. Pictures, no larger than 5 x 7, can be submitted from member clubs to Lynda Lubratt. They will not be returned. More information will be noted about the Photo Wall in the next Rink Link.

Committee Reports:

- **Finance Committee** - Approved the purchase of IJS Mini System. The process will begin to purchase the package. There will be a limited access to who will be transporting the system and rental fee charged to clubs for the use of the system.

Time frame to receive the system is scheduled for the first of the year. There will be training sessions scheduled for the officials on how to use the system.

- **Rink Link** - Deadline is the end of September. Will be out the end of October.
- **Testing** - Next scheduled consolidated test is scheduled for October 9th from 5:30 - 8:30 pm at Breck Ice Arena. A Dance Session will be at Maplewood on September 20th at 5:00 pm. St Cloud will be having a Dance Test Session at their competition in November.
- **Calendar** - The latest calendar is not out on the web yet but will be shortly. Note that there are several days that have multiple tests scheduled for the same day.
- **Membership** - All but one club has submitted their commitment forms. In the future the forms will be handed out at the May meeting and should be returned as soon as possible.

Mankato Kelli Glaublitz was voted in as a member at large.

- **Midwest VP Call** - Refer to minutes that were emailed. One item of interest to the clubs, Ice Network Subscription cost is \$19.95 and if you use your club code number, your club will receive \$5.00.
- **Finance** - Met last week. \$4,000.00 is to be presented to Herb Morganthaler for the Minnesota Skating Scholarship. TCFSA also made an additional contribution in memory of Lynda Lybratt's mother.

Two orders have been received for "Wonders on Ice". Order forms will be available at the Officials Dinner. For additional forms, contact Nancy.

- **Internet Committee** - No report

Continuing Business:

- **2008 Nationals** - The \$199 Packages (4 events on 3 days) are really selling well. People have already been notified where they will be seated. Another promotional event will possibly be held in either October or November.

Dorothy Hamill will be having a book signing at the Mall of America and they might try to tie this to Nationals.

Still need volunteers. Everything will be handled online from volunteer sign-up, scheduling. Communications will be via email. Volunteers will be contacted in the next couple months by the committee heads. Volunteer

training will is scheduled for Sunday January 6th and Tuesday January 8th at the Crown Plaza in St Paul. You will meet the committee chairs and get your uniforms. Volunteers will have to come back a second time to the Crown Plaza for their credentials.

US Figure Skating is very impressed with the response Minnesota gave Nationals at the State Fair.

- **Champion for Skating** - The Champion for Skating award committee has selected a very deserving winner and it will be announced at the Officials Dinner.
- **MN State** - 200 Skaters and 8 scratches. There was a profit of \$408.00 and they are still receiving some receipts. Lynda thanked Bloomington for all their work over the past two years.
- **Officials Dinner** - Plans are all in place. 140 people are expected to be in attendance.

A request was made to look into giving a reduced rate for Team Championship Trophy winners for future dinners. While TCFSA can appreciate the expense, it simply is not able to accommodate the request for that many skaters and would hope the individual clubs could do so.

- **October "Club Presidents" Meeting** - Club Presidents are invited to attend October's meeting. It was suggested to try and make the meeting educational for the presidents by asking them what issues they would like to discuss.

There was a Club Presidents forum at Governing Counsel. There was a lot of good information shared during this forum. Elizabeth Harty will send this information to Lynda for possible ideas of topics to be discussed at the October meeting.

New Business:

- Wally Gelecinskyj wants TCFSA to have a committee to discuss the running of MN State and what it takes to run the competition. The committee could go and review and help people with the logistics etc. necessary to run MN State. This committee would also be involved in the selection of the club to host the competition.

According to TCFSA policy, clubs make bids to host the competition and this is reviewed by the Executive Committee. There is a complete policy presently in place and the Executive Committee is conducting a review of MN State.

It was suggested that the MN State policy be reviewed and to see how to become more inclusive in allowing a committee to look at the site and be involved in the selection process.

We need to think outside of the box and remember that the new IJS system will be in place.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.