

BASICS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

What is the Basic Skills program?

Our Basic Skills program is compiled and organized by the US Figure Skating Association. Our carefully planned levels allow the beginning skater to feel comfortable on the ice while learning correct skating technique. We offer classes from October through March at the ice rink on the SUNY Geneseo Campus. Our Learn to Skate program offers group classes for preschool children, basic skating, figure skating, and adults. Everyone from 4 ♦ to 99 can enjoy the health benefits skating has to offer. Skaters will improve their physical and mental health, self-esteem, and self-confidence. Ice Skating develops good posture and motor coordination. It's a wonderful way for children and adults to have fun and stay fit.

How long is the class?

Classes are 20 minutes long and consist of 20 minutes of instruction and 40 minutes of supervised practice time. Generally, beginner skaters will have their lesson during the first 60 minutes followed or preceded by practice while higher level skaters will have their lesson in the last 60 minutes.

Who teaches the class?

An experienced and highly qualified professional ice skating instructor. At times, they are assisted by a Junior Club coach when needed.

What age does the program start at? End at?

We take children starting at 4. This restriction is not due to ability but is because of readiness. The child needs to be able to be on the ice without a parent, be able to pay attention in class and so forth. The program runs under the guidelines of US Figure Skating and therefore, we must strictly enforce this. Group skating lessons in this program are offered to adults of all ages.

Does your program take beginner skaters that have never skated before?

Of course we do! We're here to teach you to skate, and all levels of skaters are welcome.

Can I/Do I skate with my child?

No. No parent or sibling is allowed on the ice. You should, however, stay at the rink during the class in case of emergency.

What is the difference between Snowplow Sam and Basic 1 through 8? If my child is 4 or 5 and is eligible to skate in either as far as age is concerned, which one should I put him/her in?

There really isn't much of a difference in skills. Snowplow Sam is more geared towards preschool age, however, if your child is 4 or 5 where they are eligible to skate in either program, it is up to you which one you choose.

REGISTRATION

How do I register?

You can download registration forms and mail them to the address on the information sheets or sign up at our Registration Night which will be posted at www.scfl.info .

When is payment due? What payment methods are accepted?

Payment is due in full at the time of registration.

- If mailing in your application, please send a check or money order.
- If applying in person at the club office, you may pay with check, money order, cash.

How much does it cost?

Costs vary by season. Typically, fall and winter are 10 weeks each. Please refer to the current application for rates.

There is a discount for having multiple children enrolled.

Do I need to write a separate check for each skater?

No, you can write one check for all of the applications you are submitting.

How do I know what session to choose when I don't know what level the skater is?.

If your child has no formal skating lessons, please check badge 1. Once they can demonstrate the necessary skills to move on, they will do so accordingly. If they have previous lessons elsewhere or you are unsure, leave the level blank and write a comment so that we can determine the level. If your child was previously enrolled in the program, please check the next level up from what was previously completed.

My kids are several years apart and yet I can sign them up for the same session?

Will they be skating together? My child wants to skate with kids his/her own age.

Every effort is made to put the skaters into groups according to their age and level. The groups

are typically around 6-8 skaters.

Can I request a specific instructor? Can I request that my child be placed in the same group with someone specific?

Unfortunately, due to the volume of participants in the program, we are unable to accommodate these types of requests.

We were previously enrolled. Do I still need to apply?

Whether you've been in the program or not, the application process is the same. Your enrollment is not automatically renewed and you will still need to submit a completed application with payment.

Will I receive a confirmation?

Online applications will receive an email confirmation. If you submit a paper application and provided an email address, you will receive an email confirmation. Please be sure that your email address is legible. If you do not provide an email address, you will not receive a confirmation.

Do people currently enrolled get first "dibs" on next season?

If we have your email address, we will send you the application via email as soon as it is available. This means that you will be among the first to know that you can begin registering for the upcoming season. Applications are taken on a first come first served basis so it is recommended that you register as early as possible.

Do I need to provide an email address on my application?

It is certainly not a requirement, however, doing so will allow us to provide a confirmation of your registration and provide other important information about your class. We will use your email address to advise you that registration has begun for upcoming seasons. We will not share your information with anyone.

GETTING PREPARED FOR CLASSES

What should the skater wear?

Helmets are not required, but strongly recommended. We advise you to consider whether a well fitting helmet is appropriate for your child. A bike helmet will work just fine. No double runners (double bladed skates) are allowed. Skaters should dress in layers; sweaters, sweatshirts, jogging pants or fleece pants. Gloves are a must. We DO NOT recommend that skaters wear elbow pads, knee pads or snow pants. All of these are too bulky and restrict movement.

Do I have to have my own skates?

Yes, you must provide your own skates. The rink does not provide rental skates at this time. There will be a skate swap at registration night.

Where can I get skates? What is your recommendation on skates?

If you wish to purchase skates, we recommend Dick's Sporting Goods. They sell basic figure skates in the \$40 - \$70 range. If you are looking for a higher quality skate, contact Dale Pensgen in Fairport at skatehaus@yahoo.com . He is a highly qualified Skate Distributor and fitter.

What happens after we are registered? Do we just show up on the first day? Where do we go?

Please plan on arriving about 30 minutes **before** the start time for the first week of class. Once you are acquainted, you may not need to arrive as early. You will check in downstairs on the first floor at the door of the rink, get a name tag and find out where to go.

Where should parents go during the class?

Parents should take advantage of the seating around the rink. At no time during class should parents be in the hockey boxes or near the door where skaters are coming on and off the ice. During both the lesson and the practice time, it is imperative that parents allow their children to participate without being distracted. Parents should not enter the ice or be up against the glass. Not only does it detract from the time on the ice but it can also pose a danger for the child because they can lose focus.

AFTER ENROLLMENT

We are going to have to miss a session. Can we make it up?

Due to the volume of people in the program, we are unable to do make up sessions. It is especially important that you attend the first day since this is when group assignments are made.

We originally signed up for one class but need to switch to another for the remainder of the season. Can we do that?

Maybe. Switches are based on availability in the class and are processed at the discretion of the program director. Please email cheryltrelly@hotmail.com with your request.

If my kids don't like it or we need to withdraw for any reason, can I get a refund?

If you feel like your child is hesitant at the first class, it is a good idea to discuss with your child's instructor and/or the director.

In order to get a refund you must notify the office in writing by mail or email to

mcleans@geneseo.edu right away. If we receive your notification prior to the first class beginning, you will receive a full refund minus the USFS membership fee. If we receive your notification after the first class but before the second, you will receive a full refund minus the USFS membership fee and minus the cost of one class. After this point, no refunds will be given.

You will receive your refund by check within a few weeks.

We cannot transfer payment to another season if for some reason you are not able to attend the season you registered for.

Are classes ever cancelled due to inclement weather or other reason?

Typically, we do not cancel our classes unless the rink closes which does not usually happen unless there is a power failure. In a situation of bad weather, please check your email that morning before heading to the rink.

What if we are interested in taking Private Lessons?

Private lessons offer skaters the opportunity to work one on one with a coach and allows them to master skills more quickly. It will help the skater complete the class program faster and with greater proficiency and teach them more advanced skills not taught in the group lessons. If you are interested in giving private lessons a try, please contact our Director of Skating, [Cheryl Trely](#) at cheryltrely@hotmail.com or by phone 585-703-1515.

Who can I contact if I have further questions?

Please contact the President, Sarah McLean at mcleans@geneseo.edu or head coach, Cheryl Trely at cheryltrely@hotmail.com .