

# SKATER'S EDGE

Saskatoon Lion's Speed Skating Club



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November 2008 Newsletter

SASKATOON LION'S SPEED SKATING CLUB

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Saskatchewan Amateur Speed Skating Association(SASSA)

Website [www.saskspeedskating.ca](http://www.saskspeedskating.ca) e-mail [sassa@sasktel.net](mailto:sassa@sasktel.net)

## SLSSC Executive 2008-2009

President	Duane Jungwirth	477-5960	<a href="mailto:keldua@sasktel.net">keldua@sasktel.net</a>
Vice-President	Vacant		
Finance	Jeff Wheler	244-6393	<a href="mailto:jeffwheler@sasktel.net">jeffwheler@sasktel.net</a>
Administration	Maria Fortugno	975-0309	<a href="mailto:mediationworks@sasktel.net">mediationworks@sasktel.net</a>
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Competitions	Boyd Plaxton	668-6958	<a href="mailto:b.plaxton@quorex.ca">b.plaxton@quorex.ca</a>
Facilities/Equipment	Doug Morin	477-0183	<a href="mailto:dougmorin@sasktel.net">dougmorin@sasktel.net</a>
Fundraising	Fritz Schumann	664-6832	<a href="mailto:fritz.schumann@sasktel.net">fritz.schumann@sasktel.net</a>
Membership	Rick/Dianne Marsh	343-7993	<a href="mailto:rmartians@shaw.ca">rmartians@shaw.ca</a>
Volunteers	Carl Waterer	374-5973	<a href="mailto:koko.waterer@sasktel.net">koko.waterer@sasktel.net</a>
Promotions	Vacant		
News Letter Editor	Monica Brunet	934-6551	<a href="mailto:monica@clarencecampeau.com">monica@clarencecampeau.com</a>

If you have questions or require information regarding SLSSC, please contact any executive members as listed. We will be happy to assist you as required.

## **Group Managers:**

Group Managers are SLSSC contact persons for each of our four skating groups. Please note this year's Group Managers.

Group 1	Doug, Shawna McLaughlin.	955-0039	<a href="mailto:dougmclaughlin@sasktel.net">dougmclaughlin@sasktel.net</a>
Group 2	Lana Linton.	382-0284	<a href="mailto:lintongirls@sasktel.net">lintongirls@sasktel.net</a>
Group 3	Glenna, Shawn Pellerin	931-7145	<a href="mailto:glenna.pellerin@sasktel.net">glenna.pellerin@sasktel.net</a>
Group 4	Morna, Jim Greuel.	665-6227	<a href="mailto:morna.greuel@sasktel.net">morna.greuel@sasktel.net</a>

Thank you, Group Managers for your support and volunteer time!



## **President's Message**

Here we go again - the 2008-2009 season is well under way! I would like to welcome all the returning skaters back and to our new skaters, I hope you all enjoy the sport. Thank you to the new Executive as without our volunteer board, the club would not function. Our volunteer coaches are key to our skaters success and enjoyment in the sport. Throughout the season we will need many volunteers and we hope that everyone will have the opportunity to learn something new about the sport.

The mini meet on October 25th was a great success, the skaters had lots of fun and many personal bests. We hope for a speedy recovery for Pieter Stoffel and Brandon Spink!

I am looking forward to a successful long track season at the Oval with good weather, great ice and having a Zamboni. Saskatchewan is hosting Long Track Canadian Championships in Regina in February. Our club will be sending the majority of skaters representing our province. The success of our long track meet on January 24 & 25 will be a great time to showcase our skaters abilities. Anyone who has contacts for sponsorships for our meets please let Jeff Wheler know.

Have a great season - skate fast and turn left!

Duane Jungwirth

President, SLSSC

## **Membership Development**

Welcome all new members and former members. Thank you for registering and best wishes for an exciting and enjoyable skating season. We are happy to announce that we have had very successful registrations take place for our two programs to date. For the September Short Learn to Skate class we had 17 young skaters enroll. We received very positive feedback for our coaching and coaching assistants. Thank you to those older skaters who helped Carol Ann out on the ice for SLTS. For our regular fall and winter programs there are currently 84 skaters registered. We expect to sign up a few new members between now and January and so this number will certainly rise. It is the time of year to “spread the word”, it is not too late to register your child’s friend or anyone interested in skating. We will be hosting another Short Learn to Skate Program in January, so if you know of any interested parties, they will see information closer to the date in the City of Saskatoon Winter Leisure Guide.

Lastly, we would like to thank all club members who came out to help at our two registration nights at the Oval. Everything went very smoothly, thanks for all your help.

Have a great season. We hope your family enjoys our program. If you ever have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dianne and Rick Marsh

## **Director of Volunteers Message**

Greetings past SLSSC members and welcome new members to our club!

I hope this new season of skating practices, meets and friendships, on and off the ice, prove to be enjoyable and positive experiences for all concerned.

Thank you to all volunteers who have already participated in this year's activities. It is your volunteering that allows us to provide our young skaters the program that is offered and keep our membership costs down.

At this point in time, there are still two vacancies on our executive. These are Promotions Director and Vice President. If you would like to become involved on SLSSC's executive or would like information as to what these two positions involve, please feel free to contact me.

Again, thank you for volunteering and assisting to make our club a success, since 1942.

## **Mini-Meet**

As most of you are aware, SLSSC's Mini-Meet format changed this season. Our purpose in organizing this event is to give all skaters a chance to race and practice their skills in preparation for the start of the season. For some of the younger skaters and their families, this meet offered the opportunity to perhaps race for the first time and find out what's involved in a speed skating competition. Participation is voluntary and having "Fun" for all who took part was a priority.

From all reports to me, the meet was a success and enjoyed by those involved.

Thank you very much to those who helped with the meet as volunteers. These include:

-Morley Bruce, a nationally recognized meet referee, offered his expertise.

Also, Stacey Berg who has many years experience as a club volunteer also helped officiate.

-All parents who helped officiate, administrate, and take care of details as required.

-Coaches who assisted in taking care of their skaters and making sure the opportunity to race was enjoyable and positive. Your participation and leadership is very, very important to the success of our club.

- And Thank You to our Group 4 skaters who helped as officials and timers for our younger skaters. Your participation was greatly appreciated and you did an excellent job. Congratulations!! Thank you Sandy Nase Group 4 Coach, for organizing the Group 4's and getting them involved as volunteers.

If you have comments regarding the Mini-Meet and it's format, please pass these on to members of SLSSC Executive. We look forward to your input.

Sincerely,  
Carl Waterer

## **For your information – Mat Installation**

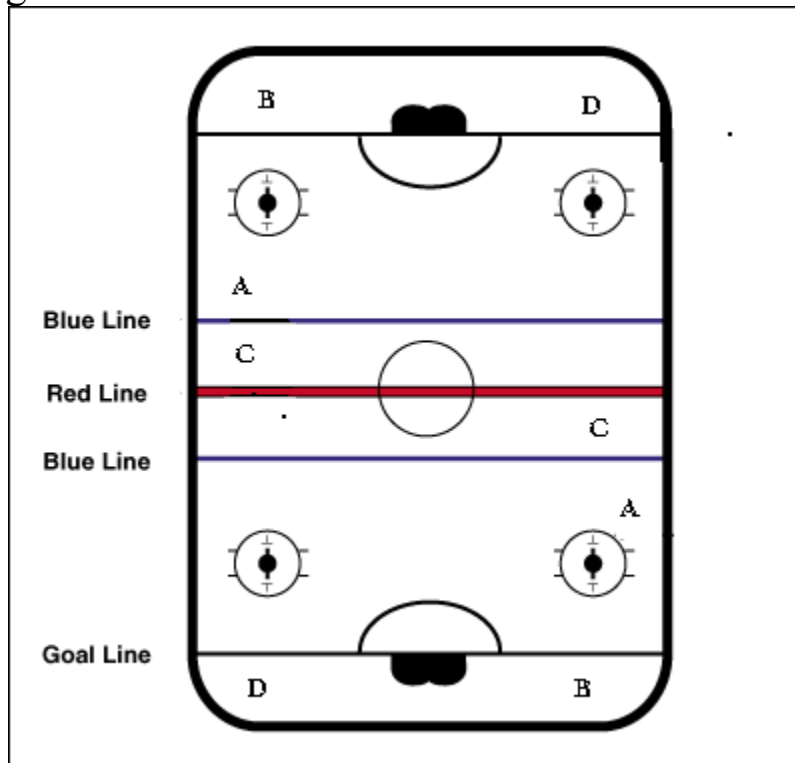
The mats are required for the safety of the skaters. The following information is intended to provide an explanation as to how to set the mats up and how to remove them.

At Lions Arena, there are 5 carts full of mats. Four are at the south east (Zamboni) end of the rink, which are moved onto the ice, and the fifth is at the south west (score clock) end of the rink. The mats on the south west cart are thrown over the glass.

**Note: The mats kept at the south west end of the rink are not as heavy as the mats that are loaded on to the carts. This makes it easier to throw these mats over the boards. These mats are slightly different in color. Please try to ensure these mats are returned to this corner when the mats are removed from the ice.**

When installing the mats, please keep in mind that the Velcro flaps on the front of the mats must go in the same direction as the skaters skate. This prevents the flaps on the mats from possibly catching on the skaters if they get close to the mats.

There should be between 26 and 29 mats that get installed at each end of the rink. Please refer to the diagram below for the installation of these mats.



Start at point **A** on the Blue Line. Install mats from point **A** clockwise to point **B** at the Goal Line, then install 2 additional mats. This should take 8 or 9 mats. Note that when you install the mats, the Velcro flap on your left should be away from the boards, the Velcro flap on the right should be against the boards. This will keep the outside flaps on the mats going in the same direction as the skaters.

Start at point **C** at the Red Line. Install mats from point **C** clockwise to point **D** at the goal line. This should take 18 to 20 mats. Note that the mats installed from point **C** to point **D** will be in front of the mats installed from points **A** to **B**. This provides additional padding in the corners. The bungee cords are they used to hold the mats in place against

the boards. The bungee cords are stored in the white storage cabinet near the mat storage area on the south east side of the rink.

The mats that are kept in the south west corner of the rink should be used first to provide the mats from point **A** to point **B** on the west (score clock) side of the rink.

When loading the mats back onto the carts, please ensure that all flaps are going the same direction. This makes it much easier for those setting up the mats next time, as they don't have to flip the mats to get them all going in the same direction. When rolling the carts off the ice, please make sure to lift the wheels up over the lip back onto the concrete, and try not to get the wheels caught in cracks in the cement.

Several parents have purchased rubber ice grippers that slip over your shoes. These provide much better footing on the ice. The more people that can help out with the set up and take down of these mats, the quicker it will go, and the more ice time the skaters will get. Please plan to help out with this whenever possible.



### **New Provincial Coach Hired**

As you may know, our province has hired a new provincial speed skating coach, Bryan McSorley. Welcome, Bryan. SLSSC is looking forward to having you become involved with our program. Best wishes while working with coaches and skaters throughout the province.

More information will be coming out re: Bryan in the future.

### **Upcoming Meets:**

Please note the Saskatchewan Speed Skating Association (SASSA) website. This can be

found at [www.saskspeedskating.ca](http://www.saskspeedskating.ca) or SASSA. On the website, you will find notices, meet schedules and information, meet results, etc. related to provincial speed skating events.

### **Schedule of Local Meets:**

Date	Competition	Type	Location
Nov. 8-9	Fall Classic (Sask Cup I)	Short Track	Regina
Nov. 29-30	Sask Cup II	Short Track	Melville
Jan. 9-11	Red Deer LT	Long Track	Red Deer, AB
Jan. 17-18	Sask Cup I	Long Track	Regina
Jan. 24-25	Western Regional LT (Sask Cup II)	Long Track	Saskatoon
Jan. 30 - Feb. 1	Sask Provincial LT (Sask Cup III)	Long Track	Moose Jaw
Feb. 14-15	Canadian Age Class Championships	Long Track	Regina
Feb. 28	Sask Cup III	Short Track	Prince Albert
Mar. 7-8	Sask Provincial ST	Short Track	Moose Jaw
Mar. 14-15	Western Regional ST (Sask Cup IV)	Short Track	Saskatoon

### **Upcoming events:**

Christmas Pot Luck

Date to be determined



## **Classifieds:**

### **For Sale**

We have 2 skinsuits for skaters under 5' tall - \$25 each.

Kellie Grant & Duane Jungwirth 477-1560

If you have any items you would like to advertise to the club members please send your ad.

## **Skater Stories:**

Hi Parents and Skaters,

I would like to introduce “Skater Stories” to our news letter this year. The point of this is to get our skaters more involved as they are the future of this club – right?

I would like a submissions from each group with either a funny story, congratulatory messages or photos taken at practices or meets - something they would like to share.

I would encourage that our skaters receive this new letter as well as another means of being involved. So if your skater or skaters are not currently receiving this letter by e-mail could you provide their e-mail address to be added to the group. You can send it to me and I will forward it on.

Thanks and see you and the rink!

Monica Brunet

[monica@clarencecampeau.com](mailto:monica@clarencecampeau.com)

If you happen to notice a new family at the rink....take the time to say “Hi” and introduce yourself...remember what it is like to be new to the club....it can be overwhelming 😊

To those of you who are new to our club....don't be afraid to ask questions...I still do!!😊