

Clubs Matter - Summer 2010

NEW Introductory Membership available after July 1, 2010



U.S. Figure Skating has added a new category of full membership available to first-time full members at a discounted rate of \$25 (second and subsequent members are \$15). This membership is available only through a member club. Introductory membership carries the same privileges as a full member, including a subscription to SKATING magazine and all testing and competition rights. Please utilize this new membership category to welcome new skaters into your club.

Directors and Officers Insurance for Figure Skating Club Boards:

Directors and Officers Liability (D&O) provides protection for the club for allegations of "bad decisions" or "wrongful acts." The general liability coverage offered to the clubs through U.S. Figure Skating provides coverage for allegations of negligence which result in property damage or bodily injury. The strongest argument for purchasing D&O coverage rests with the costs to defend these actions. It becomes a prudent decision for the figure skating club to protect itself, its volunteers and its assets to the best of its ability. Think about it – you purchase automobile insurance and homeowners insurance to provide protection for you and your family; D&O provides protection for your club and your volunteers' personal assets. For more information about D & O coverage for your club, visit <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Clubs.asp?id=238>.



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Important Tax Message to All Nonprofit Figure Skating Clubs

Automatic revocation for not filing annual return or notice has begun after this year's May 17 filing deadline. Make sure your club is compliant! The IRS will begin revoking the tax-exempt status of nonprofits required to file an annual return (Form 990-N, 990-EZ, 990, or 990-PF) that have failed to do so for three consecutive years.



Most tax-exempt organizations must file a yearly return or notice with the IRS. If an organization does not file as required for three consecutive years, the law stipulates that it automatically loses its tax-exempt status. Loss of exempt status means an organization must file income tax returns and pay income tax, and its contributors will not be able to deduct their donations.

Small organizations with revenues of \$25,000 or less are particularly vulnerable, since, before 2008, they were not required to submit annual filings to the IRS, and they may not be aware of the requirement. For more information on what must be filed to avoid automatic revocation of tax-exempt status, visit www.guidestar.org or www.irs.gov.

Club Zone – Feature Club/Program Story Ideas

Did your club recently hold a unique (and successful!) fundraiser? Is there a skater at your club who has overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles? Does one of your instructors have unconventional – but effective – teaching techniques? We want to hear about them. Send in your story ideas, and maybe your club or program will be featured in U.S. Figure Skating's "Club Spotlight" on usfigureskating.org.

Contact:
Mickey Brown,
mbrown@usfigureskating.org

'Welcome to U.S. Figure Skating' DVD available

U.S. Figure Skating has produced a four-minute informational video promoting the organization and its many functions. We encourage you to show this video in your lobby during lesson times, as an introduction at parent meetings or any other well-attended opportunity to promote figure skating. To order your free copy, send an e-mail with your mailing address to swehrli@usfigureskating.org. Limit one copy per club/program only.



Staying Current – To find all forms, please visit <http://www.usfigureskating.org/about.asp?id=248>

Please keep all your club information current with U.S. Figure Skating!

This includes:

- ✓ Club Officer Update Form – Any time an officer changes during the year, please send an update.
- ✓ Facility Usage Form
- ✓ Bylaws – Every time you make a change or update, send a copy of your updated bylaws to U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters along with a copy of the minutes from the meeting in which they were voted on.
- ✓ Member's contact information – especially e-mail addresses