



# Northern Ice Skating Club



## NORTHERN EXPOSURE

### President's Corner

July 2004

Welcome to a new membership year with Northern Ice SC and USFSA. We are so pleased to have each and every one of you with us this year.

Northern Ice will be hosting a Critique Session with Will Smith, Midwestern Vice-President of USFSA on Aug 7, at Darien Sportsplex. I apologize for the late notice, but some of the details of some of our August events were only firmed up recently. You need to respond ASAP to this event. I highly recommend that all skaters take advantage of this excellent opportunity. (See Will Smith Critique)

We have scheduled 2 Program Practices, one on Aug 18, at Oak Lawn Ice Arena before the DuPage Open and the other tentatively scheduled for September 6, at Rocket Ice Arena before Wagon Wheel. These are great chances to skate that program on full ice for a crowd.

Of course, we have our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Regional Exhibition and Send-Off Party on August 28, at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. All of our Regional Competitors will be invited to perform. It will be a great evening of skating followed by a fun party. We really hope all of you will be able to join us for this excellent opportunity to see the Northern Ice Regional Team skate and to get together with your board and fellow club members. Watch your mail for party invites soon.

We are offering our first ever New Parent Orientation on Aug 18, immediately before our Program Practice. We invite all of our new members and parents to meet the board and learn more about Northern Ice and USFSA. Even if you are not new to Northern, you are still invited to join us to meet the board members and find out more about Northern Ice.

We would also like to encourage all of you to check the website frequently. There is up to the minute news on competition announcements, results, test news and schedules.--Plus, hear about some of your fellow club members.

Finally, Regionals forms are out. They are available on the USFSA Website at [www.usfsa.org](http://www.usfsa.org). If you need a copy sent to you, or if you are competing Non-Qualifying and need a form signed, don't hesitate to contact me at [lynn@northernice.org](mailto:lynn@northernice.org) or any of the board members.

Hope to see you all at one of our upcoming events.

Happy Skating-

### Will Smith Critique

Will Smith, of Tulsa FSC, will be coming in to do critiques for Northern Ice members on Aug 7. Will is a World Judge and International Singles/Pairs referee who has judged many National and International competitions. He also served as Mid-Western Vice President of USFSA for the past 3 years. It is a wonderful opportunity for Northern Ice members to get the benefit of his experience.

We will be hosting this critique at Darien Sportsplex on Aug 7 from 9-2. This critique is open to club members only and will cost \$15.00 per skater to help defray some of the cost of his visit. Northern Ice will pay all ice time expenses.

Skaters will be asked to perform their competitive or test program. Will plans to talk with each skater and coach individually after he or she has skated. All skaters must have a coach present. If your coach cannot attend, please ask your coach to arrange for another coach to appear with you. Any skater who does not have a coach present will not be able to meet with Will. Parents will be able to watch the skaters, but will not be able to attend their skater's individual critique.

If you are interested in participating you must contact Lynn Balaskas by Aug 3, either by email [lynn@northernice.org](mailto:lynn@northernice.org) or phone (708) 349-9854. You need to include skater's name, level, type (short/ FS/ etc.) of program, and coach's name. A schedule will be posted on our club website and at Darien Sportsplex and Oak Lawn Ice Arena by Aug 4.

Please respond ASAP as we only have space for a limited number of skaters. Fees must be paid at the critique prior to skating.

We highly suggest all of our skaters take advantage of this excellent opportunity.

## [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org)

The most current and up to date information, forms, etc are available on our website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org). Please check often as we include updates of test schedules and competition announcements and results. We also have email addresses for all board members on our website.

### Membership News

Your 2003-2004 membership expired June 30. We began the 2004-2005 season July 1. If you have not renewed this will be your last newsletter. You will not be able to test or compete until your membership is current. Contact Pegg Hislop at [pegg@northernice.org](mailto:pegg@northernice.org) for information or if you have questions.

### Test News

Our next test session is scheduled for Aug 17 at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. We are offering Singles/Pairs and Dance tests. We have our standard test form on our website and have enclosed one with this newsletter that can be used for any test session.

Forms for this test session are to be mailed to Odys Stamos at 9174 Greencastle, Orland Park, IL 60462 and must be postmarked by July 31. The test schedule will be posted on the website and sent to Oak Lawn, Darien, Rocket, Seven Bridges and Fox Valley. We will not be mailing out individual schedules.

After August, our next test session is tentatively scheduled for November 11, at Rocket Ice Arena. Forms will be due by Oct 21, to Pegg Hislop, 1061 Augustana Avenue, Naperville, IL 60565.

USFSA will no longer be listing test passed in Skating Magazine. Test passed information has been moved to the USFSA website at [www.usfsa.org](http://www.usfsa.org). We will also no longer be including tests passed in our newsletter, however, we do have test congratulations on our website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org).

## Regional Exhibition and Send-Off Party

We will host our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Regional Exhibition and Send-Off Party on August 28, from 5-6:30 at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. The exhibition is open to all competitors participating in 2005 Regionals in Cedar Rapids. Interested skaters must return the enclosed form by August 10, in order to be included. Party invitations and details will go out to all members soon. So watch your mailbox. Check the website [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org) for up to the minute information on this annual event.

## New Parent Orientation

We will be offering a New Parent Orientation on August 18, at 3:30 before our program practice at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. This will be an opportunity to meet the board members and ask any questions you might have. We will cover procedures and policies for competitions and test sessions and other information interesting to parents new to USFSA or just new to Northern Ice. Even if you are not new but feel like you would like more info on USFSA or Northern Ice please feel free to attend. This seminar is open to all members and their parents and any prospective members/parents. We look forward to the opportunity to meet all of you. Hope to see you there.

## Program Practice

We are offering a Program Practice before the DuPage Open on August 18, from 5-6:30 at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. Competition conditions will be simulated including warm-ups with skaters of the same level and an announcer. Skaters should wear competition attire and arrive at the rink at least ½ hour prior to scheduled time. The cost will be \$5.00 for Northern Ice members and \$10.00 for non-members. Priority will be given to club members based on first come-first served.

Interested skaters must contact Lynn Balaskas by email at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org) or phone (708)349-9854 by Aug 8. Schedules will be posted on our website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org) and at Oak Lawn Ice Arena by August 10. Fees must be paid before skaters can take the ice.

We plan to offer Program Practice ice before Greater Chicagoland Fall Invitational (Wagon Wheel) in Septemeber. Watch the website for details.

# Starfire News

Northern Ice is pleased to announce that Starfire now has 2 Synchronized Skating teams representing us this season - - Youth Introductory and Teen Introductory.

On August 21, 7:30-12:00 Starfire will host a Boot Camp for current and prospective members at Rocket Ice Arena. They will schedule tryouts for additional members in August upon request. Anyone interested in seeing what a USFSA Synchro team is all about can go to any Saturday morning practice at Rocket Ice Arena to skate with the team with no charge. Anyone who is interested in Starfire should contact Sharee Decosola at 630-679-1700 or Maureen Cummings at [mgreyes@uic.edu](mailto:mgreyes@uic.edu). Keep checking the Starfire website for updates and to follow the Starfire progress at [www.starfiresynchro.org](http://www.starfiresynchro.org).

**Go Starfire!!!**

## Northern Ice Skaters Train at the World Arena

NISC member-coach, Kathy Nicoll and her students, Samantha Cappetto, Victoria Carr, Alyssa Duffy, Carrie Fredin, Angelica Gervasio and Angela Halvorsen spent 2 weeks training and competing at the world-famous World Arena in Colorado Springs, CO. They also competed in the Broadmoor Open 2004, hosted by the Broadmoor SC, June 22-27. They had the opportunity to visit the USFSA Hall of Fame and Headquarters and train with world-renowned coaches.

## 2005 Regionals Entry forms due Sept 1

Announcements and Entry forms for 2005 Regionals are now available. Online entry is preferred for Qualifying events (Juvenile to Senior). In order to participate in online entry, you must first obtain a members only password at [www.usfsa.org](http://www.usfsa.org). Then go to the members only website to set up at password. This process can take up to 2 days, so please do this early. You may also print forms for Qualifying events from the USFSA website at [www.usfsa.org](http://www.usfsa.org)

Announcement and entry forms for Non-Qualifying events at 2005 Regionals (Pre-Juvenile and Open Juvenile) must be mailed and signed by an NISC board member. Forms are available on the Northern Ice website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org), then go to the announcements page.



Cassie Balaskas and Elizabeth Chan will be representing Northern Ice Skating Club at National Showcase 2004 in Frisco TX Aug 3-7. National Showcase, hosted by the Lone Star Figure Skating Club, is the National Championship for Artistic skating. Skaters must have placed 1<sup>st</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> in a contested Artistic competition in order to qualify. Watch our website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org) for updates.

**Good Luck Cassie and Elizabeth!**

## Northern Ice Dance Team

Northern Ice is pleased to announce that we have a new dance team representing Northern. Michelle Fahrforth and Matt Kleffman are both 13 and train at Center Ice in Glen Ellyn with coaches Penny Knuth and Oleg Epstein. They recently passed their Juvenile Free Dance test. We will follow their progress in future newsletters and on our website at [www.northernice.org](http://www.northernice.org).

**Congratulations and Good Luck, Michelle and Matt!!!**



## Oak Lawn Ice Arena

Northern Ice is pleased to announce that Oak Lawn Ice Arena will be our new skating headquarters. Thank you very much to the entire staff at Oak Lawn for their very kind invitation and hospitality. We have included a copy of their remaining summer schedule. We will continue to have events in all of the member rinks in addition to the events we will be having at Oak Lawn.

### Oak Lawn Ice Arena Late Summer Schedule

Aug 9-20, 2004

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Aug. 17 (test)			
	no ice after 8:30			
7:00-7:30 OPEN	7:00-7:30 OPEN	7:00-7:30 OPEN	7:00-7:30 OPEN	7:00-7:30 OPEN
7:30-8:00 OPEN	7:30-8:00 OPEN	7:30-8:00 OPEN	7:30-8:00 OPEN	7:30-8:00 OPEN
8:00-8:30 OPEN	8:00-8:30 OPEN	8:00-8:30 OPEN	8:00-8:30 OPEN	8:00-8:30 OPEN
8:40-9:10 FS	8:40-9:10 FS	8:40-9:10 FS	8:40-9:10 FS	8:40-9:10 FS
9:10-9:40 FS	9:10-9:40 FS	9:10-9:40 FS	9:10-9:40 FS	9:10-9:40 FS
9:40-10:10 OPEN	9:40-10:10 OPEN	9:40-10:10 OPEN	9:40-10:10 OPEN	9:40-10:10 OPEN
		6:30-7:00 FS		
		7:00-7:30 FS		

## Skating Council test session

The Skating Council of Illinois is hosting a test session on Aug 29 at Centennial Ice Rink in Highland Park. There will be no out of club fees for Northern Ice members. High Dance tests will be given priority. You may contact Cris Johnson at [crisifsc@yahoo.com](mailto:crisifsc@yahoo.com) for more information.

Check the council website at [www.skatingcouncil-illinois.org](http://www.skatingcouncil-illinois.org) for information on this test session and a schedule of council and member club events.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 3-7	National Showcase 2004 Frisco, TX
Aug 7	<b>Will Smith Critique</b> Darrien Sportsplex
Aug 17	<b>NISC Test Session</b> Oak Lawn, IL
Aug 18	<b>New Parent Orientation</b> Oak Lawn Ice Arena
Aug 18	<b>NISC Program Practice</b> Oak Lawn Ice Arena
Aug 21	Starfire <b>Boot Camp</b> Rocket Ice Arena
Aug 28	<b>NISC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Regional Exhibition and Send-Off Party</b> Oak Lawn Ice Arena
Aug 29	Illinois Skating Council Test Session Highland Park, IL
Sept 6	<b>Program Practice</b> 5-6:30p Rocket Ice Arena (tent)
Oct 4-9	Upper Great Lakes Regional Championships Cedar Rapids, IA
Nov 11	<b>NISC Test Session</b> (tent) Rocket Ice Arena
Nov 18-20	Midwestern Sectional Championships Fargo, North Dakota
Dec 1-4	US Junior Figure Skating Championships Jamestown, NY
Dec 3-4	<b>Illinois Figure Skating Championships</b> Oak Lawn, IL

## IL Figure Skating Championships

Northern Ice is hosting the IL Figure Skating Championships Dec 3&4 at Oak Lawn Ice Arena. We are looking for people willing to help organize the competition. Contact Lynn at [lynn@northernice.org](mailto:lynn@northernice.org) if you can help.