

SILVER BLADES AGM MEETING
Minutes of June 24, 2024
 Virtual

Member's present: Jo Ann MacMillan, Sarah Knight, Sarah Mooder, Laura Goode, Colleen O'Brien, Barb Witt, Kalina Doruch, Catherine Marcolin, Sonya VonKaufmann, Roksana Masliak, Pam Baleva, Nicole Battista, Kammie Armstrong, Catherine Thomas, Talya Brown, Jessica Smith, Aaron Matsuyama, Meghan VanderBurgh, Devon Friedman, Sean Gayton, Jeremy Gayton, Joe Knight, Joanna Rainbow, Julia Malpartida, Karin Miskovsky, Karen Henley, Katie LeMoyne, Mary Kure, Michelle Matsuyama, Megan Hogeboom, Melissa McCready, Allan Mooder, Devinder Singh, Sarah Palermo, Vany Tingley

Start: 7:35p

End: 8:10p

Regrets: Isabelle Veilleux

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decisions	Action Items
Welcome	Welcomed everyone, took attendance Quorum – 20 required Approval of June 2023 AGM meeting minutes	Quorum requirements met Of the people who attended last year's AGM, a unanimous vote to approve the Minutes was received via Survey Monkey.	
Amendment to ByLaw 5.1	Silver Blades Skating Club's fiscal year begins July 1st and ends June 30th	A unanimous vote to approve the Bylaw amendment was received via Survey Monkey prior to the meeting	
Season in Review	As presented by Jo Ann Macmillan and Sarah Knight	See attached Reports	Minutes & Reports will be posted on website
Board Reports	As presented by Director Leads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership Chair Report • Test Chair Report • STARSkate Chair Report • Competition Chair • Special Events Chair • Ice Show Report • Banquet Report • Synchro Chair Report • Volunteer Report 	See attached Reports	Minutes & Reports will be posted on website
Financial Report	Barb Witt reviewed each aspect of the Financial Report for 2022/23 Season and gave a top line review for 2023/24. 2023/24 full financial report will be available in September 2024.	Anyone wish to receive a copy can send an email to board@silverblades.ca	
Departing Board Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to our 2023/24 Exiting Board Members 	Several will transfer to lead roles within the club	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kammie Armstrong • Michelle Medeiros Matsuyama • Karin Miskovsky • Joanna Rainbow • Tanis Tuomi • Isabelle Veilleux 		
Q&A period	Questions sent to the Board email prior to AGM: N/A Questions from the Chat: N/A	No questions	
Elections	See last page of AGM Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissolution of 2023/24 Board of Directors • Election of 2024/25 Board of Directors • Election of Nominating Committee 	Unanimous vote received via survey monkey. All in favour	
Appointment of Accountant	Appointment of Barb Witt	Unanimous vote received via survey monkey – ALL in favour	
Appointment of Auditor	Appointment of Sean Reily	Unanimous vote received via survey monkey – ALL in favour	
Motion to Adjourn	No additional questions – if anyone missed, submit to board@silverblades.ca	Adjourned	



Annual General Meeting

Virtual via Zoom

June 24, 2024 at 7:30pm

AGENDA:

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from June 15, 2023**
- 3. Proposed amendment to Bylaw 5.1**
- 4. Season in Review – President & Vice President**
- 5. Board of Director Reports**
 - Membership Chair Report
 - Test Chair Report
 - STARSkate Chair Report
 - Competition Chair
 - Special Events Chair
 - Ice Show Report
 - Banquet Report
 - Synchro Chair Report
 - Volunteer Report
 - Treasurer/Finance Report
- 6. Exiting 2023/24 Board Members**
 - Kammie Armstrong
 - Michelle Medeiros Matsuyama
 - Karin Miskovsky
 - Joanna Rainbow
 - Tanis Tuomi
 - Isabelle Veilleux
- 7. Nomination and Election of 2024/25 Board of Directors**
- 8. Appointment of Accountant**
- 9. Appointment of Auditor**
- 10. Election of the Nominating Committee**
- 11. Adjournment**

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAW 5.1 OF SILVER BLADES SKATING CLUB

This document outlines all submitted proposals, amendments and repeals to the bylaws of Silver Blades Skating Club for consideration at the 2024 Annual General Meeting in accordance with By-law #8.

Bylaw 5.1 Fiscal Year

~~Silver Blades Skating Club's fiscal year begins June 1st and ends May 31st~~

Amendment

Silver Blades Skating Club's fiscal year begins July 1st and ends June 30th

Season in Review 2023 / 2024

Jo Ann Macmillan, President
Sarah Knight, Vice President
2023/2024 season

The 2023/2024 season was a very successful season for the Silver Blades Skating Club! As in previous years our positive club spirit was present both on and off the ice all year. Our membership grew slightly compared to previous years, reflecting our strong community support base. To aid our growing membership, our ice allocation from the city increased this season. In addition to the approximately 35 hours we are typically allocated at Central Arena, we were also allotted an extra 2 hours/week at Centennial arena for a total of 3.5 hours/week at this facility. Acquiring this ice allowed for our synchro program to continue to grow and flourish.

Our CanSkate and Pre-CanSkate programs were full for the year with waitlists even with the addition of a 6th CanSkate/Pre-CanSkate session. Our StarSkate programs were structured according to four levels: Preliminary (CanSkate 6-Star 1), Junior (Star 2), Intermediate (Star 3- 5) and Senior (Star 5+). This worked well and our sessions mostly filled (35 skater max for Prelim, 30 skater max for Junior, 25 skater max for Intermediate, 20 skater max for Senior and Open) with strong numbers at all levels and lengthy waitlists for many sessions. This year we continued to offer an Intro to Preliminary option for our preliminary skaters. Skaters registered in this program received club group lessons for the duration of the session as opposed to receiving private instruction. This option reduced costs for the skater, gave skaters a chance to be coached by various coaches before selecting their private coach, and gave skaters and parents time to transition from CanSkate to StarSkate. Skaters registered in our Preliminary sessions received 30 minutes of club group instruction and skaters registered in junior sessions received 15 minutes of group instruction. Early in the season, Scott Rachuk, Director of Sport Development from Skate Ontario, was invited to Silver Blades to speak with parents, board members and coaches. This was well received by all as he was able to answer questions from parents and give recommendations to the club and coaches on how to improve operations and skater development. Recommendations for next season: 1) Reduce the capacity on Preliminary, Junior and Intermediate StarSkate sessions. Feedback received from parents and coaches was that these sessions were too crowded, by reducing the numbers permitted, it will allow for skaters to be more spaced out, 2) Expand group lessons to higher level StarSkate sessions and add a coach led skills/stroking lesson to some of the StarSkate sessions to align with Skate Canada recommendations and 3) Add additional sessions at all levels (CanSkate and StarSkate) to meet the demands of the club and the community. We would like to acknowledge our Preliminary and CanSkate Coordinators, Pam Baleva and Devinder Singh, who oversaw our Preliminary and CanSkate programs and ensured they ran smoothly.

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Our synchro program ran 3 teams this season: Star 4, Star 6 and Star 8. There is great demand for the Synchro program across all age groups. To meet the demands of our Synchro program and with the advice from Skate Ontario, we hired a Synchro Coordinator ahead of the 2024/2025 season to oversee our synchro programming moving forwards. We are very pleased that Coach Taina Lickers has taken on this role. This is a much-needed asset to our club and will allow for a more consistent and experienced approach to this discipline. The need for additional synchro ice time continues to be important. For the 2024/2025 we are pleased to have an additional 3.5 hours of ice time at Canadian Ice Academy to support this program. Next season we look forward to once again having three synchro teams. We will continue to try and ensure that all synchronized skaters have opportunities to advance up the levels.

We once again ran a successful spring skating program for the StarSkate levels at Ford Performance Centre. We secured 3 hours of ice, Monday-Thursday, from mid May until the end of June. Sessions were run as Open sessions, and most sessions were filled to capacity. From the recommendation of Skate Ontario and as a trial we ran shorter sessions (40-50 minutes as opposed to 60 minutes +). Skate Ontario has indicated that shorter sessions are more beneficial for skater development and better for overall operations.

One of the highlights of the season was the 2023/2024 Ice Show – The Ultimate Rock Show. This year we had over 200 skaters participating, which was unprecedented. As in previous years, we offered three shows with over 400 tickets sold/show. Skaters from all levels were invited to participate. Canadian Senior Ice Dancers, Lily Hansen and Nathan Lickers were our guest skaters at the shows. It had been quite some time, since we had, a Dance Team perform at our Ice Show. The event was a huge success and created many wonderful memories for our club. A huge thank you to our Ice Show Director, Sonya Von Kaufman for making the show a huge success. We would also like to thank our Ice Show Chairs, Jessica Smith and Julia Malpartida and all the numerous volunteers who ensured everything ran smoothly.

This season we ran our traditional club events with great success. This included our Simulation for our StarSkate skaters and the annual Silver Blades Club Competition. Skate sharpening was offered by Allen Carson on a monthly basis. We expanded our off-ice classes this season and introduced a well-received harness class. We offered 14 off-ice classes across various levels coached by Olga Korsak and Barbara Basar. This is an area deemed essential by Skate Canada for skater development and we will continue to look to expand this area. Next season, being a non Ice Show year, we will offer our December Open House, and a guest coach seminar.

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Many skaters competed at various Skate Ontario competitions throughout the season, including the Provincial Championships. Silver Blades was excited to have 17 skaters, and our Star 8 Synchro team qualify for the Provincial Championships. Due to this large number, we were able to host a simulation day to prepare for the event at Iceland Arena. Silver Blades was well represented at competitions all year and there is high demand for competitive skating options at the club, both in the StarSkate stream and the competitive stream. Silver Blades was also very proud to have had a skater at the 2023/2024 Skate Canada Challenge - Pre-Novice and Novice in Oakville. Silver Blades skater Cate Goode along with her partner, Shubham Panchal, competed in the Pre-Novice dance category. Congratulations to all of our skaters for working so hard and excelling in so many competitions this season.

Silver Blades is fortunate to have a highly qualified and very dedicated group of coaches. Our roster included 20 regular coaches and 10 substitutes. Based on advice from Skate Ontario, we have hired additional support staff at Silver Blades as we plan ahead for next season. In addition to the Synchro Coordinator, we are pleased to have hired Devinder Singh as StarSkate Coordinator. This role will oversee all StarSkate programming as well as off ice sessions. It will also include skater development and any podium pathway programming. Devinder Singh and Pam Baleva will continue as Co - CanSkate Coordinators. Pam Baleva has also been hired as Operations Coordinator to oversee the day-to-day operations of Silver Blades. Given the growing demands of our membership, together all of these roles will help our club tremendously. We will re-evaluate our coaching needs over the summer months and potentially look for additional StarSkate and CanSkate coaches to add to our roster.

Silver Blades continues to work in partnership with the City of Toronto to ensure the ice allocation and scheduling meets the needs of our membership. Our ice allocation for 2024/2025 has been received and our city ice time will be the similar as the current season. We are currently in communication with another skating club in the west end and exploring the possibility for some of our skaters to access additional ice time at this club. We asked members for their input in a club-wide Membership Survey this Spring to ensure the future offerings of Silver Blades benefit all of our athletes, coaches and families.

The Silver Blades Skating Club continues to be volunteer-run club. We have many volunteers who work with us throughout the season to ensure our club runs smoothly. We thank all of our volunteers who have helped throughout the year. Thank you to our dedicated coaches and our fellow board members for support and commitment to Silver Blades throughout the season. Planning is underway for the 2024/25 season and we look forward to another successful year ahead!

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Board of Directors Reports

Membership Chair Report 2023 / 2024

Karin Miskovsky
Membership Chair
2023/2024 season

Overview of the 2023/24 season

- Devinder Singh managed registration and the 2 main Silver Blades mailboxes (info@ and registration@).
- There were no pandemic restrictions that limited the number of skaters per session, therefore this season we were able to resume normal on ice capacity.
- Pre-CanSkate continues to be strong, partially due to post-Covid built up demand.
- The Adult member group excludes the Adults who joined the Adult Ice Unite synchro Team the club had this year.
- This year again, SB offered a Spring session to the current membership.

Registration Counts (excluding Synchro)

- All programs had full enrolment and most CanSkate sessions had waitlists. Registration counts bounced back significantly from the previous season resulting from increased capacity from the full lifting of pandemic restrictions.

Membership Breakdown by Category

Level	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	Fall 2020	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13
PreCanSkate	74	49	18	11	74	125	120	111	61	96	76	105
CanSkate	239	232	376	198	293	300	290	283	271	270	277	312
Preliminary	115	74	34	44	62	52	50	43	37	39	41	54
Junior	37	31	17	20	25	24	27	28	19	26	17	15
Intermediate	33	38	12	19	25	21	20	31	20	25	11	14
Senior	21	12	21	25	29	43	35	15	15	15	8	14
Adult	24	6	7	2	5	6	5	--	--	--	--	--
CanPower	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	23	26	22	36	26	26	16
Total # of skaters	543	455	485	319	495	508	486					
Total # of families	440	374	361	226	378	400	384	~395	346	375	336	373

Test Chair Report 2023 / 2024

Laura Goode
Test Chair
2023/2024 season

Silver Blades held 5 successful Star 6+ Assessment Days this season, with a total of 280 tests attempted and 223 tests passed (80% pass rate overall). Below is a summary of the Assessment Day results for this season:

June 29, 2023	October 26, 2023	January 9, 2024	February 24, 2024	April 7, 2024
22/25 tests 88% pass rate	33/45 tests 73% pass rate	55/68 tests 81% pass rate	55/61 tests 90% pass rate	58/81 tests 72% pass rate

We continue to experience significant growth in the number of Star 6+ tests. The number of Star 6+ tests attempted in 2023/24 was up by 160% compared to the 2022/23 season (and the number of Star 6+ tests attempted in 2022/23 was up by 135% compared to the 2021/22 season).

Assessment Days were designated at the beginning of the season, and the dates were shared with coaches and posted on our website. Regular season Assessment Days took place on a Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Duration of Assessment Days on June, October, January, February and April was 2:10, 3:40, 5:05, 4:30, 5:05 hours respectively.

A small number of out of club skaters were accommodated during Assessment Days this season. This season an "out of club" fee of \$50 per Assessment Day was charged to out of club skaters to cover ice costs and to balance volunteer and administrative contributions from our members.

Each Assessment Day was supported by 1-3 evaluators. Silver Blades is grateful for the time and expertise of these evaluators. Assessment Days would not be possible without parent volunteers. Tanis Tuomi, Heather McCourt and Joanna Rainbow were extremely helpful in ensuring all volunteer roles were filled. Particular thanks also go to hospitality coordinators Rose Liu and Fangfang Huang for arranging delicious and nourishing meals for our evaluators, coaches and volunteers. Thanks to Heather McCourt for again taking on the role of music coordinator, and to Connie Gemma for recording at all of the regular season Assessment Days.

At the star 1-5 level, a total of 521 successful tests were completed. Payments were verified, our club test records were updated and results were submitted to Skate Canada. The number of star 1-5 tests is up by 154% compared to the previous season.

We note the significant growth in tests over the past season, at all levels. Anticipating this trend to continue, blocking 4-5 hours per Assessment Day is recommended for the 2024/25 season. Cancelling sessions with short notice is never well received. Consideration may also be given to holding Assessment Days during June 24, 2024



weekday daytime ice. I also suggest securing 2 evaluators per test day early in the season, as finding a second evaluator once the competitive season is underway is a challenge. Thank you to our coaches for their dedication in helping our skaters reach their goals. Congratulations to our skaters, coaches and families for a very successful season!

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STARSkate Chair Report

2023/ 2024

Kammie Armstrong
STARSkate Chair
2023/24 season

The 2023/24 season was another successful season with excellent engagement in the Silver Blades PA program.

2023/ 2024 Summary & Considerations for Next Season

- This season, we had a total of 35 skaters on our PA team. Of those, 11 were new for the 2023/ 2024 season. Despite these numbers, several PA's supported multiple sessions to provide the necessary support to our CanSkate and Preliminary level skaters. We had particular challenges filling the Sunday afternoon CanSkate and Saturday Preliminary sessions, with 6 spots remaining unfilled all season. This may continue to be a pain point given synchro team membership and practice schedules and an ongoing poor availability of Program Assistants for the early Saturday morning sessions.
- We have not yet started recruitment for PAs for next season but anticipate a high return rate as we have a fairly junior PA team at this time. PA recruitment for the 2023/24 season will begin once the regular season skating schedule is out.
- We had PA support all 3 of our synchronized skating teams during the 2023/24 season. Feedback from coaches of all 3 teams was that this was very valuable support and that they recommend continuing this for the 2024/25 season.
- There was a significant improvement in the reporting/ submission of PA hours for tracking, although reporting attendance for the synchro PA's remained inconsistent and the associated coaches only submitted hours following specific requests for this information. For next season, I recommend that this process be formalized and hours be submitted monthly following the same process used to submit PA hours for our other sessions. I also recommend that standards be created for PA hours granted for supporting/ attending competitions with the team, and that those be communicated to the PAs supporting the Ice Unite teams in advance (i.e. when they accept the PA position) next season.
- For the first time in several years, our orientation/ training was delivered in person in September 2023 to all PA's that were signed up to support for the 2023/ 24 season, led by Pam Baleva. Training included both an off ice and on ice component and was both well received and very successful.
- As in years past, for each hour of PA support provided, each PA either earned a \$6 Uplifter gift certificate redeemable for registration, test, and other Silver Blades fees; or a volunteer certificate applicable to the Ontario high school community volunteer requirement. We were able to reinstate the "Starbucks Surprise" initiative this season, which was very well received by our PA group.
- The PA of the Year award is given annually to a PA that has exceeded expectations and done an outstanding job during the season, based on coach votes, parent feedback and attendance at scheduled sessions.

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This year, the PA of the year award was presented to Sophie Armstrong, an experienced PA, who demonstrated excellent engagement, attendance and commitment, supporting both a Preliminary session and the Star 4 synchro team this season.

- Although monthly PA reporting continues to be a very manual and time-consuming process, there were improvement in the submission of the PA attendance reports this year. All reports were submitted thru the PA@silverblades email inbox and submissions were timely with very few exceptions.
- Tracking, tabulation and notification of PA hours/ gift certificates awarded continues to be a very manual and time consuming process. As a result of this, gift certificates were issued 3 times during the season and Volunteer hours certificates were issued only at the end of the season unless specifically requested. Opportunities to utilize Uplifter to capture and tabulate PA hours directly in the system (similar to volunteer hours) should be explored next season.
- This season, we submitted a single order for Silver Blades club jackets in October 2023 with distribution of the jackets in early December. The price for our club jackets remained consistent with the previous season. Embroidery costs remained stable from the 2022/23 season. We may need to adjust prices again if either base jacket or embroidery costs increase.

Competition Chair Report

2023 / 2024

Nicole Battista
Competition Chair
2023/2024 season

Club Competition Update:

In April 2024 we were thrilled to hold our annual Club Competition. We had significant skater participation in the event.

Highlights:

- We had 122 skaters in 295 events (from 113 skaters in 256 events in 2023).
- Given increased membership levels and high competition participation rates during the season a maximum of 2 events (with a few exceptions) from 3 events in the prior year was introduced.
- Pricing for categories was increased as a result of rising award costs and expected lower estimated registrations due to the decreased event maximum level (2 vs 3 historical).
- Overall participation exceeded expectations as both skater count and event registration increased from 2023.
- This was the first competition event ever for many of our skaters.
- Amazing group of volunteers before, during and after the event made this all possible.
- Schedule ran well throughout the day with additional time available at the conclusion of the team event for some on ice pictures.
- Successful concession ran by our Synchro program leads.
- We ran low enrollment categories to allow for inclusion of all skaters as timing permitted.
- We secured 10 judges, 2 technical specialists and 1 data specialist, with 3 of the judges being our own CanSkate judges for that category. We also had a volunteer PA on ice with the CanSkate level event. We were able to secure local based judges to minimize travel costs.
- Upfront special events planning lead to these categories running smoothly.
- Awards were purchased to cover upfront to cover estimates for two additional future events due to continued increases in pricing and to take advantage of volume pricing.
- Positive feedback from the membership and great participation by the skaters throughout the day.

Items to be considered for next year:

- Continued early engagement with Skate Ontario to obtain judges ahead of their peak competition season.
- Continued higher number of judges to be scheduled to avoid last minute cancellation challenges due to scheduling conflicts.
- Competition committee to be engaged earlier to get ahead of planning.
- Volunteer lead role on committee to be created to cover oversight of these activities in the coming year.
- Implement learnings to assist in judging allocation and preparation materials for our judges.
- In ice show years, upfront coordination of vendor donations should be considered with the ice show committee.

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Volunteers:

- Special thanks to our Committee members Sara Palermo and Jenna DiGirolamo and our hospitality coordinators Fangfang Yang and Rose Liu.
- Thank you to our many volunteers, board members and coaches for their support of the event.
- Loot bag gloves were provided courtesy of Figure Skating Boutique
- Photography was provided by a local student

Financial Update:

This objective of this event to have fun and provide a competitive day for the skaters within our club. The intent is not meant to make a profit but to break-even with the contribution of the ice time from the club. Overall, upfront estimates and rising award costs resulted in increases in the event fees. Event demand was stronger than anticipated and there is an overall surplus that will be applied to our ice show event in the current year. Incremental expenses of approximately \$600 will be incurred early in the new season for updates to engravings of awards for this year's event.

Fee Structure Comparison:

Category	2024 Fee	2023 Fee
First event single category	50	40
Additional event single category	30	25
Group showcase	30 (per group)	20 (per group)
Mix and Match Team Event (per skater)	10	10
Canskate elements	25	20

Financial Summary:

	2024	2023
Entry fees	8,765	6,560
<u>Expenses</u>		
Medals/Ribbons	2,085	1,924
Participant bags	1,412	1,108
Judges expenses	994	1,714
Trophies and engravings	849	280
Gifts for judges	840	620
Printing, including certificates	346	469
Loot table	337	233
Decorations and supplies	213	143
Team event supplies	174	229
Photography (donation)	-	-
Total Expenses	7,250	6,720
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$ 1,515	-\$ 160

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Other Competition News:

- Early in the season we held two successful simulation opportunities to prepare for competitive season. Further, an additional opportunity was held for our Provincial qualifier skaters ahead of the Championships.
- Our skaters had a very successful season across Provincial Series and Star 1-4 Series.
- Across both the Star 1-4 Series and Provincial Series events we had several skaters earning medals and personal bests throughout the season across events.
- Several athletes, including Pre-Novice synchro team represented Silver Blades Skating Club at the 2024 Provincial Championships
- 6 provincial medalists this season representing Silver Blades Skating Club
- We look forward to the coming season! Stay tuned to Skate Ontario for release in mid-July for the Star 1-4 and Provincial Series calendars at www.skateontario.org/eventseriesinfo/

Special Events Chair Report

2023 / 2024

Joanna Rainbow
Special Events Chairs
2023/2024 season

Silver Blades was pleased to be able to host many Special Events over the course of the 2023/24 season, including the:

- Skating Apparel Sale & Orientation Day on September 23
- Club Competition on April 13
- Ice Show on May 11-12
- Year-End Banquet on May 22

Skate sharpening services were also offered monthly throughout the season.

Skating Apparel Sale

Once again, the sale was greatly anticipated and very well attended, with skaters and caregivers eager to purchase gently used dresses, skates and other skating gear. As in the previous year, there were no outside vendors apart from Coach Barbara whose skate soakers were very popular.

30 members contributed to the sale, with all but 4 of them successfully selling some or all their items. Sales totaled \$3,181 with proceeds of \$1,017 going to Silver Blades. To note:

- this represents a 48% increase in total sales and a 97% increase in Club proceeds over the previous year
- proceeds as a percentage of sales also increased over the previous year (32% in 2023 vs 24% in 2022). This can be attributed to several members generously donating all the proceeds from the sale of their items to the Club (versus standard 20%)

Recommendations for next year:

- Increase volunteer support to label/tag, log and hang items in the 2 days (evenings) prior to the event, when most items are donated
- Designate a day/time for sellers to pick up money and any items that didn't sell (i.e., the morning following the sale). This will ensure items are picked up in a timely manner. Advertise that any items not picked up will be donated

Skate Sharpening Services

Skate sharpening services provided by Allen Carson were once again offered at Central Arena to members monthly, September through to April from 4-9PM. We are hoping to offer a similar service (duration/frequency) for the 2024/25 season as it continues to be greatly appreciated by members.

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Ice Show Report

2023 / 2024

Jessica Smith & Julia Malpartida
Ice Show Co-Chairs
2023/2024 season

Introduction

The bi-annual Ice Show was held this season and this year's theme was "The Ultimate Rock Show". With a record 205 skaters registered, the Ice Show was a huge success featuring rock, pop, and country songs through the decades.

The Ice Show Director was Sonya Von Kauffman and Ice Show Chairs were Jessica Smith and Julia Malpartida. The full Ice Show Committee is listed below.

Role	Participants
Director	Sonya Von Kauffman
Co-Chairs	Jessica Smith, Julia Malpartida
Executive Committee	Jo Ann MacMillan, Sarah Knight, Catherine Marcolin, Sarah Mooder, Catherine Thomas
Costumes Committee	Theresa Pang, Carla Goncalves, Carla Deeks, Juliana Cromwell
Props Committee	Allan Mooder, Rose Liu, Fang Fang Long, Megan VanderBurgh, Carla Goncalves
Concessions Committee	Ivana Zivkovic Meesters, Sarah Garvie, Sandrine Itoola, Kira Bar
Volunteers Committee	Katie LeMoyne, Vany Tingley
Sponsors and Donations Committee	Carla Deeks, Emily Crookshank, Olena Kholod, Herman Yang

Performances

There were 3 Ice Show performances and a Dress Rehearsal held on the following dates:

- Dress Rehearsal - evening of Thursday May 9
- Ice Show Performances - evening of Friday May 10, afternoon of Saturday May 11, evening of Saturday May 11

The Ice Show ran 2.5 hours, including a 15 minute intermission.

The Ice Show had 205 skaters registered with the following breakdown:

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- CanSkate - 80
- Prelim - 51
- Junior - 32
- Intermediate - 26
- Senior - 18

All CanSkate and Preliminary skaters participated in a single number, with Junior and Intermediate skaters participating in 2 numbers, and Senior and Graduate skaters participating in 3 numbers. There was also a Boys number, Coaches number, Program Assistant Number, and Graduate number.

The guest skaters were Ice Dancers Lily Hensen and Nathan Lickers who performed two numbers in each show. Lily and Nathan signed autograph cards which were pre-printed with their picture and were a huge hit with skaters.

Going forward, it is recommended that the Ice Show is limited to 2 hours. The number of CanSkate numbers could be reduced as there were 8 CanSkate acts in total, many of which did not have a lot of skaters. Instead of having 4 CanSkate acts in each half, it could have been reduced to 2. Another consideration could be to have each CanSkate group only participate in a single show.

On that note, there were a number of CanSkate families who requested refunds after the Dress Rehearsal, performance, and practice schedule came out, indicating that they did not understand the commitment required at the time of registration. Going forward, at the time of registration, the club should be clear that participation in the Ice Show requires 3 practices, an evening Dress Rehearsal, and 3 performances (1 matinee and 2 evenings).

Finally, there were many skaters who missed practices this year, which was difficult for the coaches. For the next Ice Show, there should be a firm policy on missing practices.

Tickets

Tickets were priced as follows:

Adults/Seniors	\$25 (\$30 at the door)
Children 3 – 12	\$17 (\$25 at the door)
Children under 3	FREE (ticket still required)

952 tickets were sold in total, with the following breakdown:

- Friday evening: 316 (261 adults + 55 kids)
- Saturday afternoon: 333 (285 adults + 48 kids)
- Saturday evening: 303 (263 adults + 40 kids)

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Raffle tickets were sold at the dress rehearsal for a chance to win VIP seating for each performance (in the Home and Visitors boxes). \$5 for 1 ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets. The raffle was popular and the VIP seating was well received. Two families (up to 6 family members each) were sat in each box and had access to warm blankets, free snacks and drinks in their box.

Concessions

Concessions included coffee, water (still and sparkling), juice boxes, Kernels popcorn, chips, gummy candies, and baked goods and all items sold well.

In addition to the main concessions stand, there was a secondary concessions stand within the arena which worked well to avoid congestion during intermission. The secondary concessions stand was intended to be an "express" stand and sold only drinks and pre-packaged snacks (no baked goods).

This year, the club sold "Silver Blades Bucks" in advance, which were tickets that could be used in lieu of cash. Each ticket was worth \$1 and they were non-refundable. 313 "Silver Blades Bucks" were purchased.

Pizza, chips and juice were sold at the Dress Rehearsal and were very popular with both skaters and parents.. Skaters were not permitted to eat in their costumes and were only able to purchase and eat pizza after they had changed.

Concessions generated \$3549.00 in revenue, with the highest amount attributed to pizza sold at the Dress Rehearsal (\$1097.00).

Program, Sponsors and Donations

Program ads were sold for the following costs:

- Full Page Colour - \$300
- Full Page Black and White - \$250
- Half Page Black and White - \$200
- Third Page Black and White - \$150

9 ads were sold, most of them colour, with a total revenue of \$2150.00. For the next Ice Show, consider charging more for program ads, or adding different types of sponsorship (flower table, concession stand, etc.) with signage/branding opportunities.

The program was designed by KimMack Designs (cousin of Emily Crookshank). Going forward, it is suggested that printing should all be in colour as the printing price was the same for colour vs. black and white this year through KimMac Designs. 500 programs were printed and they were all distributed.

Props

The main props were a large jukebox, a street lamp, and jail bars, constructed by the Props Committee. The lobby was decorated with CDs and music notes to align with the rock theme.

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Costumes

Costumes were sourced from "The Loft" at Markham Skating Club and included a variety of costumes and hairpieces, tailored to each number.

The costumes were not all available at the same time, resulting in a number of different fittings on a per-group basis. The overhead of this was onerous and it is recommended that next time, a mass "drop-in" fitting is done once all the costumes have arrived (e.g. skaters can come try their costumes anytime between 9am - 4pm on Sat or Sunday of a given weekend).

Volunteers

This year there was a Volunteer Committee who organized all the volunteers. Many volunteers assisted in ensuring the Dress Rehearsal and all three performances ran smoothly and the club is very grateful for the efforts of its parent community in helping the Ice Show come together.

In terms of feedback for the next Ice Show:

- The volunteer roles should be updated to be more specific and accurately set expectations with volunteers.
- There were too many "Runner" volunteers.
- Despite all the communications, there were parents who did not sign skaters out. For next Ice Show, it may be worth having a few volunteers to ensure this doesn't happen.
- Also, need to add a volunteer position for washing and drying the black rink fabric after the final show.

Photography and Videography

Official group photos were taken at the Dress Rehearsal by a volunteer student photographer. Action shots were taken by Will VanderBurgh during the performances. Photos were very well received by skaters and families.

Videography was done by Virtual eThere. The Saturday matinee show was live streamed. The video was also shared with the club to in turn share with Silver Blades families.

Lighting

Lighting, sound and removal of the netting was done by Straight Street Event Services. This was the largest budget item at \$26,000 and the service provided was outstanding.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Ice Show was a big success and a highlight of the season for many Silver Blades skaters. Director, Sonya Von Kauffman, along with Silver Blades coaches and a large number of volunteers brought all genres of rock to life at Central Arena, allowing a record number of skaters to showcase their skating skills to friends and family across 3 exciting performances. Guest skaters, Lily Hensen and Nathan Lickers, and a moving Graduate number ensured that The Ultimate Rock Show will be an Ice Show that Silver Blades families remember for a long time.

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Year-End Banquet Report 2023 / 2024

Alison Wilkie
2023/2024 season

The banquet was held at Renaissance by the Creek banquet hall on May 22 from 6:30-9:30 pm. After a successful banquet at this location the last couple of years we returned there again for this year's banquet. Interest and attendance in the banquet continues to grow. Each year for the past 3 years, attendance has increased from one year to the next by approximately 15%. This year there were approximately 190 skaters, coaches, board members, and parents in attendance. The event was free for all skaters, coaches and board members and parent attendees paid \$70 per person to attend (a \$5 increase from 2023). A summary of all costs is included below.

Things that worked well:

- We had a committed volunteer committee who helped organize this year's event made up of Alison Wilkie, Sharon Talmage, Megan Hogeboom, Ashleigh Thibideau, and Devon Friedman. The team was engaged early and each shared responsibility for different aspects of the banquet to help keep the time commitment and workload manageable.
- Given the large numbers in attendance we rented a larger room and this larger space was well suited to an event of this type and size.
- The buffet line ran much quicker than past years. We requested in advance having 2 buffet tables with both sides open so that 4 buffet lines could be getting food at the same time. It was great that guests did not have to wait to get their food.
- As always the photo booth was a big hit with the skaters and we were again fortunate to receive a generous donation of \$500 from the Talmage that was used towards the cost of the photo booth.
- We paid an extra fee to use the facility's audio/visual equipment. We had some challenges getting everything to work but once we did the sound, slideshows and music for dancing worked very well. We were fortunate to have volunteer Herman Yang assisting again this year. Herman was very knowledgeable and his assistance to get everything working was invaluable.
- We again offered wine to all adults in attendance. To comply with facility requirements we had to apply for a liquor license. We had a volunteer purchase wine and bring it to the hall and we were able to return any unused bottles. This was a cost effective way to offer wine to the adults in attendance.

Opportunities for improvement for the next banquet:

- Continue to engage volunteers to assist with activities including wine pickup/ delivery; cupcake pickup/ delivery; flowers & centerpieces; and registration. It's helpful to have one contact person working with the hall.
- For the past 2 years the menu was essentially the same and the hall did not materially increase the food costs. If the banquet is held at the same location it's a good idea to be very explicit about the start time for food and emphasize the need to stick to the agreed timing. For 2024 the event started at 6:30pm and the food was supposed to be served at 7:00pm but due to delays on the hall's part food wasn't served until 7:30pm. We pivoted and started calling up skaters to acknowledge highest tests passed while waiting for food to be served.
- As always the awards and speeches take up quite a bit of time. It's good to start handing out awards as soon as most tables have their food. The speeches are very meaningful and it's great to recognize so many skaters but any ideas to streamline the awards presentation would be helpful.

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Silver Blades Skating Club

2023- 2024 Season

Banquet cost

Summary	Cost
Total Income	\$3650.00
Total Expenses	\$16924.51
Profit / (Loss)	\$0

	Budget
Revenue	
Parent Fee (\$70 per person)	\$3150.00
Miscellaneous (Talmage donation)	\$500.00
Total	\$3650.00

Expenses	
Brochure	\$560.31
Flowers for skaters/ Centrepieces	\$422.15
Trophies	\$1222.58
Food/Room/ Sound Plug-in	\$12,492.15
Wine + Liquor License	\$574.90
Photo booth	\$1,015.87
Cupcakes	\$332.93
Grad Gifts	\$303.62
Coach Gifts/ Flowers	0
Miscellaneous	
Total	\$16924.51

Synchro Chair Report



Isabelle Veilleux
Synchro Chair
2023/2024 season

The 2023/2024 was a great season for Ice Unite. We had 3 teams: Star 4, Star 6 and Star 8.

Team Details:

The season ran from September to March, with the addition of ice show practices in April and May.

Star 4 Team Details:

- Team consisted of 16 skaters. Age range was 8-14.
- Practices: Monday 5:15-6:30pm on ice at Centennial Arena, followed by a 30 minutes off-ice session
- Coach: Kendra Boshkov and Lyndsay Burrows
- Managers: Julia Malpartida and Vany Tingley
- Fees were set at \$2,100/skater

Star 6 Team Details:

- Team consisted of 16 skaters. Age range was 9-14. 1 skater also double teamed on the Star 8 team.
- Practices: Monday 4:50-6:00pm at Central Arena, followed by a 45 minutes off-ice session, Friday 4:10-6pm at Centennial Arena
- Coach: Ken Langlois and Lyndsay Burrows
- Manager: Michelle Medeiros Matsuyama and Jessica Smith
- Fees were set at \$2,600/skater

Star 8 Team Details:

- Team consisted of 14 skaters, with skaters ranging from age 12-16
- Practices: Sunday 5:15-6:00pm off ice session, followed by 6:15-7:45pm on ice at the Cricket Club, Saturday 1:30-2:30pm at Central arena
- Coaches: Ken Langlois & Taina Lickers-Smith
- Manager: Laura Goode and Emma Caetano
- Fees were set at \$3,100/skater

Fundraising

All teams participated in various fundraising initiatives. Bake sales and basket sales were held during club competition and ice show. A Krispy Kreme donut fundraiser happened during apparel sale and club competition. We also raised money through MacMillan's. Most of the money raised was used to cover items such as food at team gatherings and the end of year party. The rest went back to the team budgets.

Competition Season & Other Events

June 24, 2024

- The Star 4 and Star 6 teams attended 3 competitions. The Star 4 team won a bronze medal in Newmarket. The Star 6 team did well also, and we are very proud of both teams.
- The Star 8 team attended 3 competitions and won a silver medal in Baltimore. They qualified for Provincial Championships and had a great skate and finished 4th by a slim 0.1 point difference. They achieved their highest score and we could not be more proud!
- Our year end party was hosted on April 24 at Sky Zone in Mississauga, and was a great success! During the event, awards were given to skaters of each team. The awards were chosen by our synchro coaches, as well as a Peer award chosen by the skaters of each team. The Teammate of the Year award was given at the end of year banquet.

New Role: Synchro Coordinator

- In March 2024, we hired Taina Lickers-Smith as our Synchro Coordinator. Taina comes with several years of experience in synchro and we look forward to having her on board to continue growing our program!

Budget

A summary of the revenues/expenses is included below.

Combined Teams

Expenses

Ice Time	\$40,577.25
Coaching	\$27,845.73
Music/Choreography	\$3,200.00
Competition fees	\$4,090.60
Apparel, accessories, etc	\$26,958.20
Misc.	\$7,817.41
Uplifter and credit card fees	\$3,756.63
	\$114,245.82

Revenues

Collected from skaters	\$116,380.00
Fundraising	\$3,096.58
Tryouts spring 24	\$723.34
Various credits	\$228.90
Surplus from previous year	\$4,902.75
	\$125,331.57

TOTAL REVENUE

Surplus	\$11,085.75
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Next Season - 2024/2025

We are looking forward to next season!

- We hosted tryouts in April and had more than 40 skaters attending.
- The excellent turnout will allow us to have 3 teams next year: one Star 4, Star 6 and Star 8 team. We will continue to recruit during the summer, as we need a few more skaters for each of our teams.

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Volunteer Chair Report

2023 / 2024

Joanna Rainbow
Interim Volunteer Chair
2023/2024 season

Silver Blades members continued to engage and support the Club this season with their volunteer efforts. During the 2023/24 season:

- 404 volunteer positions were created and filled (78% increase vs previous season, due in large part to the Ice Show)
- 1315 volunteer credits were completed by members (88% increase vs previous season, due in large part to the Ice Show)
- 67% of families (of Preliminary and up skaters) fulfilled their minimum volunteer commitment

Note, the above excludes Board Members whose hours are not captured.

To note, the hospitality coordinator role was once again graciously filled jointly by Rose Liu and FangFang Huang, who worked to ensure coaches, judges, guests and volunteers were provided with food and beverage hospitality during the season's events. Their efforts are truly appreciated.

Considerations for next year:

- Consolidate the volunteer commitment for those families who skate both individually with Silver Blades and well as with Ice Unite on a synchro team and/or ensure the unique volunteer commitments for these families are more clearly communicated at the onset of the season to ensure expectations are set
- Manage Ice Unite volunteer positions through Uplifter to allow for Club visibility to member's broader efforts



Treasurer Report 2023 / 2024

Sarah Mooder
Treasurer
2023/2024 season

Available upon request to board@silverblades.ca



Silver Blades Skating Club Board of Directors 2024/25 Season

Nicole Battista
Talya Brown
Laura Goode
Karen Hanley
Sarah Knight
Jo Ann MacMillan
Catherine Marcolin
Sarah Mooder
Catherine Thomas

Accountant

Barbara Witt

Auditor

Sean Riley

Nominating Committee

Talya Brown (Board member)
Joanna Rainbow
Jessica Smith
Catherine Thomas (Board member)
Isabelle Veilleux

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