

April 14, 2020

Dear Silver Blades families:

We hope everyone is staying healthy during this unprecedented difficult time.

Understandably, but unfortunately, the city has made the decision to close the arena until June 24, 2020. As that date is beyond the end of our season, we have to cancel all programs for the remainder of the season. As this situation is still evolving, we do not yet know what the Fall season will look like, but we will take direction from the City, the Province, the Country, and the provincial and federal sport organizations. We will keep you updated as we receive new information. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding during this time.

We've made decisions with respect to the items below with the members as our top priority. Here is an update:

NEW INFORMATION:

1. Membership Fees

We will provide refunds to the membership as a result of the closure of the rink to the end of the season. This refund will be 97% of the fees paid with respect to the remaining sessions (from March 14 onwards) minus a \$20 admin fee per skater. The 3% charge is a result of the credit card and administration fees that we have been charged and the Club will not get refunded. We are currently in the process of refunding each member, however it is a very manual process as it takes into consideration discounts and fees already applied. We ask that you remain patient. If you have not received your refund by May 31st, please email us at board@silverblades.ca.

2. Annual Banquet

We are sorry that we have had to cancel the annual banquet for skaters at the preliminary level and higher, currently scheduled for May 20th. We will however determine winners for the 2019/20 Season awards and will announce the winners to the membership via our newsletter and Facebook page. Trophies for the awards as well as plaques for skaters who completed Gold or Diamond tests during the season (from May 2019 onward) will also be ordered and distributed at a later time.

3. Synchronized Skating Teams

Try-outs and synchro skills are postponed. If your skater is interested in joining the synchro program next season, please send us an email at synchro@silverblades.ca. We are looking at alternatives to determine team selections. The Synchro Chair will be in contact with you to provide any additional details as they become available.

4. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM will be held virtually on May 27th. More information will be provided closer to the meeting.

5. Volunteer Hours

No payment related to volunteer hours will be processed for this season as we understand that many members did not have a chance to complete their volunteer hours as a result of the cancelled events. We would like to take this opportunity to thank every member who has already completed some or all of their volunteer hours. Our Club could not run without your help! In light of the current climate and unprecedented decisions being made, remaining volunteer hours will be expunged and we will begin anew next season.

INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY COMMUNICATED

1. Club Competition

As you are aware, we had to cancel our club competition that was scheduled for April 4th. Members will receive a full refund for the registration fees for this event. This is a manual process and is ongoing. We expect all refunds will be processed before the end of April.

2. April Test Day

The final test day of the year for Star 6 to Gold tests which was originally scheduled on Sunday, April 19th has been cancelled due to the rink closure.

3. Ice Show

Our bi-annual ice show was scheduled for May 7-9th. As a result of current rink closure a decision was made to postpone the ice show. Once again, registration fees for this event will be fully refunded using the same manual process as for membership fees. This is a manual process and is ongoing. We expect all refunds will be processed before the end of April.

4. Ice Tickets

Again, if you have purchased Ice Tickets and will not be able to use them before the expiry date (which is one-year from date of purchase), please email Heidi at info@silverblades.ca PRIOR to May 31st, 2020 to identify how many you have so that she can extend the expiry date.

We will keep everyone updated to any additional changes. Stay safe and we hope to see everyone soon!

Silver Blades Skating Club