Holiday Card Contest
Winner & Gallery

Adult Champs Results

SKATE ASIA Malaysian Magic

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Winter 2008/Vol. 33, Number 2

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letters from our readers

My name is Ashlinn and I have been skating for almost two years now. I have two coaches that are really great. I really like going to competitions, getting new skate dresses and meeting new friends. My favorite figure skating element is a spiral. I am working on my one-foot spin and shoot-the-duck right now. We do two exhibitions a year at our club and participate in four competitions a year throughout Minnesota. I am looking for a pen pal around my age who enjoys skating as much as I do.

Ashlinn Emery, 7, Beta Buffalo FSC Buffalo, Minn.

I am in FS 4 and have been having trouble with my flip. I just can’t land it! I’m very good at my loop and my sit spin.

Megan Simzyk, 12, FS 4 Franklin Park FSC Franklin Park, Ill.

Try practicing your flip jump on the ground in your tennis shoes. The timing and coordination you get off the ice will help you on-ice jump improve. If you are getting all the way around and just can’t land on one foot, then try adding a toe loop jump at the end of your flip jump. That will help you to land the flip jump.

I have been skating for about four years. I am working on my spins, and it is hard to get my leg up high enough. I am also working on my scratch spin. I am looking for a skater to help me get some advice and to help me learn new concepts.

Kimberly Uminski, 10, FS 2 Bridgewater Sports Arena Raritan, N.J.

I want a pen pal who is serious about skating but makes time to do other things — someone around my age in FS 1 or 2, who is part of a synchronized skating team.

Jacklyn Hoppe, 10, FS 1 Eagan Civic Arena Eagan, Minn.

I really want a pen pal around my age and in FS 2 or 3 who can help me. I have a problem doing jumps — Salchows, toe loops, waltz jumps, half-flips. My landings are fine; it’s just that I can’t take off because I lean over too much. I can never get the arm positions right. I am just plain scared I’m going to fall.

Sara Hendrix, 10, FS 1 OSU Ice Rink Columbus, Ohio

You have to make sure all the “parts” of your body are in the correct position before you take off for any jump. Your arms are a very important part of the jump, and they must be used to help with the take-off, rotation and landing positions. To correct your lean, keep your back up straight and be sure to bend your knees instead of your back.

Jessica Krauss, 14, FS 4 The Summit Lansing, Mich.

The Freestyle 4 dance step sequence is my favorite — it combines all the edges in skating along with all the 3-turns and a couple of Mohawk turns too! The hardest part is putting it all together, so try practicing each part (or section) until it’s better before you put it all together again. That should help to improve your edges, and then your back 3-turn will get better, too.

I’m looking for a pen pal the same age and level as me. I am having some trouble staying on my edges when I do my dance step sequence and my back 3-turn, and I would like some advice about that.

Jenny Krauss, 14, FS 4 The Summit Lansing, Mich.

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Jacklyn Hoppe, 10, FS 1 Eagan Civic Arena Eagan, Minn.

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I have been skating for a few years now. I see all my skating friends at the rink and not anywhere else. I would like a pen pal so that I can talk to someone who understands what I’m going through.

Amber Towles, 13, FS 4
Iceland Skating Rink
Virginia Beach, Va.

I’ve been skating for seven years now, but I took a little two-year break because they wouldn’t move me up any levels. Now that I’m at a new rink, I’m flying through the levels, but I can’t seem to get any of my jumps, mainly my half flip and my waltz jump. My coach says it’s because I don’t bend my knees. I really do try, but it’s just not getting any easier. I have really long legs and everyone tells me jumps and spins can be hard if you have long legs. So I was hoping you could help. Any advice?

Cady Bogue, 13, FS 1
Center Ice of DuPage
Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Long legs can be a good thing, too — as long as you use them to jump higher. Your coach is right. All jumps must start from bent knees, as that’s where you get the lift for the jump (with your arms). Try taking an off-ice class such as ballet or conditioning, or even an off-ice jump class, and that should get your knees bending so you can fly high!

More Pen Pal Requests

The following ISI members would like pen pals. If you would like to contact any of them, please send an e-mail with the required information (see box, right) to editor@skateisi.org.

Libby Nicolay, 12, FS 6
Ice Town Riverside
Redlands, Calif.

Sabrina Marshall, 12, FS 6
Athletic Arts Academy
Henderson, Nev.

Paige Awtrey, 10, FS 2
Skatetown
Roseville, Calif.

Natalie Awtrey, 8, Beta
Skatetown
Roseville, Calif.

Lauren Donnelly, 11, FS 4/5
Piney Orchard Ice Arena
Hanover, Md.

PLEASE READ
before sending your letter!

Pen Pal requests must be sent by e-mail to editor@skateisi.org.

You must include the member information listed BELOW.

The pen pal program is exclusively for current registered ISI members.

E-mail addresses will NOT be published in Recreational Ice Skating magazine.

NOTE: We do not “match up” pen pals; we only publish your requests and electronically forward letters to specifically requested members. Once you have made the connection with your pen pal, the two of you will communicate directly rather than through ISI.

All letters

• You MUST include:
  • Your first and last name
  • Your ISI member number (the six-digit number on your magazine mailing label)
  • Your age
  • Your skating level
  • The name of your arena
  • Your city and state

• Photos are welcome, but cannot be returned.
  • If you have a skating question, be as specific as possible. Technical questions will be answered by qualified ISI staff but should not be considered a substitute for coaching.
  • All letters are printed at the discretion of the editor and may be edited for clarity, accuracy and space.

• E-mail is preferred. Send your letter to editor@skateisi.org, or:
  Ice Skating Institute
  Attention: Editor, RIS
  6000 Custer Rd., Bldg. 9
  Plano, TX 75023

Pen Pals

All letters

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Annaliese Kambol is a recreational artist as well as a recreational ice skater. “I like to draw just for fun,” says the seventh-grade honor student, whose manga-style winter scene was selected for the official 2008 ISI holiday card.

“I’ve been drawing for as long as I can remember,” adds Annaliese, who says she gets her artistic talent from her mother. “From the time I could sit up in a high chair, I was exposed to art; my mom would give me finger paints and paper. I’ve won contests for coloring, but not for any of my original design drawings.”

Created with pen and ink and colored pencils, Annaliese’s whimsical drawing features two young skaters sharing the ice with Frosty the Snowman.

“Each year we look forward to receiving our members’ entries for the annual Holiday Card Creativity Contest, and this year was no exception,” says ISI Executive Director Peter Martell. “The selection process is never easy, but we felt that Annaliese’s drawing captured the spirit of ISI as well as the spirit of the season with its imagery of fun, fantasy and friendship.”

An ISI member since she took to the ice at age 6, Annaliese skates at Glacier Ice Arena in Vernon Hills, Ill.; she recently mastered her loop and flip jumps and is working on her Axel. She participates in local skating shows and competitions, and says she enjoys choosing her music, helping design and create her dresses, and performing for an audience. She and her twin brother, Griffin, often perform as a pair.

In addition to ice skating, the multi-talented and recreation-loving Annaliese enjoys dancing, track bike racing, indoor rowing, playing the clarinet, playing video games and collecting dolls and Hello Kitty items. She hopes to become a veterinarian one day.

To view all of this year’s holiday card entries, see the center spread in this issue or on the ISI Web site at skateisi.org.

Tai Babilonia and Bear Hill Sports announce partnership

CHARLOTTE, Vt./LOS ANGELES — Kim Dow, founder of Bear Hill Sports, and U.S. and world gold medalist Tai Babilonia have partnered to create a new line of figure skating apparel for women and girls. The Tai Collection’s initial line, which will launch this winter, will include several simple but elegant skirts, a ballet wrap style sweater hand-woven in South America, leggings and two leotard-style tops. The line will be available at bearhillsports.com.

Kristi Yamaguchi chairs American Lung Association Christmas Seals Campaign

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Olympic gold medalist and Dancing with the Stars winner Kristi Yamaguchi has been named chairperson for the 2008 American Lung Association Christmas Seals Campaign in an effort to help raise funds in support of the organization’s mission: to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. Her role also includes serving as national spokesperson for the organization’s Faces of Influenza educational initiative, which teaches families about the dangers of influenza and the need to be immunized.

John Wilson, MK Blades launch new Web site

SHEFFIELD, England — HD Sports recently launched its new Web site, theworldsbestblades.com, which brings together premier skating brands John Wilson Skates, MK Blades and the revolutionary Parabolic. New features of the site include enhanced blade images, recommendations and maintenance/care tips. Users are also invited to sign up to stay current on blade news and developments.
Support your local ISI competitions!

Did you know there are more than 300 ISI-endorsed local competitions throughout the United States each year? These events offer something for everyone!

- **SKATERS**: You get the opportunity to perform your skating skills in front of your family and friends, make new skating friends who live near you — and have FUN!

- **COACHES**: A local competition is a great way to try new individual, partner and team events while exposing your skaters to new experiences and boosting their confidence level.

- **PARENTS**: Participation in local events keeps your family closer to home — more convenient for your busy schedule and easier on your budget!
If you have attended an ISI national skating competition or industry event in the last two and a half decades, you have probably come to recognize Jean Albrightson’s friendly face and appreciate her calming presence and efficiency. She has served as a judge and a referee, chaired competition and test committees, organized seminars, and for 16 years actively represented ISI District 10 (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska and North and South Dakota). Skaters, parents, coaches and arena managers all have benefited from her accessible influence.

“It was Jean’s diligence, education and pounding the pavement that made our district what it is today,” notes Barb Yackel, who succeeded Jean as District 10 director and now coordinates marketing and events for PSA. “Our district was in the pilot program for ISI high-level testing, and Jean was instrumental in writing the rules.”

As a dedicated member of the ISIA Education Foundation, Jean has coordinated the annual Benefit on Ice show, which features a guest skater as well as a roster of Worlds participants selected throughout competition week.

The show — which has starred such names as Sasha Cohen, Emily Hughes, Evan Lysacek and Mirai Nagasu — raises funds for ISI member scholarships. “I’m a strong advocate of continuing education,” says Jean, a former reading teacher and figure skating instructor. “Rewarding student athletes with a scholarship is as good as it gets! And it’s always fun to invite competitors to participate in the show; they’re so excited to hear they’ve been selected.”

Jean also has attended and refereed at eight Skate Asia competitions.

A natural teacher whose skills transcend the classroom, she reaches students on and off the ice with her positive attitude and encouraging approach. Her energetic, optimistic teaching style has inspired some of her former skating students to go on to coaching careers, and she has become their mentor and “go-to” resource.

Born and raised in the Minneapolis area, Jean received her first pair of skates at age 9 and says she immediately became a “rink rat.” She skated mostly outdoors at a neighborhood rink, but took lessons at the city’s only indoor ice arena.

Involvement in a variety of activities — including music, journalism, sports, speech and theater — gave Jean a healthy balance of interests as she pursued her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education and began...
her teaching career. Although she always found time to skate, she says she never imagined that it would one day become her vocation.

During a hiatus from teaching, while raising her two children, Jean began taking her young son to the new Parade Ice Garden for tot classes. It wasn’t long before she was lending her teaching and skating skills to the classes. Soon she found herself in the role of assistant skating director, and then director.

Although she returned to the classroom in 1992, Jean continued to teach, coach and contribute at Parade Ice Garden. She recently completed her 34th and final year at the facility, where she was honored during the Parade Figure Skating Club’s annual spring show and a festive open house. A proclamation was read and a retirement memory book was presented to her, bearing such rewarding inscriptions as “Without your influence I would never have made it as far as I did in ISI, never toured with Disney on Ice and never become the coach I am today” and “Your coaching, counsel and efforts helped shape my children’s lives and values, and we are grateful for that.”

Over the years, her outstanding contributions to ice skating and the ISI have been acknowledged with the Woman of the Year, National Merit and Great Skate awards, as well as the President’s Award for Excellence.

Jean Albrightson has refereed at eight Skate Asia competitions.

She also recently retired from her position as reading specialist and test coordinator at Hale Elementary in Minneapolis. “Teaching children to read is incredibly rewarding, and I will truly miss it,” Jean says.

She and her husband of 41 years, Jon, have two grown children and a grandson. They live in downtown Minneapolis and enjoy city life as well as biking and both snow and water skiing. They are spending their first winter as retirees in Florida and Colorado. Jean plans to continue helping with ISI competitions and perhaps tutor struggling readers.

“Who knows? There are lots of choices!” she says of her retirement plans.

“Jean’s the kind of person who’s never going to slow down,” says her friend Barb Yackel. “She’s always going to look for ways to volunteer and be involved. I don’t think she likes to sit still.”
Have you been involved in the ISI program for four or more years? Are you college bound? Are you currently in college full time? If the answer to two of these questions is “yes,” then you should be planning to apply for an ISIA Education Foundation scholarship.

As many as four ISIA Education Foundation scholarships are awarded each year to ISI members who are well-rounded representatives of the recreational ice skating program. You do not have to be the best skater or the highest-ranking student. We are looking for young adults who have exhibited a passion for their sport through their participation, a commitment to furthering their education and a desire to give something back to their arena and their community.

Scholarship applications are due by March 1, 2009, to be considered for awards in the 2009-10 academic year. All of the application materials that you will need are available at www.skateisi.org by clicking on the Education Foundation button on the home page or the skaters’ section of the site.

You are eligible to apply for a scholarship beginning in your senior year of high school, through your junior year in an undergraduate university program.

We strongly encourage you to begin recording your service hours (on the form provided) in your freshman year of high school. Remember, everything you do inside and outside of your rink counts: coaching; judging; volunteering at learn-to-skate, a competition, a show, or a church; and even paid employment. All of these activities help identify you and are considered in the selection of the scholarship recipients.

Also be sure to keep a record of all ISI events in which you have participated. Keep in mind that ISI national events are weighted more heavily than local ones, but every competition, show and test is important.

You will be asked to write a 500-word essay on “Why I should receive an ISIA Education Foundation Scholarship.” We want to know how the ISI recreational ice skating program, through its goals and philosophies, has helped create and define the young adult that you have become.

If you have any questions, please contact me at LAFMIRMA@aol.com. Good luck and happy skating (and studying)! ☀

ISI Skaters, Please Take Advantage of Us!
by Lisa Fedick

We are looking for young adults who have exhibited a passion for their sport, a commitment to their education and a desire to give something back to their community.
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Entry & Test Deadline: Feb. 1

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You’re sure to be blown away by the excitement and cultural richness of Chicago. The Windy City is the birthplace of the skyscraper, a food-lover’s paradise and home to: architectural marvels: world-renowned museums: Michigan Avenue’s “Magnificent Mile”; Navy Pier, a 50-acre lakefront playground of parks, shops and restaurants; Lincoln Park Zoo, one of the last free zoos in the country; historic Wrigley Field; and the elevated public train line famously known as the “L.”

Chicago is the Midwestern Mecca, with lots to see, do — and eat!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
skateisi.org
choosechicago.com
arcticicearena.com
This year’s Skate Asia event marked the 10th anniversary of the largest ISI competition held outside the United States. Pyramid Ice in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia now holds the prestigious honor of being the only three-time host for this international Asian skating event.

From the dramatic multicultural drum overture of the opening ceremony to the spectacular closing ceremony where the entire ice surface was covered with proud skaters mingling, talking and taking photos with their new friends — this ISIAsia event continues to represent the ISI motto of “participation, not elimination.”

More than 630 skaters from 10 countries representing 24 arena teams competed in nearly 3,000 entries. Those event entries lasted more than 100 hours during the eight-day competition.

The Sunway Pyramid Lagoon complex offered an ideal destination for participants and their families. Many locals stayed and watched for hours in the intimate rink setting overlooking the exotic lagoon water park.

When they weren’t busy competing, the skaters enjoyed shopping, swimming in the gigantic wave pools, water slides, lazy river, amusement park rides and the huge swinging bridge that spanned the entire lagoon complex.

We were proud to have three arenas from the USA represented in this year’s competition. Skaters from Centennial Sportsplex in Nashville, Tenn., Wonderland of Ice in Bridgeport, Conn. and the Pasadena Ice Skating Center in Pasadena, Calif. had a fabulous time meeting new friends and representing their home rinks for our truly international event.

Team champion Sunway Pyramid Ice is the only three-time Skate Asia host.

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**Overall Team Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Arena</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sunway Pyramid Ice</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sky Rink Jakarta</td>
<td>Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Festival Walk Glacier</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cityplaza Ice Palace</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>SM Megamall</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>SM Southmall</td>
<td>Manila, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Arena Ice Bandung</td>
<td>Bandung, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>World Ice Arena</td>
<td>Shenzhen, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Open Ice Imperial</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Riviera Ice Chalet</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Participating Teams**

- Le Cool Ice
- Ice Land-Yogyakarta
- Sky Rink Hong Kong
- SM International
- Future Bright Macau
- Imperial World Ice Skating
- Fuji Ice Palace
- Galleria Ice Rink
- Centennial Sportsplex
- Sub Zero Ice Skate Club
- Wonderland of Ice
- Glacier Bay
- Pasadena Ice Skating Center
- The Rink

- Beijing, China
- Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- Hong Kong
- Manila, Philippines
- Macau
- Bangkok, Thailand
- Singapore
- Dubai, United Arab Emirates
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## 2008 ISI Adult Championships

### Final Standings

For a complete list of participating arenas and results, go to skateisi.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>ARENA</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center</td>
<td>441.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ellenton Ice &amp; Sports Complex</td>
<td>332.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tampa Bay Skating Academy-Countryside</td>
<td>275.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Skatetown</td>
<td>172.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kettering Adult FSC</td>
<td>152.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lloyd Center Ice Rink</td>
<td>132.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Channel Islands Ice Center</td>
<td>108.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Siskiyou Ice Rink</td>
<td>95.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ice Palace</td>
<td>92.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Germain Arena</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two hundred ISI adult skaters from 20 states made lifelong memories together at the 2008 ISI Adult Championships, Oct. 3-5 at Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center in California. Here, some of them share their experiences:

I have never had so much fun. Your ISI program for adult championships is awesome, encouraging everyone to have fun ice skating at any age. I enjoyed meeting so many other skaters and we all cheered each other on. Wonderful to be able to create that environment at a competition.

**Marge Wheeler**
Mt. Shasta, Calif.

It was my first time to join this competition. I had a great time there. It was fun to meet lots of adult skaters.

**Akiko Grimm**
Portland, Ore.

I had such a good time. I skated the best I’ve ever done. The competition was well run. Even the Interpretive music was great. Really enjoyed sightseeing in San Francisco: shopping, cable cars, Fisherman’s Wharf, Pier 39, Muir Woods, Sausalito. Also, I met Brian Boitano and got to talk with him for quite a while.

**Barb Foley**
Orland Park, Ill.

Three years ago I started ice skating, then taking lessons, and was encouraged to participate in the Adult Championships. I did, with trepidation and apprehension. But once at the event, what a fun and wonderful time. Each day that I can skate is a celebration of life. I am hooked, and plan to go to Lake Placid next year.

**Michael Norreel**
Windsor, Calif.

This was my first competition ever, and I am so glad that I went. It was a great experience for me and I had a blast. I will take the memories from this with me for a very long time!

**Crystal von Oy**
Redmond, Wash.

Being 70 years old, participating in ISI competitions has fulfilled a lifelong dream of mine. I hope to be skating many more years.

**George Crasser**
Dunedin, Fla.

People need to see that skating is something that can be all-inclusive and come full circle. It’s not just hard competition for kids. It’s fun. It’s strength and beauty for all ages. Looking forward to the next ISI event.

**Martie and Diana Ripley**
Vacaville, Calif.

The ISI system rewards skaters for their confidence, character, creativity and accomplishments, and inspires one to get out and do something you love. It is the only competition I’ve attended where you don’t feel pressured to “race over to the standings to see how you did.”

**Dana L. Opsincs**
Sarasota, Fla.
Card Creativity Contest
VIEW ONLINE AT SKATEISI.ORG

Pignataro
Isabel Baum
Katherine Heidbrink
Marisa Lu

Bailey Carpenter
Sydney Cochran
Soli Rachwal
Mikayla & Shayna Chapman

Kay
Gabrielle Widjaja
Kassidy Ordish
Emma Ashton
Olivia Langston

Kreutz
Keiji Ishida
Kyra Tommasi
Leah Anna Savin
ISI 50th Anniversary

Skating Championships

RDV Sportsplex Ice Den • Orlando, Fla.  May 23-25
Entry & Test Deadline: March 1

Skate in this special competition celebrating our 50th anniversary and be a part of ISI history!

Orlando is the perfect place for ISI’s 50th Anniversary celebration – the area hosts nearly 50 million visitors every year! And no wonder; it’s the place for pure fun and fantasy, packed with the nation’s greatest theme parks. Meet a fairytale princess or a superhero. Splash and slide at a giant water park. Swim with a beluga whale. Be an astronaut for a day. And skate with us at the world-class RDV Sportsplex, home of the NBA’s Orlando Magic. We’ll be making our own magic – on ice! ISI skaters of all ages and abilities are welcome, and everyone will receive a commemorative 50th Anniversary medal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Introducing the New Ultra-Lightweight 2010 LS
The New Year is Time for New National Events

Next year is a special year for the ISI — it’s our 50th anniversary celebration! We hope you will join us and expand your horizons as we travel from coast-to-coast with six — yes, six — national events in 2009.

Our Winter Classic returns to “Big D,” at the Dr Pepper StarCenter and PSA StarCenter rinks in Plano, Texas. Grab your hat and boots and head down south to kick things off.

The Synchronized Championships glide into the Arctic Ice Arena in Orland Park, Ill. in April. Your friends are sure to enjoy a trip to the Windy City!

Hold on to your hats! Since ISI competitions are an important part of ISI history, as a tribute to the 50th Anniversary of our organization, we will host a special 50th Anniversary Skating Championships event in Orlando, Fla. in conjunction with our annual ISI Conference and Trade Show. When your coach joins our conference after the competition events, your family can enjoy the many other fun places in Orlando ... what a great place for our anniversary celebration!

Speaking of great, it’s out to the West for our 29th annual ISI World Recreational Team Championships. You won’t believe the fabulous facility that will host our event in San Jose! With all four ice rinks under one roof, it will be a wonderful week of skating. Do you know the way to San Jose?

Our Adult Championships will break new ground as we host our first ISI national event at the historic Olympic Center in Lake Placid, N.Y. This site is world-famous for its many special Olympic memories — plan now to make your own Lake Placid memories.

December in Florida — so how warm do you want to be? It will be “hot” in Fort Myers for our Artistic Challenge event. The City of Palms will host our creative competition, where there are no scores for technical merit.

We’ve spread the national events across the country so there’s sure to be at least one event that’s close to you. Be sure to check out the details and get all the up-to-date information for each event at our Web site: www.skateisi.org.

Remember, when you enter any ISI competition event, please plan ahead and make sure your individual membership is current through the event dates and your highest tests are registered by the entry deadline date. This will help us get the event schedule posted even sooner if this is done at the same time you submit your entry registration.

Focus on 2009 FEATURED EVENTS

Our “Featured Events” are back by popular demand for our national competitions in 2009. Many skaters (and parents) loved the event savings and this gives skaters a way to win another medal — and get more team points — while they try a new event for only $10 each!

Here’s how it works:

• Enter any individual or partner event for $75 (first entry fee) and then enter any or all of these events for only $10 each: Rhythmic Skating (ball, hoop or ribbon); Jump & Spin Team (two-person team only); and Solo Surprise.

• Enter any team event for $25 (first entry fee) and then enter Ensemble and/or Team Surprise for only $10 each.

More event details can be found on the 2009 National Event Descriptions listed on the ISI Web site or in the 2008 Skaters and Coaches Handbook.

RHYTHMIC SKATING is similar to rhythmic gymnastics — but on ice! Choose a prop (ball, hoop or ribbon) and choreograph a skating program using that prop throughout your routine. There are no required maneuvers, but Freestyle 1-10 skaters must follow the maneuver limitations as for a Spotlight event. The emphasis is on creativity and use of the prop throughout your routine. No props are allowed during the event warm-up.

JUMP & SPIN team allows two skaters from different test levels to compete together within the same event category. It’s like Solo Compulsories for two people. One skater does a required jump two times; then the other skater does a required spin two times. The judges score the best attempt.

SOLO SURPRISE is a fun event that usually consists of a task or game not related to skating ability or skill. Skaters of similar age and levels are grouped together to perform the task or game.

ENSEMBLE TEAM is a “group Spotlight” event for three to seven skaters from any level and any ages. Any kind of routine can be performed, and there are no required maneuvers or maneuver limitations. Props are limited to those that can be set up during your 30-second set-up time. No props are allowed on the ice during warm-up. Judging criteria is the same as for Spotlight events. Event groups are divided by number of skaters on the team.

TEAM SURPRISE is our newest group event. It’s like Solo Surprise, but for a team of four skaters. This event is typically a relay-style game that is age-appropriate for the level and skill of the participants. It’s a great way to have fun while competing with your friends.

CORRECTION: In the Fall issue of RIS on page 28, the required spin choice for the Jump & Spin Intermediate maneuver selection is incorrectly listed. The correct choices should be sit-spin or back spin.

by Randy Winship
ISI National Skating
Program & Events Director

20 RECREATIONAL ICE SKATING, WINTER 2008
2009 ISI NATIONAL SKATING EVENTS

Expand Your Horizons with Six Coast-to-Coast Destinations

2009 ISI Synchronized Championships
April 17-19
Arctic Ice Arena • Chicago, Ill.
Entry Deadline: Feb. 1

ISI Winter Classic 2009
Feb. 13-15
Dr Pepper StarCenter • Plano, Texas

ISI 50th Anniversary Skating Championships
May 23-25
RDV Sportsplex Ice Den • Orlando, Fla.
Entry Deadline: March 1

San Jose
July 27-Aug. 1
Sharks Ice at San Jose • San Jose, Calif.
Entry Deadline: May 1

Lake Placid
Oct. 2-4
Olympic Center • Lake Placid, N.Y.
Entry Deadline: Aug. 15

2009 ISI Artistic Challenge
Dec. 4-6
Fort Myers Skatium • Fort Myers, Fla.
Entry Deadline: Oct. 15

ice skating institute

Go to www.skateisi.org for entry forms and additional event details.
DELANIE HONDA 
Joins FS 10 Ranks 
by Lori Fairchild

Fewer than 30 ISI skaters have reached the Freestyle 10 pinnacle of testing success. Sixteen-year-old Delanie Honda joined those distinguished ranks in July, when she passed the FS 10 test at the ISI World Recreational Team Championships in Denver.

Delanie started ISI learn-to-skate classes just shy of her sixth birthday in St. Louis, where she tested from the Pre-Alpha through the FS 1 levels. Five years later, after moving to Minnesota, she renewed her ISI membership and tested through FS 9 at Parade Ice Garden in Minneapolis. In the interim, she also skated and tested with a U.S. Figure Skating club at another Minnesota facility.

“I took the FS 10 test as a challenge because it is so much harder than any of the USFSA tests,” Delanie says. “I had also decided that I wanted to finish all my testing for skating before next year. My godmother had promised to take me to London next summer and I knew that if I didn’t finish my testing by the start of the school year, there would be no way I would be able to meet that goal.”

Delanie says she found parts of the test extremely difficult, but mastering its requirements proved rewarding. “The four-minute program was a big obstacle I had to face, although it has helped me now that I am training for a four-minute program for Senior Ladies ,” she notes.

“The double Axel/double toe and triple Salchow were both difficult requirements; however, I think I struggled most with the opposite Axel. I first learned it for my FS 9 test since I was unable to land the double Axel at the time. I don’t think I’ve ever ‘lost’ a jump as many times as that one! It was very frustrating, but I’m glad I was able pull through,” she adds.

A veteran of four ISI Worlds competitions, Delanie was a featured skater in this year’s Benefit on Ice show. Another highlight on her skating résumé was serving as a flower sweeper for the Campbell’s International Figure Skating Competition at the Xcel Energy Center in 2005, after winning the Minnesota State Juvenile Championship.

A junior at Chaska High School in Chaska, Minn., Delanie is taking calculus, English, U.S. government and history. She

Delanie Honda, center, receives her Freestyle 10 certificate, surrounded by her coach, Page Lipe, to her right, and members of the judges’ testing panel.
Delanie plans to attend college, perhaps on the East Coast, and is considering a major in English, liberal arts or Web design.

“I would like to be a full-time novelist, but realistically, I think I’ll have to find a ‘real’ job until I write a bestseller,” she says with a smile.

In addition to ice skating, Delanie enjoys participating in a high school snowboarding club, surfing on family vacations in Hawaii, reading, pin trading, photography, knitting, crocheting and playing with her three cats.

Delanie lives with her parents in Victoria, Minn., and is an only child.

“We joke that we have no idea where my skating abilities come from,” she says, “although I have asked my grandmother if I am in any way related to [six-time Japanese national champion and two-time world bronze medalist] Takeshi Honda; as far as she knows, no.”

Skating has brought this Freestyle 10 skater joy and tears, she notes, along with valuable life lessons, time management skills, the ability to be focused and committed, and the opportunity to visit new places and meet new friends.

“A few years ago, I almost quit skating because I wasn’t having fun and skating was more like a job than a sport to enjoy,” Delanie recalls. “I know now that if I had quit skating, it would have been one of my biggest regrets in life. I want to thank my parents and my coaches for all believing in me and showing me how to love skating again. I’m so glad they convinced me to stay in the sport, because [if I had quit] I would have never achieved what I have today.”

She encourages other skaters to believe in themselves and their skating abilities: “When you get stuck or frustrated on an element or test level, go ‘backwards’ and do the jumps, spins and footwork from your last test you passed, because it will help you regain your confidence. Then, remind yourself of why you love to skate in the first place and you’ll start moving forward in your skating again.”

Skaters Pass High-Level Tests

Congratulations to the following ISI skaters, who recently passed high-level Freestyle and Dance tests.

**FS 10**
- Delanie Honda
- Parade FSC

**FS 8**
- Taylor Clemmons
- Roosevelt Park Ice Rink
- Ivane Elbasri
- Anaheim ICE
- Victoria Hennings
- Clearwater Ice Arena
- Emily Lum
- Ice Center San Mateo
- Bella Martinez
- Skatetown

**Dance 9**
- Breese Gindlesperger
  - Planet Ice
- Angie McCarter
  - Ice Chalet

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RECREATIONAL ICE SKATING, WINTER 2008 23
HOBBY SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble these common hockey terms?

MSEAKAFC
AELGIO
KPCU
KIOGHNO
NCIGI
GKCCIENH
TANELPY
KISCT
FEEREER
SAPS

Answers at the bottom of the page.
**weSKATE PAQs**  
(Parents Ask Questions!)

Q **My daughter’s instructor is encouraging her to enter her first competition at our rink. She’s only in a Beta class now. What do we have to do to be sure she’s ready for this?**

A If your daughter is excited to do this, she is certainly ready! Since she is just now learning the Beta skills, she wouldn’t be competing at that level yet. She must first be a current ISI member, and pass her Pre-Alpha and Alpha badge test to qualify for competition at that level. Any professional ISI member can administer and register these tests — check with your instructor to determine your rink’s policy and procedure. The tests then must be registered in the ISI national office before the competition entry deadline date.

Some competition events require a few private lessons to learn a routine to music, while others don’t. Assuming your instructor is a professional member, she will be knowledgeable on all the different event categories, and help your daughter make the best choice for her first competition performance.

Q **My 5-year-old son often watches his sister skate and now says he wants to play hockey, but he’s never been on the ice before. What is a good age for him to start?**

A Most hockey coaches will tell you that their best players are those who first have solid skating skills. Your son is certainly ready to start mastering the balance and learning forward and backward skating, stopping, crossovers and turning maneuvers that will allow him later to focus on things like stickhandling and scoring goals!

Q **My daughter’s foot has been growing quickly and she needs to get another pair of skates. I want to be sure the next pair lasts for a few years, but her instructor insists this is a bad idea. What is the problem with getting another pair with plenty of “growing room”?**

A A couple of things … first, stand your daughter’s skate on a flat surface like a tabletop. Notice how the entire blade is not touching the surface. Only a small portion of the blade, called the “rocker,” actually touches the ice when upright. It is important that the ball of your daughter’s foot be over this part of the blade for proper balance. A skate that is too long will cause her weight to shift dangerously backward.

Blisters are also formed from skates that are too big — not too small, as is often believed. The boot needs to be snug enough that the foot and skate move as one. When the foot has room to move around and rub back and forth against the leather, painful blisters will occur.

Therefore, it is never recommended to get more than a half-size in “growing room.” Even then, insoles are often used initially to elevate the foot and take up some of the additional space in the boot to prevent injury.
ISI members skate for the FUN of it!

Join or renew today, and be a part of the world’s largest group of recreational ice skaters.

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- The original learn-to-skate program – tried and true!
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- Excess accident and liability insurance
- Recreational Ice Skating magazine
- The opportunity to participate in local and national ISI competitions and shows, including the annual ISI World Recreational Team Championships – the largest recreational ice skating event in the world!
- A convenient new universal membership renewal term (all memberships renew on Sept. 1 of each year and run through Aug. 31 of the following year)

To join or renew, go to www.skateisi.org or call (972) 735-8800

Ice Skating Institute
ISI World Recreational Team Championships

Sharks Ice at San Jose • San Jose, Calif.  
July 27-Aug. 1  
Enter & Test Deadline: May 1

ISI skaters know the way to San Jose!

San Jose may be the capital of Silicon Valley, but it’s so much more than microchips. It boasts a cityscape made for strolling, featuring colorful corridors, a vibrant farmers’ market and sidewalk dining. Go festival hopping, check out America’s largest open-air flea market or spend a day at the Great America theme park. But the best reason to visit San Jose in 2009 is ISI Worlds, hosted by Sharks Ice at San Jose, the largest ice skating facility west of the Mississippi and the official training facility of the NHL’s San Jose Sharks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

skateisi.org
sanjose.org
sharksideatsanjose.com
ISI-endorsed competition & shows/exhibitions
Deadline for the next RIS calendar: Feb. 1
For regular calendar updates, see www.skateisi.org, Event Info

competitions

december

5-7 Burbank, Calif.
Pickwick Ice Center
ISI Artistic Challenge

5-7 White Bear Lake, Minn.
White Bear Lake Sports Center
White Bear Lake Holiday Open 2008

5-7 Taylor, Mich.
Taylor Sportsplex
TSX Winter Extravaganza 2008

6-7 Centennial, Colo.
South Suburban Ice Arena
21st Annual Winterfest ISI Competition

6-7 Pleasant Prairie, Wis.
Pleasant Prairie IcePlex
2008 Winter Wonderland Open

7 Franklin, Mass.
Franklin Blades Skating School
18th Annual ISI Team Competition

12-14 Wayne, Mich.
Wayne Community Center
Arctic Adventure

13 Walla Walla, Wash.
YWCA Ice Chalet
District 13 Hockey Skills Championships

30 Rolling Meadows, Ill.
Rolling Meadows Park District Frost Fest

january

10-11 Brockton, Mass.
Bay State Blades Brockton
3rd Annual Brockton Blizzard

15-18 Lake Placid, N.Y.
Olympic Center
Lake Placid ISI Championships

16-18 El Paso, Texas
Sierra Providence Event Center
Sun City Ice Fest 2009

16-18 St. Peters, Mo.
St. Peters Rec-Plex
District 9 Championships

17-18 Centennial, Colo.
South Suburban Family Sports Center
7th Annual ISI Competition

York City Ice Arena
Keystone State Games

february

Mike Modano Ice Arena
You’re A Star

24-25 Plymouth, Minn.
Plymouth Ice Center
Blizzard Blast

13-15 Dallas
Dr Pepper StarCenter
ISI Winter Classic

2-26 Franklin Park, Ill.
Franklin Park Ice Arena
Spring Fever

march

7-8 Minneapolis
Parade Figure Skating Club
2009 Blades of March ISI Open Competition

7-8 San Diego
San Diego Ice Arena
California State Games

Livonia Eddie Edgar
Livonia ISI Open Competition

23-25 Orlando, Fla.
RDV Sportsplex
ISI 50th Anniversary Skating Championships

23-24 San Diego
San Diego Ice Arena
ISI Open Competition

may

june

5-7 New York
Sky Rink @ Chelsea Piers
23rd Annual ISI Team Competition

july

27-Aug. 1 San Jose, Calif.
Sharks Ice at San Jose
ISI World Recreational Team Championships
### September

- **9-11** Findlay, Ohio  
  Silver Blades FSC  
  Flag City Open

### October

- **2-4** Lake Placid, N.Y.  
  Olympic Center  
  ISI Adult Championships

### November

- **6-8** Montgomery, Ala.  
  K Lynn Skating School  
  1st Annual Competition

### December

#### Shows & Exhibitions

- **thru Dallas Dec. 20**  
  Galleria Ice Skating Center  
  Annual Tree Lighting Ceremonies
- **3-4 Honolulu**  
  Ice Palace  
  Nutcracker
- **4 Tacoma, Wash.**  
  Sprinker Recreation Center  
  Holiday Ice
- **6 Oak Lawn, Ill.**  
  Oak Lawn Ice Arena  
  Holly Day on Ice
- **6 Anaheim, Calif.**  
  Anaheim ICE  
  14th Annual Holiday Spectacular
- **6 Oldsmar, Fla.**  
  Tampa Bay Skating Academy  
  Polar Express on Ice
- **6-7 Franklin Park, Ill.**  
  Franklin Park Ice Arena  
  2008 Holiday Recital
- **6-7 Little Rock, Ark.**  
  Arkansas Skatium  
  Winter Ice Show 2008
- **7 Roseville, Calif.**  
  Skatetown  
  Holiday Spectacular on Ice
- **7 Newark, Ohio**  
  Lou & Gib Reese Ice Arena  
  Holiday Exhibition
- **7 Nashville, Tenn.**  
  Centennial Sportsplex  
  Centennial Sportsplex Holiday Show
- **9-13 Knoxville, Tenn.**  
  Ice Chalet  
  21st Annual Nutcracker on Ice
- **12 Plano, Texas**  
  Dr Pepper StarCenter  
  The Christmas Wish

### March

- **14-15** St. Louis  
  Wayne C. Kennedy Recreation Complex  
  Annual Ice Recital
- **21 Springfield, Mass.**  
  Bay State Blades-Forest Park (Cyr Arena)  
  Anything Goes

### April

- **3-5** Jefferson City, Mo.  
  Washington Park Ice Arena  
  Continental Tours

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**DEADLINE**  
for the next **RIS** calendar:  
Feb. 1  
For regular calendar updates, see [www.skateisi.org](http://www.skateisi.org), event info
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To place classified advertising, call Carol Jackson, advertising sales manager, at (972) 735-8800, fax to (972) 735-8815 or send e-mail to cjackson@skateisi.org. The deadline for the next issue of RIS is Jan. 25.
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