Holiday Card Contest Gallery

Ice Dancing
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Adult Champs at Lake Placid
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what’s inside
Recreational Ice Skating Winter 2009/Vol. 34, Number 2

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Ice Skating Institute

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What’s Inside
Recreational Ice Skating Winter 2009/Vol. 34 Number 2

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HOW TO GET YOUR NAME, LETTER OR PHOTO PUBLISHED

Following these simple guidelines will help you make it into the pages of *Recreational Ice Skating* magazine! Please note that ISI has more than 30,000 individual skater members and a limited number of magazine pages each quarter, so we cannot guarantee placement—but here is what you need to do to increase your odds.

**LETTERS**

- You **MUST** include everything in this 6-point checklist:
  1. Your full name
  2. Your ISI member number (the number on your magazine mailing label and membership card)
  3. Your age
  4. Your ISI test level
  5. The name of your arena
  6. Your city and state

- If you have a skating question, be as specific as possible. Technical questions are 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. Please send your correspondence to: editor@skateisi.org.

**PEN PALS**

- Pen pal requests are accepted via e-mail only, to editor@skateisi.org.
- You **MUST** include all information in the 6-point checklist, above, when requesting a pen pal or a listing.
- Members’ e-mail addresses are never published in the magazine.
- **NOTE:** We do not “match up” pen pals. We simply publish your requests and forward your letter to specifically requested members. The ISI does not guarantee or monitor member-to-member correspondence.

**PHOTOS**

We love to receive your photos! However, please note that, first, we receive hundreds and sometimes even thousands of images from a single event; and second, there are certain criteria that photos must meet in order to be considered for publication. If you follow these guidelines, you are more likely to see one of your photos in print:

1. Only high-resolution images will be accepted. Make sure your camera is set on the highest resolution when the photos are taken; manipulating the photos in an image-editing program after the photos are taken does NOT increase resolution!
2. Photos must be sent as individual jpg attachments. Please do not send photo collages or photos pasted into your e-mail document. You may send multiple images in a single e-mail, and “zip” or “stuff” them if you wish. No links to photo Web sites or online photo albums, please!
3. Limit the number of photos you send to a few (three to five) of your favorites. Sending dozens does not increase your chances of publication.
4. Choose the very BEST shots you have. Pay attention to background and clarity. We like to see happy, smiling faces that illustrate what recreational ice skating and ISI are all about. Say CHEEEESE!
5. Please note that individual photo selection is random in terms of identification. We attempt to prevent publication of multiple images of the same individuals in a given issue, but duplication can sometimes occur. Selection is based primarily on variety and quality.
Do You?


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Joannie Rochette
Matches her Riedell boots with John Wilson blades

2009 World Championships Silver Medalist
2009 ISU Four Continents Championships Silver Medalist
5-time Canadian Champion
It wasn’t the glitter alone that made Kelsey Barnes’ holiday card entry sparkle, but it was an appropriate finishing touch for her festive skating snowman family.

Kelsey, 17, is a high school senior in Frisco, Texas who loves art as much as ice skating. And, she notes, “Like a true figure skater — I absolutely love glitter!” An ISI member since age 5, she has reached level 6 in both Freestyle and Ice Dancing. She skates at Dr Pepper StarCenter-Plano and coaches learn-to-skate classes at Dr Pepper StarCenter-Frisco.

For her holiday card design, Kelsey used cut paper to create a fun-loving snowman family skating hand-in-hand. “Because I knew that people celebrate all kinds of holidays, I didn’t want to focus just on Christmas,” she explains. “I wanted to do a family-oriented wintery scene using cool colors.”

Kelsey says she’s happy working in any medium, and she is currently developing a sculpture portfolio for her Advanced Placement 3-D class. She hopes to major in fine arts at Southern Methodist University next year.

Kelsey’s design was selected by a panel of ISI judges to be used as the organization’s official holiday greeting card for 2009. Thanks to all who participated in this year’s contest. A gallery of all entries can be found on pages 16-17, and on the ISI Web site at skateisi.org.

Six of the St. Louis Synergy synchronized skating teams couldn’t contain their joy over this year’s ISI Holiday Card Creativity Contest. So they decided to spell it out in black and white — on ice, in synchro holds, illustrating the togetherness of both synchronized skating and the holidays.

Part of the Metro Edge Figure Skating Club of Missouri, the St. Louis Synergy synchro program includes 95 skaters who skate at the Webster Groves Ice Arena. In addition to the six teams pictured, with an age range of 4 to 18, the program is also in the process of developing an Open Collegiate team.

Kudos to this enthusiastic group and its leaders, who gathered on a weekend to share their holiday spirit with ISI.

Correction: Yerba Buena Takes Third at Worlds

Following the conclusion of the ISI World Recreational Team Championships in San Jose, we discovered a programming error in the computation of team points for the Production Team events only. The event placements are accurate; however, due to a glitch in the calculation of the overall team standings, the Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center should have received the third-place overall trophy. We apologize for this error and congratulate the Yerba Buena skaters and coaches on their achievement.
“We didn’t know there were so many different colors of leaves!” was a common refrain as competitors arrived at the 2009 ISI Adult Championships in Lake Placid, N.Y. Autumn in all its scenic glory proved to be just one of the many highlights of the early October weekend.

“The competitors loved the unique experience of skating on Olympic ice,” noted Randy Winship, ISI director of skating programs and events. “And the quality of the ice at the Olympic Center was amazing. We thank facility manager Denny Allen and ORDA for this incredible opportunity.”

ISI President Jim Hartnett and board members Lisa Fedick, Margy Bennett and Robyn Bentley worked with Winship to make the event seamlessly successful.

The Crystallites from Tampa Bay Skating Academy-Countryside once again claimed the first-place Erika Amundsen Award. The team has taken top honors at Adult Champs for 10 of the competition’s 11 years.

“We would like to thank ISI for having an annual competition just for adults,” said Crystallites Co-Captain Pam Huff. “We are a small team of just 10 skaters, and our team practices for one hour per week all year, usually on a small rink in the middle of a shopping mall. Spreading our routines out to cover a full-size rink is a big job that our coach, Nadine Pearen, does wonderfully.

“TBSA-Countryside Crystallites took first at Adult Champs, for the 10th time in the competition’s 11-year history.

“To be able to compete on the ice surface that hosted the Miracle on Ice was an amazing thrill,” Huff added. “Each skater can now say that they competed on an official Olympic surface — what a gift to each and every one of us. We will all carry fantastic memories of our own “Miracle on Ice!”

### TOP 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>ARENA</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>TBSA-Countryside</td>
<td>282.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ellenton Ice &amp; Sports Complex</td>
<td>254.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sacred Heart University</td>
<td>155.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kettering Adult FSC</td>
<td>136.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>City of Shaker Heights</td>
<td>87.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>FMC – Taunton</td>
<td>87.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Channel Islands Ice Center</td>
<td>81.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>FMC – Greenfield</td>
<td>72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Skating Club of Greater Youngstown</td>
<td>66.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Over the Edge Inc</td>
<td>54.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a complete listing of teams and results, go to skateisi.org.
Feb. 12-14
Anaheim ICE & Westminster ICE • Anaheim, CA
Entry & Test Deadline: Dec. 1

A Sweet Getaway: Valentine’s Weekend in Anaheim

What could be better than a winter escape to southern California for Valentine’s weekend? Skating in the 25th Annual ISI Winter Classic, that’s what! Head to the home of Disneyland, Universal Studios and Knott’s Berry Farm for some February fun. The last time this event was held in Anaheim, it drew 1,800 ISI skaters, making it the biggest Winter Classic on record!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
skateisi.org
anaheimoc.org
anaheimice.com

Schedule and venue subject to change.
The ISIA Education Foundation congratulates 2009 scholarship recipients Alissa Kitchen, Briana Pigott and Theresa Semmelmayer.

Alissa Kitchen

ISI skating holds many happy memories and lessons for Alissa (“Ali”) Kitchen, from the dozens of shows and competitions in which she has skated individually, in Spotlight events with family and friends and on synchro teams, to her recent roles as instructor, judge and mentor.

“My long relationship with ISI naturally makes me an advocate for ISI,” says Ali, a 14-year ISI member who has entered as many as 11 events in a single competition. “I am proud to teach every skater about ISI. My dream is to share my love for skating, the lessons skating has taught me and the friendships that have blessed my life. I want to be the one to guide them toward what has enriched my life so deeply, and teach them that skating is for fun.”

Ali’s cheerful personality, sunny smile and contagious enthusiasm are welcome additions wherever she skates and studies. She regularly traveled two hours twice weekly from her home in Columbia, Mo. to skate with her synchro team at Webster Groves Ice Arena in the St. Louis area.

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“Alissa’s love for skating is infectious and she brightens the rink when she’s there,” notes her coach, Bridgid LaMe-ar. “Her positive nature and love for children go hand-in-hand. Ali not only strives for excellence, but achieves it. She isn’t satisfied with ‘good enough’ but truly takes the extra steps needed to be the best at whatever her task. She is an ISI skater through and through who brings joy to our next generation of skaters.”

Ali graduated in the top 5 percent of her class at Rock Bridge Senior High School in Columbia, Mo., where she was active in myriad academic and community activities. She is now a freshman at Miami University in Ohio, where she is majoring in biology and U.S. history, with a minor in Spanish. The campus is home to the new Goggin Ice Center and its world-renowned varsity synchronized skating team.

Briana Pigott

Briana Pigott is a classic example of the ISI “skating scholar” who has successfully balanced her life both on and off the ice.

“I have worked hard all my life to balance the demands of school and skating. It took a lot of work to find this very delicate balance, especially once I entered high school,” says Briana, who credits her parents’ love and support for helping her achieve that balance.

“My mom would wake up early every Saturday morning to bring me to my group lessons, and my dad would always leave work early to come see me compete or perform. I was the main contributor to the wear and tear on the family car, with all the trips to the rink for practice and the countless road trips to competitions. Sacrifices were very often made on my parents’ part so I could stick with the sport that was bringing me so much happiness,” Briana adds.

Thanks to her parents’ commitment as well as Briana’s own dedication, she is an 11-year ISI member who has participated in an impressive seven World Recreational Team Championships, coast to coast, and dozens of other local and regional events while maintaining a stellar record in the classroom and as a busy volunteer.

“As a skater, Briana gives 100 percent every time she steps onto the ice,” says Lisa Hasgrove, Briana’s under-study program director at the Edward J. Murray Memorial Skating Center in Yonkers, N.Y. “As a competitor, she is strong and determined. As a volunteer, she is caring and reliable. She has spent countless hours, year after year, helping to improve our skating school. Briana has also made our entire community proud with her accomplishments outside the rink.”

As a student at Dominican Academy, Briana received awards in a full spectrum of academic subjects, including English, geometry, biology, literature, algebra and trigonometry, chemistry, history, Spanish, religion, physics and pre-calculus.

Her efforts have been rewarded with acceptance into Yale University, where she is majoring in political science with a focus on international relations.

Theresa Semmelmayer

Skating, says Theresa Semmelmayer, has given her strength, agility, flexibility, endurance, athleticism and a strong work ethic. It was the endurance she gained through skating that inspired her to run high school cross-country and contribute to her team’s district, sectional and state performances.

Skating also has promoted Theresa’s healthy lifestyle, energy, artistic expression, sportsmanship and volunteer spirit. But most of all, she notes, it has broadened her circle of friends.

“My world is so immense because I skate,” Theresa says. “I have been all over the nation competing, from Colorado to Connecticut, meeting many skaters and experiencing new things. My favorite thing, by far, about skating is sharing it with others. I love teaching tots how to skate, volunteering at the ice rink with friends and performing in front of an audience in a show or competition.”

Theresa is a Freestyle 9 skater with her sights set on Freestyle 10.

“I have been coaching Theresa for 10 years now, and I know that wherever life takes her she will be successful. She has become confident off the ice and one of the best performers on the ice that our skating school has known,” says Pam Forster, Theresa’s coach at St. Peters Rec-Plex in St. Peters, Mo. “She has always been the most involved skater in our rink’s program, no matter the events. She is always there to lend a helping hand and she is a great role model.”

Theresa graduated second in her class of 483 from Francis Howell Central High School in nearby St. Charles, with a grade point average of 4.81 on a 4.0 (weighted) scale. She is majoring in mechanical engineering at St. Louis University.

“I have taken what I learned from skating about accepting and applying criticism and have used it in my academics, my social interactions — and beyond,” says Theresa. “I consider it my responsibility as a high-level ISI skater to provide an example of hard work and sportsmanship. I believe the joy of skating should be shared with all I encounter.”

Editor’s note: Applications for 2010 scholarships are due March 1. Please see page 14 for more information.
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- National event descriptions
- Membership and eligibility requirements
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- Competition essentials

Third section includes:
- Judge certification information
- Referee responsibilities
- Judging notes and terms
- Scoring tips and penalties
- Handy reference charts

To order, go to www.skateisi.org (Skaters’ and Coaches’ pages) or call (972) 735-8800

The ISI Education Foundation

Special thanks to the following recent contributors whose generosity makes the Foundation’s scholarship program possible. To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit skateisi.org and click on the Education Foundation tab on the toolbar.

2009 Keystone State Games
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Becky Jo Goldyn
De Greenberg
Scott McCoy
SJR Charitable Foundation
St. Peters Figure Skating Association
Kristen Vanorski
Richard Zamboni

5-YEAR PLEDGES
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Dean & Judith Gould
Renee & David Gould
De Greenberg
Ontie Griebel
Francine & Russell Haefner
ISI members are well-rounded individuals who put as much energy into their life off the ice as they do on it. We believe that both educational and recreational pursuits are necessary to achieve a balanced life.

Each year, the ISIA Education Foundation awards scholarships to ISI skaters who have demonstrated a commitment to academics and service. The application process is open to students in their senior year of high school through their junior year in an undergraduate program. However, most recipients began their qualification process during their middle-school years. Start your four-step process of qualification today!

1. Maintain at least a 3.0 GPA.
2. Participate in a variety of school and community activities. Keep detailed records, including frequency of participation.
3. Continue to test and compete in the ISI program, especially during the two years prior to application. Keep good records of all skating activity.
4. Prior to application, complete 120 hours of verified service, of which at least 60 must be in association with an ISI member facility. This information must be recorded on the Service Hours Verification Form, which is part of the scholarship application available at skateisi.org.

Application deadline is March 1

For more information or to apply, go to skateisi.org or call (972) 735-8800

Emily Miller, 2008 scholarship recipient

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Stan & Diane Belliveau
Ice Skating Institute
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Louise Hoggan
Ice Skating Institute

Robert Unger
Jon Robinson
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5th Annual ISI Holiday Card Creativity Contest

Aimee Erickson
Alicia Andrews
Ashby Amory
Bailey Carpenter
Cassandra Munoz
Cheyenne McGuin
Emily Martorella
Gabrielle
Kelly Harrington
Kelsey Barnes
Kyle Berglund
Makayla Murdaugh
Paige Norberg
St. Louis Synergy
Card Creativity Contest

View Online at SKATEISI.ORG

Bailey Carpenter
Carly Phoon
Carolina Munoz
Carrie Ackley
Gabrielle Gallant
Ginger Freeman
Hannah Warner
Kathryn Fazzi
Kylee Kinsman
Rachel Schneider
Reagan Flewelling

St. Louis Synergy
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Miami University • Oxford, OH
Entry Deadline: Jan. 15

Synchro Skaters Are Headed in the Right Direction!

All signs point to the state-of-the-art Goggin Ice Center for the 2010 ISI Synchronized Skating Championships. Located on one of the most beautiful college campuses in the nation, 200-year-old Miami University, Goggin is home to the national champion RedHawk synchronized skating teams. If you love synchronized skating, you’ll love this event and this arena!

Schedule and venue subject to change.
### Freestyle 8

- **Gemma Carter**  
  Portland Ice Arena  
- **Jessica Christy**  
  Minneapolis/Augsburg Arena  
- **Angela Como**  
  Oakton Ice Arena  
- **Alex Damerell**  
  Owens Recreation Center  
- **Caroline Feller**  
  Ice Chalet  
- **Kerianne Fernandez**  
  Ice Sports Forum  
- **Natalie Garvey**  
  Parade Figure Skating Club  
- **Emily Goodnow**  
  Nashoba Valley Olympia  
- **Caroline Gordon**  
  Golden Blades Skating School  
- **Emily Harrison**  
  Oak Lawn Ice Arena  
- **Elizabeth Houle**  
  St. Peters Rec Plex  
- **Kayla Johnson**  
  St. Croix Valley  
- **Alexis MacDonald**  
  Nashoba Valley Olympia  
- **Marisa Marshalka**  
  Winterland Skating School  
- **Emily McNally**  
  Symmetrical Skating School  
- **Alina Milevska**  
  Symmetrical Skating School  
- **Meaghan Monaghan**  
  Portland Ice Arena  
- **Alexandra Moran**  
  Nashoba Valley Olympia  
- **Brianna Morton**  
  FMC Ice Sports Natick  
- **Diane Mutting**  
  Oak Lawn Ice Arena  
- **Cierra Nelson**  
  Oakland Ice Center – Sharks Ice  
- **Catherine O’Connor**  
  White Bear Lake Sports Center  
- **Sophia Salmanpour**  
  Roseville Skating Center  
- **Courtney Sayyae**  
  Southgate Civic Center  
- **Rachel Spitz**  
  Winterland Skating School  
- **Amy Sterling**  
  Franklin Blades Skating School

### Freestyle 9

- **Daniel Gore**  
  Northbrook Sports Center  
- **Daniel Kulenkamp**  
  White Bear Lake Sports Center  
- **Bella Martinez**  
  Skatetown  
- **Megan Brown**  
  Nazareth Ice Oasis  
- **Alice Ho**  
  Sharks Ice at San Jose  
- **Mary Panyon**  
  Nazareth Ice Oasis  
- **Peter Sasmore**  
  Nazareth Ice Oasis  
- **Benjaman Westenberger**  
  Sharks Ice at San Jose

---

**High-Level Tests**

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

### Freestyle 8

- **Gemma Carter**  
  Portland Ice Arena  
- **Jessica Christy**  
  Minneapolis/Augsburg Arena  
- **Angela Como**  
  Oakton Ice Arena  
- **Alex Damerell**  
  Owens Recreation Center  
- **Caroline Feller**  
  Ice Chalet  
- **Kerianne Fernandez**  
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- **Natalie Garvey**  
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- **Caroline Gordon**  
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- **Emily Harrison**  
  Oak Lawn Ice Arena  
- **Elizabeth Houle**  
  St. Peters Rec Plex  
- **Kayla Johnson**  
  St. Croix Valley  
- **Alexis MacDonald**  
  Nashoba Valley Olympia  
- **Marisa Marshalka**  
  Winterland Skating School  
- **Emily McNally**  
  Symmetrical Skating School  
- **Alina Milevska**  
  Symmetrical Skating School  
- **Meaghan Monaghan**  
  Portland Ice Arena  
- **Alexandra Moran**  
  Nashoba Valley Olympia  
- **Brianna Morton**  
  FMC Ice Sports Natick  
- **Diane Mutting**  
  Oak Lawn Ice Arena  
- **Cierra Nelson**  
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- **Catherine O’Connor**  
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- **Sophia Salmanpour**  
  Roseville Skating Center  
- **Courtney Sayyae**  
  Southgate Civic Center  
- **Rachel Spitz**  
  Winterland Skating School  
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- **Alice Ho**  
  Sharks Ice at San Jose  
- **Mary Panyon**  
  Nazareth Ice Oasis  
- **Peter Sasmore**  
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- **Benjaman Westenberger**  
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U.S. Icewear serves ISI members with superb quality, reasonable prices and, with this partnership, generous support of the ISIA Education Foundation.

For more information and to order your U.S. Icewear tights, go to skateisi.org and select the skaters’ page.
Peter’s other Dance 10 partner, Megan Brown, is a substitute teacher and a coach at Nazareth. She started ice dancing 10 years ago as a teenager, originally to help with synchronized skating. “I soon realized that I wanted to make ice dance my priority,” she recalls. “It allows me to combine both my technical and creative sides, and it is something that I will be able to continue doing throughout my life.”

Alice Ho and Benjaman Westenberger, both 26, became ice dancing partners while coaching at Sharks Ice at San Jose. Alice began ice dancing in college and became the intercollegiate junior and senior dance champion while competing for the University of California, Berkeley.

“I like working with a partner,” says Alice. “It’s more exciting and challenging that way.”

Benjaman, who began skating at age 4, started ice dancing at 13 when a girl at his arena in San Diego needed a partner. He recently returned to competitive skating following an injury and surgery, and has represented the United States at seven national championships and several international competitions. He is now training in and representing Canada.

“Ice dance is all about technique, edge quality, timing and the way the body is able to express the music,” Benjaman notes. “I would encourage any skater to try ice dance. It’s both physically and mentally demanding, and allows the skater to explore their edge work and creativity.”

Want to learn more about ice dancing? Turn the page!
Get a map, mark your route and make your plans for our 2010 national events, scheduled throughout the year, from coast to coast (see inside back cover). ISI skaters are really going to some cool places in 2010, and you’re sure to find a national event not far from home.

As our exciting 50th anniversary year draws to a close, we look forward to the special celebrations we have in store for 2010. The 25th Annual ISI Winter Classic will be held Feb. 12-14 at Anaheim ICE and the newly renovated Westminster ICE facilities in Anaheim, Calif. The last time Winter Classic was in Anaheim, we had more than 1,800 skaters, making it our largest Winter Classic ever. Help us make history again, by surpassing the previous record!

Entries will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, so don’t delay — get your entry in now! We look forward to seeing you and your skating friends for a “sweet” Valentine weekend of skating.

Our Synchronized Championships event will be another “first” at the Goggin Ice Center in Oxford, Ohio, home of the world-famous Miami University synchro teams. Then we’re off to Marlboro, Mass. in July for a special celebration — the 30th Annual ISI World Recreational Team Championships. With five ice surfaces under one roof, this location is always a hit with ISI skaters. Include a summer trip to Boston for this fun and historic competition.

Adult Champs — popular for our skaters age 21 and over — heads back to fabulous Las Vegas in October. We’ve changed the dates to a holiday weekend to allow even more fun in the City of Lights. The new event location will be the twin sheets at the Las Vegas Ice Center, located close to the Strip.

To end our competition year, how about a pre-holiday stop along Chicago’s North Shore? We’ll hit the Windy City for our Artistic Challenge at the Northbrook Sports Center. Featuring many non-technical events, it’s a great way to show off your entertaining and creative side of skating.

There’s truly something for everyone on our 2010 national event tour, so grab your friends, pack your skates and go places with ISI!

We highlighted Couples & Pairs events in the last issue, but what is the other popular partner event at many ISI competitions? Ice dancing! Many people think the effortless and flowing ice dancing events are difficult for beginner skaters. Not true! Did you know that the Dance 1 and Dance 2 requirements for both testing and competition events require only forward skating? If you are doing forward strokes and glides on ice, then you can learn to dance, too.

Ice Dancing Tests 1-10 and competition events require skaters to follow a specific set pattern of steps, turns and edges around the rink to a fixed tempo of dance music. Ice Dancing 1-10 tests can be taken solo or with a partner. All skaters are required to pass the corresponding ice dancing test(s) before participating in competition events. (Pre-Alpha through Delta tests are not required.) Ice dancing events are divided into four categories for ISI competitions:

- **Solo** - One skater performing the set pattern steps alone
- **Similar** - Two skaters of the same gender performing together
- **Mixed** - One male and one female performing together
- **Pro Partner** - In this newest dance event, students can partner with a professional instructor to compete in ISI dance events. This is great for both adult and younger skaters.
The best thing about ice dancing is that you don’t have to master any jumps or spins. Many people like the added security of not having to be airborne. There is also no program to prepare as all skaters follow the same set dance patterns for competition events.

Ice dancing provides a chance for skaters to improve edge control, posture, balance and rhythm while skating solo or with a partner. These qualities will help to improve your freestyle programs along with Artistic, Spotlight and Interpretive event programs.

The set pattern dances are a step-by-step progression from easy to more difficult levels. (See the new ISI Handbook for specific dance test requirements.)

Event judging criteria include: correctness, interpretation, pattern, position, posture, timing and unison (if with a partner).

Free Dance 1-10

If the set pattern dances aren’t your thing but you still want to dance on ice, check out the new Free Dance 1-10 tests. All skaters must pass the corresponding Free Dance 1-10 test(s) before participating in the Free Dance competition events. Each test level requires a dance program (for two skaters) with specific maneuvers that include dance step sequences along with some other maneuvers, spins and lifts from freestyle and pair tests. There are some restrictions for holds and positions, but the required maneuvers and steps are woven into an entertaining routine to music of the skaters’ own design.

ISI Polar Classic Competition

Jan. 9-10, 2010
Entry deadline: Saturday, Dec. 19
Download the competition packet at HFPARKS.COM

Homewood/Flossmoor Ice Arena
777 Kedzie, Flossmoor, IL
708-957-0100
Wrap Up Another Year!
Here’s a fun scrapbook activity!
Fill in the blanks to save your 2009 ice skating memories.

My name: ____________________________ My age: __________
My instructor/coach: _________________ My current ISI level: __________
My favorite skating move: ____________
When I skate, I like to wear: __________
My favorite song to skate to: __________
My favorite ice skating memory from 2009: __________
My skating goals for 2010: ____________

Jump On It!
Use the letters bouncing on the trampoline to complete the names of these ice skating jumps!

L__O__
__UT__
F__I__
__A__LEY
W__L__Z
weSKATE Memory Game

Ice skaters must have good memories, and here’s a fun way to test yours! Carefully cut out the squares below (or make a copy of this page if you don’t want to cut up your magazine). Place the squares face-down on a flat surface and mix them up well. Then, with another player, take turns turning over two at a time. When you get a match, you get another turn. The player who finds the most matches is the winner!
July 26-31
New England Sports Center • Marlboro, MA
Entry & Test Deadline: May 1

Discover the Exciting Worlds of ISI!

Navigate northeastward for the 30th Annual ISI World Championships. By popular demand, ISI returns to the two-story New England Sports Center for the largest annual recreational ice skating competition on the planet. The spacious center offers everything needed for a wonderful Worlds: five rinks under one roof, a full-service restaurant, plentiful parking and a perfect tourist location near Boston. Plans are in the works for a harbor cruise, always a hit with fun-loving Worlds competitors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
skateisi.org
bostonusa.com
www.nes.com

Schedule and venue subject to change.
Understanding Event Judging

Q My daughter has chosen a popular song she’d like to skate to for her next Freestyle 2 competition program. She’d like to enter the technical event, but is she allowed to skate to something with vocals in that category? Her coach also said she will have to cut it a little shorter because the part she’d like to skate to is now 1:45. Is this really necessary? This piece sounds wonderful just as it is.

A Yes, vocal music is fine for any ISI event program, but you should still check with your daughter’s coach to make sure that music will be appropriate for the program choreography. The duration time for that program is 1:30. The skater is allowed a leeway of 10 seconds over this time, however it is always a good idea not to cut it too close, to allow for differences in the audio equipment. There is a penalty for exceeding the leeway, but no penalty for being under.

Q We were very surprised recently to see that a skater who fell during her program actually won the event! Isn’t there a major point deduction for this in ISI competition?

A No, there is no penalty for falling in any ISI competition event. A skater who falls while performing a required maneuver has three attempts to successfully complete the maneuver in the program, and only the best attempt is scored. If the fall is on a non-required maneuver, judges could give a lower score under “General Overall” or “Judge Appeal” if they think the fall disrupted the flow of the overall program.

Q At the recent World Championships, I noticed that my daughter did a lot more difficult jumps and spins in her Light Entertainment routine than the girl who won. She seemed to just do a lot of “dancing on ice.” Why did that happen?

A In the Spotlight category, there is no score given for technical maneuvers. Those programs are judged on the entertainment value of the performance, including: Costume and Prop, Music and Choreography, Originality, Duration and Judge Appeal (by all three judges).

Q I understand that figure skating is often subjective and based on opinionated judging, and for that reason, my daughter’s coach and I both encourage her to compete against herself each time, trying to improve with each performance. But when there are three judges watching her sit spin, for example, isn’t it true that one may prefer a faster spin, while one may like it slower and better controlled, and yet another might give a higher score for a lower position? How is she supposed to please everyone on the panel?

A Teaching your daughter to do the best she can and compete against herself is a healthy and commendable approach to it. She is bound to be a winner more often than not, and she is in complete control of that! If you are talking about the sit spin receiving a score in a technical Freestyle 4 event, as with most ISI competition events, each judge has different criteria on his/her judge sheet — and only one judge is scoring the sit spin to compare her sit spin performance with the other skaters in that event group. She will not get three varied marks on that one maneuver. The required maneuvers are divided between the three judges, as are the overall performance scores for Correctness, Pattern, Posture, Duration, etc. All three judges give a score for “General Overall,” so that category will carry the most impact on the final placement. This is one place where they are able to give their opinion of the entire performance, all things considered.

Q My daughter’s synchronized team has 24 skaters on it! Wouldn’t it be easier for the skaters, and result in higher scores, if the coach were to split it up into three separate teams?

A Yes, it would be easier, but that wouldn’t necessarily result in better scores. It is certainly harder to stay together in a group of 24 than a group of eight, and the judges take into consideration the size of the team. They are looking at things like the required synchronized elements — Line, Circle, Block, Wheel and Intersection — along with Unison, Correctness or Technical Merit, Transitions, Rhythm, Team Presentation, Duration and General Overall. While all of the teams do basically the same maneuvers in their choreography, there are many more exciting variations that can be done with more skaters!

Q Our youth synchronized team recently competed against a team that I know had two teenagers on it. I believe these girls are 14 or 15 years old. Don’t they have to be on a teen team?

A All synchronized teams are registered by age category based on a majority age of the skaters. To compete in the youth category, the majority of skaters must be ages 9-11. Younger skaters can be rounded up until you have a majority, but older skaters may not be rounded down, so you will sometimes see these older skaters on a younger team, especially if there is no other team available for them.

PARENTS: Tell us what you want to know about ISI skating and events! Send your questions to editor@skateisi.org.
**competitions**

**december**

4-6  Fort Myers FL
Fort Myers Skatium
ISI Artistic Challenge

4-6  Taylor MI
Taylor Sportsplex
TSX Winter Extravaganza

4-6  White Bear Lake MN
White Bear Lake Sports Center
White Bear Lake Holiday Open

5-6  Burbank CA
Pickwick Ice Center
ISI Holiday Competition

12  Walla Walla WA
YWCA Ice Chalet
3rd Annual District 13 Hockey Skills Champs

30  Rolling Meadows IL
Rolling Meadows Park District
Frostfest

**january**

9  Plymouth MN
Plymouth Ice Center
Blizzard Blast

9-10  Brockton MA
FMC - Asiaf Arena
Brockton Blizzard

14-17  Mamaroneck NY
Riverdale Ice
Lake Placid ISI Championships

15-17  Montgomery AL
K Lynn Skating School
1st Annual Competition

16-17  Centennial CO
South Suburban Family Sports Center
7th Annual ISI Competition

22-24  Williamstown MA
Lansing Chapman Skating Rink
Bay State Games

24  Franklin Park IL
Franklin Park Ice Arena
KICKLine Synchronized Skating Competition

**february**

5-7  Glenview IL
Glenview Ice Center
February Freeze

5-7  Eugene OR
Lane Events Center-ICE
Love to Skate

5-8  St. Louis MO
Wayne C. Kennedy Recreation Complex
21st Annual Sweetheart Open

12-14  Anaheim CA
Anaheim ICE
ISI Winter Classic

12-14  Oxford OH
Goggin Ice Center
2010 ISI Miami Open Team Competition

12-14  Blaine MN
Schwan Super Rink
Frosty Blades 2010

13-14  Plano TX
Dr Pepper StarCenter
ISI Love to Skate 2010

20  Mansfield MA
Golden Blades Skating School
9th Annual ISI Team Competition

20-21  Nashville TN
Centennial Sportsplex
25th Annual ISI Invitational

27-28  Oak Lawn IL
Oak Lawn Ice Arena
Reach for the Stars

**march**

12-14  Park Ridge IL
Oakton Ice Arena
Ice Breaker Classic

**april**

9-11  Knoxville TN
Ice Chalet
41st Annual Robert Unger Competition

24-25  Johnstown PA
Planet Ice
Spring Challenge Championship

24-25  Franklin Park IL
Franklin Park Ice Arena
Spring Fever Competition

**may**

1-2  El Segundo CA
Toyota Sports Center
2010 Spring Fling Open Competition

22  Wellesley MA
Babson College Skating School
Babson Blast

**july**

26-31  Marlborough MA
New England Sports Center
30th Annual ISI World Recreational Team Championships

**october**

8-10  Las Vegas NV
ISI Adult Championships
Las Vegas Ice Center

**december**

26-28  Oxford OH
Miami University
ISI Synchronized Skating Championships

**shows & exhibitions**

2010

For regular calendar updates, see www.skateisi.org

Deadline for the next RIS calendar: Feb. 1

**shows & exhibitions**

2010

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**shows & exhibitions**

2010

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Deadline for the next RIS calendar: Feb. 1
January

2
Pepsi Ice Center
2010 Skating Month Kickoff

2010

2
Bloomington IL

13
St. Louis MO
Wayne C. Kennedy Recreation Complex
Holiday Celebration

13
Redwood City CA
Nazareth Ice Oasis
The Nightmare Before Christmas

13
West Dundee IL
Leaf’s Ice Centre
Holiday Showcase

13
Oak Lawn IL
Oak Lawn Ice Arena
Holly Day on Ice

13
Bensenville IL
Edge Ice Arenas
Annual Holiday Exhibition

18-19
Simi Valley CA
Iceoplex Simi Valley
Lion Kings on Ice

19
Arlington TX
ICE at The Parks
Holiday in The Parks

19
Marlboro MA
FMC Ice Sports Marlboro
Winter Carnival

19
Oakland CA
Oakland Ice Center - Sharks Ice
Holiday Lights by the Bay

19-20
Richmond VA
Richmond Ice Zone
2009 Holiday on Ice

20
Yonkers NY
E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center
Holiday Ice Show 2009

20
Johnstown PA
Planet Ice
Season Spectacular/Spotlight on the Season

20
Orland Park IL
Arctic Ice Arena
Arctic Wonderland 2009

26
San Jose CA
Sharks Ice at San Jose
Bay Skates

February

10
Dimondale MI
The Skate School @ The Summit
Spring Follies

16 thru May 15
Bloomington IL
Pepsi Ice Center
Red White & Blades

16 thru May 30
Bloomington IL
Pepsi Ice Center
Pepsi Pops

March

13-14
St. Louis MO
Wayne C. Kennedy Recreation Complex
Annual Ice Recital

19-20
Luverne MN
Blue Mound Figure Skaters
Bedazzled on Ice

20
Laconia NH
Central New Hampshire Skating Academy
Spring Show

April

16-17
Carol Stream IL
Carol Stream Ice Rink
Up Up and Away

23-24
Downers Grove IL
Downers Grove Ice Arena
Up Up and Away

23-25
Park Ridge IL
Oakton Ice Arena
Round-Up at the Oakton Corral

24-25
Stillwater MN
St. Croix Valley Rec Center
10th Annual Ice Show

May

1
Marlboro MA
FMC Ice Sports Marlboro
Skating to the Movies

1-2
Cottage Grove MN
City of Cottage Grove Ice Arena
Carnivals on Ice

7
Geneva IL
The Skate School @ Fox Valley
Spring Ice Show

7-9
Northbrook IL
Northbrook Sports Center
Northbrook-On-Ice 2010

13-16
Skokie IL
Skatium
One Hit Wonders

14
Dimondale MI

16
Nashville TN
Centennial Sportsplex
Annual Spring Ice Show

18-19
Skokie IL
Skatium
Superstars on Ice

21-23
Glenview IL
Glenview Ice Center
37th Annual Ice Show

28-29
Orland Park IL
Arctic Ice Arena
Magical Mystery Ice Tour
**Classified Advertising**


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 Recreational Ice Skating is Jan. 25.
ISI skaters are going places in 2010

Feb. 12-14
Anaheim ICE - Anaheim, CA
Entry & Test Deadline: Dec. 1

March 26-28
Miami University - Oxford, OH
Entry Deadline: Jan. 15

Oct. 8-10
Las Vegas Ice Center - Las Vegas, NV
Entry & Test Deadline: Aug. 15

Dec. 10-12
Northbrook Sports Center - Northbrook, IL
Entry & Test Deadline: Oct. 15

Go to www.skateisi.org for entry forms and additional event details
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