

recreational

IceSkating

Fall 2019

Pg. 8



JAN. 17-19

SPRINKER RECREATION CENTER

Meet ISI's Twizzle!

2020 National Events Preview

Pull-Out Calendar!

**Competition Results &
the Bigger Picture**

2019 Photo Galleries

- Worlds
- Conference Champs
- Synchro





BE READY FOR THE New Season!

Skaters, have you renewed your ISI membership? The ISI annual membership terms expires on Aug. 31 each year. Skaters who are not current ISI members will NOT be eligible to participate in ISI-endorsed competitions and shows.

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what's inside

Recreational Ice Skating | Fall | 2019 | Vol. 41, Number 2

Tacoma, Wash., with
beautiful Mt. Rainier
looming in background.



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news & notes

2020 ISI National Events Theme

The ISI office selects a new theme each year for all the Themed Spotlights and Themed Production Events offered at the year's national competitions. The 2020 theme is **"Vacation ... all I ever wanted; had to get away."** We encourage you to create your own version of what this theme means to you and/or your skaters. You can use these "themed" programs beginning with the first ISI national event of 2020, West Coast Championships (Jan. 17- 19, Sprinkler Recreation Center, Tacoma, Wash.) through the final national event of 2020, Holiday Theatrical Challenge (Dec. 4-6, Iceoplex Simi Valley, Simi Valley, Calif.)



SkateISI



SkateISI — Ice Sports Industry



SkatingISI



ISI's newest mascot, Twizzle, made her debut at ISI Worlds in July!

We asked skaters to share their stories of how these two adorable penguins met and became the best of friends. We received quite a few wonderful

essays! **Congrats to William Fleury, 9, winner of the contest.** William is a Freestyle 6 skater and his home rink is Washington Park Ice Arena in Jefferson City, Mo. Introducing the official (*drumroll, please!*) storyline of how Flip and Twizzle became "besties." It went down like this:



Best Friends

by William Fleury

Flip was on a plane far away from **home**.
Maybe he can make friends, but right now he's all **alone**.

A flight attendant walked up to his seat and was **unsweet**,
She told him, "You can fly on your own and have fish to **eat**!"
She gave Flip a parachute, pushed him out the hatch, and yelled "Hope you land on your **feet**!"

He landed in St. Louis, Missouri. It was as hot as could **be**.
Then he saw an ice arena and he went in with **glee**.
He saw many skaters and said, "You're probably as cold as **me**!"

He jumped on the ice and did a belly **slide**.
Then Flip heard a cute voice say, "Can we dance and **glide**?"
The new friendly penguin said with **pride**!

The penguin slid onto the **ice**.
She was the perfect partner for Flip and was super **nice**!
And even the perfect size and was very **precise**!

She said, "My name is **Twizzle**."
Flip said, "It's been a long day and I'm in a **frizzle**.
I got pushed off an airplane, landed in the hot sun and now I'm ready to **swizzle**."

Sounds tiring she said with a **smile**!
My igloo is only a **mile**!
Would you join me for a short **while**?

So they went to Twizzle's igloo and Flip said, "All I have is a **dime**."
Twizzle said, "Don't worry nothing here cost, not even fancy frozen drinks with **lime**!"
After their fruity drink in the sun, they agreed to meet every day at the same **time**.

After they had a little **rest**,
They went to the arena and did what they do **best**.
They went to the ice and did death spirals, triple axels and even their personal favorites ...
flips and twizzles **together**.

They told each other they would be best friends **forever**.
And like they say, "Birds of a feather, flock **together**!"



Thank you to all of the creative skaters who participated in the contest. We enjoyed reading your stories!

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news & notes cont'

Congratulations to the 2019 ISIA

Education Foundation (ISIAEF) scholarship recipients:



Emily Lyon

Home Rink: Hampton Roads IcePlex,
Yorktown, Va.

College: Christopher Newport University,
Newport News, Va.

ISI Level: FS 8; Open Freestyle Platinum;
Bronze Judge Certification

Emily Says: "I cannot imagine my life without skating. I am so grateful for the valuable lessons I have learned and the work ethic I have gained through this amazing sport. ISI has helped to highlight the best aspects of skating for me and has allowed me to build a strong character and grow as a person. I have gained a deep passion through my experiences as a skater and ISI (Ice Sports Industry) competitor, and it is this passion that I believe makes me deserving of this scholarship."



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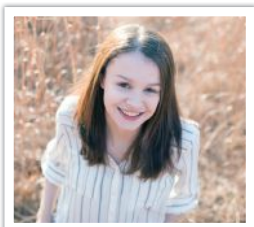
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Elizabeth Midey

Home Rink: Sharper Edge Skating School, Concord, Mass.

College: University of Pittsburgh, Pa.

ISI Level: FS 4; Dance 5; Gold Solo Dance; Gold Judge Certification; Synchro Judge Certification

Elizabeth Says: "I have been skating at Sharper Edge Skating School for almost a decade. My involvement with figure skating has played a large role in helping me become a compassionate person. In addition, challenging myself to move up levels has formed my strong work ethic. Most importantly, though, an ongoing interpersonal struggle illustrated the value of positive leadership. As a junior coach, I encourage activities to build team unity while teaching skating moves and choreography. I consistently work to become the best teammate and leader I can be — whether that's by staying positive during 5:40 a.m. practice, reviewing footwork with my teammates, or helping younger skaters get ready to compete. I believe every action counts."



Kara Mueller

Home Rink: Bowie Ice Arena, Bowie, Md.

College: College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.

ISI Level: FS 7; Open Freestyle Gold; Dance 8; Gold Judge Certification

Kara Says: "We learn and explore more than just skating in the world of ISI (Ice Sports Industry). Following the spirit of ISI, I have sought ways to share the joy of skating. I volunteer to coach younger skaters, which has taught me surprising things about myself and about how learning works. Seeing kids progress and be delighted to learn has shown me how important it can be to get involved and excited about skating, at any age. Helping Special Olympians to experience the thrill of learning new ways to move on the ice really brought home to me the ISI philosophy that everyone can and should have the chance to experience that joy and pride."

Applications for the 2020-21 academic year are due Feb. 1 (2020) and can be found on the ISIAEF website at isiafoundation.org. Any questions regarding the scholarship process should be directed to ISIAEF Scholarship Chair Debbie Lane at scholarships@isiafoundation.org.

Tax-deductible donations to the foundation are welcome at any time. For more information, please email: info@isiafoundation.org. Donations can be made in honor or in memoriam, and are accepted via electronic payment directly on the ISIAEF website at isiafoundation.org. The ISIA Education Foundation has Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) status as a public, not-for-profit charitable organization and is registered with the Illinois Secretary of State as a not-for-profit organization.

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Tacoma Waterfront

ISI West Coast Championships Jan. 17-19 Sprinker Recreation Center Tacoma, WA

Test & Entry Deadline: Nov. 10
Visit skateisi.org/westcoastchamps



Sprinker Recreation Center

2020 brings a new ISI national event to the spectacular Pacific Northwest. ISI West Coast Championships is set for Jan. 17-19 (*Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend*) at Sprinker Recreation Center in Tacoma, Wash. Nestled along the Puget Sound, this lively city is surrounded by the natural beauty of water, mountains and forests.

FUN things to do in Tacoma:

- Journey across one of the coolest landmarks in the city — the **Chihuly Bridge of Glass**.
- Check out antique cars at the **LeMay – America's Car Museum**.
- Spot animals and marine creatures at **Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium**.
- Explore the **Foss Waterway Seaport**, showcasing historic boats, steam engines, whale exhibits and more.
- Visit the **Museum of Glass**, where you can watch live glassblowing demonstrations.

Adventurers will want to take a day trip to **Mount Rainier National Park** for majestic scenery and winter fun in the snow. For those who want to hit the slopes to ski and/or snowboard, **Crystal Mountain**, **The Summit at Snoqualmie** and **Stevens Pass** are all within a one to two-hour drive.

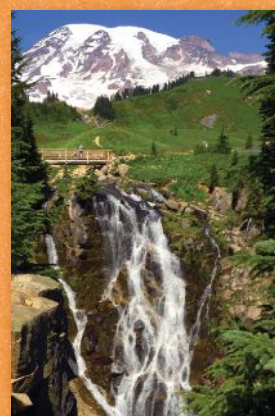
For more information, visit traveltacoma.com



Chihuly Bridge of Glass



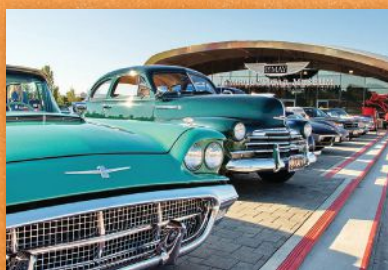
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium



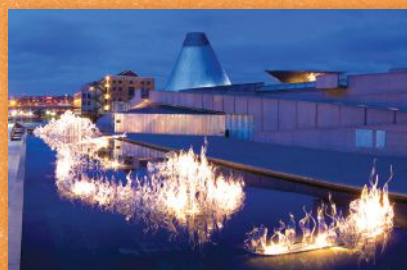
Mt. Rainer and Myrtle Falls



Foss Waterway Seaport



LeMay Car Museum



Museum of Glass

Photos courtesy of Travel Tacoma + Pierce County WA.

Reach **NEW HEIGHTS** at 2020 ISI West Coast Championships!



Jan. 17 – 19

Sprinker Recreation Center

Tacoma, WA

Test & Entry Deadline: Nov. 10

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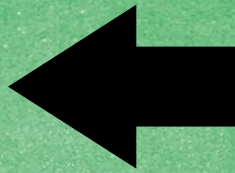




Busch Gardens

ISI Winter Classic Feb. 28 — March 1 Tampa Bay Skating Academy Oldsmar, FL

Test & Entry Deadline: Dec. 15
skateisi.org/winterclassic



We head to the Central West Coast of Florida to bring you our 2020 ISI Winter Classic, Feb. 28 — March 1 at Tampa Bay Skating Academy in Oldsmar. Known for its “Old Florida” southern charm, Oldsmar is located between Tampa and the soft, white-sand beaches of the Gulf Coast. It’s close to two international airports, numerous parks and preserves and amazing museums, restaurants and shops as well as tons of recreation.

There are many ways to find off-ice adventure in this exciting area! We’ve highlighted a few:

- **Mobbly Bayou Wilderness Preserve** — Oldsmar’s answer to outdoor exploration! Hike, kayak, canoe or zipline at **Empower Adventures Tampa Bay**, located within the preserve.
- **Big Cat Rescue** — Animal sanctuary dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating and housing abused and abandoned exotic cats.
- **Oldsmar Flea Market** — Rummage through 800 booths to discover hidden treasures. Free admission!
- **Sponge Docks in Tarpon Springs** — Marvel at the boats, with nets filled with sponges caught in the Gulf; enjoy the Greek Village, brimming with 100 shops and restaurants; and/or book a sightseeing cruise to catch a glimpse of dolphins, manatees and birds.
- **Busch Gardens** — The popular theme park offering thrilling rides, world-class shows and a zoo.
- **Clearwater Marine Aquarium** — Home to Winter the dolphin, star of the “Dolphin Tale” movie, and other rescued sea critters.

Dining Tip: Anthony’s Coal Fired Pizza in Clearwater — fantastic choice to enjoy a great meal with your entire team!



Clearwater Marine Aquarium



Empower Adventures Tampa Bay



Sponge Docks, Tarpon Springs

Photos courtesy of VisitStPeteClearwater.com and SeaWorld Parks Entertainment.

ADVENTURE Awaits at 2020 ISI Winter Classic!



Feb. 28 – March 1

Tampa Bay Skating Academy

Oldsmar, FL

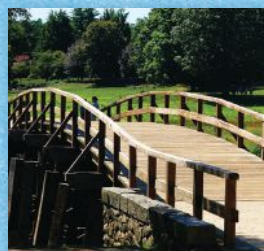
Test & Entry Deadline: Dec. 15

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Boston Skyline



Old North Bridge



Concord Museum

ISI Synchronized Championships April 3-5 Sharper Edge Skating School Valley Sports Arena Concord, MA

Entry Deadline: Feb. 1
skateisi.org/synchrochamps

Beantown Showdown April 4

On April 19, 1775, Concord, Mass., was the scene of the first battle of the War for Independence, the American Revolution. More than 200 years later, Concord — one of New England's most famed and historic areas — is now host of the 2020 ISI Synchronized Championships! The event takes place April 3-5 at Sharper Edge Skating School, Valley Sports Arena, with a special team event, the 2020 Beantown Showdown, set for April 4.

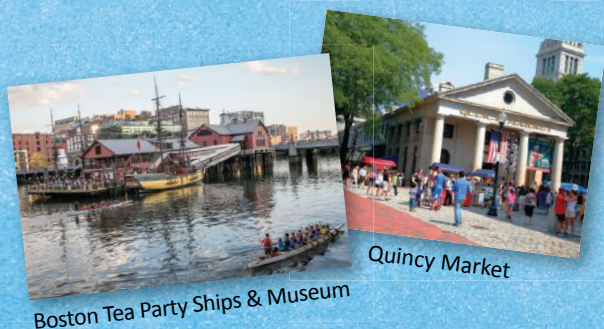
Participants will surely enjoy the Colonial-era charm of Concord. Top places to explore include:

- **Minuteman National Historic Park/Visitors Center** — Featuring numerous American Revolutionary War sites, including Old North Bridge, first American victory in the Revolutionary War.
- **Monument Square** — The center of Concord, it's named for its Civil War monument built in 1886.
- **Concord Museum** — Founded in 1886, the museum is one of the oldest museums in the country. It houses treasured American artifacts, including the famed 1997 lantern from the night of Paul Revere's ride, the desk on which Henry David Thoreau wrote "Walden" and Native American tools from 10,000 years ago.
- **Louisa May Alcott's Orchard** — The home where Louisa May Alcott wrote and set the classic book, "Little Women," in 1868. Most of the furnishings on display were owned by the Alcotts.



Orchard House

Plus, Concord is located just 20 miles west of Boston, allowing for convenient access to the city's popular attractions, including Beacon Hill, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Newbury Street, Skywalk Observatory, the Paul Revere House, Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, Fenway Park and more!



Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum

Quincy Market

For information, please visit concordma.gov and bostonusa.com.

Photos courtesy of Concord Museum, Orchard House, Town of Concord, and Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau.

LIGHT It Up

at 2020 ISI Synchro Champs!



April 3 – 5

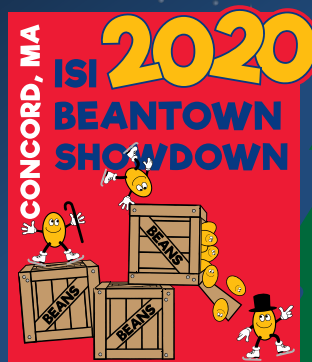
Sharper Edge Skating School

Valley Sports Arena

Concord, MA

Entry Deadline: Feb. 1

skateisi.org



April 4

Entry Deadline: Feb. 1



TEAM TIME

It's All in the Rhythm - Skatetown Synergy

by Donna Smith



Back row, from left: Caroline Gibson, Emmalynn Wu, Caty Sergeant, Maia Poggenpohl, Emiko Suyeishi-Gilbertson, Naomi Azeke, Natalie Simkins. Front row, from left: Emily Keltgen, Vanessa Walasek, Ella Trimpey, Lauren Perry, Isabella "Izzy" Angus



Back row, from left: Lauren Perry, Caty Sergeant, Emiko Suyeishi-Gilbertson, Kinini Clark, Ella Trimpey, Maia Poggenpohl, Caroline Gibson. Front, from left: Coach Jennifer Jones, Isabella Angus, Emily Keltgen and Vanessa Walasek

In 2017, Skatetown Ice Arena in Roseville, Calif., created its first rhythmic competition team. The skaters were introduced to the basics of rhythmic skating and the three apparatuses during summer camp the previous year.

The team went on to the ISI World Recreational Team Championships to compete for the very first time. Skating to "Circle of Life" from the Lion King, the team successfully integrated the hoop and ribbon into a dynamic performance, winning the bronze.

In 2018, the team officially became "Skatetown Synergy" and performed in the local holiday ice show. They perform in the rink's annual theatre on ice shows, and some of the members have done an ensemble group number using their apparatuses. The team currently consists of 10 members.

"Rhythmic skating is such an incredible addition to the ISI competitive events," said Skatetown Synergy Coach Jennifer Jones. "We compete in the Team Production event but would love to someday see a team rhythmic event offered."

Skatetown offers intro to rhythmic skating classes periodically throughout the year and a weekly class on Saturday mornings. They held a free four-week clinic in July for prospective members, who are required to be Freestyle level 1 and above. Team practice began in August.

What's to Love About Rhythmic?

"The reason why I like skating on a rhythmic team is even though it can be very complicated, when all is said and done, the hard work pays off as the program looks amazing! The hardest thing to do in rhythmic is throwing the ribbon stick behind you and catching the ribbon and pulling the stick back." ~ Vanessa Walasek

"I love rhythmic because all of the girls work together and have fun! One of the hardest things for me to learn was an 'Angel' because I had to learn not to bend my hoop." ~ Ella Trimpey

"I love rhythmic because it's fun and looks really cool when you do it right. I love being part of a team and making friends. The hardest part of rhythmic for me was learning to throw a hoop correctly." ~ Isabella "Izzie" Angus

Want your ISI skating team to be featured in "Team Time?" For consideration, please email your submission to editor@skateisi.org, and don't forget to include high-resolution photos. Editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles in any way deemed appropriate and necessary.

Dream **BIG** at 2020 ISI Worlds!



July 20 – 25

NSC Super Rink

Blaine, MN

Test & Entry Deadline: May 1

skateisi.org



ISI
ICE SPORTS INDUSTRY

MY COACH ROCKS!

Does your ISI coach rock? Please send a short essay (about 125 words) telling us why, along with a high-resolution photo, to editor@skateisi.org. We'll run it in an upcoming issue of *Recreational Ice Skating* magazine. Note: Essays must be composed by skaters (not their parents). Skaters and coaches must be current ISI members.



CHRISTINE BOGLE

My coach rocks because she reminds me to always try my best and enjoy every minute of being out on the ice!

Chloe Downs, 7, FS 1
Sharper Edge Skating School
Valley Sports Arena
Concord, Mass.



BONNIE BENTON

My coach, Bonnie Benton, rocks. Bonnie has been my coach for three years. She helps me learn new spins, jumps and tricks. Skating never seems like a chore because she makes it fun! She always attends my competitions and waits for the results with me. She comes up with really interesting routines and costume ideas. She helps me choose great music and even lets me add some of my own ideas into my routines.

But more importantly than that, she encourages me, believes in me, and makes me believe in myself. She is my friend. She knows my birthday and attends my parties. She makes time to talk to my mom and dad. She knows my friends and my hobbies.

Mia Egan, 9, FS 5
Tampa Bay Skating Academy — Countryside
Clearwater, Fla.

MY COACH ROCKS!

PETRINA MAPLES

Strong, encouraging, understanding and generous are the words that define my coach, Petrina Maples. I've been skating with my coach for basically my whole life. My whole 15 years of skating have brought me so much joy and happiness, and it is all because of her. Petrina and I have been together from rink to rink — from Valley Ice Center to Pickwick to now Iceoplex Simi Valley, where we have called our home for about the past nine years.

One reason Petrina is such an amazing coach is because she doesn't just care about my skating, she cares about me and my life.

Petrina has always been there for me and is extremely generous. She has also expanded the types of skating I do. She encouraged me to do the shows our rink puts on as well as our rink's synchronized skating teams. And I am extremely glad that I took her nudge because the shows and teams have allowed me to meet so many other skaters that I now call friends as well as improve my skating overall. Without Petrina, I do not even think I would still be skating today, and I am so grateful to call her my coach!

Leilani Zaragoza, 16, FS 4
Iceoplex Simi Valley
Simi Valley, Calif.



SHANNON SAKATA

My coach rocks! We have been working together since I was 5 years old, and we make a great team! She is my inspiration and idol! My coach has taught me to be strong, believe in myself and to SMILE at all times, whether I am struggling or shining. I suffered from back & knee problems that took me off the ice on numerous occasions and for long periods of time. My coach was there for me when I was working hard on the ice and when I was working hard to get back to the ice! I recently passed Freestyle 6 and that was a big deal for me after all I have been through! My coach helped me heal both mentally and physically so that I could get back to my passion — figure skating! I couldn't have done it without her!

Thank you, Miss Shannon!

Rhea Varnes, 12, FS 6
Skatetown Ice Arena
Roseville, Calif.



2019 ISI WORLD RECREATION



Worlds Lit Up St. Louis!

ISI World Recreational Team Championships brought its usual excitement, camaraderie and FUN to the City of St. Peters Rec-Plex in St. Peters, Mo., July 22-27.

Approximately 600 competitors from 42 rink teams in 16 skates (Alabama, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia) and three countries (China, Kuwait and the Philippines) competed in the 39th annual event, recognized as the largest recreational ice skating competition in the country.

"An exciting highlight of the week was the introduction of ISI's Twizzle," said Skating Programs and National Events Director Kim Hansen. "St. Peters Rec-Plex was super clean and well prepared for us, and it was convenient to have all events under one roof. The weather was beautiful, which made for a picture-perfect evening for our competitors' pool party, where the skaters and parents had a fantastic time. Plus, it was convenient that the party was right on the St. Peters Rec-Plex complex.

"The ISI Benefit Show with Bradie Tennell was great, and she is sweet and engaging. Guest coach Denise Meyers, who led the skating clinics, was fantastic, and she had so much fun, she asked to keep the kids later than the allotted time."

Next year's ISI Worlds will take place July 20-25 at NSC Super Rink in Blaine, Minn. Test & entry deadline is May 1.

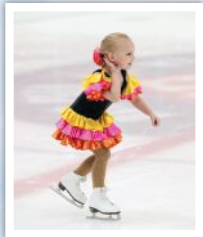
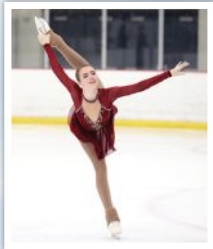
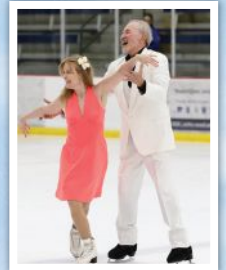
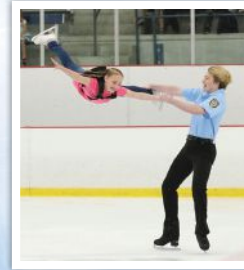
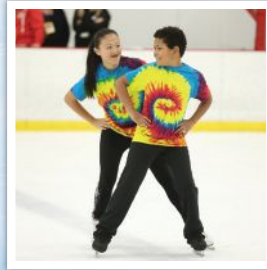
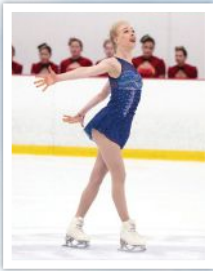


Flanked by skaters and ISI's Twizzle and Flip, Olympian Bradie Tennell, the 2019 U.S. silver medalist and 2018 U.S. champion, waves to the crowd following her performance at the ISI Benefit Show.



NAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Photos by Gabriele Photography



Team Trophies

Michael Booker Trophy: City of St. Peters Rec-Plex Skating Club

Team that accumulates most overall team points during the week.

President's Trophy: Stars of Austin Figure Skating Club

Presented to the team of 11-35 skaters that accumulates the most team points and does not place in the top five teams overall.

Board of Directors Trophy: Promenade Ice

Presented to the team of 1-10 skaters that accumulates the most team points and does not place in the top five teams overall.

Percentage Trophy: Tampa Bay Skating Academy Countryside

Presented to the team of 5 or more skaters that does not place in the top five overall and gets the highest point percentage per skate (does not include team event points).

Youngest Skaters:

Female: Peyton Dudley (Stars of Austin Figure Skating Club) and Amelia Kastrup (City of St. Peters Rec-Plex), both 3 years old. Male: Max Basler, 6 (Kirkwood Ice Arena).

Oldest Skaters:

Joseph Kasputys, 81 (FMC William Chase Arena), Daniel Brown, 77 (RDV Sportsplex Ice Den) and Kathy Hellewege, 74 (Kansas City Ice Center).

Skated in the Most Events:

Kara Mueller (Bowie Ice Arena), 27 events. Kara was also recognized as a 2019 ISIA Education Foundation scholarship recipient and skated in the ISI Benefit Show.

Largest Skating Team:

City of St. Peters Rec-Plex, 110 skaters

Team That Traveled Farthest:

Promenade Ice, Hawally, Kuwait (7,029 miles). The team also won the Board of Director's Trophy.



Top 10 Teams

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1.	City of St. Peters Rec-Plex	1055.5
2.	RDV Sportsplex Ice Den	625.0
3.	Niles Park District IceLand	542.0
4.	Franklin Park Ice Arena	410.5
5.	Joliet Park District	396.5
6.	Stars of Austin FSC	375.5
7.	Galleria Ice Skating Center	308.0
8.	Promenade Ice	237.0
9.	Tampa Bay Skating Acad. Countryside	194.5
10.	Line Creek Figure Skating Club	186.5

For a complete list of teams and results, please visit skateisi.org/worlds.



ISIA Education Foundation Secretary Robyn Bentley, right, introduces the 2019 ISIA Education Foundation Scholarship recipients, from left: Kara Mueller of Bowie Ice Arena, Elizabeth Midey of Sharper Edge Skating School and Emily Lyon of Hampton Roads IcePlex. All three skaters performed at the ISI Benefit Show, and Emily passed her ISI FS 8 test during Worlds.

COMPETITORS' CORNER

competition Results & The Bigger Picture

by Randy Winship

As the fall skating season begins, it's time to start gearing up for the new competition season. While you are preparing your programs for this season, there are a few other things you should also keep in mind.

Did you know that there are basically only five scenarios that are likely to occur during any competition event? If you can learn to handle each of these situations, then you will be able to cope with anything at any competition.

Here's what can happen:

<u>Your Day</u>	<u>Your Skate</u>	<u>Your Placement</u>
😊 1. You can have a great day	Skate your best	Place first
😞 2. You can have a bad day	Skate your worst	Place last
😊 3. You can have an OK day	Skate in the middle	Place in the middle
😞 4. You can have a bad day	Skate your worst	Place first
😊 5. You can have a great day	Skate your best	Place last

Some skaters, coaches and parents emphasize getting first place, so anything else might seem like a failure to them. But it is important to use all of these different situations to expand your perspective and goals for skating — and for life! Take a look back at your *overall* competition career — consider many events, many competitions, for many years to get a true picture of your success in the sport of ice skating.

Of course, the easiest of the scenarios to justify (but perhaps not to accept) are Nos. 1, 2 and 3, because you seem to get what you truly deserve.

The next easiest to accept is No. 4, because that is a gift— and everyone likes presents!

The most difficult to accept and justify is No. 5, because it is so totally unexpected and seemingly undeserved. Even your coach and parents might not understand how this result is possible when you did a great job and skated your best performance.

As an ISI national event referee of more than 36 years, I can tell you that this situation happens at every single competition, everywhere.

How can this happen? Actually, the answer to this question is easily explained:

- The three judges who were sitting on the stand might not have seen the program as you thought they would.
- Maybe all the skaters in the event were “very close” and there was only a total of .1 between each skater from first to last place.
- Maybe there were different “good things” and different “bad things” about everyone’s programs and the judges’ scores were all over the place (depending on their own specific judging criteria), producing no clear-cut “winner.” In this case, the computer had to sort out the wide variety of scores and it all “came out in the wash.”

The much more difficult (and more important) question is: Why did it happen to me? That is the big question that needs some critical thinking and objective evaluation.

Many skaters, parents and even coaches begin to complain about the competition results while only thinking about that one skater’s performance. This is a huge mistake.



You cannot objectively begin to evaluate the placement until you first objectively observe all of the other skaters' performances within your event group.

Also, you cannot fully begin to understand all of the outcome possibilities until your coach has the experience of sitting on the judge stand for several hours, making a decision as to whether this flip jump was better than that one, which spin was better, etc.

Only after you take into account these other two perspectives can your entire outlook change, allowing you to better understand how this could happen.

Another note about competition results: While everyone usually likes to be "competitive" and see good results, I have never known of a single ISI competition either making or breaking any skater's career. All skaters, parents and coaches should always keep the focus on the bigger picture.

Broaden your horizons!

Remember, each individual ISI competition event is specifically designed to improve one aspect of a skater's total development. The wider variety of experiences, the better skater you will become.

Technical events (such as Tots-Delta, Freestyle, Open Freestyle, Stroking, Solo Compulsories and Jump & Spin) will help improve technical skating skills including jumps, spins and other skating maneuvers.

Artistic and theatrical events (such as Artistic, Spotlight and Rhythmic) will help improve musicality and performance skills.

Specialty events (such as Footwork and Interpretive) focus on connecting moves and help you think "on your skates."

Partner events (such as Couples, Pairs, Dance, Couples Spotlight and Jump & Spin) help you learn to work together with other skaters while having fun, to achieve a goal such as a test or competition performance.

Group and team events (such as Ensemble, Family Spotlight, Kaleidoskate, Pattern, Production, Synchronized, Team Compulsories and Team Surprise) give a sense of camaraderie and working together.

"Fun" events (such as Surprise and Team Surprise) help you release stress and truly enjoy your time on the ice.

It's not a good idea to put all your "eggs in one basket" when it comes to your competition event experience. If you only enter one Freestyle event and have a bad day, that probably won't be a very positive competition experience.

But if you enter, say, four events, and you get first place in two, third place in one and fifth place in one, you have still had a very successful weekend and you will enjoy all four of your medals or trophies. Many additional events can easily be done without much additional practice, and most competitions also give a discount for multiple event entries.

And speaking of the bigger picture, if you enter an average of three competitions a year for five years (15 competitions total) and place in the top half in 10 to 12 of them, you've had a very successful competitive career!

Have FUN – and SK8 GR8 this season!

Randy Winship is general manager of Pasadena Ice Skating Center, serves as the chair of the ISI Skating Programs and Judging Committee and is the District 15 representative on the ISI Board of Directors.

2019 ISI CONFEREN



Niles Park IceLand Takes 2019 ISI Conference Champs Title

With a total of 683.5 points, Niles Park District IceLand, in Niles, Ill., earned the Overall Team Trophy at the 2019 ISI Conference Championships, held May 31-June 2 at Centennial Ice Rinks in Wilmette, Ill.

Herbert Wells Ice Rink in College Park, Md., took 2nd place with 296 points and Joliet Park District – Inwood Ice Arena in Joliet, Ill., was the 3rd place winner with 220.5 points.



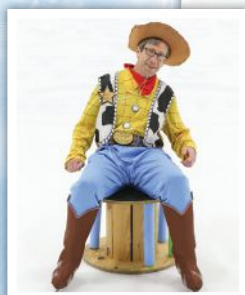
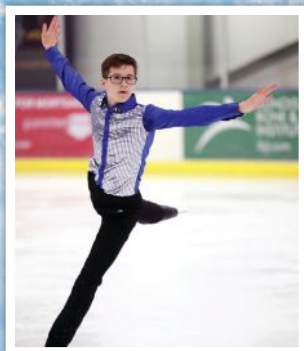
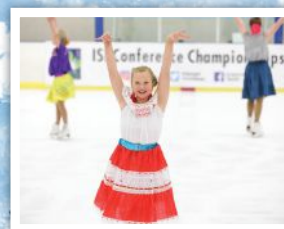
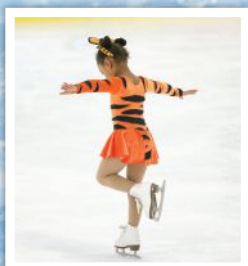
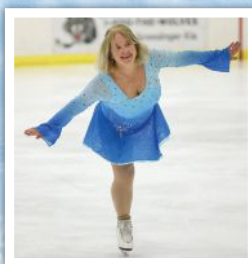
Champion Niles Park IceLand



Herbert Wells Ice Rink, 2nd Place



Joliet Park District – Inwood Ice Arena,
3rd Place



CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Photos by Gabriele Photography



"It was a beautiful facility with great volunteers and lots of enthusiasm among skaters," said ISI Skating Programs & National Events Director Kim Hansen. "This event was on fire — literally! The fire alarm sounded and the fire department arrived. Fortunately, it was nothing serious. We captured a cute photo of the ISI staff with a fireman in front of one of the fire trucks."

More than 250 skaters of all ages and skill levels representing 16 rink teams from six states (Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri and Minnesota) participated in this year's event.

Youngest Skater:

Clara Darbyshire, 2, from Niles Park District IceLand

Oldest Skaters:

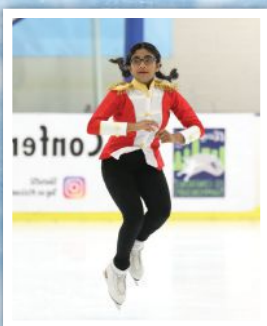
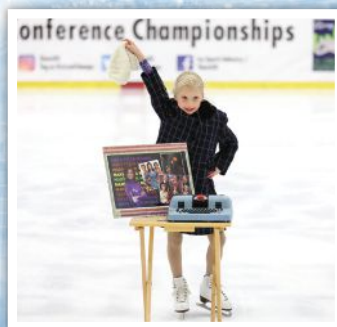
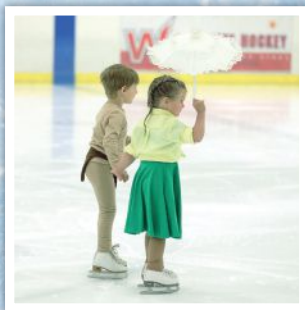
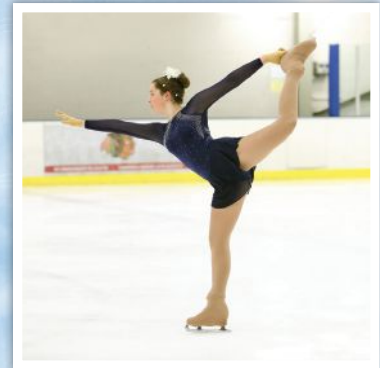
Gayle O'Neill, 73, from Chicago's McFetridge Sports Center, and George Pike, 70, from Niles Park District IceLand.

Team that Traveled Farthest:

Stephen C. West Ice Arena in Breckenridge, Colo. (974 miles)

Most Events:

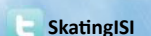
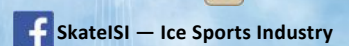
Kara Mueller from Bowie Ice Arena in Bowie, Md. (Skated in 24 events!)

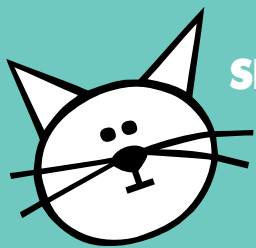


Top 10 Teams

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1.	Niles Park District IceLand	683.5
2.	Herbert Wells Ice Rink	296.0
3.	Joliet Park District-Inwood Ice Arena	220.5
4.	Bowie Ice Arena	217.5
5.	Centennial Ice Rinks-Wilmette	208.0
6.	City of St. Peters Rec-Plex	200.0
7.	Northbrook Sports Center	182.5
8.	Franklin Park Ice Arena	103.0
9.	McFetridge Sports Center	89.0
10.	Line Creek FSC	78.5

For a complete list of teams and results, please visit skateisi.org/conferencechamps.





Skating Figures at 2019 ISI Conference Championships

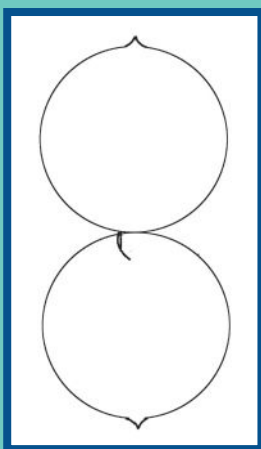
How to Skate a Cat

by Bev Thurber

At 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 1, five skaters, including myself, assembled for the figures events of the 2019 ISI Conference Championships. Between us, we skated six different events in a little over 30 minutes.

Figures are what gave figure skating its name. They are figure eights, skating on one foot at a time, that may or may not include turns and loops. Until 1991, all singles skaters had to do figures because they represented part of the overall score in competition. When the figures requirement was dropped, most skaters stopped doing them, preferring to focus on freestyle. Today, figures are completely separate from freestyle, and the ISI offers an independent test track. Figures are not very popular but working on them helps skaters develop their edges and turns. I find figures fascinating; they let me dig into the details of skating and help me develop fine control of the blade.

In competitions and tests, the judges stand on the ice while watching each skater perform each figure. They evaluate the skater's flow, form and posture. Once the skater has finished, the judges examine the tracing, the marks the skater's blades left on the ice. They evaluate the center (where the circles connect), the size, shape and alignment of the circles, the edges, and the turns or loops (if any). I skated all three of the following figures events ISI competitions offer:



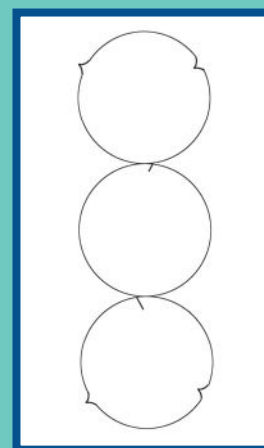
Bracket

FIGURES

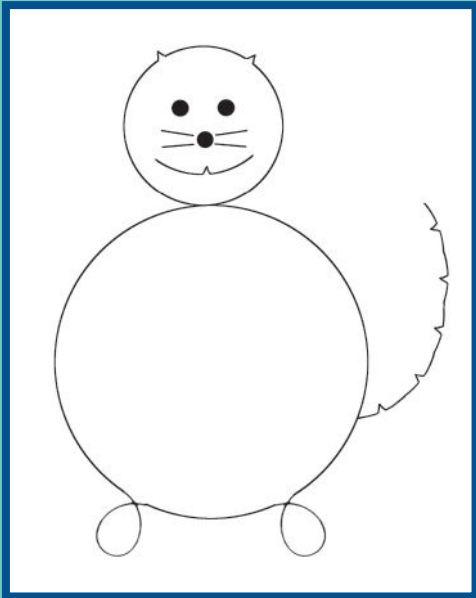
Skaters perform one of the test figures. The figure for each level is selected in advance, and the year's chosen figures are posted in the competition section on the ISI website at skateisi.org. For my level, Figure 5, the selection was the left forward inside bracket: a figure eight with the first circle starting on the left forward inside edge and the second circle starting on the right backward outside edge. Halfway around each circle, I did a bracket. I had to repeat this three times and try to get the tracings as close together as possible.

FREE FIGURES

Skaters create variations on the figures on their most recently passed test. There are limits on size (no larger than a standard three-circle figure, or about 18 feet by 54 feet) and time (no longer than a minute and a half). I varied the forward change double three by turning the inside threes into inside brackets. This figure had three circles in a line, and each end circle had two turns: a bracket and a three turn. On one circle, I did the bracket first, and on the other circle, I did the three turn first.



Free Figure



Cat Figure

CREATIVE FIGURES

Skaters draw pictures on the ice. Like free figures, there are limits on size (no larger than a standard two-circle figure, or about 18 feet by 36 feet) and time (no longer than a minute and a half). Creative figures are scored more subjectively than figures and free figures. “Judge appeal” is a major factor, and creativity and presentation are also important. Presentation includes posture and flow through the figure. The skating elements are assessed by a technical merit score given by one of the three judges.

My creative figure was a cat. Developing it was fun but difficult. Once I decided it would be a cat, my coach and I sketched out a plan for the figure’s overall shape that was both simple and recognizable. Then, I worked out how to skate it. I started with the tail — a series of three turns — followed by the outline of the head. The ears were brackets, the mouth was a three turn, the eyes and nose were spins, and the whiskers were scratched with my heels. Then I skated the body: long edges with loops, one on each foot, for the feet. Finally, I went over the head, face, and body again (two tracings are required for creative figures) and finished with the second tracing of the tail. The hardest part was getting the feet right. I wanted to make the cat’s body a circle with exterior loops for the feet, but that proved difficult to skate. To make it easier, I changed edge going into each loop. This made the cat’s belly concave, but it was still clearly a cat.

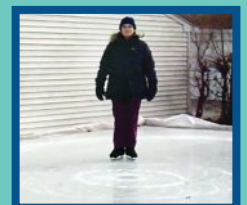
Since this was the last figure of the competition, it was in the corner of the rink and impossible to see from the stands. I’m sure the spectators were confused by my sudden and complex movements, which were so different from the long, controlled edges and stillness required by the other figures. Nonetheless, when I finished the figure, they applauded enthusiastically.

“My creative figure was a cat. Developing it was fun but difficult. Once I decided it would be a cat, my coach and I sketched out a plan for the figure’s overall shape that was both simple and recognizable.”



A video guide to skating my cat figure is available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/iplm6tC3Atg>.

Bev Thurber is an adult skater, who is interested in the history of ice skating. She wrote a book on the earliest ice skates, “Skates Made of Bone: A History,” which is being published this fall. You can read her blog at pagophilia.com.



2019 ISI SYNCHRONI

2019 ISI Synchronized Championships

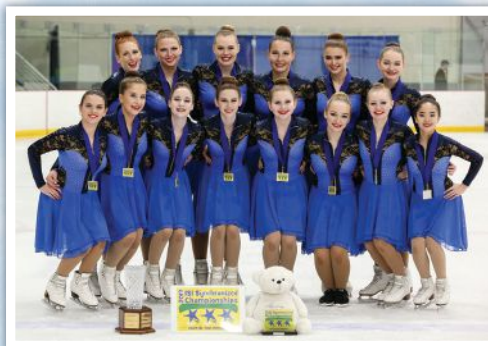


Kansas City Illusion Brings Home Boyd Wietecter Trophy!

Forty-three teams from 16 rinks in eight states (California, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Ohio and Texas) competed in the 23rd annual ISI Synchronized Championships April 12-13 at the historic Doug Woog Arena in South St. Paul, Minn.

Congratulations to Kansas City Illusion (Line Creek Figure Skating Club), winner of the Boyd Wietecter Trophy, awarded to the team that wins the Teen Premier Round. The late Boyd Wietecter, known as “The Voice of ISI,” believed in the joys of recreational ice skating and demonstrated his commitment to the ice arena industry and its patrons by serving and representing ISI for more than 30 years.

Next year’s Synchronized Championships is set for April 3-5 at Sharper Edge Skating School, Valley Sports Arena, in Concord, Mass. The Beantown Showdown will take place April 4 during the event. Entry deadline for both is Feb. 1.



Kansas City Illusion



ZED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Photos by Gabriele Photography



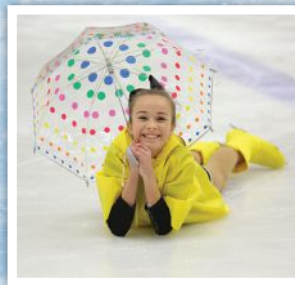
'Dun-Chya-No,' the ISI MinneShowdown Rocked!

A special event, the 2019 MinneShowdown, took place April 13 during Synchro Champs week. Forty-two teams representing 11 rinks from four states (California, Kansas, Minnesota and Texas) participated in this team-only event, offering synchro skaters a chance to be a part of a Production, Kaleidoskate, Pattern Team, Ensemble or Team Compulsory.

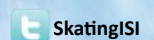
Congrats to Blue Mound Figure Skating Club of Luverne, Minn., this year's Showdown champion!



Blue Mound Figure Skating Club



f SkateISI — Ice Sports Industry



Flip 'n' Fun...



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- 1 toilet paper roll
- Black construction paper
- Yellow and white felt (or construction paper)
- Googly eyes (or felt or construction paper)
- 1 pipe cleaner
- 2 pom-poms
- Glue (hot glue, tacky glue or glue stick)
- Adhesive tape
- Scissors
- Ruler/measuring tape
- Wax paper
- Hole puncher/s
(if making eyes using construction paper)

Adventures & Activities

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Using scissors, cut a 6-inch x 4-inch rectangle from a piece of black construction paper.
2. Tape or glue it onto the toilet paper tube.
3. Draw a 4-inch wide oval on white foam or construction paper, then cut it out.
4. Cut a small portion off the end of one side of the oval to create a straight edge.
5. Glue the oval onto the toilet paper roll, with the straight edge at the bottom of one side of the roll. Be sure to leave a bit of room at the bottom of the roll to place the penguin's feet.
6. Cut a beak and feet out of yellow foam. Glue them to the toilet paper roll.
7. Create ear muffs for your penguin pal: Cut a 4-inch piece from a pipe cleaner and hot glue a pom-pom at each end of it. Bend the pipe cleaner around the penguin's head and glue in place.
8. Now you have an adorable Flip friend!



Thank you to the Studer siblings, Javan, 9 (ISI FS 1) and Nyssa, 12 (ISI Open Silver) for demonstrating our Flip Friend craft project. Both skate out of the StarCenter in McKinney, Texas.



Interested in participating in a craft project for *Recreational Ice Skating* magazine? Please email editor@skateisi.org. All crafters must be ISI skaters.

Competitions

October

5-6 Escondido CA

Ice-Plex Escondido
Haunted Halloween Spooktacular ISI
Open Championships

5 Roseville CA

Skatetown
Octoberfest

6 San Francisco CA

Yerba Buena Ice Skating Center
Haunted In-House

19 Rockland MA

Winterland Skating School
33rd Halloween Classic

20 Redwood City CA

Nazareth Ice Oasis – Redwood City
October Challenge 2019

25-26 Woodbury MN

Health East Sport Center
Skate Woodbury ISI Classic

26-27 Simi Valley CA

Iceoplex Simi Valley
Iceoplex Simi Valley 17th Annual ISI Open
Competition

November

1-3 Tampa Bay FL

Ice Sports Forum
ISI Fall Challenge

8-10 Joliet IL

Inwood Ice Arena
Harvest Gold

10 Gardner MA

FMC Ice Sports Gardner Veterans Arena
2019 Autumnal Championships

23 Centennial CO

South Suburban Ice Arena
South Suburban Winterfest ISI
Competition

23-24 New Ulm MN

New Ulm Civic Center
Fall Festival Invitational

23-24 Lakewood CA

The Rinks Lakewood ICE
23rd Annual ISI Open 2019

December

7-8 Panorama City CA

Valley Edge Skating School
4th Annual Holiday Showdown

7 Marlboro MA

FMC Ice Sports Navin Arena
2019 Icicle Invitational

2020

January



17-19

Sprinker Recreation Center
Tacoma, WA

17-20 Luverne MN

Blue Mound Ice Arena
Ice Crystal Classic

18-19 Centennial CO

South Suburban Family Sports Center
Family Sports Center ISI Competition

26 Englewood NJ

Englewood Field Club
Winter Invitational

February

7-9 Blaine MN

NSC Super Rink
Frosty Blades 2020

8-9 Niles IL

Niles Park District IceLand
Sweetheart Open



Feb. 28-March 1

Tampa Bay Skating Academy
Oldsmar, FL

March

14-15 Natick MA

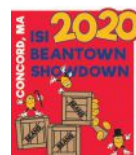
FMC Ice Sports William L. Chase Arena
49th Annual ISI Competition

April



3-5

Sharper Edge Skating School
Valley Sports Arena
Concord, MA



4

Sharper Edge Skating School
Valley Sports Arena
Concord, MA

June

14 Centennial CO

South Suburban Ice Arena
Yvonne Dowlen Memorial ISI Competition

Shows & Exhibitions

October

26-27 Tacoma WA

Sprinker Recreation Center
Monster Bash

December

7 Tacoma WA

Sprinker Recreation Center
Camp Whoville

7-8 Franklin Park IL

Franklin Park Ice Arena
Holiday Recital 2019

15 Allen TX

Allen Comm. Ice Rink – Allen Event Center
Holidays on Ice

2020

January

31 Peapack Gladstone NJ

Essex Hunt Club
Essex Hunt Club Synchro Showcase

May

1-3 Peapack Gladstone Niles IL

Niles Park District IceLand
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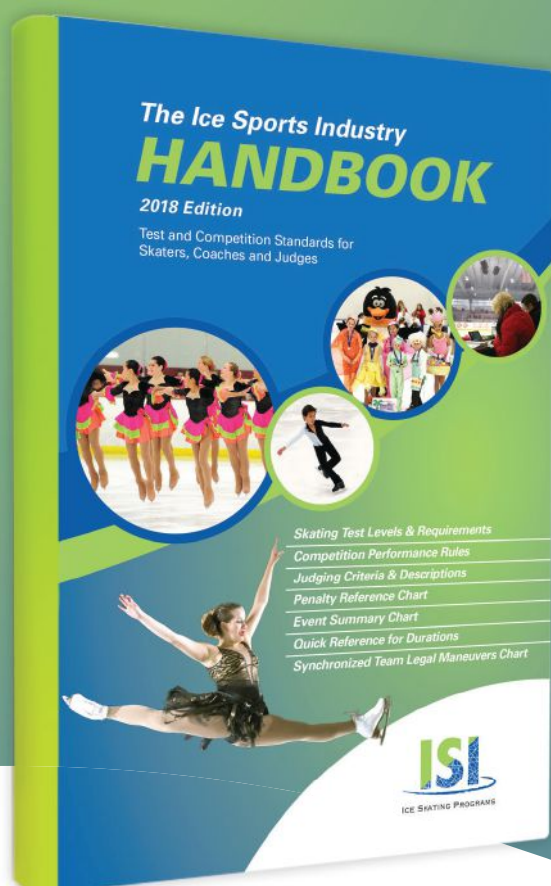


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Handbook valid for all test sessions and competitions through Aug. 31, 2020



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2020 ISI National Events

"A camping we will go!" Join the fun at the following ISI national competitions in 2020:



ISI West Coast Championships

Jan. 17-19
Sprinker Recreation Center
Tacoma, WA
Test & Entry Deadline: Nov. 10

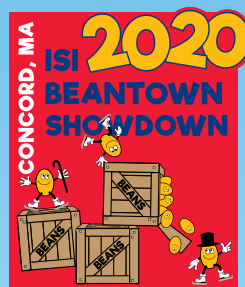
ISI Winter Classic

Feb. 28-March 1
Tampa Bay Skating Academy- Oldsmar
Oldsmar, FL
Test & Entry Deadline: Dec. 15



ISI Synchronized Championships

April 3-5
Sharper Edge Skating School
Valley Sports Arena
Concord, MA
Entry Deadline: Feb. 1



ISI Beantown Showdown

April 4
Sharper Edge Skating School
Valley Sports Arena
Concord, MA
Entry Deadline: Feb. 1

ISI World Recreational Team Championships

July 20-25
NSC Super Rink
Blaine, MN
Test & Entry Deadline: May 1



ISI Adult Championships

Oct. 9-11
Las Vegas Ice Center
Las Vegas, NV
Test & Entry Deadline: Aug. 15



ISI Holiday Theatrical Challenge

Dec. 4-6
Iceoplex Simi Valley
Simi Valley, CA
Test & Entry Deadline: Oct. 15



ISI
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For details, visit skateisi.org