

Annual General Meeting and Election Agenda
Denver Figure Skating Club
DU Conference Room
May 17, 2007, 6:30pm

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:52pm.

In attendance: Lisa Emery, Bev Garren, Wendy Julia, Rachel Bakhour, Robin Meadows, Rhonda Morrison-White, Barb Philipp, Lisa May, Denise Archuleta, Virginia Mount, Julie Nyikos, Alicia Carr, Suzie Nyquist, Ian Horsky

MINUTES

Review of last year's annual meeting minutes. Bev motioned to approve the minutes with spelling corrections and Wendy seconded. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Bev Garren

Please see detailed report of the financials distributed separately.

The final figures for the 2006-2007 year will not be available until May 31. However, the May 13 reports show a financially successful year with income of \$22,336.87, which will be adjusted for the Denver Invitational Advertisements and approximately \$1000 in High School Competition SS ice fees.

The DFSC provided two avenues for competition to our members while generating income for the clubs activities. The Denver Invitational generated a \$9118.61 profit plus \$50 additional from advertisements. The High School Competition generated \$3015.73 less the SS ice and setup fees. We also provided testing opportunities, a skate swap and the Keystone Ice Show while generating additional income.

As of May 13, club expenses were \$10,394.76. Expenses still to be paid for the 2006-2007 year include scholarships, testing pins, and volunteer gift cards and miscellaneous expenses for approximately \$7000.

The profit for the 2006-2007 year should be close to \$4000.

Several issues need to be addressed by the board in the coming year. The Merrill Lynch fund needs to be reinvested depending on the availability need for upcoming regional/national competitions. The Memorial Scholarship Fund for Laura Shively needs to be set up. The board needs to determine how to effectively distribute the dance endowment.

The final treasurer's report for this fiscal year will be sent to all board members in early June.

It was noted that it is nice to see the budget in the line item format.

MEMBERSHIP – Rhonda Morrison

219 Full members, but that will change by the end of this month.

Coaches fees will be increasing, per USFS rule change, and this will need to be absorbed into the membership costs for this year. Will probably need to increase costs in future years to absorb these fees.

New for this year's membership form is a photography waiver. New coaches and choreographers will receive their first year's dues for free.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP – Robin Meadows

The DFSC Board of Directors developed guidelines to allow our membership to nominate deserving club members for honorary life membership. Recognizing that we have an extraordinary talent pool within our club, the Board of Directors published guidelines for 4 categories of honorary members:

1. Former Olympic or World Team skaters
2. Judges who have extensively supported not only our needs, but participated in other competitions
3. Parents and skaters who have provided support to club events
4. Coaches who have helped develop all skating club members

Our guidelines were based on a review of USFSA guidelines, extensive research into other skating clubs' guidelines, similar professional association programs, input from a cross-sample of our membership and interviews with other skating club members. These guidelines will allow our membership to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of a truly select group as well as provide a historical record that will live on to future generations. We hope this will inspire all of our membership to continue to promote the interests of our club and foster a true love of skating for many generations to come by acknowledging and honoring those who have given so generously of their time and talents. A plaque will be displayed in the South Suburban trophy case with the members names.

Currently, the policy is to automatically renew/pay for membership for honorary members, provided that they turn in their membership application. It was recommended to make this not a requirement in the future. This will need to be voted on by next year's board.

MILE HIGH REPORT – Lisa Emery

Denver FSC Mile High representatives for this year were Lisa Emery (board representative) and Bernadette Philipp.

Mile High FSA had a successful year for competitions, which include Colorado Championships and Funtastics. Colorado Champs generated a nearly \$7,000 profit, and the financials are not yet available for Funtastics.

Several of the MHFSA member clubs co-hosted the Southwestern Regional competition last October and shared their experiences. Because the ISU judging system is still so new, they recommended to other clubs to postpone bidding on Regional or Sectional competitions until the costs of the new system are more stable.

DENVER INVITATIONAL – Lisa May

- Financials – Profited \$9168.61
- IJS – For the first time, DI used the IJS for all single Juvenile and above events. We used the mini system which helps tremendously as it provides video replay. It is a well-worthwhile expense.
- Hospitality – Suzie Nyquist saved the club loads of money and provided judges, coaches & volunteers with endless amounts of delicious, homemade foods (thanks, in part, to her mother!)
- Hotel – changed host hotel to Wyndham Suites and this was a great change
- Practice Ice – For the first time DI offered warm up ice for all Juvenile and above short & long programs. This ice was very well supported by the competitors.
- Judges Hospitality Suite at Hotel, new this year
- Referee – Virigina Mount. Cassy Papajohn has agreed to be our chief referee for DI 2008
- Registrar – Jamye Gilberston. Jamye has agreed to be in charge of registration again in 2008
- Competition Chair – Rachel Bakhour. Need to find a non-board officer competition chair for 2008 as this is a big burden on the already busy board.
- Online – For 2008 we are looking into software to have our event registration online and streamline our registration process.
- Events – DI added a Jump event this year and eliminated an artistic event in lieu of an artistic exhibition which was hugely supported. We will keep both these changes for next year.
- In General – DI showed a marked improvement from both a skaters and a judges standpoint. There are always things to work on and to build from and we will continue to do so.
- The competition was financially successful and earned more money than last year despite a decrease in starts, and costs associated with the mini-system
- At the DI wrapup meeting, there was discussion regarding moving the competition to Family Sports, sometime in May. May could be a tricky time due to ice shows and graduation/other school-related events. The future board will need to discuss this in upcoming meetings. It is tentatively scheduled for March 13-16, 2008 at South Suburban.
- Julie Nyikos requested that in the future that accountants get results in electronic format right away so that the results can be posted on the website.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION – Wendy Julia

9 teams/29 skaters participated this year, up from 7 teams/24 skaters in 2006. Presented trophies to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams for overall points, plaques for 1st place team in each event (Freeskate, Dance, Spins, Maneuvers), individual ribbons in freeskate and dance, and medals for all teams.

Need to continue to promote with all high school skaters to bring in more teams. The future board can brainstorm ideas.

Recommendations:

- to present info at the banquet including the trophy won by our members.
- Market it more to club members earlier in the year, around the time school starts
- Market to other area clubs, including ones outside Denver Metro

This year's competition was held at South Suburban, which proved to be a less than ideal venue. Recommended to look for another venue.

Kelle Schwartz has agreed to continue to run this competition.

KEYSTONE SHOW – Rachel Bakhour

Keystone Holiday Ice Show continues to be a big hit for our club. This year we had a great turn out and fabulous weather. We also started the show earlier in the day which seemed to work out great. Kathy D'Allesandro did a wonderful job chairing the event, and has agreed to work on this next year as well. Deb Dieter ran the potluck.

- 40 Skaters performed individual programs.
- There were 9 duet performances
- There was 1 trio performance
- There were two group numbers.
- In addition there were opening and closing numbers that everyone participated in.

After expenses, Keystone netted a profit of \$367.87 for the DFSC.

CLUB ICE – Suzie Nyquist

August 19: Club Ice held at Apex Ice Arena in Arvada. We had exhibitions with critiques for Southwestern competitors followed by a pizza party. Well attended and valuable for our skaters.

September 30: Southwestern exhibitions and send-off party at South Suburban.

October 21: Halloween Costume Party and Club Ice at South Suburban.

November 18: Clinic for our skaters with Shellanme Mellor and Lisa May. Skate swap.

Dec. 2: Showtime on Ice Open House and Auditions. Club ice was split with Colo. Skating Club.

December 9: Holiday Party at South Suburban with rehearsals for Keystone Ice Show.

February: D.I. Exhibitions at South Suburban

All of the above were well attended.

Competition send offs: We continued to give these to DFSC club members. Yvonne Knapp is the new person in charge of this.

Note: We had hoped to hold a clinic in January possibly hosted by Susan Williams and Tracy Seliga, but were unable to get it organized. Hope to do this next year.

Other ideas for next year are a large clinic, similar to last year's Grassroots to Champions, and a "Rock and Skate" party with a DJ at Family Sports

SHOWTIME ON ICE – Barb Philipp

121 participating skaters and 2 synchro teams, which is an increase from last year. The current balance is around \$13,000, however, we have not received the bill for the ice. It is estimated that we will break even.

There are no outstanding fees due from anyone and we had no returned checks. Having the prewritten contracts was a big help.

Ticket sales made \$26,355.00, which was about \$2,000 more than last year.

TESTING – Rachel Bakhour

6 test sessions held at South Suburban - thanks to Shawna Ervin and Suzanne Bryson for stepping in to help out running sessions. Connie Decker is new test chair. There were 94 tests passed over the last year, 4 of which were senior levels, pins and medals will be awarded at the banquet in June.

Recommended to create a plaque for gold medalists to display in the new trophy case. Robin will look into this.

Our test costs are low and some non-club members may take advantage of this. The new board should look into this for next year, as well as look at carrying over FS test fees when the FS test is not taken because the prerequisite moves test was not passed earlier in the test session. The test fee paid for the FS test could be applied to taking the FS test at the next available test session.

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS – Rachel Bakhour

Individual Scholarship Awards:

We have increased our scholarship budget to \$6000 dollars for the current year. Last year we gave out scholarships in the amount of \$5,275 which includes Basic Skills skaters up to Senior Level. We will continue to require 10 hours of volunteer time in

order to be eligible for scholarship as well as actively testing and/or competing.

Scholarship Information for 2007/2008 year will be sent out in the fall. We will look at an increase in amount if the fee for entry into Regionals increases.

Competition Awards:

Last year we gave out a competition scholarship to Midwesterns and Nationals to Senior Men's Competitor Braden Overett. The total for this Competition Award was \$1,125.00. We gave a team competition award to Denver Synchronicity Adult and Masters teams, a total of \$1,500.00.

It will be a requirement that in order to be eligible for competition awards, each individual shall volunteer 10 hours, and each member of the team volunteer a shift. This 10 hours shall be in addition to any hours done for individual scholarship.

2007 GOVERNING COUNCIL, RENO, NV – Suzie Nyquist

Suzie Nyquist and Virginia Mount attended as representatives from the DFSC. We had 4 votes—1 per 50 members of our club. There was a lot of worthwhile information. Would be nice to see 4 delegates attend next year in Denver-Adam's Mark Hotel. Dates are set for May 1-3, 2008. All members should be encouraged to go and observe. They can register directly with US Figure Skating. This will be posted on the website.

Highlighted issues that affect our club :

- Mandatory liability insurance for coaches. Many coaches currently have this through PSA. This affects coaches who are members of our club who are not members of PSA. In that case, when the coach joins our club we will need to pay USFS \$170.00 to cover the cost of liability insurance for the coach.
 - In order to avoid additional costs, recommend that we require that all DFSC coaches be PSA members.
- Also, a fee of \$40 will be added to the registration for coaches that are currently members of PSA. This will cover the cost of new mandatory background checks handled by USFS headquarters, and will also cover the cost of a rulebook to be sent to every USFS coach.

Other highlights:

- Pat St. Peter elected as Midwest VP, replacing Gale Tanger who is moving to ISU government.
- Regionals will again have IJS at Juvenile level and above
- US Figure skating got a television contract with NBC

NEW BUSINESS/FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS

- Logo: still at an impasse on the decision about whether to change logo, and if so, which one to change to. The new board will continue to debate.

- Calendar Update:
 - Board Meeting—Thursday, May 31, 2007, 6pm, Family Sports Avalanche Grill
 - Banquet at Denver Aquarium on June 9th at 5pm
- Julie Nyikos (webmaster) would like more feedback on skaters accomplishments and competitions to be forwarded to her to be posted on the website. The board should be responsible for getting this info to her.
- Classified ads have been requested for the website, which Julie said would be possible.

ELECTION

There were 136 ballots sent out to membership and 61 ballots were returned.

Candidates:

- Denise Archuleta
- Alicia Carr
- Cassy Papajohn

All were elected to the board. The new board will have officer elections at the meeting on 5/31.

Directors leaving:

- Lisa Emery
- Bev Garren
- Rhonda Morrison

ADJOURN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8pm