

Welcome

As usual skaters in the club have thrown themselves enthusiastically into their skating this season and we have lots to celebrate. Welcome to all skaters that have joined the club since the last newsletter I hope your experience with the club has been enjoyable so far and that all the information you need has been readily available for you. There has been new information packs printed for new members with all of the up to date information regarding the club so hopefully you have all received one of those. We have also produced a calendar of events for this year's club dates which again I hope you have all seen and acquired, they are great to put on the fridge or pin board as a quick reminder of what is going on, from the simple question of **What time am I on tonight?** To **I wonder if there is a fun night or competition** If you haven't seen either of these items then please ask at the table next club night and we will do our best to help you.

On a sad note, we had to lose our chair Kathy Porter at the beginning of May due to increased work commitments. Kathy had been the chair for 2 years and had worked tirelessly with the committee securing funding for the club and 1 of our skaters and also ensuring that we reached our level 1 accreditation, amongst other things. We wish her well in the future. I am pleased however to announce the new chair as Theresa Gardiner who has only recently joined the committee mainly to work on the level 2 accreditation but has happily agreed to take on the role. Thankyou.



Changes to the groups

Following recent consultation with the coaches it has been decided to make some changes to the skate groups. These have been made to ensure best use of the ice during each session of club and will begin 3rd June and remain in place until further notice. It has been necessary to lose a group as we only ever have 3 coaches on each session and we have no space for a 4th group therefore most weeks 2 groups were mixed and this was not an ideal situation for skaters or coaches alike due to the vast differences in abilities. The changes and new criteria are as follows:

Ruby – will contain skate uk levels 5-9 – upon passing level 5 a skater will be eligible to join SIFC. They will remain in this group until they have passed level 10 then they will move up to **Sapphire**.

Sapphire – will contain skate uk 10 – Silver – upon passing level 10 a skater will move into this group and will remain in this group until passing skate uk Gold, then they will move up to **Amethyst**.

Amethyst – will contain skate uk Gold – The skaters in this group have passed their skate uk Gold and are enjoying their skating but do not intend to skate competitively or continue with Nisa tests at present.

Emerald – will contain Skate uk Gold 2, Nisa levels 1 & 2 – The skaters in this group have all passed their skate uk Gold and are current members of Nisa. They wish to continue with tests under the Nisa regulations and will begin to compete at national level.

Pearl – will contain Nisa levels 3,4 & 5 – The skaters in this group are all current members of Nisa and have passed levels 3,4 or 5 at Nisa standard. These skaters are continuing tests at Nisa level and are competing in national competitions.

Diamond – Will contain Nisa levels 6+ - The skaters in this group are all current members of Nisa and have passed a minimum level 6. These skaters are continuing tests at Nisa level and are competing in national competitions.

As you can see there will be no Topaz group. This has been replaced with Amethyst and therefore your session time may have changed. Please check the notice board or website for group listings ensure you are aware of the changes and you arrive at club on the correct session.



Already this season we have seen several of our competitive skaters compete at opens around the country, some of who are competing for the first time. Well done to all involved It's lovely to see such a vast amount of Swindon skaters and supporters at the opens cheering the skaters on.

Open results - well done to:

Bristol open March 2010

Beginners girls age 9 & under: Sofia Knox

Beginner girls age 11 & 12: Natalie Lawless, Caitlin Bowles.

Beginner girls age 13 & over: Amie Roberts **3rd**, Shannon Gee.

Beginner boys: Ciaran Bowles **3rd**.

Level 1 ladies: Chloe Purvis

Level 2 ladies: Lilie Ogden

Level 3 ladies: Courtney Cole,
Bethan Sheehan
Ashlee-Rae Cleverly.

Level 4 ladies: Bliss Holland **2nd**
Lucie Cole **3rd**
Lauren Porter

Level 4 Men: Sean Stowe **2nd**

Level 5 ladies: Hannah Frame **2nd**

Level 7 ladies: Vicky Jackson **1st**

Level 10 ladies: Jordan Bonello **1st**

Telford Open - Nisa qualifier March 2010

Level 3 ladies: Courtney Cole **2nd**

Level 4 ladies: Lucie Cole

Level 7 ladies: Vicky Jackson **1st**

Level 10 ladies: Jordan Bonello **2nd**

Vicky Jackson & Jordan Bonello both qualified to compete in this years Nisa cup. Unfortunately due to other skating commitments Vicky was unable to take her place in the England squad, however our very own Jordan Bonello took her place not only in the England squad but as England Captain!!! Full write up to follow.

Open Results - Well done to:

Bracknell Open April 2010

Beginners girls age 9 & under: Sofia Knox

Beginner girls age 11 & 12: Natalie Lawless
Caitlin Bowles

Beginner girls age 13+: Amie Roberts
Shannon Gee

Beginner boys: Ciaran Bowles **3rd**

Level 1 Chloe Purvis

Level 2 Lilie Ogden

Level 3 Courtney Cole **3rd**

Level 4 Lucie Cole **3rd**
Bliss Holland

Level 4 boys: Sean Stowe **1st**

Level 5 Hannah Frame

Level 10 Jordan Bonello **3rd**

Lee Valley Open May 2010

Level 2: Lilie Ogden **1st**

Level 3 age 12 & under: Courtney Cole,
Bethan Sheehan

Level 3 age 12 & over: Ashlee-Rae Cleverly **1st**

Level 4 ladies: Lucie Cole,
Bliss Holland

Level 4 Men: Sean Stowe **1st**

Level 5 ladies: Hannah Frame

International competitions:

Isabella Larkin was picked by Nisa to represent Britain in 2 international competitions earlier this year. The first took place in Slovenia and the 2nd in Italy. This was Isabella's first time on the international stage and by all accounts a very successful experience. We would like to congratulate Bella on all that she has achieved so far this year. Isabella then went on to the Rooster cup in Paris with Carmen Lee & Vicky Jackson. A full write up to follow.

Club competition - Elements Comp 13th May.

Again we had a great response to the recent club competition with lot's of new members entering. Well done to everyone for taking part.

Class 11 -	Jordan Bonello	1 st
Class 10 -	Carmen Lee	1 st
	Vicky Jackson	2 nd
Class 9 -	Hannah Frame	1 st
Class 7 -	Lucie Cole	1 st
	Lauren Porter	2 nd
	Sean Stowe	3 rd
	Courtney Cole	
Class 6 -	Lilie Ogden	1 st
	Holly Heath	2 nd
	Ashlee-Rae Cleverly	3 rd
Class 5 -	Ben Timbrell	1 st
Class 4 -	Sofia Knox	1 st
Class 3 -	Natalie Lawless	1 st
	Gemma Adams	2 nd
	Jemima Colyer	3 rd
	Ciaran Bowles	
	Shannon Gee	
	Caitlin Bowles	
	Rachel Evans	
Class 2 -	Amy-Jayne Batt	1 st
	Hazel Pack	2 nd
	Holly Grey	3 rd
	Jarvie Georgeson	
	Eloise Gallagher	
Class 1 -	Charlotte Clements	1 st
	Abigail Evans	2 nd
	Megan Neeley	3 rd
	Amelia Lovegrove	
	Pippa Gregg	
	Sophie Evans	

Exhibition skate

Over the Christmas a group of the girls were at the rink and began messing around to a piece of music that Lesley was playing 'the bolero' they put together a short routine and from there it grew. Vicky asked her dad to cut some music which he did on New Year's eve!!!! And from there the Bolero/fame/titanic routine was born. The girls continued to practice and it was decided that it would be good to showcase the club during the Saturday morning session. One Saturday in February the girls skated their routine and all went well give or take a few technical hitches with music. Thankyou to Isabella Larkin, Vicky Jackson, Lucie Cole, Lauren Porter & Lilie Ogden for all your hard work to polish the routine ready to show to the public.

On the back of this first skate the committee decided that it would be a good idea for other club members to do a similar routine to show during the Saturday public sessions. Members were asked to submit a form if they were interested and at the last meeting the groups were drawn. Sadly there were only 9 entries.

The groups were drawn as follows:

Sofia Knox, Jarvie Georgeson, Sean Stowe, Ashlee-Rae Cleverly and Chloe Purvis. They will perform during the session on Saturday 12th June.

Courtney Cole, Bethan Sheehan, Jemima Colyer and Megan Neeley. They will perform during the session on Saturday 17th July.

JORDAN CAPTAINS ENGLAND **AT THE NISA CUP**

Every year England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each put a team together of skaters from Levels 7 through to 10 to compete for the NISA CUP. Jordan qualified to skate for England at the Telford Open in March this year. Doing the NISA Cup, skating for England and being made captain was a great achievement and well deserved.

Last year Jordan was also a member of the team when it took place at Lee Valley, London and England won. This year the NISA CUP took place in Aberdeen, Scotland. It was a brilliant event with Scotland winning the competition and England coming second. It was well supported from every country, everyone was very friendly and there was lots of high team spirits, flag waving and cheering unlike any other skating competition!

WELL DONE JORDAN



The Rooster Cup, Paris

Over the May Day Bank Holiday Bella, Carmen and Vicky competed in the Rooster Cup competition in Paris. They were among half a dozen British competitors who competed with skaters from 15 different countries across Europe. Although all three would admit that they have skated better, they all did very well and a very enjoyable weekend was had by all. It was a good eye-opener, making all of us realise what needed to be done to reach European standards and we achieved a better understanding of the International Judging System (IJS).

It was Vicky's first IJS – she was very happy to get through her short programme without any falls and was doing very well in her long programme until her penultimate jump which she didn't quite make causing her to forget her routine! There was a look of sheer panic on her face for a second or two before she managed to skate round, execute her last couple of elements before finishing on time! With a very respectable 61.81 points she finished 13th in the Novice A competition, enough to qualify for a place in the British Championships this year alongside Bella and Carmen.

This was Carmen's 2nd international. She skated her short programme very well with confidence except for a bit of a wobble on her double loop, double loop. Nerves got the better of her for her long programme and so she didn't skate as well as predicted, however still managed a personal best of 65.82 points putting her 17th in the Novice B competition. Bella has had a long season of performing her two programmes. On the warm up for the short she hit the barrier and fell cutting her hand, then being first to skate after the warm-up she had to skate with her hand bleeding. This put her off a little and she didn't skate her best. The long programme was much better pulling her up two places to finish in 7th position out of 26 with 78.19 points in the Novice B competition.

Karen Jackson, Palma Lee and Lesley Pearce.

Easter fun night - As usual Kathy Porter did club members proud with her basket of crème eggs adorned with chicks. Andrew hosted a great Easter fun night that consisted of dodge ball, race skates and a whole lot of skating fun that all of the skaters and Andrew himself appeared to enjoy. The evening finished with musical skatues!!!! And Bella Larkin proved unbeatable with her funky dancing and the game went on for so long that Andrew had to resort to cheating in the form of distraction to clear the ice. Following Andrews departure the skaters continued the fun for the last 45mins with free skate and organised games between themselves that again provided all involved with great entertainment.

Competition skaters



Hockey Tournament

As in previous years the figure club were asked by the ice hockey if they would put together a piece to open and close this year's tournament that takes place over the bank holiday weekend at the end of May. Unfortunately this year the hockey only gave Tash 2 weeks notice of this need and a display piece had to be hurriedly put together. Considering the short time frame and limited practice sessions Tash and the girls were able to put on another outstanding performance this year to Lady Gaga's 'let's dance'. Well done to Isabella Larkin, Jordan Bonello, Carmen Lee, Vicky Jackson, Lucie Cole, Lauren Porter and Tasha Larkin.



Photo by Steve Porter.