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## Social Skate Night

The skaters' reps are organising a 'Social Skate' night for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

During this evening, there will be a fun 'Hot Ice' style contest. Skaters that want to take part will be able to draw a piece of music on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March. They will then have two weeks to prepare a programme - music cuts will be approx one minute, so nothing too daunting! The emphasis is on fun but this is a good way to use your own choreography skills - no help is allowed from the coaches.

A flyer and reply slip are included with this newsletter. Please take time to think about the ideas you would like raised in the meeting. This is an opportunity for members as a group to have your say.

For more information, speak to Nicola or Julie.

## Xmas Gala

You will no doubt have noticed the posters around the rink advertising the Xmas Gala. We have not held a show or gala at the rink for a few years now and many people have asked when we are going to do it again.

Following talks with the Link Centre management, moves are under way to make this happen. Natasha Larkin will be overseeing the skating side of things and auditions will be held in early June.

More information will be made available as and when we have it. In the meantime if you would like the chance to take part in the show, pick up an application form from the rink and put yourself forward. It means making a commitment to attend regular rehearsals but should be great fun!!

## Other items of interest:

- Test passes
- Bristol open
- Dates for open competitions
- Coached artistic

## Club Website

We would like to thank Sue Lawrence for the superb job of keeping the website up to date. However, this task has now been handed over to the new committee and you may notice a delay in information appearing on there until we have got to grips with this. It is important that in the interim period members keep a close eye on the notice board.

We are hoping to come up with some new ideas for design but are aware that we must first be able to walk before we can run!!



## Congratulations on test passes

Congratulations to the following club members for passing NISA tests on February 22nd -



Jordan Bonello	Level 9 Free
Lucie Cole	Level 1 Field Moves
Julie Cook	Level 9 Elements
Hannah Frame	Level 1 Elements & Free
Gemma Lorains	Level 1 Elements & Free
Isabella Larkin	Level 9 Field Moves
Bethany Mansfield	Level 1 Field Moves
Vicki Poole	Level 9 Field Moves
Bethan Sheehan	Level 1 Field Moves
Sean Stowe	Level 1 Field Moves
Gemma Stowe	Level 4 Free

## Bristol Open

As it is the first local Open of the season, Swindon is usually well represented at Bristol.

This year we had an amazing nineteen skaters taking part right through from beginner to level 9. I'm not sure if this is a record but it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and to see everyone being cheered on by their fellow club members.

Even though Jordan Bonello was the last skater of the day there was still a small 'fan club' that stayed to cheer her on!

Congratulations to the following skaters for achieving podium placings:



Haydn Lee	First	Beginners boys
Sean Stowe	Third	Beginners boys
Bliss Holland	First	Level one girls
Hannah Frame	Second	Level one girls
Carmen Lee	Second	Level four girls
Isabella Larkin	First	Level seven girls
Jordan Bonello	First	Level nine girls



## NISA CUP

Congratulations also go to Vicki Poole for winning the level eight group at Bradford recently to qualify for the England team competing at the NISA Cup Final which is being held in Aberdeen at the end of April.

We wish Vicki good luck - she won the level seven event last year!

## Dates for open competitions



Please note the following competition dates:

Bracknell	25 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> April
Lee Valley	12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> May
Sheffield	21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup> June
Basingstoke	26 <sup>th</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> June
Guildford	2 <sup>nd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> July

## Coached artistic competition

A coached artistic competition will be held at club on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May - entry forms are available now from your coach or a committee member.

You will notice that the closing date is 5<sup>th</sup> April - the reason for this is to see how many entries we get. You do not have to have a programme ready yet but do need to let us know of your intention to compete.

It is important when booking a judge for the evening that there is enough of a competition for them to mark!

If there are less than 12 entries, the competition will be changed to field moves. Let's hope that doesn't happen as we are hoping to put a team together to take part in the Bracknell Inter-Club competition on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

## What's on the box?

I hope you all managed to watch some of the World Championships during March and gather some inspiration from the wonderful skating on view.

Now that Dancing on Ice has finished there is only one other skating programme being televised in the near future. It is called 'Get your act Together' and can be seen on 3<sup>rd</sup> April on Channel 4 at 9pm and E4 at 10pm. And features skating performances along with opera singers which should be a lovely combination to see and hear.

More information can be found at [http://www.oxfordvocalists.co.uk/operaanywhere/productions\\_aoi.html](http://www.oxfordvocalists.co.uk/operaanywhere/productions_aoi.html) and at [www.operanywhere.com](http://www.operanywhere.com).

## Stop Press

We would like to wish a speedy recovery to Bethany Mansfield who fell and fractured her arm during the recent free competition at club. She showed tremendous courage to carry on skating and finish her programme.

Feedback from our recent dance class has been very encouraging - 26 out of 27 responses have indicated that members would like to do this again. Thank you for your responses, watch this space for more news.

Copies of the ISkate monthly magazine are now available at the desk on club nights. They cost £3.50 and are a lovely glossy magazine full of useful information. Additionally, 10% of all sales go into club funds.