

## Swindon Ice Figure Club - December 2006 Newsletter

Dear members,

With Christmas rapidly approaching I thought it would be good to just remind you of some dates for your diary:

**22<sup>nd</sup> December** - Christmas Party (last club night for 2006). Please note that you can come in fancy dress and if you would like to bring a friend that is fine as long as they have their own skates and that they skate at their own risk. There will be nibbles and drinks (wine for the parents!).

**5<sup>th</sup> January** - 1st week back at Club, groups 1, 2, & 3 to skate first for the month of January.

### 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006 - AGM

I just wanted to take some time to update you on the outcome of the AGM which was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006.

The new Committee is as follows:

Chair - Lesley Wilkinson

Treasurer - Andrea Lorains

Secretary - Bev Leahy

Minutes Secretary - Barbara Robinson

Competition Secretary - Tash Larkin

Committee Member - Palma Lee

Skating Representatives - Nicola York

Julie Cook

Sarah Clinton will continue to be Welfare Officer, but this will be outside the normal Committee.

I would like to thank those who have agreed to stay on or join the Committee this year; it is run on a voluntary basis and the more people who help the lighter the work load for all so if you feel you would like to help please just speak to any committee member. I would also like to thank those who have stepped down this year for all their hard work; Sue Lawrence, Ginny Poole, Sarah Clinton, Tony Cook, and Hanna Margiotta.

There were a number of issues raised at the AGM, and the outcome of these is as follows:

1. **Monthly fees** - It was agreed that these will be increased by £5 per month to £20. We have not raised the fees for the last two years and with increasing costs of ice time and coaching it was felt that the time

had come to reflect this in the fees we charge. These will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007.

2. **Late and non payment of fees** - This has been an issue highlighted in the audit and despite the best efforts of the Treasurer to collect these it has proved somewhat difficult. It clearly states in our constitution that fees should be paid annually in advance or by monthly standing order. We will now look at a process of ensuring that the Treasurer has a clear process of notifying and collecting fees. This will be notified to members once it has been agreed by the new Committee. There may be special circumstances that may mean that this is not possible for some members and it will of course be considered by the Committee in complete confidence with the individual concerned.
3. **Skating Representatives** - With a dwindling number of members who are over 16 years old it was decided that we investigate a new process for members to pass to the main committee ideas and issues that need addressing. Nicola York and Julie Cook agreed to look into setting up and coordinating a members committee with the assistance of Sarah Clinton (Welfare Officer) to ensure that members are adequately represented. Again once this has been addressed members will of course be informed and encouraged to participate in the new process.
4. **Structure of the Club** - A proposal was put forward to eliminate the social element of the skating time to ensure that we make the best use of the ice time available to us. NISA will no longer endorse a social element as part of the Club structure and rather than use the ice time to have a social element it was agreed that the Club would be run in 2 blocks of 45 minutes and that we would look into the possibility of holding social events off the ice instead. The coaches will now look at a structure of classes going forward to allow all members to experience different elements that makeup the sport of skating. This does not mean that the 2 sessions of the Club will not mix in the future; it will depend on what is being taught.

That covers the highlights of the AGM; the Committee hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in 2007!

Lesley, Bev, Andrea, Tash, Palma, Barbara, Nicola and Julie.