



St Croix Speed Skating Club 2017-2018 Report



The St Croix Speed Skating club is proud to report the successful 2017-2018 skating season. Although skating enrollment was still low this year the St Croix Speed Skating Club worked together to ensure all ice times were well utilized and offered a half year learn to skate program that brought in more skaters after Christmas. Our yearly meet was a success as our one and only fundraiser. Here are the highlights of our year:

- Over the summer, the St Croix Blades participated in 2 parades to promote their club and their love for Speed Skating. "Summer is nice but we prefer Ice" was the theme. Lots of Fun by all!
- Enrolled 36 skaters in the "Learn to Skate", "Learn to Speed Skate" and "Learn to Compete" programs. We also had exchange students from Germany and Mexico who joined our club to learn to skate and 2 Masters skaters.
- Three dedicated volunteer coaches who promoted skill acquisition while keeping things fun for our skaters.
- Successful All Points Annual Meet (January 13th and 14th). Over 114 skaters registered for our meet this year. Thanks to our local sponsors we were able to once again successfully fundraise through our Silent Auction and Program Ads. As all successful meets, our club was very grateful for the numerous volunteers who dedicated their time for this event.
- Our equipment team was able to avoid buying boots and blades this year as funds were low but we are looking forward to making some equipment purchases next year to ensure our skate rental program maintains a healthy inventory for all our skaters.
- Social events: "Christmas Party" and our second Annual "Fun Day" were well attended. We also included our year end closing and award ceremony after our Fun Day meet wrap up which proved to be very successful. Many left with smiling faces with hopes of returning to skate next year.
- Applied for Podium Tracker Program through Intact Insurance.
- Very grateful to have received a 2400\$ grant from Kiwanis that will go to purchase new flooring for our pad room, increase our skate rental inventory and buy new slip covers for our crash pads that are damaged.
- Four skaters from our club qualified to attend the Canada East Competition in Quebec this year.

Next year we are hopeful to continue to promote our skating programs with special attention to our Learn To Skate program as this is fundamentally the backbone of a healthy club. We look forward to challenging ourselves to better promote our sport in the Charlotte County area and to host a development camp to introduce the sport and further the skills of our skaters. We are also hopeful to recruit and train more coaches this upcoming year as this will ensure the viability of our club.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Domres
Blades' President