**SJASSC President Report**

**AGM May 2021**

 I want to begin by thanking our coaches Julia & Sue for their time, experience, patience, and extra efforts to deal with the pandemic on top of their regular duties this year. I also want to thank our Provincial Coach, HP Coach, NB Executive Director and many others that put in the extra efforts to keep our sport moving in the province and providing much needed guidance in this crazy past year. Also, thanks go out to all our volunteer skater coaches (esp. Regan, Morgan), past skater coaches, and parents who on multiple occasions committed throughout the year to lend a helping hand for the club. We need more people to step up like this and commit to taking a role in order to spread the load.

The 2020-21 season presented many challenges. We began the season with the City’s new rate structure that added a significant increase in ice time costs, but thankfully the city postponed the use of rec. cards for the year. Next year, rates are due to increase significantly again and we will no doubt have to reduce ice times or raise our rates to make up the shortfall.

The new SSC Icereg System presented considerable effort to get to a usable state, but hopefully will improve as it gets worked out in the future. Extra thanks go out to our Registration Chair for sticking with it and dedicating a huge amount of time all year.

We were able to run all our programs this year (when not restricted by provincial regs) but had to limit our learn to skate programs to roughly 20 people at a time to maintain proper numbers, both on the ice and off, with covid protocols. To be able to still fully service the community with our learn to skate program, we offered an additional, 1 day a week, beginner learn to skate group, allowing us to still have close to 40 total skaters in our beginner LTS program. With the lack of competitions, some of our groups actually had even more practice ice time than ever before, but due to added safety concerns our learn to skate programs lost a few weeks when the Saint John Zone was in orange or red pandemic phases.

With no competitions it was a difficult year to motivate the skaters, but I also feel we had an equal struggle with covid fatigue in the stands/behind the scenes. I would like to extend congratulations to all our skaters who are qualified for the provincial team and/or HP team; and to all skaters who achieved their own personal goals or personal bests in a very difficult year. On that note, all skaters and volunteers, regardless of their achievements this year, are owed a huge congratulation for sticking to it, for coming out and having the courage to participate, for having the dedication to sport and comradery, for putting in the effort to improve themselves, staying healthy and active in an unprecedented year.

To reiterate our past presidents last report - Parents are the backbone of our club, we need the next generation of skater parents to step in, learn the ropes and keep the club going.

Respectfully Submitted - May 28, 2021

Jamie Dunnett

SJASSC Pres.