

FASSCI – Fredericton Amateur Speed Skating Club President's report 2022-2023 season October 1, 2023

## Season Summary

### Try-it event

Our 2022/23 season began early, with the club hosting a "Try-it" event to generate interest and grow our numbers in our B and C groups in September 2022. The club was able to secure SSC funding to help pay for this, and we had around a dozen skaters show up to try the sport.

### LTS program

The club was able to put on another incredibly successful Learn To Skate (LTS) program last year. We had 63 participants register, and many others on a wait list as this continues to be the clubs most popular program.

### LTS try speedskating event

To generate interest and numbers in our C group, we held a "try speedskating" event for our red LTS group, so that they could come and experience what a speedskating practice looked like. We had B and C group skaters from the club on hand to demonstrate various skills and this was a very successful event. We are hoping to continue this event so that we can increase our transition numbers from LTS to C group and grow the sport.

#### C group

This year we had 14 skaters in our C group, which is the same number that we had the previous year, and down from 2 years ago. This group is the focus for recruitment and growth by the club as we would like to see this group be in the 20-25 range, and the club is working on strategies on how to do this.

### B group

This year our B group saw an increase over the previous year, from 9 to 14. This is a great increase and we would like to see this group number also eventually grow to 20.

## A group

This year we had a very healthy A group, with 13 skaters registered and skating with the club. We also were able to support 94 drop-ins to our A group program. We are expecting this group to shrink for the next season as this is a transition year following the Canada Games.

#### Additional events

The club was able to put on several additional events throughout the season, including:

- A whacky fun skate competition for the A, B, and C's combined
- A club send-off night for our Canada Winter Games athletes
- An end of season party

## **Competition summary**

Our club put on the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Harold Joyce meet on November 26 / 27. This was a special version of the meet as it was used for the Canada Games qualifications and the team was announced at the conclusion of the meet. We had 108 skaters participate across the 2 day competition, with skaters from 11 clubs.

Thanks to the hard work of our meet organizers and volunteers, the meet ran smoothly and successfully. We are looking forward to the  $37^{th}$  annual version and hoping to get registration numbers back up to the 125 - 150 range.

## Financial position

The FASSCI club is in excellent financial position. For the 2022-2023 season, the club was able to run a surplus of ~\$10K, which the club will be using to invest in new equipment and put on "growth" events. In terms of our bank account, the club currently sits with ~\$74K in reserves. The club is in good standing with SSNB and all membership fees for SSNB and SSC are paid.

# Coaching volunteers

FASSCI could not operate without the help of its volunteer coaches, so we would like to thank the following coaches for making our skater's experience so good:

- A / B / C group:
  - Steve Harris
  - Isaac Gallagher
  - o Andrea Bower
  - Conor Murray
  - Mia Stewart
  - o Chris Scholten
  - o Brian Cole
- LTS:
  - Sebastian Carretero
  - Riley Adams
  - Brett Steeves
  - o Ryan Maurice
  - John Ward
  - o Ben Clement
  - Keshia Matthews
  - Madeleine Whalen
  - o Jennifer Simon

- o Joanna Adams
- o A / B Group Skaters

## Club's board and volunteers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers and board members who help make the club run. There were so many volunteer parents who helped with the various club activities throughout the season and our thanks goes out to all of them.

#### Here is a list of the board members:

- President John Ward
- Vice President Jean Benoit Clement
- Treasurer Wendy Smith
- Secretary Kim Keizer
- Meet coordinator Erica Ward
- Head Coach Derrick MacLeod
- Equipment Jeff Stymiest and Adam Leclerc
- Registrar Jessica Hamilton and Wendy Smith

Sincerely,

John Ward

President, Fredericton Amateur Speed Skating Club