

Duluth Figure Skating Club
Membership Information and Contract 2023-2024
All renewal applications are due June 30th, 2023
Please complete and submit all applicable pages

Welcome to the Duluth Figure Skating Club! Everyone benefits from participating in skating and we look forward to having you as part of our club. The Duluth Figure Skating Club (DFSC) will encourage teaching, practice and advancing of figure skaters of all ages, in moves in the field and free skate.

Joining DFSC gives each skater the opportunity to contract for practice ice monthly and to have access to skating professionals for coaching. We encourage all members and levels of ability to work towards good sportsmanship, discipline, friendship and cooperation within the club. DFSC is a sanctioned club with U.S. Figure Skating (USFS).

DFSC skates mainly at Mars Arena and at the DECC in the winter months. If these facilities are open, skating will be available – we are not affiliated with the school system. If there is bad weather, going to the rink is up to the parent and coach's discretion. If a skater cannot make it, just cancel and you will receive a coupon to walk on any eligible session the next month if the skater qualifies for coupons.

Membership Information

The following DFSC types of membership*/fees are available for those joining between July 1 and June 30. Home Club Gold, Home Club Gold Family, and New Home Club Memberships must fulfill volunteer requirements.

- **Home Club Gold Membership - \$180.00**
 - Skater required to contract one session per month (based on USFS Freestyle test level).
 - Voting privileges
 - Volunteering – Up to **20 Hours Annually (Up to 14 hours – Northland, 1 hour – Ice Show, 5 additional)**
 - Fundraising requirement – 10 units

- **Home Club Gold Family Membership - \$205.00.**
 - up to four members (Add \$10 for each member over and above four)
 - Voting privileges
 - Volunteering – Up to **30 Hours Annually (Up to 22 hours – Northland, Up to 2 hours – Ice Show, 6 additional)**
 - Fundraising requirement – 10 units per skater

- **Home Club Gold New Membership - \$100.00**
 - Skater required to contract one session per month (based on USFS Freestyle test level).

- Voting privileges
 - Volunteering – A minimum **6 hours annually (any DFSC event)**
 - No fundraising requirement, but recommended
 - NOTE: Members who join the club between February 1st and June 30th of each year will remain as new members at the time of renewal and will follow all new member requirements for the next year.
- **Home Club Collegiate - \$250.00**
 - Valid for 4 consecutive years.
 - Skater **MUST** be enrolled in a post-secondary school at time of registration
 - No voting privileges
 - No volunteer or fundraising requirement
 - **Home Club - Virginia- \$130**
 - Open to skaters who seek home club membership & skate primarily in the Virginia area
 - No voting privileges
 - No volunteer or fundraising requirement
 - **Associate Individual Membership - \$130.00**
 - Must be a home club member of another USFSA sanctioned skating club or individual member of USFSA.
 - No voting privileges
 - No volunteer or fundraising requirement
 - **Associate Family Membership - \$170.00**
 - Must be a home club member of another USFSA sanctioned skating club or individual member of USFSA
 - up to four members (Add \$10 for each member over and above four)
 - No voting privileges
 - No volunteer or fundraising requirement
 - **Friends of Duluth FSC Membership** – donation of any denomination to the Duluth Figure Skating Club

All Home Club Memberships will get the following benefits:

- * Membership to USFS
- * Ability to take standardized tests governed by USFA
- * Participate in events sanctioned by USFS
- * Receive “Skating” magazine published by USFS
- * Ability to participate in all club sponsored events

If you are not planning on renewing your membership with Duluth Figure Skating Club (DFSC), please let us know so we do not send you a reminder email (duluthfsc@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chairperson (Jamie Nelson) – Jamienelson823@gmail.com or 651-308-0905.

Thank you,

The Duluth Figure Skating Club Board of Directors: *Jeff Manion, Krystal Bowman, Cindy Sund (2023-2024 Executive Committee)*

Leanne Warren, Bill Beyer, Jessica Kubat, Lea Scudamore, Jennifer Beck, Hali Johns, Jamie Nelson, Jennifer Peterson, and Sue Isackson (2021-2023 Members at Large)

Last updated: May 2023

CONTRACTING

As a member you will be responsible for contracting each month as required by your membership level. When contracting, **please remember that skaters may only contract for sessions according to their freestyle level**. All contract sessions go by the highest Free Skate test passed NOT Moves in the Field test.

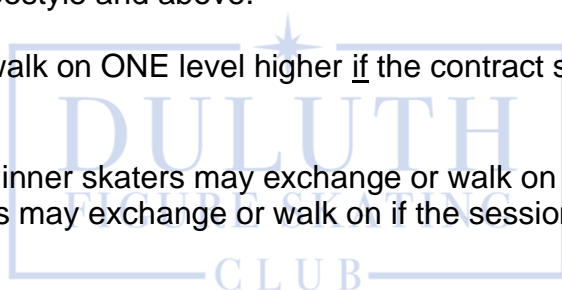
For example: BEG/UP – beginner

PP/UP – pre-preliminary freestyle and above.

Skaters may exchange or walk on ONE level higher if the contract skater number has not exceeded 15.

For example: PP/UP – beginner skaters may exchange or walk on if the session allows

PJ/UP – Preliminary skaters may exchange or walk on if the session allows.



USFS SKATESAFE PROGRAM

Please familiarize yourself with the US Figure Skating Skatesafe Program by reading through the handbook. You may find it here:

<https://www.usfsa.org/content/safesport%20handbook.pdf>

The Duluth Figure Skating Club adheres to all the policies therein and expects the same of all its members. If anyone witnesses any violation to the Skatesafe Program, they should immediately inform our Skatesafe Chair, Bill Beyer.

We also ask members who are willing and able, to complete the Skatesafe Training available at <https://www.usfsaonline.org/Account/InitialLogOn?ReturnUrl=%2fMembers%2fMemberHome>



VOLUNTEERING -

DFSC cannot operate without the support of VOLUNTEERS. The club has mandatory volunteer requirements as outlined below. Below is the club year (July 1-June 30) required volunteer hours.

Home Club Gold – Up to **20 Hours Annually** (Up to 14 hours – Northland, 1 hour – Ice Show, 5 additional)

Home Club Gold Family – Up to **30 Hours Annually** (Up to 22 hours – Northland, Up to 2 hours – Ice Show, 6 additional)

Home Club Gold New Membership – 6 Hours Annually (any DFSC event)

Penalty for not reaching required hours - for each hour a family is short on volunteering, they will be billed \$20. For example - if a gold member is 5 hours short of the required 14 or 22 hours annually, they will be billed \$100 on July 1st due by July 31st.

- **Volunteer opportunities:** Ice Show, acting as a board member, helping with social and/or fundraising activities and Learn 2 Skate. Northland is a key revenue producing event for the club and supplements our freestyle ice costs. Family members/friends are also allowed to volunteer on your behalf.

Our website will have an online volunteer link that DFSC will be using to manage volunteer hours and tasks for Northland. If you use this method of recording, you do not need to report your hours.

OPTION TWO: BUYOUT @\$150.00 PER YEAR PER SKATER

There are a limited number of buyout spots available per year. In general, DFSC reserves those for families who NEED to access this option (based on workload, single parents, multiple children, sick parents or spouse, etc.). *Before we can confirm ANY buyouts, we must be sure we have enough service hours to run the business of the club. Buyouts are not given on a first come-first serve basis.*

FUNDRAISING

DFSC members are required to participate annually in our Club fundraising efforts. All proceeds are used to help subsidize ice costs, social activities, etc. which benefit all club skaters.

ALL members are required to participate EXCEPT as indicated below:

1. The fundraising requirement is waived for a new DFSC member for their first membership year (regardless of when you join). For example: if a skater joins in September, they would be exempt from the current year requirements, but for the following membership year (starting July 1st), fundraising requirements must be met.
2. Home Club – Virginia, Associate and Collegiate Members have no fundraising requirements at this time.

While there are minimum requirements for participation each year, we strongly encourage any efforts above and beyond!

What is the minimum annual fundraising requirement?

Each club member is responsible for selling 10 “fundraising units” per fundraising year (coincides with the club membership year). If a skater does not meet the requirements for 10 fundraising units during the year, the skater will be assessed a pro rata portion of the buyout fee for the shortfall. Based on the current buyout fee of \$120 for a minimum of 10 units, this equals \$12 per fundraising unit. This charge will be added to your account shortly after the last fundraising event of the year is completed.

Fundraising Buyout Options

DFSC does offer a Fundraising Buyout Option. This allows families who do not want to participate in the actual selling the option to say no but will still ensure that each skater/family will be contributing financially to the expenses that our fundraising efforts cover. Our current Fundraising Buyout fee is \$120 and is payable at the beginning of the membership year. The fee is non-refundable. Any additional fundraising is appreciated and would go directly to the DFSC for the benefit of all members.

Example of ‘Units’

One fundraising unit will vary depending on the fundraiser. Membership will be informed of units for each fundraiser when they begin. For example: Pizza = 1 unit. Coffee = 1 unit.

Fundraising Goals

Our goal is to raise at least \$10,000 which will go towards our yearly \$200,000 ice bill. We will always inform the membership of the fundraising units for each sale/effort when it begins.

Extras

Members who go above and beyond their unit sales will be eligible for prizes to be announced at the start of each fundraiser. Prizes may be ice coupons or gift cards or ... you just never know!

DULUTH FIGURE SKATING CLUB 2023-2024 CODE OF CONDUCT

The Duluth Figure Skating Club (DFSC) supports a zero-tolerance policy for unsportsmanlike behavior. Its members, including athletes, professionals, parents and supporters must raise the standard of behavior to create a complete skating experience for all, where hopes and dreams can be reached through a supportive, inspiring network of people.

RULES

1. Always assume good intentions
2. Treat others as you wish to be treated.
3. Always search for solutions rather than going directly to blaming.
4. Everyone should bring their best self and attitude to the rink each day.
5. If a problem or issue should arise, raise it with those individuals that can most effectively and efficiently deal with the issue or problem. Gossip, rumors and negative PR will not be tolerated.
6. Any issues that arise on the ice, should be discussed OFF ice so as not to disturb everyone on the rink.
7. It is ok to say, "I'm sorry". Everyone makes mistakes. Maintaining relationships is more important than being right or getting in the final word.
8. Remember, we are all here for the improvement of the *overall* skating program and experience. We can accomplish more together than we can separately. If we all work together, we will have the best possible experience!

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

I will support and respect the DFSC by encouraging membership and good sportsmanship by showing positive support and respect for all members, coaches, board members, judges, officials and rink management both on and off the ice. I will support and follow the expectations of skaters as listed on the following page.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/ALUMNI RESPONSIBILITIES

I will support and respect the DFSC by encouraging membership and good sportsmanship by showing positive support and respect for all members, coaches, board members, judges, officials and rink management both on and off the ice and will encourage the same from my child. I will support and follow the expectations of skaters and follow the expectations of parents as listed on the following page.

SKATERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

I will support and respect the DFSC by encouraging membership and good sportsmanship by showing positive support and respect for all members, coaches, board members, judges, officials and rink management both on and off the ice. I will support and follow the expectations of skaters as listed on the following page.

COURSE OF ACTION

Should a parent, member or professional not follow the above Code of Conduct, DFSC Board of Directors will hold the member, parent or coach accountable and will take necessary action that may be as simple as a verbal warning up to disciplinary hearings before the Board of Directors. At such time the Board will decide if suspension or expulsion from DFSC is in order.

IMPLEMENTATION

Anyone may file a complaint or grievance, in writing and signed to the President of the DFSC. Please Do Not Email. We encourage anyone to first contact the DFSC Skating Director and parties involved before resorting to this measure.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I will read and understand the terms and conditions set forth in this document and the expectations outlined below and on the following page(s) and agree to adhere to them.

EXPECTATION OF SKATERS

1. I will work toward and support:
 - a. Individual growth and excellence in figure skating.
 - b. Positive behavior with all my fellow skaters, other parents and professional staff in the Club.
 - c. Respect and appreciation for all personalities and abilities of skaters and Coaches.
 - d. Support and respect all skaters participating in competitive events.

EXPECTATION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. I will be a role model and facilitate:
 - a. Individual growth and excellence in skating for all members of the Club.
 - b. Positive and constructive interaction between all skaters, parents, and Coaches in the Club
 - c. Respect and appreciation for all personalities and abilities of all skaters and Coaches in the Club.
 - d. Support and respect for all skaters participating in competitive events.
2. I will support and respect other Coaches and their philosophy, work and disciplinary procedures, and treat all skaters fairly.
3. I will cooperate with other Coaches and skaters regarding space on the ice by moving around and using the whole rink and holding meetings with groups of my skaters off the ice.
4. I have the authority to maintain a positive training atmosphere on the ice.
5. I will talk to each of my students about proper skating procedures and behavior on the ice, following all of the Ice Rules as published by the DFSC Board and demand proper behavior at all times.
7. All Coaches are responsible for observing any inappropriate skating etiquette. If inappropriate skating etiquette is observed, the Coach of the skater involved and the Coach who observed the behavior will meet **off** the ice and all parties will address and resolve the problem. When possible, this should take place at the time of the incident. If the skater's Coach is not present, the issue will be discussed with the skater, and the skater's Coach will be notified as soon as possible.

8. If I need help with a problem, I will follow the appropriate Grievance Procedure, as outlined by the Board.
9. I will support the DFSC Board and the Club as I do my work and encourage my students and their parents or guardians to be active Club members and supporters.
10. Coaches should not request skaters to become home club skaters elsewhere. Coaches who do this are subject to losing their membership status with the DFSC.
11. As a courtesy to our skaters, please obtain permission from your skater and/or their parents before posting pictures or videos of them on social media.
12. As a courtesy to the club, if you have invited a guest coach to our rink, please have them inform the Executive Committee prior to their arrival for safety and liability reasons.



SKATER CODE OF CONDUCT

As a member of the Duluth Figure Skating Club, all skaters must adhere to this Code of Conduct at all times.

General Guidelines: Duluth Figure Skating Club (DFSC) is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for members' physical, emotional and social development and ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct. This Skater Code of Conduct has been established to ensure the safety of all members using our ice to ensure quality practice time for all home club, associate, and non-members who purchase ice from the club and who participate in all club-related activities.

1. All skaters, regardless of whether they hold home club, or associate, or non-member status must follow and uphold the tenets in this Skater Code of Conduct regarding behavior on and off the ice. All club members are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship and be courteous toward their fellow skaters, coaches, parents of skaters, U.S. Figure Skating officials and guests.
2. DFSC is committed to promoting a positive and friendly environment for all skaters. Remember —treat other people as you would like to be treated—with respect.

Ice Etiquette and Safety:

Our goal is to keep sessions flowing so that skaters do not collide with one another, skaters practice in harmony together, skaters won't have to circle numerous times trying to find a spot to jump and will be able to skate consistent patterns that lead to jump consistency:

1. While in lessons or practice, it is the skater's responsibility to always be conscientious and aware of other skaters around them.
2. Skaters must skate with the flow of other skaters and familiarize themselves with the most used areas for jumps and spins.
 - a. At Mars, please practice spins at the Zamboni end of the rink. Remain aware of skaters trying to jump in the "lutz corners". This is also the place to practice small patterns.
 - b. At Mars, jumps should be on the lobby end of the rink.
3. The only time a skater has the SOLE right of way is when they are skating their program to music. When you hear another member's music, please extend that person the courtesy and move out of their path momentarily. This only takes a moment, and you will enjoy the same courtesy while you are performing your program. Program music is played in the order requested by laying your cd to the right of the player - but coaches may 'bump' into requests if they let the skater know. If there is a line of music waiting to be played, do not pause or restart your music. If you've had your music played (all or part), put your music at the end of the line if you want it played again. Everyone should get their music played once. Know when your music will be played so you are ready, and this will ensure most skaters will have their music played on the session. Please refer to the info board by the ice monitor if you need guidance while at the rink.
4. Skaters in lessons have the right of way, as do skaters on the belt. Do not skate towards the belt but move away when it is in use.
5. Skaters practicing field moves must yield to skaters setting up jumps.
6. If not actively skating go to the boards. There should be no standing or chatting in the middle of the ice.
7. Skaters must check in with monitor before entering the rink. Walk-on skaters MUST pay for the session before setting foot on the ice.

8. Avoid cutting off other skaters by darting across the middle of the ice. Learn how to merge into the flow of sessions.
9. Get up promptly after a fall.
10. Do not block the entrance to the rink.
11. Parents or friends should be spectators in the lobby or bleachers – no standing in the entrance doorway or hockey boxes as this is distracting for the skaters.
12. Skaters are to follow the DFSC Dress Policy.

Unsafe or Discourteous Behavior:

Unsafe or discourteous behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.

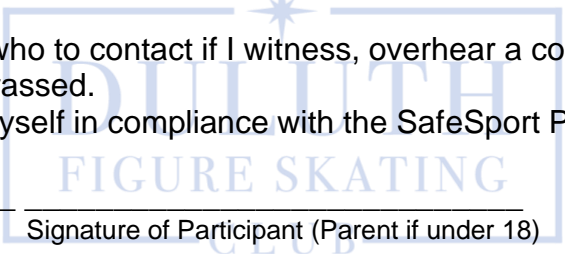
1. Follow all traffic rules.
2. Work alone on sessions. Talking, playing, “teaching”, or any type of behavior that might distract skaters from their concentration on the freestyle is discouraged.
3. Don’t show signs of disgust if someone gets in your way.
4. If you get extremely upset (crying), leave the ice.
5. Cell phones are not be used while on the ice.

I have been informed about the SafeSport Program and what it involves.

I understand that bullying, threats and harassment will not be tolerated and should be reported immediately.

I have been informed of who to contact if I witness, overhear a conversation or am currently being abused, bullied or harassed.

I will work and conduct myself in compliance with the SafeSport Program enacted by USFS



Printed Name of Participant

Signature of Participant (Parent if under 18)

Date

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

General Guidelines: Duluth Figure Skating Club (DFSC) is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for members' physical, emotional and social development and ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct.

Preamble: The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character" (Arizona Sports Summit Accord). By signing below, I hereby agree that:

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by my actions, demonstrating positive support for all skaters, coaches, and officials at every practice, competition and test session.
2. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child and others ahead of my desire to win.
3. I will encourage my child to skate in a safe and healthy environment by maintaining a respectful and courteous attitude to others.
4. I will promptly inform my child's coach of any physical/mental disability or challenge affecting my child that may affect the safety of my child or others.
5. I will teach my child that doing his/her best is more important than winning.
6. I will do my best not to ridicule, bully, blame, or yell at my child or other skaters, coaches, officials or volunteers in response to a poor performance or for any other reason.
7. I will do my best to make skating fun at all times and will remember that my child participates in sports for his/her own enjoyment and satisfaction.
8. I will teach my child to treat other skaters, coaches, fans, volunteers, officials, and rink staff with respect, regardless of race, creed, color, sexual orientation or ability. I will also take action and report any acts of bullying, harassment or abuse to the appropriate authorities.
9. I will applaud any effort in both victory and defeat emphasizing positive accomplishments and learning from mistakes.
10. I will teach my child to resolve conflicts calmly and peacefully without resorting to hostility or violence.
11. I will be a positive role model for my child and others.
12. I will demand a figure skating environment for my child that is free of drug or alcohol abuse and agree that I will not use or provide to a third-party any illegal drug prohibited by applicable federal, state, or municipal law.
13. I will not assist or condone any athlete's use of a banned substance as described by the International Olympic Committee, International Skating Union, United States Olympic Committee, or U.S. Figure Skating, or, in case of athletes, to use such drugs or refuse to submit to properly conducted drug tests administered by one of these organizations.
14. I will expect my child's coach to be in compliance with all requirements of U.S. Figure Skating and the Professional Skaters Association, to continue their education and training through programs offered by U.S. Figure Skating, the Professional Skaters Association and other accredited organizations.
15. I will respect my child's coach and refrain from "sideline" coaching my child or other skaters.
16. I agree to educate myself regarding the proper procedures to follow when establishing or terminating a coaching relationship.

- 17. I will respect the decisions of officials, their authority and decisions during competitions and test sessions and teach my child to do the same.
- 18. I will show appreciation and recognize the importance of volunteers and club officials. I will fulfill my responsibility to help my club with membership, special projects, competitions and test sessions.
- 19. I will become familiar with the rules of the U.S. Figure Skating and teach my child accordingly.
- 20. I will support and respect all skaters and their right to participate.

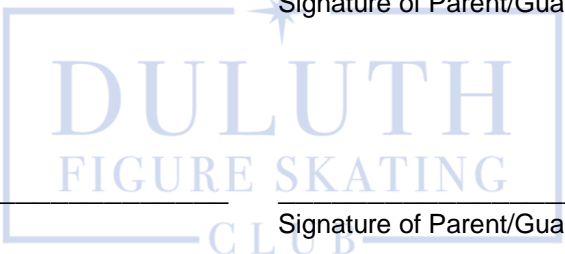
____ I have been informed about the SafeSport Program and what it encompasses and have familiarized myself with the new SafeSport Handbook provided by USFS.

____ I understand that bullying, threats and harassment will not be tolerated and should be reported immediately.

____ I have been informed of who to contact if I witness, overhear a conversation or am currently being abused, bullied or harassed.

____ I will work and conduct myself in compliance with the SafeSport Program enacted by USFSA

____ Printed Name of Parent/Guardian _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date



____ Printed Name of Parent/Guardian _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date

DULUTH FIGURE SKATING CLUB MEMBER STATEMENT

I hereby apply for membership in Duluth Figure Skating Club ("Club"), a member club of the United States Figure Skating Association ("USFS") and agree that, in accordance with the By-laws of the Club, all membership applications are subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

I will adhere to all Club & USFS rules in all activities. It is understood that the Club will take reasonable measures to provide a safe experience for its membership. However, it is further understood that neither the Club nor its officers assume any financial responsibility for any accidents or incidents that may occur. Should it be necessary, I authorize Duluth Figure Skating Club to call for emergency medical treatment and will hold no member or Board of Director liable for treatment.

I understand that to remain a member in good standing in the Club, I must pay all Club bills promptly. If any bills due to the Club are paid with checks that are returned for non-sufficient funds I agree that I will pay a handling fee of \$35 for the NSF check in addition to reimbursing any reasonable fees the Club may incur associated with the NSF check. This includes billings for membership, apparel, testing, exhibitions, and all other fees not specifically listed. I understand that if the requested payment becomes 30 days overdue without contacting the Club Treasurer, I will cease to be a member in good standing of the Club and will be disqualified from the following: USFS Testing, USFS Competitions, Contracting for Club Ice, participation in Club events such as exhibitions, social events, and individual fundraising opportunities.

I have read and understand the terms and conditions set forth above and agree to adhere to them.

I have read and understand the terms and conditions set forth in the Code of Conduct and the Expectations outlined in the membership information packet and agree to adhere to them.

I have read and understand the terms and conditions set forth in the Fundraising/Volunteer Policy and Requirements and agree to adhere to them.

I understand that club membership fees are **NON-REFUNDABLE**

Printed Name of Participant

Signature of Participant

Date

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

DULUTH FIGURE SKATING CLUB DRESS POLICY

What to Wear

Attire must be modest, dignified, and appropriate

Approved Apparel includes:

Bottoms: Skating dresses, leotards, unitards, leggings (non-flare), warm-up jackets/sweaters, athletic pants.

Tops: athletic tops, long sleeves, short sleeves, tank tops.

Hair: must be out of the face & eyes. Ponytail & bun are preferred.

What not to Wear

Inappropriate/Unapproved apparel includes:

Bottoms: Jeans, oversized jogging pants or sweatpants, low-cut pants or skirts

Tops: NO HOODIES, oversized sweatshirts, heavy jackets, low-cut shirts/tanks, sports bras.

Accessories: jewelry that is loose or dangly, hats, caps, or beanies

Attire with foul language, inappropriate logos, characters, or phrases are NOT allowed.

Skaters not following the dress policy will not be allowed on the ice.