

Dear School Superintendents, Athletic Directors, School Board Members and Administrators;

Due to the large number of middle school and high school students who range from beginning to serious skaters in the state of Ohio, particularly in the Northeastern region of the state, a committee has been formed to develop a program for high school and middle school students who are interested in the sport of figure skating. The committee was formed to survey the interest among middle and high school age students in various levels of skating skills to determine if there was an interest and a need to pursue program development for skating clubs. The committee did in fact gather data, which supports a great interest throughout the Northeast region of Ohio for such a program development.

Therefore, each school district with students and skaters who expressed an interest in the project is being contacted to provide information about the formation of a figure skating club at their high school. Middle school students can be included in the club if the middle school is a direct feed school to the district's high school.

Figure skating clubs are being formed to emphasize and promote the enjoyment of the sport of figure skating. Any student with an interest in the sport can join the club. From the basic beginning levels through serious competitive skaters. Students may join the club who enjoy the sport but have no desire to skate, but instead are interested in the administrative aspects of the sport. All skill levels can join the club, and skate together if they choose, and the culmination of the year's activities will be a friendly skating competition between all schools having a skating club in April of 2003. The competition will be held at the Pavilion Recreation Center in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. All skating clubs throughout the state of Ohio will be invited to join our region in this event, which will be sanctioned by the United States Figure Skating Association. The competition will be supported by the USFSA, the 15 local figure skating clubs in Northeast Ohio and the Cleveland Council of Figure Skating Clubs.

All participating schools and teams have an opportunity to win trophies for their schools and medals for their skaters. The competition will include skating opportunities in a wide variety of figure skating. These include free skating, solo ice dance, and team events. Skaters will compete at their own skill levels from basic beginner to advanced skater.

All high school skating clubs will have the support of the USFSA, local individual home skating clubs, local coaches, parents and the Cleveland Council of Figure Skating Clubs. All high school clubs need to meet the requirements of their individual high schools and the USFSA to participate in skating events and activities.

Figure skating is a very popular sport for recreation as well as competition in the state of Ohio. The formation of high school skating clubs is one way where students can participate and enjoy a sport while representing their high school. It is unique in that it allows students to participate at all skating skill levels, and learn about the sport as well as its administrative side in the areas of accounting, announcing, and music.

We would appreciate you taking a moment to read the enclosed information and contacting the committee with your insights regarding this projected program development. Committee members are available to attend meetings with school officials to discuss the concept and provide more information.

Respectfully,

The High School Skating Club Committee

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