

March-Kanata Skating Club

Annual Reports - 2019

May 2019



2018 – 2019 Executive

POSITION	HELD BY
President	Susan Rivington-Chapman
Vice-President	Kim Graham
Secretary – Booking Director	Jennene Powers
Treasurer	Kitty Luo
CanSkate Director	Chiraz Guessaier
Coach Representative	Young-Soon Benoit
Communications Director	Jihane Hoummady
Pro-Liaison Director	Sheri Eady
Skater Development Director	VACANT
STARSkate Director	Jacalyn Smith
SynchroSkate Director	Cindy Clark
Test Chair	Tamara Barley

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

POSITION	HELD BY
Program Assistant Coordinator	Vicky Butz
Systems Administrator	Eric Artelle

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the March-Kanata Skating Club for the past year. On a personal level, this was a difficult year for me. My attention was diverted away from the club due to my husband's medical issues and then the joyful birth of two grandchildren, Walker and Dylan. Led by Kim Graham, Vice President, the board completed all the off-season requirements, West Ottawa Summer Skate, Ice Allocation requests, planning the 2018/2019 season and preparing registration. I can not begin to thank the board enough for their dedication and support although it does make me wonder if I am needed!

"Volunteers are the heart of Skate Canada". This was the title of a seminar at a Skate Canada AGM about 8 years ago. This is a very true statement. March-Kanata has a super group of volunteers and we are always looking for more. Many hands make light work. Board members and the support staff are the first line of volunteers. There are many jobs, both big and small, that need to be completed in order to keep a club running smoothly. Whether you opened the gate for CanSkaters, played music for STARSkaters, provided food for hospitality, handed out treats or the millions of other tasks needed to successfully run a club you are a STAR. This club could not operate without you.

We are very fortunate have a strong, energetic, and committed group of coaches at March-Kanata. We welcomed Micheline Metcalfe back to our team after a brief absence. Jessica Fontaine provided off-ice sessions and on-ice support to the base coaches. We look forward to adding Jessica as a base coach herself next season. This great group passes on their love of skating to our brand new PreCan skaters, seasoned CanSkaters, experienced PreJuniors, sophisticated STARSkaters and our Adult Skaters who have such heart. What a diverse group of skaters. Thank you to the coaches for providing such excellent guidance to all our skaters.

The biggest event of the 2018/2019 season was the Ice Show, "Chez Paris". We hold an ice show every two years to display the talents of our CanSkaters, PreJuniors, STARSkaters, Adults and Synchro teams. Even our coaches performed a number for us. It was a great show and I would like to express my thanks to our Co-Chairs Jihane Hoummady and Romelia Plesa and the Artistic Director Micheline Metcalfe. Volunteers were a major part of this production. Just another example of the wonderful support this club enjoys. One fact that I found so amazing was that we had volunteers from the "Old Guard". These people had

devoted many hours when their children skated at March-Kanata. Those days have passed and their skaters moved on and yet when the call for help when out they all replied, "Yes".

This season we enjoyed two Performance Ice events where our skaters performed their routines and received expert feedback. We hosted two test days in partnership with the Glen Cairn Skating Club and attended one more at the Jack Charron Arena. Juniors attended a seminar in September to welcome them to STARSkate at MKSC. Items of importance such as the Rules of Ice etiquette and what to expect on a STARSkate etc. were explained to these skaters. Another seminar was held in January for the Intermediate and Senior skaters.

Our CanSkate numbers grew again this year to a record high. The March-Kanata Executive approved a support plan to provide financial aid so more kids could learn to skate.

As we move into the next season there are a few directives I would like to remind you of. Skate Canada has a firm policy against bullying, both on and off the ice whether it is skater to skater or coach to skater. Skate Canada also enforces the Rule of Two meaning no adult can be alone with a skater for the protection of both the adult and the skater. March-Kanata will strive to uphold these directives and keep March-Kanata a great and safe place to skate.

We will start planning the 2019/2020 season as soon as we have received our ice allocation in June. If you have an idea that would help our club provide the best possible program for our skaters, please let me know. I love to hear about new and exciting ideas.

Thank you to all of you from the Skaters to the Program Assistants, the Music Players to the Coaches, the Executive Board to the Volunteers and finally the Parents (or Taxi Drivers). You all make me very proud to say that my club is March-Kanata Skating Club

Respectfully submitted

Susan Rivington-Chapman
May 2019





MARCH-KANATA SKATING CLUB

AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the CanSkate Director, Chiraz Guessaier

I would like to start by extending my thanks to the team who made this successful season a reality through much time and effort.

The 2018/2019 CanSkate season was a great success with an increase in the number of registrations compared to the previous year.

Unfortunately, we did not track the total # of withdrawals, but I would say probably around 8 withdrew.

Category	# of Registrations
CanSkate	361
Pre-CanSkate	52
Adult/Teen	21
Pre-Junior	20
Total	454

Thank you and best of luck for next year!
Chiraz



MARCH-KANATA SKATING CLUB

AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the Test Chair, Tamara Barley

The March-Kanata Skating Club participated in four Senior Bronze-Gold Test days during the June 2018-April 2019 skating season. The Club also participated in Star 1-5 coach evaluated testing during the skating season.

June 2018 Bell Sensplex

The June test day was held at the Bell Sensplex in Kanata and hosted by the Glen Cairn Skating Club. MKSC skaters attempted 37 tests. 22 tests were successful for a success rate of 59%.

November 2018 Mlacak Arena

MKSC hosted the November test day. This was a shared day with the GCSC. One skater from the Goulbourn Skating Club attempted a test. MKSC skaters attempted 35 tests. Out of 35, 21 were successful with a success rate of 60%.

February 2019 Jack Charron Arena

The Glen Cairn Skating Club hosted the February test day. MKSC skaters attempted 31 tests. 27 skaters were successful with an 87% success rate.

April 2019 Kanata Recreation Centre

Our final test day was hosted by the MKSC. The Glen Cairn Skating Club skaters also participated. One skater from the Goulbourn Skating Club also tested. MKSC skaters attempted 42 tests. 33 tests were successful for a 79% success rate.

Star 1-5 Coach Evaluated Tests

MKSC coaches evaluated 223 Star 1-5 tests from June 2018-April 2019. All skaters were successful at these tests.

MKSC Tests in 2018-2019

MKSC skaters participated in a total of 328 tests. 286 tests were successfully completed. MKSC ends the season with an 87% success rate with Star 1-5 tests and Senior Bronze-Gold tests.



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Star 1-5 Problems and Test Day issues

This year was the second year MKSC participated in Star 1-5 testing. Some problems have revealed themselves during this season along with continued issues working with GCSC.

- Star Testing record keeping is very time consuming and prone to error. Electronically entered tests do not always show up on the skaters' test records. The computer program is a bit fussy, and one or two tests do not register every entry session.
- Tests collected during January-March 2018 were not all recorded. These tests were submitted with the February test day results. Hours were spent verifying which tests were entered and which tests needed to be re-entered.
- Star Testing does not have an immediate centralized mechanism to keep track of entered tests and web site or user error.
- Glen Cairn has a few board members and coaches that make working together unpleasant. The current test chair is lovely and very helpful.

Suggestions

This year, the Skater Development position and the Test Chair position worked to detect errors, search for test sheets, and correct mistakes. This involves several steps and really relies on the availability of both positions.

We could make some changes:

- Amilia has a function allowing the club to create a skater page and keep track of entered tests. After entry, I print out entered test verification sheets or download an electronic copy. These can be checked as paid in Amilia, and the results could be then recorded on the skaters separate Amilia page. This could centralize test records that could then be compared to each skater's record.
- Coaches could double check the entered test verification sheets.
- March-Kanata Skating Club should run its own test days in the future. If our Spring and Summer skating partnership goes well with the Goulbourn Skating Club, we could consider partnering with the Goulbourn Skating Club.

Conclusion

Overall, this season has been super successful. I am proud of our skaters, and I will continue to support the MKSC skaters as Test Chair.



MARCH-KANATA SKATING CLUB

AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the Pro Liaison, Sheri Eady

MKSC is fortunate to have an incredibly engaging, dedicated and a passionate team of STARSkate and CanSkate Coaches. This year, there are five base coaches for the STARSkate program, and we have recently hired a 6th base coach for the 2019-20 season. In addition to the STARSkate program, there are 7 coaches that support the CanSkate program. This team of professionals not only assist our skaters with the day to day coaching but then spend countless hours planning and organizing to ensure that there are excellent programs provided to every skater. The feedback and communication from the coaches is a valued and many decisions are made throughout the year based on their expertise and guidance. They are a true exemplar of a team coming together to support additional events, such as the ice show, performance ice, coverage when coaches are away for competitions, test days, etc. We are very proud to have an excellent team than continuously demonstrates the true value of teamwork and collaboration.



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AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the Synchronized Skating Director, Cindy Clark

2018-19 marks a tremendously successful season for the synchronized skating program. This year, March-Kanata SC hosted two teams – one at the PreJuvenile level, with skaters ages 8-11 and one at the PreNovice level, ages 13-18. Both teams had incredible seasons, each participating in 5 competitions across Ontario and Quebec. The PreJuvenile team won one gold and two silver medals at their competition and the PreNovice team won 2 gold and 2 silver medals, including becoming the Ontario Provincial Champions!

Starlight also continues to work collaboratively with the Goulbourn Skating Club who host 2 additional teams under the Starlight banner, and which features many skaters from the March-Kanata SC. This collaboration provides strong opportunities for skaters of all ages and skill levels to participate in synchronized skating programs.

On March 1-2, 2019, March-Kanata SC proudly hosted the 7th consecutive SynchroSkate Competition at the Kanata Recreation Center. With 95 participating teams and over 1,400 skaters from across Ontario, Quebec and Alberta – the competition has grown to become one of the most successful synchronized skating events in Ontario. To that end, Skate Ontario has already granted sanction for the 2020 SynchroSkate Competition.



MARCH-KANATA SKATING CLUB

AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the Communications Director, Jihane Hoummady

Jihane's responsibilities are to keep our families informed about what's happening in the club. She spreads the news on social media (mainly on Facebook) and adds blog posts on the news section in our website. She also helps the CanSkate team by sending monthly emails to all the CanSkate parents and she makes digital and print ads to promote the club and the registrations in the beginning of the season.

This year we sent 42 newsletters and 68.4% of our members read them with an average click rate of 30.7%.

The club's Facebook page also had 81 more fans compared to last year.

And the website was completely modified in July before the opening of registrations and we also kept on adding to it all the info related to the ice show between January and March.

Thank you and please Follow us on:

Facebook @MarchKanataSkatingClub and on Instagram @mkskateclub 😊 👍





MARCH-KANATA SKATING CLUB

AGM REPORT 2019

Report from the STARSkate Director, Jacalyn Smith

STARSkate registration decreased eleven percent to 74 skaters this season. Overall ice registrations however were up approximately one percent, with Off-Ice registration down four percent. We also welcomed two new base coaches to the coaching team. New this year is a partnership with the Goulbourn Skating Club for Spring Skate.

MKSC had a successful competition season. A large group of skaters participated in the four local competitions from STAR 1 and above. We had several skaters participate in the Skate Ontario Super Series, with three skaters qualifying for the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships.

We did not have a Skater Development Director this season. With the assistance of a few of the executive members, we were able to continue to support our STARSkaters. We were pleased to have two new coaches join our Off-Ice instruction team. The Club held our annual Junior1 and Holiday Seminars this season. We also expanded our two Performance Ice Evenings to four hours, which was a great experience for our skaters. Our STARSkaters also participated in the Ice Show at the end of the season.

We hope next year will be as great an experience for our STARSkaters.