



Membership Handbook 2017-2018

Talbot Figure Skating Team

Members' Handbook

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
Welcome	3
Board of Directors/Parents/Volunteers/Professionals	3
Ice Skating Institute (ISI Affiliation)	3
TFST Board of Directors for 2017-2018	3
Members Benefits/Fees	4
Skating Equipment & Safety	5
Group Lessons	5
Private Lessons	5
TCDP&R Freestyle Sessions	5
Club Ice	5
Skating Competitions	5
Skating Exhibitions	6
Parent's Responsibilities	6

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

Talbot Figure Skating Team (TFST) is dedicated to bringing quality figure skating to Talbot County and adjacent counties. The successful start of Talbot Figure Skating Team is due to the support of Kim George and the love of her skating she wants to share with all children/adults. The team enthusiasm is due to the excitement of the newly generated members. It is the only figure skating team in Talbot County Maryland and adjacent counties.

Talbot Figure Skating Team is a recreational figure skating club affiliated with the Ice Skating Institute or ISI. Its typical figure skater members range from age 4 to adult. The professional skating instructors teach basic through advanced skating skills.

Skaters are given the opportunity to sign up with the Talbot Community Center and take skating lessons. This is the skater and skater's families' responsibility. Beginning skaters are taught skating skills through group lessons using the ISI testing standards. Test sessions are scheduled throughout the season giving the skaters the opportunity to test into new levels and to earn colorful ISI test patches or badges.

Talbot Figure Skating Team's mission is to create unity amongst Talbot County Skaters. This team will educate parents and skaters on the fundamentals of skating and establish an identity to positively represent Talbot County Community Center. Social activities and team bonding will be shared while providing its members the opportunity to build lasting friendships. Skaters interested in competition and exhibition events should become members of the Talbot Figure Skating Team.

Reading this handbook will help you be informed, ready to skate, and get the most out of your time and investment with Talbot Figure Skating Team.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/PARENTS/VOLUNTEERS/SKATING PROFESSIONALS

Talbot Figure Skating Team is run by volunteers, team members, parents, skating professionals and other supporters in the community. Without all of this input, skaters would not have this wonderful opportunity.

A Board of Directors consists of volunteers and generally meets monthly. The Board is responsible for organizing and running Talbot Figure Skating Team's business and subsequent specialized teams. Team business decisions will be made by the Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons.

ICE SKATING INSTITUTE (ISI) AFFILIATION

Talbot Figure Skating Team members are also enrolled, by the Team, as members of the Ice Skating Institute (ISI). The Ice Skating Institute is an international trade association encompassing all aspects of the ice skating industry. ISI was founded in 1959 as an organization for owners, operators and developers of ice skating facilities. The mission and goals of ISI are to promote ice skating as a participant sport and recreation and to provide information for the development, construction and operation of ice skating facilities. The Ice Skating Institute is dedicated to providing leadership, education and services to the ice skating industry.

Your ISI membership provides program materials and a quarterly magazine mailed to your home. The ISI testing standards are used by our instructors. ISI rules and standards also apply at all skating competitions sanctioned by ISI. For more information, visit www.skateisi.org.

TALBOT FIGURE SKATING TEAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
President	Cary Barnes	president@talbotfigureskatingteam.org
Secretary	Robin Smith	info@talbotfigureskatingteam.org
Treasurer	Lori Loker	treasurer@talbotfigureskatingteam.org

We welcome any parent that would like to take a more active role on the Talbot Figure Skating Team.

MEMBER BENEFITS/FEES

Annual Membership (September 1st of each season)

2017-18 Talbot Figure Skating Team Membership Levels		
Bronze - \$75 (available all season)	Silver - \$110 (not available after 11/20/17)	Gold - \$135 (not available after 11/20/17)
Annual ISI Membership (valid through 8/2018)	Annual ISI Membership (valid through 8/2018)	Annual ISI Membership (valid through 8/2018)
Club Ice Freestyle Prices	Club Ice Freestyle Prices	Club Ice Freestyle Prices
Annual TFST Club T-Shirt	Annual TFST Club T-Shirt	Annual TFST Club T-Shirt
NOTE: All synchro team skaters are automatically Bronze Level members.	Performance in Winter TFST Exhibition*	Performance in Winter TFST Exhibition*
		Performance in Spring TFST Exhibition*

*Solo, Duet, Small Group performances in the Winter and Spring Exhibitions will only be available to TFST members with Silver or Gold level memberships. This performance slot is in addition to your skaters Synchro or TCCC Show Your Style team performance. If time is available, additional TFST performance spots may become open for Bronze or Silver members and will incur an additional fee.

The basic membership level (Bronze) includes the following benefits:

ISI membership, Team T-shirt, Club Ice freestyle pricing, specialized teams and clinic opportunities, competition opportunities & fun social events!

Increasing your basic membership to a Silver or Gold level will secure your skater a performance in the Winter and/or Spring Exhibitions. Please note that all synchronized skaters are automatically enrolled in the Bronze Level membership levels are non-refundable and the Silver and Gold membership levels will not be available after November 20, 2017.

Membership fees that you pay cover only a portion of the cost of running the Talbot Figure Skating Team. Fundraising efforts and profits from the various annual activities are critical for covering the remainder of the Team costs and help keep individual member costs as low as possible.

Additional costs you might incur personally could include the following:

- *ice skates
- *refreshments
- *skating apparel
- *practice ice time (freestyle)
- *private lessons

- *test fees
- *additional club activity fees annually
- *competition expenses for entry fees and travel

Skaters must have membership fees paid on time. Skaters will not be permitted to participate in any activities until fees are paid according to the date of membership entry. Fundraising opportunities may also be made

available to assist in reducing your membership and/or group fees (i.e. Synchronized skating teams, Ensemble groups, Jump & Spin teams, Exhibitions, and Home Ice Competitions). Fundraising credits apply only to the current skating year and do not carryover beyond August 30th.

SKATING EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY

Skaters should come to the rink dressed in warm layers of clothing. Many wear skating dresses with warm tights or leggings and sweaters, however it is not required. Gloves and hats are recommended and are very important for young skaters' safety, comfort and warmth.

Skaters should have a well-fitted pair of leather skates that have good support for the skaters' ankles. Skates typically fit the foot like a glove and are usually a size smaller than the skaters' shoe size, recommended by most ice pro-shops. Skate guards should be worn when going to and from the ice surface to protect the blades from getting damaged and dull. Skates should be sharpened depending on the number of hours the skates are being used per week, please consult a skating professional (coach or proshop) for advice. Skate blades should always be dried off with a dry towel after use and stored in a bag with soakers (cloth blade covers) to absorb moisture and to protect the blades from hitting together.

Parents are strongly advised to remain at the rink during lesson and freestyle/team times. If you need to leave the rink, please let another parent know in the event of an emergency.

GROUP LESSONS

The Talbot Community Center allocates and schedules ice time for all skaters. Group lessons are available for skaters from beginning through freestyle levels. Skaters are grouped for group lessons based on ability determined by their ISI test level. The Talbot Community Center dictates the cost of the group lessons. Please refer to their website for the most accurate information.

http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/index.php?page=Learn_to_skate

PRIVATE LESSONS

Skaters have an option to contract an instructor for private lessons. Skating professionals will provide these lessons. It is up to the team member/family to contact the professional instructors to see the availability of these options. The cost for private lessons is determined by the professional instructor. Ice time is determined and remains the responsibility of the professional instructors schedule and agreement. All arrangements for private lessons are strictly between the parents and the instructor and are not affiliated with Talbot Figure Skating Team. See our club website for a list of TFST coaches and the contact information for each.

<http://talbotfigureskatingteam.org/our-coaches>

TCDP&R FREESTYLE SESSIONS

The Talbot County Community Center posts their Freestyle schedule throughout the year and is available to all skaters. The session cost of all their freestyle sessions is determined by the Talbot County Community Center. Please refer to their website for the most accurate information on times, costs, and rules.

http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/index.php?page=Freestyle_figure_skating

CLUB ICE

Various times in the season the club has purchased club ice for parties, freestyle sessions, synchronized skating practices and miscellaneous activities. Please refer to the updated calendar of events for the 2016-17 season on the clubs website.

SKATING COMPETITIONS

Skating competitions are an optional activity for Talbot Figure Skating Team members. TFST holds its own ISI Administrative membership to comply with its contract with Talbot County Community Center in which it is

stated: **“TFST will have a separate ISI membership from the Talbot County Community Center; Talbot County Community Center will not use its membership for competition purposes”.**

Figure skating competitions are where many teams/clubs meet to compete for awards in all ages and skating levels. Registration, payment of fees, coaching and travel arrangements are the responsibility of the member who chooses to participate. Further information concerning or arrangements for the entry into a competition will be shared via email with all of our members and can also be obtained from a skaters private coach.

SKATING EXHIBITIONS

Talbot Figure Skating Team will host a Winter and Spring Exhibition during the 2017-18 season. Skater participation is based on the registered membership level.

Members who have selected a Silver Membership package will be permitted to perform his/her skating routine in the Winter Exhibition to be held on Sunday, December 9, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Members who have selected a Gold Membership package will be permitted to perform his/her skating routine in the Winter Exhibition to be held on Sunday, December 9, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. and the Spring Exhibition to be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

These solo/duet/small group performances are in addition to the routines a skater may be involved with as a member of a TFST Synchro and/or TCCC Show Your Style team.

A Bronze level member will only be permitted to perform a routine in an exhibition if there is available time in the schedule after all paid members are registered. A fee will be charged for any member to add an exhibition performance if time permits. The deadline to register for a Silver and Gold memberships is Friday, November 20, 2017. Membership levels are non-refundable.

PARENT’S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Skaters and parents need to routinely check their primary email account used to register their membership and www.TalbotFigureSkatingTeam.org on the internet for up to date notices and /or changes.
2. Parents must keep their skaters informed about schedules, ice rules and handbook information.
3. All members are responsible for paying their annual membership dues on time yearly.
4. Parents are encourage to volunteer at team events (i.e. fundraisers, exhibitions, and/or competitions, etc.) to keep the team successful. TFST has created a list of Volunteer Opportunities to help you understand what types of jobs are needed to make the team successful. Below is a partial list to assist you in finding the one that best fits your abilities and interests.

- Finding & Working Fundraisers
- Learn to Skate Informational Table
- Music / Lighting

- Poster/flyer distribution
- Awards
- Soliciting Vendors or prizes for Raffles

- Reporter for local media
- Photography
- Field Trips