

Dear SFSC-Skating Families!

Unbelievable how fast summer passed!

We hope everyone had a lovely summertime and a good start into the new skating season! - Welcome to our fall/winter season 2019-2020!

Sorry for the following long note, but we thought it might be a good time for a "hefty hi" from the SFSC- Assistant Assessment Coordinator and Assessment Coordinator (those are the new Skate-Canada names we have). Probably, "assessment" sounds less scary than "test" ;-)

Same old same old, we're still the same people - for those who don't know us: our names are Marcy Johnson and Gesche Tallen, and we are Grace's and Gia's moms - both Grace and Gia are senior skaters in our club.

Although there's not much news to skating tests procedures at this point, we thought it never harms to get a little bit updated on what's going on in the Skate Canada-regulations for figure skating tests. So here we go:

As mentioned above, test chair/assistant test chair are now called "assistant assessment coordinator"/"assessment coordinator" and what was called "High Test Day" in the past, is now called "Assessment Day".

According to Skate Canada's guidelines, we are still differentiating between low and high assessments:

1) LOW ASSESSMENTS:

All these are evaluated by the skater's coach during regular skating sessions. Therefore, it's worth asking your child regularly (e. g. once a month), if they did any tests

and if certain sheets have disappeared to the 6th dimension in their pocket or backpack
... .

Just to give you the heads up: there will be some invoices sent out very soon for "Low Assessments" that took place over the Spring- and Summer-Season 2019. Please let us know of any questions or concerns.

No worries if you miss anything: ask us - we are in the know and responsible for filing and archiving your skater's test results (provided to us by the coaches) in our club files as well as for submitting them to Skate Canada, where they are being archived as well.

In this context, and since Skate Canada Officials are as human and busy volunteers as we are, mistakes can happen. Therefore, we like to

recommend that you check your child's Skate Canada Record regularly to make sure, that their record is correct and up-to-date (how to do that? - please see below, paragraph #3). You will be notified about a new invoice for the test fee by an email from our Registrar (Skate Canada Test Fee is \$ 12,- for each low test).

Low assessments include:

- **Freeskate Tests:** STAR1 Freeskate, STAR 2-5 Freeskate Elements, STAR 2-5 Freeskate Programs
- **Ice Dance Tests:** STAR 1 Ice Dance, STAR 2a - 5a Ice Dances, STAR 2b - 5b Ice Dances
- **Skills Tests:** STAR 1 - 5 Skating Skills.

2) ASSESSMENT DAYS:

On Assessment Days (formerly High Test Days), the skaters' performances are evaluated by certified Skate Canada-Evaluators on scheduled assessment days. These are organized and run by your club's assessment coordinators in collaboration with the Section Test Coordinator, evaluators, the rink-staff and the coaches. Your skater's coach will let you both know if the skater is going to be tested on one of the upcoming Assessment Days.

Please make sure that upon those details, you check your skater's availability asap (for example: are there any school activities/holidays etc. scheduled at the -day-date, that your child doesn't want to miss?) and let the coach know asap if your child can attend the test day or not.

If your skater has been selected by their coach to test on Assessment Day, and you confirmed their availability, you will be notified about a new invoice for the test fee by an email from our Registrar (test fees vary depending on the high-test day being "in-club" (= Springbank and Cochrane) or "out-of-club" (= any other club in Calgary or during a competition).

Assessments on Assessment Days (formerly High tests) include:

- **all Freeskate-, Ice Dance- and Skills Tests including the Senior Bronze Level an up.**

The next upcoming "in-club-Assessment-Days" are scheduled for:

- **December 2019 at SPFAS in Springbank**
- **March 2020 at Spray Lakes Rec. Center in Cochrane**
- **May/June 2020 at SPFAS in Springbank...**

... with the exact dates and timing TBD by Section - we will keep you in the loop!

3) HOW TO CHECK ON MY Skater's SKATE CANADA RECORD?

As being our kids' / skaters' advocates, we should take the responsibility to make sure that all their hard work and corresponding achievements are being recorded correctly with Skate Canada.

As your skaters take tests, all the results are electronically submitted to Skate Canada by the Club's Assessment Coordinator and subsequently processed by Skate Canada and recorded in the skater's electronic skate Canada file - retries and passes. A skater's test record can be accessed via her/his Skate Canada number (which - if you don't have it handy - can be found on your skater's account on our Springbank -FSC website).

Parents and skaters, please note: it is your responsibility to regularly check your skater's test records, not the Assessment Coordinator's, your coach's or the club's.

To do this:

1. Log in to the Skate Canada site with your skater's SC number. If you haven't logged in before you may need to request an invitation code - just please follow the links. The site is: <https://members.skatecanada.ca/login/>

Usually, you'll receive an invitation code by email from Skate Canada within 1 or 2 days, with which you'll be able to create a new member's account. Just follow the instructions given on the page.

2. Once created the account/logged in, click on "my profile" (worth checking info!), and then "my achievements". That is the test record. Note that CanSkate stages are tracked through our club and will *not* appear under "my achievements".

3. Once you're on the "my achievements"-site,

- you can click on "achievement date" to sort them chronologically if you wish

but much more important:

- check if the result ("pass" or "retry") matches the result that your skater brought home on paper

AND

- then click on each test's name itself to get to the "achievement detail" and check if the result under "operational status" matches the result under "achievements".

If you find any discrepancies in the display of your skater's test results or have any questions about this email, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and have a wonderful Fall and pre-Christmas season!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns!

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

- Marcy Johnson & Gesche Tallen

(SFSC Assistant- & Assessment Coordinator)