



ANNOUNCEMENT

2012 PRAIRIE REGIONAL SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dates: **February 4 – 5, 2012**

Location: **Souris-Glenwood Memorial Complex Souris, Manitoba**

In Conjunction With: **Skate Canada-Manitoba / Hosted by Souris Skating Club**

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EVENT PHILOSOPHY

The Regional Synchronized Skating Championships are part of the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championship qualifying system. These events are planned, managed and executed by Skate Canada Sections on a rotational basis, in conjunction with a local volunteer organizing team.

The purpose of this competition is to provide a developmental and competitive experience for synchronized skating teams which allows them the opportunity to qualify for the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships in Novice, Intermediate, Open, Junior and Senior categories. The top team in each of the five qualifying categories in every Region may advance to the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships. Additional entries are allotted to regions based on their teams' placement at last year's National Championships and regional membership sizes.

In selecting host sites for these Championships, every attempt is made to move the event across each region in a regular cycle, to balance the costs faced by participants from year to year as much as possible, and to allow synchronized skating to be presented in various communities in each section.

In addition to experiencing the challenges and personal growth involved in competing at this level, one of the features of this competitive system is to allow skaters an opportunity to experience the cultural diversity of Canada through exploration of the area holding the championships.

The focus for skaters at this event is not only on qualifying for the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships, but on the whole experience: self-satisfaction in achieving competitive goals, learning about Canada and meeting competitors from across the region, and experiencing the camaraderie of traveling as part of a team.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2012 Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Championships will be conducted in accordance with Skate Canada rules and regulations for qualifying Synchronized Skating events. The host club for this event is the **Souris Skating Club** of the **Manitoba Section** – Skate Canada.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Phone: 204-728-2880

Fax: 204-483-3660

Email: jlmcrae@inethome.ca

Website: www.mbskates.ca

Name: **Jane Farmer**

Box 220 Souris, MB R0K 2C0

204-483-3419

farmerz@mts.net

ARENA TO BE USED

**Arena Name: Souris-Glenwood Memorial
Complex**

Ice Surface Size: **200 x 90
Olympic Size Rink**

Address: 32 3rd Ave W

Phone: 204-483-3790

SPECTATOR ADMISSION PRICE:

Adult: \$6 /day 6-12 Years: \$3 / day
 \$10 weekend pass 5 & Under: Free

ACCOMMODATION

The Official Hotel is: Victoria Inn

Address: 3550 Victoria Ave. Brandon, MB

Phone: 204-725-1532 / 1-800-852-2710

Fax: 204-727-8282

Website: www.vicinn.com

(Rooms are held under reference #192040. Must be booked before January 15, 2012)

Rates:

\$ 109.99 - \$ 119.99

Brandon is 50 km (1/2 hour drive) from Souris.

Other Hotels in the Area:

Days Inn

Address: 2130 Currie Blvd. Brandon, MB
Phone: 1-888-213-2192 / 201-727-3600

Rates:

\$ 119.00

Lakeview Inn & Suites

Address: 1880 18th St. N. Brandon, MB
Phone: 204-728-1880 / 1-877-355-3500
(Rooms are booked under "Souris Skating
Competition. Must be booked before
January 20, 2012)

Rates:

\$ 108.00 (2 queen)

\$ 118.00 (2 room suite)

Note: Skaters, team managers, coaches and parents will be required to book accommodations directly with the hotel of their choice as required.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships is a two step process (both steps must be completed in order for your registration to be accepted):

Step 1: Collection of Hardcopy Forms and Payment

Teams must register by completing all required forms attached to this announcement:

- Entry Confirmation Sheet - one per team (Appendix A)
- Choreography Waiver - one per team (Appendix B)
- Skater Waivers - one per skater (Appendix C)
- Practice Ice Registration Form (Appendix E)

Entry packages must be sent along with the registration fee (one cheque/credit card per team) by ***December 12, 2011*** to:

Name: Skate Canada-Manitoba

Address: 145 Pacific Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3B 2Z6

Phone: 204-925-5707

Fax: 204-925-5924

Email: skate.exec@sportmanitoba.ca

Step 2: Online Event Registration

Online event registration will be the club, coach or team manager's responsibility. When registering a new team, only the club will have access to the team's file on Members Only. It is the club's responsibility to grant access to the team manager or coach.

Using the online registration instructions (Appendix D), teams must input all required information by **December 12, 2011**.

Planned Program Sheets must be submitted online no later than one week prior to the event start date, **January 26, 2012**.

REGISTRATION FEE

Team Registration: \$200 + \$22.00 per skater

Cheques must be made payable to: **Skate Canada-Manitoba**

Payment maybe made by credit card: Cards accepted are MasterCard, Visa and American Express

ON-SITE REGISTRATION

All teams, coaches and team managers must register on-site at **Souris-Glenwood Memorial Complex**. Registration will be held on **Saturday, February 4, 2012** (Times to be announced).

Only those skaters whose names appear on the team registration form as team members/alternates will be allowed to skate. Only those skaters whose names are listed on the team registration form for the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships will be allowed to skate in the 2012 Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships (Qualifying Competition Handbook Regulation 615-6). No substitution or addition shall be allowed. The number of allowable alternates on each team is four.

ACCREDITATION FOR EVENTS POLICY

Coaches

In order to receive accreditation at the 2012 Regional Synchronized Skating Championships, all coaches must meet the standards for coaches set out in Rules 2401 and 2403 as outlined below.

Coaches must:

- Be NCCP Provincial Coach (level 2) Certified minimum in any discipline for Novice, Intermediate, Open, Junior and Senior categories.
- Be NCCP Primary STARSkate Coach Certified minimum for all other categories.
- Be a current coaching member of Skate Canada
- Hold a valid First Aid Certificate
- Register in person and show their Professional Coach Membership Card which includes their picture.

Coaches must wear their Professional Coach Membership Card at all times.

Team Managers and Chaperones

All team managers and chaperones must be current registered members of Skate Canada per the Accreditation Policy.

If a team manager is a coach, then he/she must meet all the requirements of a professional coach for the relevant event including NCCP certification level, valid First Aid certificate and coaching membership with the Association.

Two coaches, one team manager and two chaperones for a total of five people per team will be accredited. The names and Skate Canada numbers for these accreditations MUST be included on the online registration page under "Attending Personnel".

The main coach and one alternate (skater) will stand at the entrance to the ice, and the team manager and other alternates in the exit area (Kiss & Cry). The chaperones will be allowed in the dressing rooms ONLY and will not have access to ice level during practice and competition (including Kiss & Cry).

ACCREDITATION FOR COACHES AT THE 2012 SKATE CANADA SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

In order to receive coaches' accreditation from the association at the 2012 Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships coaches must:

- Be NCCP Provincial Coach (Level 2) Certified minimum in any discipline for Novice, Intermediate and Open categories and NCCP Level 3 certified for Junior and Senior categories. *(Note: As per the decision made at the April 2011 Board of Directors meeting, all coaches wishing to receive accreditation at the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships must be NCCP Level 3 certified, effective July 1, 2013.)*
- Be a current coaching member of Skate Canada
- Hold a valid First Aid Certificate
- Register in person and show their Professional Coach Membership Card which includes their picture.

New coaches or foreign coaches who do not meet the above criteria will be accredited only if they qualify in accordance with Skate Canada Policies and Procedures

MUSIC

All music used must be in the public domain or covered by the Performing Rights Society.

Teams that have music composed especially for their programs, either in wholly or in part shall be responsible for obtaining a written release from the composer for the use of such music on radio and television, or appropriate clearance from the Performing Rights Society.

Music Requirements

Each entry must provide 2 CDs for the competition upon registration. One for competition (marked "Master") and one for back up (marked "copy"). Music will be retained at the Souris –Glenwood Memorial Complex.

Standard Specifications for CD

1. Only one (1) program shall be recorded on each CD.
2. The start of the music shall be recorded on the CD with less than 2 seconds of lead in.
3. Team's name followed by music time (not skating time) shall be clearly printed on side one of the CD.
4. Each CD shall be enclosed in its plastic container marked with the team's name, event and total music time.

AWARDS

Awards will be presented as per Regulation 7000- E-1.5 of the Skate Canada Event Management Handbook.

All medal presentations will take place off ice. Presentation schedule to be determined. Skaters should wear their skating outfits for presentations.

EVENT SCHEDULE

A finalized schedule of events and practices will be provided to each team manager by e-mail and will be posted on www.mbskates.ca

Information for double entry skaters: Should a schedule conflict arise between a practice time and event time, it is up to the skater, coach and team manager to decide what takes priority. The host committee may not manipulate the official start orders or start times in order to accommodate competitors who are skating on more than one team.

CEREMONIES

Opening ceremonies will be held on **Saturday, February 4, 2012**. (Time to be announced in finalized schedule of events.) Each team is asked to provide two skaters to participate in the opening ceremonies which will be held on ice. One team banner per team will be allowed per team. Following the opening ceremonies, banners may be displayed around the arena as long as they do not cover any advertising or promotional signs.

LIABILITY

Skate Canada, Skate Canada-Manitoba and the Host Committee accept no liability for bodily or personal injury, or for property loss or damage incurred by participants and officials. As a condition of and in consideration of their entries in the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships, all participants and their parents or guardians, shall be deemed to agree to assume all risks or injuries to the competitor's person and property resulting from, or caused by, or connected with, the conduct and management of the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships and to release any and all claims they may have against the officials, Skate Canada and the 2012 Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Volunteer Team and their officers and their entries shall be accepted on these conditions.

The Host Committee will provide emergency medical services for all competitors and officials during the practice and competition times on the event dates.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY

The 2012 Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Championships is open to all teams from Saskatchewan and Manitoba sections registered with Skate Canada as per Regulation 620-8 of the Qualifying Competition Handbook and meeting the requirements outlined in the description of events to be held. There is no qualification process to enter the event, however a qualifying round may be held if entry numbers warrant.

EVENTS TO BE HELD

The following events must be included in the 2012 Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Championships. There are no test requirements. The following categories are based on age and number of skaters. See Regulation 610 of the Qualifying Competition Handbook.

Novice

A team of 12 to 16 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 10 as of July 1st preceding the competition. 75% of skaters must not have reached the age of 15, and up to 25% must not have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Intermediate

A team of 12 to 16 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 12 as of July 1st preceding the competition but must not have reached the age of 25 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Open

A team of 12 to 16 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 12 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Junior

A team of 16 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 12 as of July 1st preceding the competition but must not have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Senior

A team of 16 skaters. Skaters must have reached at least the age of 14 as of the July 1st preceding the competition.

NON-QUALIFYING EVENTS

Beginner I

A team of 8 – 16 skaters. No age limit (recommended skaters working on CanSkate Stage 4 or higher).

Beginner II

A team of 8 – 16 skaters. Skaters must not have reached the age of 12 as of July 1st preceding the competition. At least 75% of the skaters must not have reached the age of 10 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Elementary

A team of 8 – 16 skaters. Skaters must not have reached the age of 15 as of July 1st preceding the competition. At least 75% of the skaters must not have reached the age of 12 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Juvenile

A team of 8 – 16 skaters. Skaters must not have reached the age of 15 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Pre-Novice

A team of 8 – 16 skaters. Skaters must not have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition. At least 75% of the skaters must have reached the age of 10 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Adult SYS Class I

A team of 8 – 20 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Adult SYS Class II

A team of 8 – 20 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition. At least 75% of the skaters must have reached the age of 25 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

Adult SYS Class III

A team of 8–20 skaters. Skaters must have reached the age of 19 as of July 1st preceding the competition. At least 50% of the skaters must have reached the age of 35 as of July 1st preceding the competition.

FILLING MAXIMUM EVENT QUOTA AT REGIONALS (Rule 7701 (7)): If the maximum quota in the Junior or Senior category at a Regional Synchronized Skating Championship is not filled due to insufficient entries, that event may be held, but will not be mandatory. (Should a team decide not to compete due to insufficient entries, they must still submit all required forms and entry fees by the registration deadline.)

ALTERNATES

There can be up to a maximum of 4 alternates for any team in all categories.

Problems during a Performance

The Technical Representative or his/her designate (ice level referee) may ask a team alternate to go on the ice during a performance to retrieve any objects that have dropped on to the ice (hair accessories, etc.) so that a performance does not have to be interrupted and so that there is no danger to the skaters. To this end, it is requested that each team, where possible, have an alternate dressed with skates on and skate guards off, available at the entrance area during the team's performance.

DRAWS

A random draw will be used for the first portion of all events. The Chief Data Specialist as per regulation 7000 - H - 1.1 of the Skate Canada Event Management Handbook will conduct the draws. The starting order for all events for the first portion of the event will be posted on www.mbskates.ca ten days prior to the start of the competition.

The draw for all subsequent events (including those events where the free program is skated twice) will be conducted at the Souris –Glenwood Memorial Complex. Upon registration, teams will be notified of the location and times for all draws.

A coach and/or team captain shall be in attendance for all subsequent draws. In the event that a team is not represented, the Technical Representative will make the draw on behalf of the team.

Draws for subsequent parts of the event will be posted immediately following the results of the previous part.

STARTING ORDERS (Regulation 7000-H-1.5)

- 1) **STARTING ORDER FOR THE FIRST SKATE:** The skating order shall be determined by a random draw.
- 2) **SECOND SKATE** - The draw for the second free program will be seeded, based on the results of the first program, in the same manner as an event with a short and free program component.

TIES (CPC Regulations, Section A - Determination of results in each part of a competition):

If two or more teams have the same result, the Total Technical Score will break the tie in the short program and the Program Components Score will break the tie in a free skate program. If these results are also equal, the teams concerned will be considered as tied.

CONDUCT OF EVENTS

See Sections E, F, G and H of the Skate Canada Event Management Handbook and Skate Canada CPC Regulations (Section A and B) for specific rules governing the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships, which take precedence over other rules for competitions of Skate Canada, as set forth in all other parts of the Skate Canada Rulebook and Policies and Procedures Manual. General competition rules shall apply where applicable.

RESULTS CALCULATION

The Cumulative Points Calculation System will be used.

MARKING/ JUDGING SYSTEM

Judging in all categories will be as follows (excluding Junior and Senior):

- Each team will skate their free program twice, each time with a different panel of judges. Final results will be based on the combined results of both skates as per the following factors:
- In the first portion of the event, the total score of the free program will be multiplied by a factor of 0.5. In the second portion of the event, the total score of the free program will be multiplied by a factor of 1.0.
- The draw for the second free program will be seeded, based on the results of the first program, in the same manner as an event with a short and free program component.
- The second mark (Program Components) will be used to break a tie in both free programs.

QUALIFICATIONS TO COMPETE AT 2012 SKATE CANADA SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Teams will qualify to compete at the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships (Qualifying Competition handbook Regulation 620-14) as follows:

- 1) The final result in each Regional event shall determine the competitors eligible to enter the equivalent National qualifying competition.
- 2) **NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE, OPEN, JUNIOR AND SENIOR:** Teams that place 1st in Novice, Intermediate, Open, Junior and Senior categories at Regional qualifying events may be selected to represent the Section in the respective National qualifying competition.
- 3) **ADDITIONAL ENTRIES BASED ON REGISTERED ASSOCIATE MEMBERS IN SECTION:** For every 15,000 registered associate members in the Region, an additional team may be entered into each category at the National qualifying event. The number of sustaining members shall be determined by the membership year September 1 to August 31 of the year preceding the National qualifying event.
- 4) Teams placing in the top five at the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships will earn their Region an additional entry (or entries) into the respective category at the National qualifying round the following year.

Entry Quotas for the 2012 BMO Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships:

Region	Novice	Intermediate	Open	Junior	Senior
Mountain: BC/YT, AB/NT/NU	3	4	3	3	3
Prairie: SK, MB	1	1	1	1	1
Ontario: NO, WO, CO, EO	7	8	8	8	7
Quebec: QC	6	4	5	5	5
Atlantic: NB, NS, PEI, NL	2	2	2	2	2
Total	19	19	19	19	18

Should a team(s) not be able to attend the Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships for any reason, the next best placed team(s) will have the opportunity to compete at the event.

The Skate Canada national office must receive entry fees and all required forms no later than 24 hours after the completion of the Regional Synchronized Skating Championships. These fees and forms must be submitted by the Regional event organizing committee.

The required forms must be signed by ALL competitors (or parent/guardian if under 19) qualifying on to the 2012 Skate Canada Synchronized Skating Championships. Skaters who do not complete this requirement will not receive accreditation at the event.

*Team managers/coaches: It is your responsibility to ensure this is complete. Example: If you are submitting an entry fee for a team of 20 skaters there should also be 20 signed forms accompanying the cheque.

PRACTICE ICE

Upon registration or attendance at an officially scheduled practice session, teams are not permitted to skate on any ice surface other than the official practice or competition ice as scheduled for the event.

Practice ice is available. Cost is **\$20 for a 10 minute practice**. Only one practice slot per team is available. Please complete Appendix E and submit with the rest of your registration package. Practice ice will begin Saturday morning. Schedule will be posted at www.mbskates.ca

START AND CONCLUSION OF A PROGRAM (Rule 6710)

ENTERING AND EXITING THE ICE SURFACE:

- a) Warm-up periods must be allotted to all teams. Each team shall be allowed one (1) minute of warm-up (without music) on the competition ice surface immediately prior to their performance. Warm-up time must be reckoned from the moment the team is announced;
- b) A team must not take more than thirty (30) seconds for exiting from the ice surface for both the short program and free skating.

SERVICES

MEDICAL: First Aid services will be available

INFORMATION/LOST AND FOUND: At Registration Desk

PHOTOGRAPHY: Images by PW is the competition's official photographer

SKATE SHARPENING: Not available

SKATE CANADA SPECTATOR CAMERA POLICY

At Skate Canada events, spectators are permitted to use small point and shoot cameras for personal use only. The following are not permitted at a Skate Canada event:

- No flash photography
- No camera bags in venue
- No use of professional cameras and/or detachable lenses
- Camera cannot interfere with other fans' enjoyment
- Any resale of photography or posting photos on professional websites is strictly prohibited
- Absolutely no video recording is allowed. Only accredited coaches and team managers may be permitted to videotape their own skater/team from rinkside during that skater's/team's practice or performance. If athletes wish to obtain a video of their programs, they may purchase a copy from the licensed video distributor on site if applicable.

Spectators not abiding by these restrictions risk having their camera confiscated by venue security staff. Additionally, Skate Canada staff reserves the right to restrict use of other types of cameras should they feel the quality and/or type of camera fail to protect the athletes' and/or event's interests.

ANNOUNCEMENT SUBJECT TO CHANGE