

# Singles, Dance and Pairs Skater Assistance Policy

(Approved August 22 2022)

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the eligibility criteria, amount of funding, and procedure for allocating financial support (“Skater Assistance”) to singles, dance and pairs skaters (skater) who represent Skate Saskatoon at Skate Canada qualifying or national figure skating competitions.

### 1.1 Background

Skater Assistance was established circa 2012 with the intent that coaches could charge a full fee for coaching at competitions, and skaters would then direct a portion of their Skater Assistance funding toward their coaching fee for the competitions. In this way, both skaters and coaches would benefit from the club’s financial support of their competitive endeavours.

Between 2011 and 2021, Skate Canada Challenge was held in Regina four times. During these years, because of the terms of the Skater Assistance Policy in existence at the time, skaters who attended Skate Canada Challenge in Regina did not receive any funding, but those who attended Skate Canada Challenge outside the province received funding for both registration and travel costs.

In 2022, the Board noted that registration fees are the same amount whether Skate Canada Challenge is held in Regina or outside the province. Also, a skater will still incur some travel costs when competing at Skate Canada Challenge in Regina. In recognition of the disparity of funding eligibility for Skate Canada Challenge (when it is held in Regina versus outside of Saskatchewan), the Board voted to provide Skater Assistance for skaters attending qualified events, such as Skate Canada Challenge or Canadian national championships, when held in Regina.

## 2. Policy Statement

### 2.1 Skater Eligibility

Skaters must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for Skater Assistance:

a) be a member of Skate Saskatoon in “good standing” for two full consecutive years, including the current year of competition. “Good standing” is defined as those members who

- do not have an outstanding (unpaid) account with Skate Saskatoon
- do not have an outstanding (unpaid) account with any Skate Saskatoon coach

- demonstrate compliance with all Skate Saskatoon policies (have not had a disciplinary action other than a single warning in the preceding two years).

b) engage a club coach of Skate Saskatoon as his/her primary coach (and if a Skate Saskatoon coach is unavailable, eligibility will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors)

c) abide, along with his/her club coach, with the Skate Canada Code of Ethics, Skate Saskatoon Code of Conduct, and all other club policies

d) represent Skate Saskatoon at a competition which meets the eligibility requirements.

## 2.2 Competition Eligibility

Skate Saskatoon will endeavour to provide Skater Assistance to help cover costs associated with attending the Skate Canada qualifying events and qualified events defined below.

**Qualifying events** are those competitions that ultimately lead to the Skate Canada national championships. Note that Skate Canada's qualifying event structure and nomenclature change from time to time. Despite these changes, skaters will always be required to "qualify" at a "qualifying event" in order to advance to the next level of competition on the pathway to the national championships.

For Saskatchewan skaters:

- **Saskatchewan Sectionals** is the qualifying event for Skate Canada Challenge.
- **Skate Canada Challenge** is the qualifying event for a Canadian national championship.

Figure skating competitions associated with the Saskatchewan Games and the Canada Games, including their respective qualifying events, are not eligible for Skater Assistance.

### 2.2.1 Assistance

a) Skate Saskatoon will endeavour to provide funds to help cover **travel costs** associated with attending one Skate Canada qualifying event per year, per skater, if the qualifying event is held outside the province. *(This category could apply to Junior/Senior categories of Sectionals if held at an interprovincial event outside of Saskatchewan.)*

b) In addition, Skate Saskatoon will endeavour to provide funds to assist with **registration and travel costs** for skaters who attend an event for which they have qualified. *(This category currently applies to Skate Canada Challenge and the Canadian national championships.)*

c) Travel allowance is as follows:

- qualified event held in Saskatchewan (outside of the Saskatoon Area) = \$100
- qualified/qualifying event held in Alberta or Manitoba = \$150
- qualified/qualifying event held in British Columbia, Ontario, or Quebec = \$250
- qualified/qualifying event held outside above provinces = \$350

d) The club will endeavour to provide Skater Assistance, per skater, at each level of the Skate Canada competition structure, per (a) and (b) above, up to and including the national level.

e) If a skater is injured/ill at the event and is unable to compete, Skate Saskatoon will endeavour to provide funding as stated above. If the skater is injured/ill prior to the event and withdraws before the event or does not attend the competition, no funding will be provided (for registration or for travel).

f) Skate Saskatoon will offer Skater Assistance as per this policy even if the Section provides financial assistance to the skater.

#### 2.2.1.1 Example A

A skater attends Saskatchewan Sectionals and qualifies for Skate Canada Challenge (both qualified and qualifying event) in Montreal, and, having qualified for nationals, subsequently attends a national competition in Halifax.

- Payment of \$0 for Sectionals as the event is held in Saskatchewan, and is not a qualified event
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$250 for travel to Challenge in Montreal
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$350 for travel to the national competition in Halifax

#### 2.2.1.1 Example B

A skater attends Saskatchewan Sectionals in Manitoba and qualifies for Skate Canada Challenge (both qualified and qualifying event) in Regina, and, having qualified for nationals, subsequently attends a national competition in Vancouver.

- Payment of \$150 for Sectionals as the event is held in Manitoba
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$100 for travel to Challenge in Regina
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$250 for travel to the national competition in Vancouver

### 2.3 Procedure for Distribution of Funds

a) Prior to the summer board meeting, the Finance Committee will provide the following to the board: the internal year-end (June 30) financial statements; a list of skaters eligible for Skater Assistance; the calculated amounts for the Skaters Assistance, based on Section 2.2.1; and a recommendation for amounts to be allocated to the eligible skaters.

b) The Finance Committee's recommendation may range from no payments being provided, to a percentage of the calculated amount being provided, or to 100% of the calculated amount being provided.

c) At the summer board meeting, the Finance Committee's recommendation will be discussed. A board motion will be required at that meeting to approve the amounts that will be paid, or to approve that no payments will be made.

d) Eligible skaters will receive approved payments within 90 days of the June 30<sup>th</sup> year-end.