

Skater Assistance Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for distribution of available funding for skaters' assistance to the various skaters who represent Skate Saskatoon at national competitions and/or out of province qualifying events (The Challenge, Junior Nationals, Nationals, Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Comp).

1.1 Background

This funding was established to benefit both the skater and indirectly our club coaches. When skater assistance was being considered it was pointed out that the coaches feel uncomfortable charging their full fee for service when attending out of province events and it was suggested that funding be provided to the coach attending a Qualifying Competition or National event. To compensate for the high cost of coaching the board implemented the Competitive Fund to assist both the skater and the coaches. The board considered providing the funds to the coaches, but felt that there was no way of monitoring if the savings would be passed on to the skater; therefore, it was passed on to the skater. When the coach is away for an event they are also losing income from group lessons and private lessons. Therefore, this fund is only allotted to skaters who have a club coach as a base coach and attend out of province events.

Skater Assistance is paid to the skater who has been registered as a full member of Skate Saskatoon for two full years, and has a Skate Saskatoon club coach as their base coach. Using these parameters, Skate Saskatoon is supporting both the skater/synchro team and the coach.

2. Policy Statement

Skate Saskatoon (Saskatoon Figure Skating Club) offers members a program referred to as the Skater Assistance Fund as a way of recognizing involvement and representation of the Skate Saskatoon at national competitions, and out of province qualifying events.

2.1 Funds for Skater Assistance

The fund is established from a percentage of the interest on GIC's and from a % amount of annual revenue from the Special Events (i.e. club hosted competitions, ice show) as determined by the Board.

2.2 Who is Eligible

Full members of Skate Saskatoon who have met all of the following criteria:

- 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:
 - o Do not have outstanding unpaid accounts with the Skate Saskatoon.
 - o Demonstrate compliant use of the facilities in accordance with all Skate Saskatoon policies.

- b) Engage a club coach of Skate Saskatoon as his/her primary coach¹
- c) Full member of Skate Saskatoon who has followed, along with his/her coach, the Skater and Coach Code of Conduct².
- d) Represent Skate Saskatoon at a qualifying event.

2.3 What is Eligible

Skate Saskatoon will endeavor to provide funding to help cover the travel costs for one qualifying event per year, per skater or Synchro team if the qualifying event is held out of province. If there is an equivalent event within the province that the skater/team or coach chooses to not participate, support will not be given.

2.3.1 Assistance

- a) Skate Saskatoon will endeavor to provide funding to help cover the travel costs fee one qualifying event per year, per skater or Synchro team if the qualifying event is held out of province.
- b) Skate Saskatoon will endeavor to provide funding to assist with registration AND travel costs to those who attend an event out of province, for which they have qualified.
- c) Travel allowance is as follows:
 - o Competition held in Alberta or Manitoba - \$150
 - o Competition held in British Columbia, Ontario or Quebec - \$250
 - o Competition held outside above provinces - \$350
- d) If a skater or Synchro team attends an out of province competition and qualifies for the next level (e.g. Nationals) the Skate Saskatoon will endeavor to provide funding for additional and subsequent events as stated above.
- e) In the situation where Skate Saskatoon is unable to provide full assistance as per above guidelines, the Board of Directors will determine a fair and reasonable division of available designated funds.
- f) If a skater is injured/ill at the event and is unable to compete they will receive funding. If the skater is injured/ill prior to the event and withdraws or does not attend the competition they will not be eligible for funding as no travel costs have been incurred.
- g) If any financial assistance is provided by the Section, skater assistance from Skate Saskatoon will be offered as per the policy.

2.3.1.1 Example A

Synchronized skating team attends the Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Championships (Qualifying event) in Regina and having qualified for Nationals, subsequently attend a National competition in Ontario.

- o Payment \$0 for the Regional Championship as it is held in Saskatchewan.
- o Payment equal to the cost of registration and \$250 per team for travel for the National competition.

¹ If a Skate Saskatoon coach is unavailable, eligibility will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors

² Any breach of code may nullify eligibility for funding.

2.3.1.2 Example B

Synchronized skating team attends the Prairie Regional Synchronized Skating Championships (Qualifying event) in Winnipeg and having qualified for Nationals, subsequently attend a National competition in Ontario.

- Payment of \$150 per team to help cover the travel costs to the Regional Championship as it is held out of province in Manitoba.
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$250 for travel for the National competition.

2.3.1.3 Example C

A competitive skater attends Sectionals and qualifies for The Skate Canada Challenge (both Qualified and Qualifying event) in Halifax and having qualified for the Canadian Championships, subsequently attends a National competition in British Columbia.

- Payment of \$0 for Sectionals as the event is held in Saskatchewan.
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$350 for travel for the Challenge competition.
- Payment for the cost of registration and \$250 for travel for the National competition

2.3.2 Distribution of Funds:

- a) Eligible skaters will receive payment from Skate Saskatoon within 30 days of the Skate Saskatoon yearend date of June 30.
- b) Availability of funding to be determined after yearend financials become available.

2.3.3 Procedure

- a) This fund will not exceed \$5,000 per year.
- b) Skater assistance funds will be provided from general revenue to be approved at the discretion of the Board.

2.3.4 Responsibility

- a) Office administration is to consolidate a list of skaters who are eligible for funding by March 31st for review by the President.
- b) Bookkeepers are to provide a report to the Treasurer by June 10th of availability of funds to facilitate the Executive determination of eligibility.
- c) Board will ratify the budget in the previous year based on the projected fund to the maximum allocation.
- d) Final eligibility and payment to be reviewed by two members of the Board to be selected by the President

2.3.5 Exception

There are no exceptions to this policy

