



Chicago Figure Skating Club 2003-2004 New Member Information

Welcome to the Chicago Figure Skating Club, a charter member club of the United States Figure Skating Association. Thank you for your interest in the Chicago Figure Skating Club. Here are answers to some "frequently asked questions":

- What is the USFSA?** The United States Figure Skating Association is made up of local clubs, of which there are several in the Chicago area alone. When you apply to be a Chicago "home club" member, we will submit your information to the national organization, and you should receive a membership card and number from USFSA headquarters in Colorado showing that you registered through Chicago FSC. Your USFSA number is used to track your participation in USFSA sanctioned testing and competitions, no matter what club you belong to in the future.
- I already belong to the ISI. Why do I need to join the USFSA?** The ISI is a separate skating association that also sponsors testing and competitions. If you wish to participate in competitions qualifying you to compete at a national level, you must belong to the USFSA. USFSA members receive SKATING magazine.
- What does "home club" membership signify, versus being an associate member?** Your "home club" is the club which registered you with the USFSA. You may join other clubs as an "associate" member. If club sponsored events, such as test sessions, are over-subscribed, home club members would have higher priority. You must be a Chicago club member (home or associate) if you wish to purchase an ice contract or coupon books for skating sessions sponsored by the Chicago club.
- I was a member of another club in the past, but I don't know my USFSA number. Do I need a new number?** We can research your prior membership to obtain your old number using your name at the time you were active and your birth date.
- I am currently a member of another club, but would like to change my home club designation. What do I need to do?** Changing home clubs at the beginning of the membership year is easy – just send in your application to the Chicago club instead of the club you belonged to last year. If you have already registered for the current season with another club, there is a form that must be completed by you and your old club to confirm that you are a member in good standing. You can obtain the form off the USFSA web site (www.usfsa.org) or by contacting the membership chairperson.
- When does my membership expire?** All USFSA and Chicago club memberships renew on July 1st.
- How do I get a permission letter to participate in a competition, test session or ice show sponsored by another club?** Permission letters can be requested from any club officer. You or your coach should contact the applicable test chair (singles/pairs or dance) to inquire if a test permission letter is needed.
- I just joined the club and have not received my membership number. Can I still participate in USFSA test sessions or competitions?** Your permission letter can still be signed, just put "number applied for" on the application.
- I purchased an ice contract but several dates were used for test sessions. Am I being overcharged?** Scheduled "skip" dates are not included. Refunds are given in the event of other cancelled sessions.

To complete your application, fill out the form on the reverse, sign it (a parent/guardian must also sign for participants under age 18) and send it with your check to the address indicated.

All applications are subject to approval by the Chicago club Board of Directors. New members may be given probationary membership until the Board's next meeting. In the event an applicant is not approved, the deposit will be refunded. Election to membership for the first year is considered an interim membership, and membership may be reconsidered and revoked by the Board of Directors in the event that any information submitted to the Chicago club is incorrect, incomplete or misleading.