



**2022/2023 AGM Reports
of the
Maple Ridge Skating Club**

**Presented at the Annual General Meeting
May 17th, 2023 7:00PM Maple Ridge, BC**



MRSC PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022/2023

Jessica Rico – President

The 2022/2023 Skating Season marked my second year as Maple Ridge Skating Club's Board of Directors President.

I couldn't be happier that we finally got a full season without Covid restrictions and that all Clubs and competitions have gone back to normal..

MRSC's registrations grew significantly compared to last season thanks to a steady flow of CanSkaters and a new generation of StarSkaters (from Junior Academy and StarSkate Development).

Navigating all the "to do's" has been definitely smoother this time. I created quite a few databases to help me with the seasons building and pricing so the work is now more organized.

Of course the 2022/2023 Season couldn't go with a lot of changes but I truly believe that it is just the process to get the Club to where we want it to be.

At the end of the 2021/2022 skating season, Breeann and McKenna decided to pursue new ventures and left the Club. This decision left us scrambling a little bit since all of a sudden we were short two coaches but the Board of Directors got to work right away and we were able to welcome new coaches to work along with Kate and Laiken that had been working with us already. (Solana also had to leave since she started University in Europe but she will be coaching with us again during her summer break.)

Lena Belousovski became our Head Coach and started working along with Shannon Balabardin as our CanSkate and Junior Academy (and StarSkate Development) Director. Also joining the team we had Nikolai Balabardin, Igor Koreshev who specializes in Ice Dance and Skills and Angelique Bergheim who started as on-call since Kate and Laiken were very busy with their commitment to their Synchro Team .

We partnered with a new Ballet/Dance Instructor: Hayley Galati, recommended by Shannon and who happens to be a former MRSC skater. Due to the nature of Hayley's training and the variety of dances she teaches, we decided to stop offering yoga this season. The results of having her as part of the Instructors in the Club has been truly positive for everyone.

Unfortunately and due to unforeseen circumstances, we had to put a halt to our Synchro program and offer only Synchro Skills. Kate and Laiken took the challenge and brought their experience as Synchro Skaters to share with the younger skaters and keep them practicing synchro skills. The idea is to bring back our full Synchro Program for Fall 2023.



The Fall season welcomed all the changes and the new coaches along with the switch to a new registration platform (UPLIFTER). We actually started the change last summer (prior to the 2022/2023 season) and it has been a very good decision. There is still a lot to learn but the platform is very user friendly and the support team is amazing.

At the end of the Winter season and just before Spring commenced, Shannon and Nikolai, who were with us as part time coaches because they also coach at Kerrisdale Skating Club and have been doing so for a very long time, informed us that the schedules for both clubs were overlapping and they had to accommodate their time to Kerrisdale since their commitment with them came first than ours. Also, Kate had an accident that left her an injury that impeded her to continue skating and coaching so she had to leave the Club a bit earlier than planned since her and Laiken had given their notices for the end of the Spring Season.

Lena stepped up as Interim Junior Academy and StarSkate Development Director, along with her position of Head Coach.

Igor stepped up as CanSkate Director.

We also hired a new CanSkate coach: Vasilisa Matantseva.

As you can see, changes are continuous but I also believe they are for the better. I'm certainly hoping that these are the last ones and that the coaching team we have now lasts for years to come.

As per the Board of Directors, it has been a pleasure to volunteer along with such a vibrant group. Each member has different strengths and personalities. Sometimes it takes a bit longer to adapt among us but to this date, I appreciate everything you contribute and the opportunity to work with each of you.

With this season being my second year as President, the position will be open to election but I am also willing to continue serving as President. As I said previously, it has been an honour to volunteer for MRSC. It is a lot of work but it is worth it.

Thank you so much for your trust.

Sincerely,

Jessica Rico

MRSC REGISTRAR'S REPORT 2022/2023

Jessica Rico – Registrar



The 2022/2023 season has been quite busy. Last Summer we started the switch to Uplifter and the transition went very smoothly. We did have a couple of parents trying to register with the old platform but we rectified that right away and now everyone finds it very friendly.

I stepped in as the Registrar for the Club back in April 2021. At the time we were using Coast Registry for our registration and PayPal for the collection of registration fees. At this time, we are fully immersed in Uplifter for registrations and Bambora (credit cards) for payments. We no longer are taking PayPal or accepting cheques for registrations.

As Uplifter is recommended by Skate Canada, it also allows us to keep the skaters' profiles and achievements not only safe but also in full communication with Skate Canada's database.

Little by little we have been updating our skater's info in the system.

MEMBERS REGISTERED WITH SKATE CANADA:

326 members are currently registered with Skate Canada for the Maple Ridge Skating Club's September 2022 to March 2023 skating season. This number includes Board members, Coaches as well as skaters registered for the 2022/2023 Skating Season.

2017/2018 - 287 members

2018/2019 - 279 members

2019/2020 - 224 members

2020/2021 - 61 members

2021/2022 - 255 members

2022-2023 - 326 members

NUMBER OF SKATERS FOR SUBSIDIZED ICE ALLOCATION:

Our Fall/Winter (Sept – Mar) subsidized ice allocation comes from the City of Maple Ridge and is based on the number of actual skaters we have registered the year prior. Only skaters who live in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows may be included in this count. Anyone skating with us who lives elsewhere does not factor in the numbers reported to the City.

Our numbers were reported to Parks & Leisure at the end of February 2023, at which time we had 298 skaters (7 from Pitt Meadows and 291 from Maple Ridge). We also had 3 skaters from Mission, 3 from Langley, one from Port Coquitlam and one from Anmore but these don't count for our subsidized allocation. This number reflects all skaters who were registered to skate with us for the Fall/Winter 2022/2023 skating season. The following is the breakdown of skaters by program for this year:

Canskate	157
Junior Academy	21
StarSkate Development	29



StarSkate	29
-----------	----

CLUB GROWTH

Once again the Club has shown consistent growth in numbers. This season, we introduced StarSkate Development as a group with the same structure as Junior Academy but targeted for skaters 9 years old and up. Junior Academy is targeted for skaters between 4 and 8 years old. In the following numbers, we will count both JA and SSD together since some skaters were transitioning between groups and also taking private lessons which makes them also StarSkaters.

FALL/WINTER SKATERS BY YEAR

YEAR	CANSKATE	JR.ACADEMY	STARSKATE
2017/2018	144	25	38
2018/2019	145	33	38
2019/2020	146	26	41
2020/2021	canc	20	34
2021/2022	100	22*	33
2022/2023	157	48	29

**includes skaters doing JA and private lessons combined*



SPRING SKATERS BY YEAR

YEAR	CANSKATE	JR.ACADEMY	STARSKATE
2015	54	25	31
2016	35	26	47 (incl. adult skate)
2017	86	23	52 (incl. adult skate)
2018	103	25	42
2019	100	30	41
2020	canc	canc	canc
2021	canc	20	34

YEAR	CANSKATE	JR. ACADEMY	STARSKATE DEVELOPMENT	COMPETITION PERFORMANCE TRAINING
2022	121	15	24	25
2023	99	23	15	24

This year we changed our programs a little bit in order to pursue a competitive pathway. Junior Academy and StarSkate Development's main difference is the age group and lessons are in a group setting. Competition Performance Training refers to skaters in private and semi private lessons.

Due to COVID pandemic, we still have a large gap of skaters mostly in the Competitive group. It would seem that our numbers went down for this Spring but we are offering only two CanSkate sessions (45minutes) and several skaters are registered for both days. Our Junior Academy group grew by 8 skaters and not only we got new registrations to StarSkate Development but many of our Skaters moved up to Competitive skating.

We unfortunately lost more Competitive skaters that pursued different interests and/or finished highschool and their schedules didn't allow for time to continue figure skating. Some of the difficulties here are the early ice hours we currently have.

LIVING MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENT

We keep updating the Living Membership document as requested by the Section and BC Societies.

2022/2023 SEASON OVERVIEW



Once more, we had lots of changes in our program structure and also within our organization. Our Coaching team has raised to the challenge and we couldn't be more proud of them. This year the main goal was to assess most Bronze skaters up to Star 3 and they did! Now, most of our skaters have completed up to Star 3 assessments and are still working on the following ones. Congratulations to the Coaches!

This season our Skating Season was delivered with the following structure:

Fall - September to December

Winter - January to March

Spring - end of March to June

Summer - July/August

We did find some hiccups along the way like not being able to integrate CanSkate to Ice Shows due to the skaters being fairly new when we offer a 3 month program only. We might consider going back to the Fall/Winter structure to allow participation and better progress for all skaters.

It has been very exciting to see all the changes in full mode and of course to see how these changes impact our skaters in the most positive way possible. If reelected, I'll be looking forward to volunteering for yet another term.

Thank you everyone for trusting me.

Sincerely,
Jessica Rico



CanSkate Report Spring 2023

Prepared and submitted by

Igor Koreshev, MRSC CanSkate Director

I was offered the position of CanSkate Director shortly prior to the start of Spring session due to the fact that the acting CanSkate Director notified us of a scheduling conflict and had to leave the position at the end of winter session.

Taking over the position on a rather short notice created a number of challenges. A much higher CanSkate registration numbers in the spring session compared to winter session added more complexity to planning and organizing a smooth delivery of CanSkate program.

Aligning MRSC CanSkate program delivery to closely follow Skate Canada recommendations required introducing new policies and approaches; however, it was necessary to find the right balance between retaining some of the former approaches while using some of the new approaches.

- For example, it was decided to keep multilevel groups as forming groups more precisely according to skaters' levels, e.g. Stage 1, 2, 3, would have been extremely challenging given the short preparation time.
- On the other hand, given Skate Canada's recommendation to avoid adhesive name tags placed on skaters' helmets, we have introduced clip-on name tags to attach to skaters' clothing. This new approach required educating parents on the new procedure: picking up their child(ren) name tag(s) prior to sending skaters on ice and leaving the nametags at the end of skating session. An email was sent to CanSkate parents prior to the first skating day informing of the new procedure. Currently, the procedure is seamless and efficient as it also allows for a simple attendance taking approach that we use: instead of taking time to mark the attendance on the ice, coaches can focus on giving instruction right away, while at the end of the session I collect the name tags that haven't been picked up and enter the attendance in the Uplifter.
- Another change introduced this spring was new CanSkate music as it is recommended to change the music every session. I have selected the music and edited it to play in sync with the timing of transitions during the CanSkate session.
- However, we have decided to keep the old final group dance, as the new one needed to be first learned and practiced by Program Assistants – something that we didn't have time to do prior to the Spring session.
- Ensuring that Program Assistants have a chance to fully participate in the CanSkate program delivery required delegating a few tasks that they previously have not been doing. One of these tasks was drawing skating patterns at the different stations on ice. Normally, PAs are learning

this task and other tasks during an orientation session prior to the season. Unfortunately, due to lack of time before spring session, our PAs had to learn these tasks 'on the spot'. I am very pleased that currently they are helping our coaches by taking over this important task. Delegating tasks to PAs not only allows coaches to fully focus on instruction, but it also empowers PAs and helps them learn important life skills.

- To mitigate the challenges of learning the new task 'on the spot' I have prepared diagrams of skating patterns for PAs to copy. Thanks to Jessica, who laminated those diagrams, they can be reused next session.
- Following Skate Canada recommendations, our coaches are evaluating skaters' progress on a session-by-session basis and mark skaters' achievements on CanSkate/PreCanSkate group progress sheets; besides, we were able to form the groups within the first two weeks of skating which allowed the coaches to target their instruction precisely on the skills required for skaters in each group.
- Currently CanSkate/PreCanSkate sessions on Monday and Friday are running well and as planned.

I would like to share some suggestions that would help us further improve the delivery of the CanSkate program at the MRSC.

1. Form separate groups for Stage 1, 2, and 3 to ensure that all the skaters in a group are working on the same skills.
2. Schedule training sessions for Program Assistants to allow for their full and active participation in the program delivery.
3. Look for a volunteer to fill in the position of CanSkate Parent Coordinator who would liaise with parents for help in daily CanSkate routines (e.g., gatekeepers, name tags collectors, etc.) as well as in organizing special CanSkate events.

Conclusion

Although we faced a few challenges due to planning and organizing CanSkate program delivery in Spring on a short notice, I am pleased that Canskate/PreCanSkate sessions on Mondays and Fridays are running smoothly.

We currently have 68 participants on Monday and 51 on Friday. These numbers are very high. However, we were able to form groups within the first two weeks of skating. It is quite impressive, and I would like to thank all of our coaches for their hard work.

We have delegated new tasks to our PAs that they are currently doing well. I would like to thank our PAs for their help in CanSkate delivery.

We have introduced new nametag policy and procedures that have proved to be not only safer for the



skaters, but also efficient in tracking skaters' attendance.

I would like to thank our Head Coach, Lena Belousovski, for her support and cooperation in CanSkate delivery.

I would like to thank Jessica Rico, MRSC president, for her ongoing support and hard work for the Club and all the programs we offer.

Without the help from all of you, the CanSkate program could not be run smoothly.

Igor Koreshev,

MRSC CanSkate Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Igor Koreshev". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.



MRSC Head Coach Report 2022/2023

I took the position of MRSC Head Coach in September 2023.

One of the first and foremost tasks that had to be accomplished was hiring Skate Canada certified professional coaches as there were not enough coaches to ensure the proper delivery of all programs MRSC has to offer.

Finding qualified professional coaches that would be a good fit for the Club's needs is always very challenging. However, within just a few weeks I was able to contact professional coaches interested in joining MRSC and following their successful job interviews with the Club's President, Jessica Rico, we were able to offer contracts for the 2022/2023 season to Nikolai & Shannon Balabardin, Skate Canada Provincial level certified coaches, and Igor Koreshev, Skate Canada National Level certified coach. My goal was to ensure that in the 2022/2023 season MRSC skaters would be able to not only work towards their skating goals under the guidance of a highly qualified coaching team, but to also get their assessments done by certified coaches.

Our skaters worked hard throughout the season, and many of them were ready to be assessed in freeskate, dance, and skills by the end of the winter session. Unfortunately, at this time Nikolai and Shannon Balabardin notified us of a scheduling conflict between MRSC and their home club and had to leave. Despite this unforeseeable situation, all the skaters ready to be assessed were evaluated by Igor Koreshev and myself. In total, we have conducted 3 assessment sessions already and we have planned one more assessment day in spring.

Besides in-house assessments done by our coaching team, one of our highest level skaters, Emily Rico, successfully passed her STAR 7 Freeskate program and STAR 8 dance, Rocker Foxtrot, at the external high test session.

I would like to congratulate all our skaters for their hard work and skating achievements.

In addition to taking a number of assessments, our skates participated in Jingle Blades and WinterSkate Provincial competitions. It was a great opportunity for those who participated to showcase the skills they have learned and get valuable competition experience. The following skaters took part in these competitions: Alina Gailans, Addie Koppa, Brooklyn Nicholson, Emily Lenkevitch, Isabella Proctor, Kaylee Clarke, Leila Nurbakhsh, Lisa O'Reilly, Maritoni Catacutan, Miya Yoshiyama, Nadia Czubak, Saga Ludviksdobr, and Sophie Gomez.

I am also pleased that we were able to keep our communication channels with parents open and clear. At the beginning of the season, there were some concerns about delayed payments for private lessons, and I have suggested setting up a straightforward payment policy outlining deadlines for both, coaches to send their invoices for private lessons, and parents to pay the invoices. This approach proved to be very efficient and resulted in practically no delayed billing or payments.

To further improve communication with parents and provide information necessary for those who are new to the sport to fully understand the different lesson formats offered by our coaching team, we have added a new section on our website where lesson formats are clearly explained.

As I mentioned, two of the originally hired coaches had to leave at the end of the winter session, which posed a new challenge for me, as a Head coach, since I again had to look for coaches to fill in coaching vacancies. I am pleased that we were able to have Angelique Bergheim and Vasilisa Matantseva join our coaching team in the spring session.

Since at MRSC we are using a team coaching approach, creating a coherent team is crucial. Our coaches work in concert and in accordance with Skate Canada's Coaches Code of Ethics to ensure that our skaters are achieving their individual skating goals. A positive environment in the Club creates the best learning opportunities for skaters, and our coaching team sets a great example of teamwork, respect and collaboration that impacts our skaters.

I greatly appreciate all our coaches' commitment to providing high quality skating instruction and guidance to our skaters, as well as being excellent team players.

We are also fortunate to have the support from the Board. I would like to say a special 'Thank you' to Jessica Rico, our Club's President, for her support. Although Jessica is certainly contributing a lot to ensure that coaches can focus entirely on delivering skating instruction, I hope that we would have more volunteers to help her out.

I am very pleased that in 2022/2023 we have been successfully delivering all our programs: CanSkate, Intro to Synchro, Junior Academy, Skating Skills Development, Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

We are currently running our spring session and working on organizing a summer session that we hope would attract more skaters than before.

The following are some short-term goals I would like to suggest working toward:

1. Revise MRSC website to bring it up to date with Skate Canada's program information and delivery.
2. Continue collaborating on skating seasons/sessions scheduling and programs' delivery options to include more input from the Head Coach (upon liaison with CanSkate Director).
3. Fill in more vacant positions on the Board to ensure adequate support from a group of volunteers.

Submitted by:

Lena Belousovski, Head Coach, MRSC



Maple Ridge Skating Club Board Member (Ice Contract Coordinator)

I have been in this position since late fall of 2021 and have been responsible for the ice contracts year-round. I also receive bi-weekly/monthly schedules from the city showing all booked ice time and double check for accuracy.

I continue to work in this position, with the support of Jess Rico, President of MRSC, whom I collaborate with when booking ice times, as this position and the on-ice scheduling are closely related.

I also inquire and book time for special events, like our annual awards banquet dinners.

Payments were made on time with no delay. City of Maple Ridge and Planet Ice were all very easy to deal with and respond in a timely manner.

I would like to say thank you to all the board members and coaches for their ongoing support this past year.

Thank you,

Andrea Nicholson

MRSC - Ice Contract Coordinator



STAR 1 - STAR 5 ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR

We have completed two assessment sessions in 2022-2023.

December 2022- 24 assessments were completed and passed.

February 2023- 13 assessments were completed and passed.

Congratulations to all our skaters on completing their assessments!

Thank you to the coaches for all their hard work and dedication to the skaters.

Looking forward to a great skating season for 2023-2024.

Daria Taylor

Assessment Coordinator

STAR 6 - GOLD ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR

Jessica Rico - interim Coordinator

With most of our skaters in Star 1-5, there has been no need for a Star 6 to Gold Assessment Coordinator. Laura Denroche was appointed during last AGM and she served until the end of the skating season where:

1. We had no need for Star 6-Gold Assessment Coordinator
2. Her daughter decided not to return to skating for the new season

Laura was still registered as a member of the Club and willing to help when needed for her position but the opportunity never arose.

During the 2022-2023 Skating Season, only one skater got a chance to get an assessment where an evaluator was needed. Emily Rico was invited (thanks to Coach Shannon Balabardin) to Kerrisdale Skating Club in Vancouver where she was assessed on March 26, 2023.

Unfortunately we still don't have any more skaters getting close to Star 6 in order to need an Assessment Coordinator. In the meantime, I will take care of it but I really hope more skaters can catch up so we can close the gap.



WEBSITE MANAGER REPORT

Jessica Rico - Website Manager

The website has been kept up to date. Most of the changes made were in content due to the new coaches joining the club and the schedule as always.

There are more update plans in the future but we won't be seeing them until the Fall Season since the website will be worked on during the summer.

The integration with Uplifter was also very smooth and we continue to use our website as usual and without any disruptions.

As per SiteGround's services, for the remainder of the year, we have to renew our Hosting plan which expires on June 22, 2023 and our Domain Name, which expires on December 3rd, 2023.

All these services are paid by myself and reimbursed by the Club.