

Clubs Matter

Coaches registration process is off and running!

Thank you for all the support we have received in implementing the new coaches registration process. Here are some additional clarifications regarding the procedures:

- ✓ Coaches who teach in sanctioned activities and club-sponsored activities **DO** need to register. This includes test sessions, all competitions, performances, off-ice activities and private lessons on club ice regardless of whether they are employees or independent contractors.
- ✓ All coaches under the age of 18 (minors) and instructors who teach ONLY Basic Skills group classes do not need to register at this time.
- ✓ Registration fee is \$40 plus the cost of purchasing coaches liability insurance.
- ✓ Registration should be completed online, but we do have a paper system is available if necessary. Paper registrations will take more time to process.
- ✓ The list of registered coaches is available online and updated daily and can be found at: <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Story.asp?id=41529>.
- ✓ Coaches will be mailed a new registration card to show at check-in desks for events. Please request and verify proof of registration upon check-in at sanctioned events.
- ✓ Coaches who are not registered **by the start** of regionals this year will not be allowed to stand at the gate with their students. Prior to regionals, please ask for proof of registration and remind coaches of the new process. Qualifying coaches should be registered **no later than Aug. 15** to make the deadline.

Getting Your Board on Board

Do you have a junior member liaison position on your board? Read below for some helpful information from the *Blue Avocado e-newsletter*.

Can minors serve on boards?

The answer is, it depends. But when it is possible, the rewards usually outweigh most of the concerns. A few states do not allow young people to serve on boards, and many states have laws prohibiting minors to sign binding contracts. Before inviting young people to serve on your board, verify whether your state has an age limit for board members. Even if your state law prohibits minors from serving as full members of the board, there are many ways to benefit from the ideas and perspectives that young people bring. You can ask them to serve as non-voting members of the board, to become members on an advisory council or to chair a committee or a special event.

If you decide to invite a minor to serve as a board member, keep these points in mind:

- ✓ Provide adequate orientation or assign a board mentor
- ✓ Avoid electing minors as officers in charge of financial matters
- ✓ When the law prohibits it, do not allow minors to sign binding contracts for the organization
- ✓ Provide D&O (directors and officers) insurance for the entire board, but be aware that standard, off-the-shelf policies may exclude minors

July 28, 2008

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

For club boards:

[Registration form](#)

Sept. 6 – Club Education Seminar, Tri-state Council, Bowling Green, Ohio

For Basic Skills instructors:

[Registration forms](#)

Aug. 16 – Learn to Teach Basic Skills Workshop, Rochester, Minn.

Aug. 22 – Basic Skills Workshop, Highland Park, Ill.

Sept. 6 – Learn to Teach Basic Skills Workshop, Atlanta, Ga.

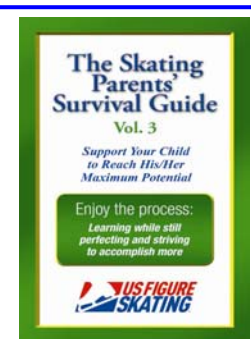
Sept. 20 – Learn to Teach Basic Skills Workshop, Eagle, Colo.

NEW Club Fundraising Guide now available!

[Click here to download.](#)

The 2008 Club Fundraising Guide was compiled from many great sources to provide U.S. Figure Skating clubs with ideas, resources and the motivation to create a successful fundraising plan. Please keep in mind that each state has its own legal requirements for conducting fundraising efforts. All fund-raising efforts for non-profits must also comply with IRS regulations. Before implementing any fundraising initiative, visit <http://www.irs.gov/> to find out if your fundraising efforts are in compliance. Topics include:

- ✓ Duty of the Board
- ✓ Basic Truths of Fundraising
- ✓ How Much Do You Need?
- ✓ 13 Biggest Mistakes in Fundraising
- ✓ Successful Fundraising Ideas
- ✓ List of Resources for Further Information



Parents Survival Guide Vol. 3 now available for purchase – [click here to download order form](#)

Do you need to revise your mission statement?

Advice from BoardSource

If you answer “no” to any of the following questions, it may be time for an update:

- Is your mission statement short and sharply focused? Would it fit on a T-shirt?
- Do board members and staff know the mission statement?
- Is it clear and easily understood?
- Does it define why you do what you do?
- Does it provide direction for doing the right things?
- Does it inspire your passion and commitment?
- Does it say, in the end, what you want to be remembered for?

Don't miss this great fundraising opportunity for your club!

The U.S. Figure Skating online store and Ice Life are offering a great way for U.S. Figure Skating clubs to raise funds to support their programs and skaters. If your club is interested in selling “The Figure Skating Calendar,” now is the time to [reserve your copies](#) while supplies last. The 2009 calendar will be available starting Aug. 1, 2008, with limited distribution available based on your club’s pre-orders.

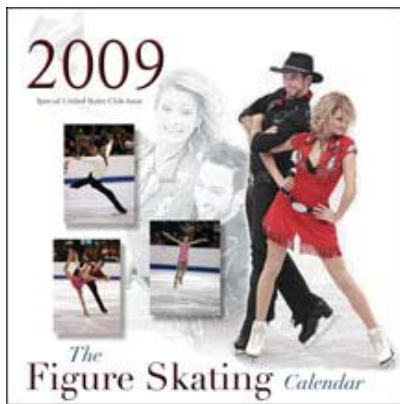
“The Figure Skating Calendar” is the oldest and most collected skating calendar in North America. The 2009 calendar includes many of your favorite U.S. and international skaters. The exclusive “U.S. Club Edition” is available to you for this unique fundraising opportunity and includes six additional bonus pages of U.S. skaters.

This special fundraising offer has never before been extended to clubs in the United States, and it is the first offer in association with the soon-to-be-launched online store “Club Skate Saver Program.”

Club Price \$12

Suggested Retail Price \$19.95

For more details on how to reserve this great fundraising opportunity for your club, call 800.477.0628 or [click here for more details and to reserve your calendars](#).



The recent Theatre on Ice National/International competition from Burlington, Vt. is available on [icenetwork.com](http://web.icenetwork.com/events/detail.jsp?id=48210) for free viewing. Click here <http://web.icenetwork.com/events/detail.jsp?id=48210> to see this new, exciting side of team skating!

To learn more about Theatre on Ice, go to <http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=49>.