



Summer 2018

CFSC Members:

As we enjoy these hot, sticky summer days, we long for the cool and comfort of the ice rink where we watch our skaters grow, develop, and learn new skating skills. Those days are right around the corner.

This season will bring some changes for the Cortland Figure Skating Club and how our Club members gain access to the ice. The first bit of good news is J.M. McDonald is continuing to lengthen the ice skating season to start up on August 6 and run longer into the spring 2019 (at least through the end of March). This will allow our skaters to skate on home ice longer and reduce travel time to neighboring rinks.

Secondly, JM tested a new figure skating membership system in March 2018 and due to its success, they have decided to move towards a monthly ice package for the entire season. This provides many benefits to our CFSC Members - flexible packages where skaters can choose how many training days they wish to purchase (four, three, two, one or walk on packages will be offered), flexibility to choose a different package each month if desired, special membership pricing for Cortland Figure Skating Club members only, and new and expanded club skating times offered consistently each week.

Thirdly, for those skaters who play multiple sports, this offers greater flexibility to customize your skater's training schedule with your coach. In addition, JM ice memberships will be available monthly so your skating payment will be once a month, and you can use your credit card, cash or personal check.

This change will also put less financial stress on CFSC as an organization by transferring the financial burden to JM to sign up and sell club membership packages, leaving the Club to focus on special events such as test sessions, an annual production/show, celebrations, and an annual awards banquet. CFSC can focus on serving its members more effectively and celebrating our skaters' accomplishments in the program. In addition to Club Members, there will be a special package designed for Soaring Stars members. Our Learn to Skate members will be able to sign up with JM during two sessions of 9-10 weeks, offered on Saturday afternoons.

We are also excited to share with you that this season JM is providing CFSC with its own CLUB room located in the Skating Changing Area hallway. We will be sending out information to our members about a special work day when we will be gathering to paint and decorate the CLUB Room. This room will be

for Cortland Club Members Only and we hope it will provide us with a fun atmosphere as well as provide overnight storage for our members to keep their skate bags safely and securely this season.

Our governing body, USFSA, requires certain registration forms to be completed by our parents. We will be posting this information and forms on our Club website so you can download them, fill them out, and return them to Stephanie Burns, Membership Director before you can purchase any of the JM packages as a CFSC Member. We will continue to offer an Associate Membership for any members from other USFSA Clubs for a fee of \$45 per skater. A CFSC Associate Membership will allow you to buy Ice Packages from JM at the Home Club member rate, receive a reduced price on our home test sessions, participate in special events, and obtain access to our new Cortland Club Room at JM.

In addition to the registration requirements, USFSA is expanding the SafeSport program to require all coaches, officials and volunteers who have a position of authority over minor athletes or who are in frequent contact with the athletes to complete SafeSport online training and successfully pass a background check in order to participate in any USFSA sanctioned activity. For example, any parents who will be participating in special events with contact with athletes (production, test session, club practices, entering into JM locker rooms or the Cortland Club Room) will need to meet this USFSA requirement. The links to complete the SafeSport training are on the USFSA Members only site as well as a link to the Background Check that will require a \$20 fee. Please see Melissa LeVick, Vice President, if you have any questions about this new requirement.

Improved communications is one of our biggest goals for the 2018/2019 season. In order to accomplish this, we will also be utilizing a new APP where members will be able to get updates regarding deadlines, skating information, weather cancellations, special event and fundraising news. As soon as we have more information on the APP, we will send you information so you can OPT IN to this communication tool.

As with any change of this sort, there will be many questions. To answer many of the more common questions, we have created a FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS reference on our website where many answers can be found. Please read through this information before you contact JM or a CFSC board member with your questions. Additionally, we highly recommend you contact your Skating Coach to put together a customized plan for your Club skater for the 2018/2019 season before you purchase your package from JM. Once you decide when you will start skating and which package you wish to purchase for your first month, you can contact JMM directly to purchase your first monthly package. JM will have information provided on their website under the ICE SKATING drop down menu or you can call or stop into their office during Summer Office Hours at 607-753-8100. Don't forget to fill out your CFSC Membership paperwork and send to Stephanie Burns, Membership Director asap.

We look forward to seeing you and your skaters back at JM very soon.

Stay cool!

Tamara Demeree

President, Cortland Figure Skating Club