



## Important Information for CanSkate Parents

MSC's CanSkate sessions are run by Rodolfo Guilherme in accordance with Skate Canada's nationally-standardized format. This is a fun (yet highly instructional) program for beginner skaters 5 years old and up who are able to stand up and move around competently on the ice. MSC's CanSkate sessions feature an exceptionally low skater-to-coach ratio, and each session has 30 minutes of instruction plus additional practice time. Ribbons and badges are awarded as skaters master the fundamentals of skating.

**Together with Rodolfo, our Program Coordinator Howard Abe will be hosting CanSkate information sessions from September 11-15 in the Board Room just off the arena lobby.** Each information session runs during CanSkate on those dates, so once your child is on the ice for his/her skate, you are free to join us in the Board Room. Join us to find out more about how the program runs, and have any questions answered.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Parents must stay in the arena** at all times during the session. Skaters must never be left at the arena without a parent or guardian present.
  - Please ensure that your children enter and exit the ice only from the designated gate.
- **Please do not stand by the glass.** Parents should watch from the stands to allow our coaches to have the skaters' full attention during the session.
- **PLEASE DO NOT INTERRUPT THE SESSIONS.** If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, please feel free to approach any of our coaching staff after the session has ended.  
At that time, we will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

### Equipment Necessities

- **CSA-approved helmets are mandatory** for all skaters until they have passed CanSkate 5.  
Bicycle helmets are not acceptable protection.  
Face masks are highly recommended.
- **Skate guards are also mandatory.**  
For safety reasons, all skaters must have skate guards on their blades when not on the ice.  
Guards also protect blades and keep them sharp; dull blades prevent skaters from learning proper moving and stopping technique.
- **We strongly recommend lace-up skates** as they provide the best support and promote proper movement.

**We have created a short instructional video for CanSkate parents.  
Please be sure to watch it – there is a link on the home page at  
[www.markhamskatingclub.com](http://www.markhamskatingclub.com)**

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Times and schedules are subject to change; whenever possible, notices will be posted on the MSC website, emailed to members and posted in the arena. Equity among programs is considered when our schedule is created. Please consider these key dates when choosing your schedule.

<b>August 2015</b>	Monday August 17 – Fall/winter session registration opens at 6pm	
<b>September 2015</b>	Tuesday September 8 – PA Clinics (7pm – 8:30pm)	
	Wednesday September 9 – First day of fall/winter session	
	Saturday September 12 – MSC BBQ Social (12pm-2pm)	
	September 21, 24, 25, 26 – CanSkate Information Sessions (during CanSkate sessions)	
<b>October 2015</b>	<a href="#">Monday October 5 – Ice Show registration opens</a>	
	Saturday October 10 – Thanksgiving weekend (no sessions)	
	Monday October 12 – Thanksgiving Day (no sessions)	
	Wednesday October 28 – High Test Day (no sessions)	
	Saturday October 31 – Halloween (yes, there are sessions!)	
<b>November 2015</b>	Wednesday November 4 – Low Test Day (no sessions)	
	<a href="#">Saturday November 7 – Ice Show registration closes</a>	
	Saturday November 28 – Markham Santa Claus Parade (allow extra time to get to the arena)	
<b>December 2015</b>	Saturday December 19 – CanSkate Challenge, Skate Extreme Competition, Family Christmas party (no regular sessions but all members are invited to join in our Holiday Celebrations)	
	Wednesday December 23 – Last day of skating before Christmas break	
	Thursday December 24 through Sunday January 3 – Christmas break (no sessions)	
	Monday January 4 – First day of skating after Christmas break	
<b>January 2016</b>	<a href="#">Saturday January 16 – Ice Show information meeting and casting reveal (2-4pm)</a>	
	Wednesday January 20 – Low Test Day (no sessions)	
	Thursday January 21 – High Test Day (no sessions)	
	<a href="#">Early February – Ice Show rehearsal schedule posted</a>	
<b>February 2016</b>	Monday February 15 – Arena closed for Family Day (no sessions)	
	Saturday February 20 – Club Competition (no sessions)	
	<b>March 2016</b>	Wednesday March 2 – Low test day (no sessions)
		Thursday March 3 – High test day (no sessions)
		Saturday March 5 – Last day of fall/winter session
<a href="#">Monday March 7 – Ice Show rehearsals begin</a>		
Monday March 14-Friday March 18 – March Break (Ice Show rehearsals do run this week)		
Friday March 25-Sunday March 27 – Easter weekend (no sessions)		
<b>April 2016</b>	<a href="#">Monday April 4-Thursday April 7 – Ice Show production week</a>	
	<a href="#">Friday April 8 – Ice Show opening night (7pm)</a>	
	<a href="#">Saturday April 9 – Ice Show performances (1pm &amp; 7pm)</a>	
	<a href="#">Sunday April 10 – Ice Show closing matinee (1pm)</a>	
	Monday April 11 – Spring session starts	
Saturday April 30 – Annual Spring Awards Banquet (evening)		
<b>May 2016</b>	Saturday May 21-Monday May 23 (inclusive) – Victoria Day weekend (no sessions)	
	Wednesday May 25 – Low Test Day (no sessions)	
	Thursday May 26 – High Test Day (no sessions)	
	Saturday May 28 – Last day of spring skating	
<b>June 2016</b>	Tuesday June 14 – Annual General Meeting	

Notices of schedule changes will be emailed to members; please provide the office with your email address. If you do not have email, be sure to regularly check our website or the arena bulletin board. Please also “like” us on Facebook!

If you have any questions about or suggestions for our programs, please feel free to contact Howard Abe, Skating Program Coordinator, at [info@markhamskatingclub.com](mailto:info@markhamskatingclub.com) or 905-472-6982.