



Skate Canada/Stratford Skating Club Code of Conduct and Session Guidelines

All individuals to whom this Policy applies have a responsibility to:

1. Conduct themselves in a manner that is of the highest standards, follows Skate Canada's mission, vision, core values and policies and behave accordingly by:
 - a. Treating all people with respect, dignity, and fairness;
 - b. Promoting and demonstrating a spirit of fair play, sport leadership and ethical conduct;
 - c. Acting on the belief that an individual as a person is more important than their success or my success
 - d. Acting professionally during all interactions in and surrounding Skate Canada activities;
 - e. Using positive discipline that includes setting fair rules, listening, problem-solving, encouraging, and being a good example. Never using harmful methods such as but not limited to hitting, name-calling, yelling, or using insults, intimidation, or rejection;
 - f. Always acting in a kind, courteous and judicious manner and never engaging in any exploitative, abusive or corrupt behaviour;
 - g. Using electronic communications (e.g., social media and messaging platforms – see definitions for full details) responsibly, modelling appropriate behaviour that is expected of all individuals of Skate Canada. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Ensure comments may not be interpreted as slurs, demeaning or inflammatory, etc.;

Refrain from uploading, posting, emailing, or otherwise transmitting any content that is offensive, obscene, unlawful, threatening, abusive, harassing, discriminatory, embarrassing, intimidating, sexually explicit, bullying, defamatory, hateful, racist, sexist, invasive of another's privacy or otherwise objectionable / inappropriate;

Athletes are not to post any photos of coaches or athletes without the consent of the athlete or coach.

No social media accounts are to be created under the Stratford Skating Club or Northern Star Skating Academy Inc. name unless by the club/school itself;

- h. Supporting an equitable, diverse and inclusive sport for all, regardless of race, ancestry, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender;
- i. Agreeing to advocate, respect and practice the principles of the Skate Canada National Safe Sport Program, including return to skate protocols in the case of injury or concussion, (in the case of a concussion, the skater will require a doctor's note to be permitted to return to training);

Skaters/Athletes

In addition to the commitment as outlined above for an individual, skaters/athletes will have additional responsibilities to:

- j. Remember at all times that they represent Skate Canada, Skate Ontario, Stratford Skating Club and Northern Star Skating Academy Inc.;
- k. All athletes in the program, regardless of level or experience are expected to demonstrate a positive and respectful attitude towards coaches, athletes, and anyone in the facility;
- l. Report any medical or fitness problems in a timely fashion, where such problems may limit the skater's/athlete's ability to travel, train or compete; or, in the case of carded skaters, interfere with the skater's/athlete's ability to fulfill requirements under the Athlete Assistance Program;
- m. Properly represent themselves and not attempt to enter a competition for which they are not eligible, by reason of age, classification or other reasons;
- n. Act in accordance with Skate Canada's policies and procedures, in particular, this Code, as well as the Privacy Code, Anti-Doping Policy, and National Safe Sport Program and policies thereunder;
- o. All skaters will respect all City of Stratford Arena policies;
- p. Foul language will not be permitted on any session in the SSC or NSSA Inc.;

- q. All athletes are part of the Stratford Skating Club/Northern Star Skating Academy Inc. team and are expected to encourage all other athletes and support one another and shall have no negative chants, mocking of other athletes or speaking rudely of other clubs;

Parents/Guardians

Parents are valuable members of the skater/coach team. In addition to the commitment as outlined above for an individual, Parents/Guardians of skaters will:

- r. Encourage athletes to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence;
- s. Never ridicule a participant for making a mistake during a performance or practice;
- t. Provide positive comments that motivate and encourage participants continued effort;
- u. Respect the decisions and judgments of officials, and encourage skaters/athletes to do the same;
- v. Respect and show appreciation to all competitors, and to the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time to the sport;
- w. All Parents will respect all City of Stratford Facility policies;

Session Guidelines for Skaters

- x. Skaters will follow all ice etiquette guidelines—first right of way on the ice is for skaters with music on (solo or dance), second right of way is for skaters in lessons, then all other skaters. Skaters will be courteous when letting other skaters know they are coming in that direction;
- y. Skaters must wear appropriate training clothing at all times while on the ice or taking part in off ice classes. Clothing should allow the skater to move freely and not be baggy. Appropriate on ice training clothing are: skating dresses, skating skirts, short/long sleeve shirts, skating pants, tights, skating jackets, etc. Hoodies are not allowed on session ice. For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back;
- z. Cell phones are not to be used during session time. They may be placed behind the boards so that they are not left alone in the dressing room. *At no time, is a cell phone to be used while on a training session.* An iPad is available to use to video capture skills while on a session;

- aa. Session music shall be played from the SSC/NSSA Inc. device only. No other devices are permitted to play music for the session. Any skater wishing to add music to the session play list is welcome to send music to the coach to have it added to the Club playlist;
- bb. Skaters are expected to work on their skills, free skate and dances during the session time. Time spent standing by the boards should be minimal;
- cc. Dressing rooms are a privilege for all skaters, not a right. Skaters will be respectful of all other skaters in the room. Foul language is prohibited. Conversations will be kept to topics suitable for everyone. Failure to follow dressing room etiquette can result in loss of privilege of dressing room space.

Welcome Statement

The Stratford Skating Club and Northern Star Skating Academy Inc., are welcoming and inclusive. We support a safe, open, and inclusive environment for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, Indigeneity, religion, class, size, ability, gender identity, gender expression, and sexuality. We are welcoming to all skaters and coaches from any other Skate Canada Club/School. We are committed to providing strong and positive leadership that models fair and respectful behaviour.

I/We the undersigned have read and understand the code of conduct. I/We understand that disciplinary actions can be taken in instances where this code has not been followed. Disciplinary actions may include verbal/written communications, loss of privileges, and in serious cases, termination of membership.

Skater Signature

Parent Signature

Date