

# Rotations

## Newsletter of the Wagon Wheel Figure Skating Club



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### Wagon Wheel Skaters Excel at Regionals!

Skaters at all levels had great skates this month at the Upper Great Lakes regional championships. Six skaters from our club competed in qualifying rounds, and three successfully qualified for the Midwestern Sectional competition.

Specifically:

- ◆ **Natalie Mecher** won the Senior Ladies.
- ◆ **Megan Oster** won Novice Ladies, and **Lindsay Walczak** placed fourth.
- ◆ **Ricky Reeder** placed sixth in Novice Men, becoming the second alternate for Mids.
- ◆ **Heather Massie** was 13<sup>th</sup> in the qualifying round Intermediate Ladies, and **Megan Hyatt** placed eighth in the final round.

Nonqualifying skaters competed exceptionally well also. **Kyle Shropshire**, who is just eight years old, won the Men's Pre-Juvenile. **Katie Welz** placed second, while **Hailey Goldstein** was fourth and **Kira Hoskey**, eighth in the Pre-Juvenile freestake group. **Mollyrose Kelly** finished second in the Ladies Open Juvenile, in which **Jessica Brown** and **Courtney Voss** also skated.

Congratulations to these fine representatives of our club! Good luck to those competing at Sectionals!

**Volunteers** made it all happen at September's Greater Chicagoland Fall Invitational ("Northbrook" or "GCFI") competition. Thanks! You're great!

### Skaters, Coaches, Parents Rate Club Well on 2003 Member Questionnaire

Results have been tallied for Wagon Wheel's recent member questionnaire. Although the geographic range of members' primary rinks was even more diverse than expected, the 69 respondents gave the club very positive assessments for its programs, test session management, and communication with members.

Crystal Ice House was the primary rink at which the most respondents' families skate. The Vernon Hills rink was a surprising second, followed by Northbrook, then Fox Valley Ice Arena closely matched by Buffalo Grove. But our members skate from Kenosha to Rockford, Addison to Zion.

Comments provided insights about members' needs. One skater from Kenosha replied "We appreciate how organized and friendly the test sessions are" and another stated, "Joan Viviano [test chair] does an awesome job (and all who help her)," echoing the comments of many respondents. Others praised the high level of skaters, parents encouraged the board to sponsor more seminars/camps, and many were pleased with our support of competitive skaters.

Topics that created the most comments were icetimes—*everyone* suggested having more hours closer to their locations!—and the number of test sessions—everyone wants more of them! Seven respondents explained that they don't skate or test with Wagon Wheel in Crystal Lake because the "far east" rink is too cold.

One area needing attention was support for adult skaters, more coverage of adult events, and more programs of interest to adult skaters. We hope to address this need and encourage all adult skaters to get involved with the club and suggest how to serve them better. Thanks to all members who gave us new ideas and feedback!

# Holiday Exhibition Planned for Northbrook

Wagon Wheel's annual holiday skating exhibition will be held Sunday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the Northbrook Sports Center. Sign up at Northbrook or the Ice House, or call Lynn Brown (847) 854-0342 to sign up. Skaters at all levels can skate their programs, and the club's annual award presentations will conclude the event. Join us as a skater or viewer for this fun show!

## Volunteers Needed!

If you've ever wondered how more than 100 synchronized skating teams can compete in just four days, here's your chance to find out! Wagon Wheel asks any and all members to help at the Synchronized Skating Midwestern Championships. We need ice monitors, transportation helpers, runners—you name it! Call Deirdre Kelly at 815-325-5945 to sign up. Thanks!

# Club Event Calendar

**December 14:** Wagon Wheel Holiday Exhibition, Northbrook Sports Center, 10:00 a.m.

**January 5 through June 12, 2004:** Winter Wagon Wheel Ice Contract (Thursdays, 5-6 and 6-7 p.m.; Saturdays, 7-8 and 8-9 a.m. at Crystal Ice House) Northbrook Sports Center continues to provide Sunday Wagon Wheel ice from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**January 28 through February 1, 2004:** Wagon Wheel and other Skating Council of Illinois clubs host the USFSA's Synchro Mids team championships at the Fox Valley Ice Arena, Geneva. Volunteers needed!

**March 21, 2004:** Annual Basic Skills Competition, Crystal Ice House.

## Wagon Wheel Contacts

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