



Upper Canada Skating Club
STARSkate Program
Information Package
2016 – 2017

This package includes the following information:

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- (2) Skate Canada Standardized Tests
- (3) Upper Canada Guest Skating Procedure
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Upper Canada STARSkate programs – Introducing the New STAR 1-5 Program

Skills, Tests, Achievement, Recognition – this is what STARSkate is all about!

Skate Canada's STARSkate program is undergoing a refresh. The Preliminary and Junior Bronze Skills, Freeskate and Dance tests will soon be replaced by the STAR 1-5 Tests and will be assessed by the skater's coaches. Coaches will now be responsible for the development and assessment of their own skaters at these levels. As of September 2016, Upper Canada will begin to implement these changes in our STARSkate program.



NEW STAR 1- 5 Program

Upper Canada will begin to implement the new STAR 1 -5 program as of September 2016. The STAR 1-5 program will be taught and skaters will be tested according to the new test system. The 2016-17 Fall/Winter season will be a transition session for Upper Canada. Skaters will have a choice to test under the traditional OLD test system (Preliminary and Junior Bronze) or the NEW STAR 1-5 systems. Skaters/parents are encouraged to speak with their coaches.

Skaters who just passed Canskate Stage 6 in Spring 2016 will be placed in the Intro To Junior (STAR 1) session in September 2016 and will progress through the STAR 1 – 5 program.

Skaters who are already in the Junior and above sessions will enter the STAR 1- 5 program according to tests and/or FreeSkate levels determined by their coaches. Returning skaters were informed by their coaches at the end of last season regarding which session they are qualified for.

Refer to Table I and II for information on program, tests and criteria.

Table 1**The NEW STAR 1 - 5 Program/Tests**

Old STARSkate	UC STARSkate Session	NEW STAR 1 - 5	Skills	Freeskate		Dance	Assessment
Bridge from CanSkate 6	Intro To Junior	STAR 1	STAR 1 - Edges, Turns, Field Move, Stroking	STAR 1 - Elements		STAR 1- Preliminary Dance Elements	During session assessed by skater's coach
Pre-Preliminary Level	Junior	STAR 2	STAR 2- Edges, Turns	STAR 2- Elements	Program – STAR 2 Event requirements	STAR 2a – Dutch Waltz STAR 2b – Canasta Tango	During session assessed by skater's coach
Preliminary Level	Intermediate	STAR 2/3	STAR 3 - Field Move, Stroking	STAR 3 - Elements	Program – STAR 3 Event requirements	STAR 3a – Baby Blues STAR 3b – Jr. Bronze Dance Elements	During session assessed by skater's coach
Junior Bronze Level	Senior	STAR 3/4	STAR 4 - Edges, Turns	STAR 4 - Elements	Program – STAR 4 Event requirements	STAR 4a – Swing Dance STAR 4b – Fiesta Tango	During session assessed by skater's coach
Between Jr. Bronze and Sr. Bronze Level	Advanced	STAR 5	STAR 5 - Field Move, Stroking	STAR 5 - Elements	Program – STAR 5 Event requirements	STAR 5a – Willow Waltz STAR 5b – Sr. Bronze Dance Elements	During session but must have "Clear Ice". Assessed by skater's coach
Senior Bronze Level and above	Advanced	Senior Bronze	Current Senior Bronze Skills Program	Current Senior Bronze Freeskate Elements	Current Senior Bronze Freeskate Program	Ten Fox Fourteenstep European Waltz	Traditional Test Day. Assessed by external evaluators.

Table II Criteria for 2016 – 17

(Transition from Old STARSkate to NEW STAR Program)

Session	Eligibility	Freeskate and Skills Level	Private coaching
Intro to Junior (STAR 1)	Skaters MUST have passed CanSkate Level 6	Working towards STAR 1	Not required but are encouraged to hire a private coach. Can leave group lesson for 15min for private lesson only. No private lesson during the group skills lesson.
Junior (STAR 2)	Skaters MUST have passed the Intro to Junior session or STAR 1 (Skills, Freeskate AND Dance)	Working towards STAR 2	Must hire a private coach for at least one 15-minute lesson each day they skate. Can leave group lesson for 15 min. for private lesson only or have private lesson during the designated practice/private time. No private lesson during the group skills lesson.
Intermediate (STAR 2/3)	<p>Skaters MUST have at least passed one of the following group(s) of tests:</p> <p>(1) 3 Skate Canada tests with one being Preliminary Skills or 1 part of Preliminary Freeskate (Elements or Solo). For example: Dutch Waltz, Canasta Tango AND Preliminary Elements; or</p> <p>(2) STAR 2 Skills or 1 part of STAR 2 Freeskate AND STAR 2a and 2b Dance (Dutch Waltz & Canasta Tango)</p> <p>Note: Skaters who passed all 3 Preliminary Dances are <i>NOT</i> qualified for the Intermediate Session unless they have approval from their coach and Board.</p>	Working towards STAR 2 or 3 depending on the entry STAR level	<p>Must hire a private coach for at least one 15-minute lesson each day they skate.</p> <p>No private lesson during the group skills lesson.</p>
Senior (STAR 3/4)	<p>Skaters MUST have at least passed one of the following group(s) of tests:</p> <p>(1) The complete Preliminary Freeskate (both Elements & Solo) ; or (2) Jr. Bronze Skills; or (3) All Jr. Bronze Dances (Swing Dance, Fiesta Tango & Willow Waltz, equivalent to STAR 4a, 4b and 5a Dances); or (4) Complete STAR 2</p>	Working towards STAR 3 or 4 depending on the entry STAR level	<p>Must hire a private coach for at least one 15-minute lesson each day they skate.</p> <p>No private lesson during the group skills lesson.</p>

	Freeskate and Skills		
Advanced (STAR 5)	<p>Skaters MUST have at least passed one of the following group(s) of tests:</p> <p>(1) The complete Jr. Bronze Freeskate (both Elements & Solo); (2) or Sr. Bronze Skills; or (3) All Sr. Bronze dances (Ten Fox, Fourteenstep & European Waltz) (4) STAR 4 Skills and 1 Part of STAR 4 Freeskate</p>	Working towards STAR 5 or higher level	<p>Must hire a private coach for at least one 15-minute lesson each day they skate.</p> <p>No private lesson during the group skills lesson.</p>
Adult STARSkate	Skaters MUST have strong basic skating skills.	Working on figure skating skills, freeskate and/or dances.	<p>Must hire a private coach for at least one 15-minute lesson each day they skate.</p> <p>No private lesson during the group skills lesson.</p>

Skate Canada Standardized Test

The Skate Canada STARSkate Program offers opportunities for skaters to develop basic to advanced skating skills in four different areas: Interpretive, Dance, Free Skating, and Skating Skills which are then grouped into Primary, Intermediate and Senior level tests (Table III). Except for Interpretive, the primary level tests (Preliminary and Jr. Bronze Skills, Freeskate and Dance tests)will be replaced by STAR 1 – 5 Tests (see Table I).

Table III Skate Canada Standardized Test Level

Level/Category	Skating Skills	Freeskate	Dance	Interpretive
Primary (STAR 1-5)	Preliminary, Junior Bronze	Preliminary, Junior Bronze	Preliminary, Junior Bronze	Introductory
Intermediate	Senior Bronze, Junior Silver	Senior Bronze, Junior Silver	Senior Bronze, Junior Silver	Bronze
Senior	Senior Silver, Gold	Senior Silver, Gold	Senior Silver, Gold, Diamond	Silver, Gold

Order of Tests

OLD STARSkate Test System - A candidate for a test must have passed all of the preceding tests in the same category in each of the disciplines with the exception of freeskate.

For example, a skater must pass the Preliminary Skating Skills test prior to attempting the Junior Bronze Skating Skills test. However, Free Skate tests can be taken in parts (elements and program). For example, a skater must pass Junior Bronze elements part in order to progress to the Senior Bronze elements but the skater is not required to pass Junior Bronze Solo in order to progress to Senior Bronze elements.

NEW STAR 1 – 5 Test System - The Preliminary and Junior Bronze tests will soon be replaced by the STAR 1-5 Tests and will be assessed by the skater's coaches. A candidate for a test must have passed all of the preceding tests in the same category in each of the disciplines. Upper Canada will review changes when information becomes available as Skate Canada is still working on the details of the program.

Test Evaluation

Evaluation of STAR 1 – 5 Tests – STAR 1 -5 tests will be evaluated by skater's coach during session time. Coaches are trained to apply set standards to the Skate Canada STAR 1 -5 test being taken and assess if the candidate has mastered the required skills in order to progress to the next level.

Evaluation of Senior Bronze and above Tests – Senior Bronze and above tests will be evaluated by professional evaluator. Evaluators are trained to apply set standards to the Skate Canada test being taken and assess if the candidate has mastered the required skills in order to progress to the next level. All Skate Canada STARSkate tests are evaluated on a scale that includes needs improvement, satisfactory, good and excellent. Each test has its own specifications as to what must be performed at a satisfactory or better level in order to pass the test.

Speak to your coach(es) if you have any questions regarding Skate Canada Standardized Testing and refer to the Skate Canada website for details.

Skate Canada website:

<https://info.skatecanada.ca/hc/en-ca/articles/201240584-1-5-Figure-Skating-Programs-Overview>

Upper Canada Test Days:

The 2016-17 Fall/Winter season will be a transition session for Upper Canada and therefore only one traditional Test Day will be planned in the Fall/Winter session. The final traditional Test Day will be in May 2017. After that Upper Canada will implement the STAR 1-5 program fully as of September 2017 and traditionally test days will be only for skaters testing Senior Bronze or above tests.

Fall/Winter Test Day: January 24, 2017

Spring Test Day: 16 May, 2017

Guest Skating

Skaters who are registered in the STARSkate STAR 1-5 and Adult sessions are allowed to guest skate on sessions that they are not registered for.

(1) Skaters may request permission to guest skate on any session that they are qualified for.

(2) The skater must have his or her coach's approval to guest skate.

(3) The skater/parent or skater's coach must inform the club office **at least 2 days prior** to the desired guest skate session.

(4) Skater who requests to skate on a session that they are not qualified for must have board approval. Your private coach will submit request for approval.

(5) Skaters must check in with the office administrator and guest skating fee must be paid prior to stepping on the ice.

(6) Skaters not adhering to this policy will be asked to leave the ice.

(7) Skaters who consistently fail to follow the above procedures will have their privilege to guest skate revoked immediately.

	Guest Fee	Number of Guest Skate per Fall/Winter Session	Number of Guest Skate per Spring Session
Club Member	\$20	10	5

The STAR 1 -5 Competition Program (Ref. <https://info.skatecanada.ca/hc/en-ca/articles/201257994-STAR-1-5-Parent-Guide>)

The STAR competition program is comprised of five different levels of events for skaters who are in the STARSkate program. Every skater is unique and will advance at different rates. To accommodate individual needs, the STAR 1-5 competition program is designed to be fluid and allow skaters to progress at their own pace. Skaters may move through several levels in a season or stay at the same level. At all stages and levels, parents and skaters should discuss their progress with their coach to determine the best options for them.

The chart below provides a brief description of each level:

STAR	Format	Description
1	Group Elements Event	Introduces skaters to performing elements like jumps and spins in a fun group environment with their coaches. Skaters are evaluated and receive a report card and ribbon based on their performance.
2	Evaluated Program	Skaters now take many of the elements they learned in STAR 1 as well as new skills and perform them in a program in front of judges. Many skaters may learn a program in a group and even share music. Like STAR 1, skaters are evaluated and receive a report card and ribbon.
3	Evaluated Program	STAR 3 continues to build on the skills learned in STAR 1 and 2. More difficult elements like an axel jump are added and judges evaluate the programs based on more challenging criteria. Skaters also receive a report card and ribbon.
4	Ranked Program	Axels are encouraged at this level and receive a bonus for successful completion. STAR 4 serves as a transition point between evaluated levels and competition incorporating a points system. Assessments are used to produce a ranking for each group of competitors. Each skater receives a report card with top finishers in each group receiving either a ribbon or medal.
In STAR 1-4, skaters are evaluated against a national standard by a panel of certified judges. Each element they perform receives an assessment of Gold, Silver, Bronze or Merit as well as an overall standing.		

5	Ranked Program	Skaters may perform double jumps at this level. STAR 5 is the first time skaters are rewarded points for elements and performance; it is the same scoring system used to judge top competitive figure skaters. Skaters are ranked based on total points and are provided a detailed report card. Top finishers receive medals.
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Skaters who may not have passed any part of the Senior Bronze Freeskate are qualified for STAR 1 to 4. Skaters who may not have passed any part of the Junior Silver Freeskate are qualified for STAR 5.

Skaters may also compete in Dance, Interpretive, and higher Freeskate categories.

Skaters are encouraged to participate in competitions. Refer to our bulletin board for upcoming competition announcement . Currently, registration for most of the competitions are accepted online. **Speak to your coach(es) regarding the procedure for online registration and refer to the Central Ontario Skating Section website for details.**

<http://www.skatecanada-centralontario.com/2016%202017%20Events.html>

Skate Canada Central Ontario Section

2016-17 Event Schedule (Outside Competitions)

Event	Location	Date
2016 K.I.S. INVITATIONAL	Georgina Ice Palace, Keswick, ON	November 25 – 27, 2016
WINTER GLITTERS - METRO EAST AREA COMPETITION	Ajax Community Centre, Ajax, ON	January 21, 2017
2017 STARSkate CHAMPIONSHIPS	Cassie Campbell Community Centre, Brampton, ON	February 3 –5, 2017
2017 MARCH MANIA	Innisfil Recreational Complex Innisfil, ON	March 3 –5, 2017
2017 FUN COMPETITION	Thornhill Community Centre, Thornhill, ON	April 7 – 9, 2017
URSULA LEHMING SCARBORO SKATE	Scarborough Centennial Recreation Complex Scarborough, ON	April 21 – 23, 2017
MARGARET GARRISON ICE SHOW & AWARDS	Powerade Centre, Brampton ON	May 6, 2017



STARSkate Showcase

This year Upper Canada's STARskate Competition will be replaced by STARskate showcase. STARSkaters in the STARSkate STAR 1 -5 and Adult STARSkate sessions are invited to participate in the 2017 STARSkate Showcase. Details will follow.

Upper Canada Skating Club

2016-17 Event Schedule

Event	Date
First Day of skating	Monday September 12, 2016
Winter Break	December 24, 2016 – January 7, 2017 (inclusive)
January Test Day	Tuesday January 24, 2017 (tentatively from 5 – 9 pm)
CanSkate Challenge/STARSkate Showcase	Saturday February 25, 2017 (tentatively from 9 am to 2 pm)
March Break	March 13 – March 18, 2017 (inclusive)
Spring Season (First Day of skating)	March 20, 2017
May Test Day	Tuesday May 16, 2017 (tentatively from 5 – 9 pm)
Annual General Meeting	Wednesday May 3, 2017

Resources

<https://info.skatecanada.ca/hc/en-ca/articles/201240584-1-5-Figure-Skating-Programs-Overview>

<https://info.skatecanada.ca/hc/en-ca/articles/201257994-STAR-1-5-Parent-Guide>

<http://www.skatecanada-centralontario.com/>