

WALSALL ARTISTIC ROLLER SKATING CLUB

April 2017 Newsletter

Easter Cancellations – The centre is closed over the Easter weekend so there will be no classes on Friday 19th, Saturday 20th, Sunday 21st and Monday 22nd. Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

Annual General Meeting - Thank you for everyone who came along to our AGM on the 22nd March. For those who missed it, the main outcomes were:

- Fees are to remain the same but the cap on fees is to increase. This will start from 1st May. We will be in touch with those affected to give them time to change their standing orders.
- We will be splitting our classes into three groups
 - **Recreational** (Beginners and those who do not want to compete)
 - **Prep** (Those who want to compete but are not ready to commit)
 - **Squad** (Those who want to go into FARS competition and championships).
- We have introduced a new Code of Conduct. This will be put on our website.
- We have a new committee chaired by Kerry Watkinson.

Good Luck to Carter & Georgina who are competing in the FARS Free Skating Competition on Sunday on 7th April at Kettering Sports Arena.

Bags in the hall – Where possible we are asking parents to help younger skaters get their skates on outside of the hall and put their bags and shoes back in the skating cupboard to avoid clutter and distraction. All they should need to bring into the hall is drinks. At the end of the session, if they can then go straight out of the hall and take their skates off in the corridor, it will mean we get the maximum amount of

Retro Rookie Competition Sunday 7th July at Great Yarmouth. This is a great introduction to competitions for new skaters. It involves skating set elements in order. (Most skaters are already practising the basic skills routine) If we have sufficient numbers skaters can also enter the duo's competition. We are still awaiting details but we want to be prepared as it gets booked up quickly. Last year the cost of entering was £8 per event. There will be a cost for spectators (payable when you get there), the cost of getting there and you will probably need to book a hotel for the Saturday night. (If you do book, we always recommend paying a bit extra for the flexi rate just in case the competition gets cancelled/moved for any reason) Skaters will also need to buy the club leotard (currently £20) and will need a competition leotard (We have a few that you can borrow at a charge of £2) Any skaters interested in entering, please speak to one of our coaches.

Dressmaker(s) needed! - We are looking for keen dressmakers to help with making club outfits for our skaters. We can provide material and will pay towards your time. If you are interested, please speak to Karen.

Skate Maintenance Course – Thank you to everyone who came along to the course on the 29th March and thank you to Jane who ran the course. If you missed the course and would like to get involved with maintaining our skates, please speak to Jane.

Club Competition - Our club competition went really well. Thank you to everyone who helped make our club competition run so smoothly on the 16th March and well done to everyone who took part. All Coaches were extremely proud of how everyone skated. Winners get to keep their trophy's for 1 year.

REGULAR ITEMS – Just in case you missed it last time.

Christmas Gala DVD – We have a few DVD's remaining at £4 each. All money goes to club funds. (It is also available for the same cost in electronic format if you bring along a memory stick/SD Card).

Parents/Carers in the hall – Just a reminder that Parents/carers are asked to leave the hall during classes and watch from the viewing gallery upstairs. Parents/carers will be allowed into the hall at the start of the class to help their child get their skates on, If the child needs escorting to the toilet or needs assistance during the lesson and at the end of the class to help skaters take their skates off. If your child is just starting out or has special needs and you feel you need to stay in the hall, please speak to one of our coaches.

Leaving the hall during classes – The centre insists that no skates are worn outside of the hall, therefore please ensure that your child is aware they need to remove their skates and also inform a coach that they are leaving. Where possible we will try to get your attention so that you can escort them to the toilets.

Leaving the hall after classes –Please can skaters leave the hall as soon they have taken their skates off, better still go into the corridor and take skates off out there.

Club Uniform–All skaters should wear either club polos or club leotards for classes. They are £8 for children's sizes and £10 for adult sizes.

Knee Pads – We would encourage all skaters to wear knee pads for lessons. The preferred type is the soft, volleyball style pad available from Decathlon/Amazon/Ebay.

Tuck Shop - We sell coffee/tea/hot chocolate& water upstairs for 50p. All money raised will go towards organising something for the skaters e.g. a party, bowling, cinema trip etc. We would appreciate it if parents could take turns helping to make the teas and coffees.

Boot Covers - For those who borrow our skates, please can you make sure you wear boot covers to protect them. We provide black boot covers however if you are looking for something a bit "funkier" check out eBay. And for those who can sew, you could even have a go at making some yourself!

Volunteers - We always need help collecting money, cleaning skates, sorting out the skate cupboard, giving out leaflets to advertise our classes, you may even decide to train to have a go at coaching! If you have a bit of time and would like to help, please speak to one of our coaches.

Resigning your membership - Please let us know if you / your child wants to resign your membership. We understand that skating is not for everyone, or circumstances change and you might not be able to make it anymore.

Facebook group Don't forget to join our private Facebook group for members (not to be confused with our public Facebook Page which is for the whole world to see!)