



Changes to RDT (Region Development Team) Effective September 1, 2013

Over the last several years, each region has organized their own Region Development Team (RDT) for interested skaters at the STAR 2 level and higher. As a team member, skaters have been eligible to receive written feedback from judges at a competition, participate in region sponsored seminars and attend the RDT Camp in Kelowna each spring. Upon review of this program and the entire Skater Development structure, the Section has decided to change how some programs are delivered, RDT included.

What Has Changed

Each region is now responsible for delivering their own grassroots development programs.

If a region still wants to organize interested skaters and call their group the RDT they may, or they may simply offer seminars and other activities to any interested skaters. Our regions have organized development days in the past and will continue to do so. Regions are welcomed and encouraged to offer any other events or programs to their skaters as they see fit. Our objective is to work with our regions to help them develop and improve their programs to provide fun and skill enhancing opportunities locally.

Judges will no longer provide evaluations at competitions.

There are several opportunities to connect with officials to assist skaters without writing formal evaluations. As the new STAR system provides report cards for STAR 1-4, skaters already receive detailed feedback each time they perform. The Section also offers a feedback service at Super Series events where our top officials can provide in depth evaluations from both judging and technical perspectives. Judges and technical officials will continue to be available to provide feedback informally at competitions.

The Kelowna Camp will be for qualified STAR 4 skaters and higher.

Many skaters have fond memories of their time at the Kelowna Camp and this special event will continue. Skaters at the STAR 4 and higher levels will now need to meet a minimum qualifying score in order to attend. These scores, which will be communicated this fall, are very attainable and are designed to encourage skaters to strive for excellence and improve their skills over a season. Skaters which meet or exceed the eligible score will receive an invitation from the Section to attend the camp. As in the past, attendees will be required to pay a fee to attend the camp.

The types of development opportunities we offer our skaters must be geared to their level of skating. Our entry level figure skaters should be focusing on improving their skills and connecting with other skaters in their own communities and region. For those skaters in STAR 2 and STAR 3 wishing to gain experience outside of their region and challenge their skills, we recommend they consider attending the STARSkate Final Competition which will be held in Kelowna, March 7-9, 2014. Increasing the minimum level for the Kelowna Camp to STAR 4 will also allow us to offer development opportunities for more of our higher level STARSkate and Competitive stream skaters.

Other Skater Development Initiatives

The BC/YK Section is committed to improving grassroots skating in all our skating communities. Our Executive Director, Ted Barton, Directors of Development, Jamie McGrigor and Steve Muff, and others will continue to visit clubs and regions across our section to provide guidance in coaching and club management. We are also exploring new ways we can deliver information and educational programs via our website and on-line broadcasting. If your club is interested in receiving a consultation please go to www.skatinginbc.com and the Clubs page.

For more information on development camps and other fun skating events in your region, please check out your region's website:

BC Coast <http://www.skatebccoast.com/>

Vancouver Island <http://www3.telus.net/viregion/>

Okanagan <http://okregion.homestead.com/>

Kootenay <http://www.skatekootenayregion.ca/Kootenay-Region/Welcome.html>

CNCR <http://www.skatecncr.com/>

For upcoming events, skater development programs and information please go to www.skatinginbc.com or call (604) 205-6960.