



## Volunteering with the SLSSC

The Saskatoon Lions Speed Skating Club (SLSSC) is made up of more than just skaters! SLSSC includes skaters, coaches, a Board of Directors, and **VOLUNTEERS!**

The SLSSC is committed to fostering an environment that values people who voluntarily offer their services in the activities of the club (adopted from Speed Skating Canada Volunteer Policy) and relies heavily on our volunteers. We have required **3,000+ volunteer hours** each year, to successfully manage the programs, competitions, and events that we run.

## Why should one volunteer?

- > Allows our club to successfully continue to operate year after year
- > Learn more about the sport of speed skating
- > Meet other parents and officials
- > It's fun to be a part of an event
- > It's rewarding to contribute
- > Often provides a prime viewing location
- > Makes time pass quickly at a meet
- > Helps keep speed skating registration fees manageable

## How to Volunteer

A variety of volunteer opportunities will be offered throughout the season. These opportunities will be communicated to our members via email notification from **SLSSC Communications**, and/or through **Slack** - our communication platform.

It is quick and easy to sign up, and we advise you to sign up early to have the most choices available for tasks and shifts being offered. A confirmation email will be provided, and due to the nature of the program there may be possible changes or added information, so additional emails may follow.

Our main need for volunteers is on the days of hosted speed skating meets & competitions, but we understand the struggle of multi children or other commitments. There are also opportunities that can be done leading up to a meet, while your child skates, and right following a meet. We also offer several volunteering opportunities throughout the season to help with the operations of our club, as well as various programs and events being run.

## Volunteer Requirements

Like all sports organizations, speed skating relies heavily on volunteers to successfully meet the demands of the sport. Members of the SLSSC are required to volunteer each season. Please refer to our registration fee structure and charts, for volunteering requirements and max volunteer credits that can be earned back toward registration fees for each skating group.

## Tracking Hours

Our **SLSSC Director of Volunteers** will keep track of volunteering hours through the season, but it is the responsibility of the skating families to ensure the volunteer hours are correctly recorded. Volunteer hours are calculated to the end of the season (end of March).

## Speed Skating Meets & Competitions

It takes a lot of volunteers to plan and execute a successful speed skating meet or competition. Our skaters rely on our volunteers! A list of volunteering opportunities can be found below. For quite a few volunteer positions, no previous experience is needed, while some do require past experience. This will be marked on the sign-up sheet. **One important thing to note is;** although it might feel intimidating to sign up to volunteer for a position, there will be experienced people there to train you and help you feel comfortable with it!

Volunteers are encouraged to attend a **Level One Officials Clinic** prior to working at a sanctioned meet (if offered/available). Info on the clinic will be communicated by email if/when scheduled. We will also have training opportunities for various positions during our club practice **mini meets**.

## Meet/Competition Opportunities

In order for our club to successfully run competitions and provide the best experience possible for attending skaters and families, we require a large number of volunteers. Volunteering for competitions can occur through being involved with the planning committee, volunteering through officials' roles, and volunteering through the large number of roles prior to, during, and following the event.

Here are some of the volunteer roles (official and volunteer) required for meets/competitions:

- Meet Coordinator
- Referee
- Starter
- Recorder
- Office Staff
- Timer – electronic & manual
- Place Judge
- Clerk of the Course
- Whip
- Lap Counter
- Track Steward
- Runner
- Announcer
- Mat setup and takedown
- Food services for our officials and volunteers
- Photographer
- Fundraising

## Non-Competition Opportunities

Our club also offers many opportunities for volunteering through the season (outside of hosting meets/competitions). These opportunities are key to the successful operation of our club and sport.

Here are some examples of non-competition volunteering opportunities:

- Skate rental (assisting with skate rental distribution)
- Coaching & on ice helpers (parents and skaters interested in coaching or being an on-ice helper will be supported by a trained coach)
- Installation of track dots and start and finish lines in our short track rinks, installation of lines in our oval for long track, flooding shifts and installation of mesh in the ice at our oval, moving of our short track mats to and from rinks as required.
- Committee member for a club hosted event.
- Equipment maintenance (skate sharpening, mat repair, etc.)
- Event assistant/volunteer (for club hosted events such as club socials, annual year end & awards windup, events such as mini meets and hosted camps, and other events as needed)

## Exceptions

- The setup and takedown of short track rink mats for club practices **does not** count toward volunteer credit. This is an absolute necessity for training and the safety of our skaters. Parent volunteers are required to assist with this task each practice night.
- Our club provides food for our volunteers, officials, and coaches during our hosted local meets; donating food for official's snacks and lunches **does not** count for volunteer credit. We do however appreciate all donations.
- Volunteering at non-SLSSC events **does not** qualify for volunteer credit.