



We are pleased to announce the 3rd annual Central Minnesota Basic Skills Competition Series; an exciting skating opportunity for the basic skills level skater. The Central Minnesota Basic Skills Competition Series is sponsored equally by the St. Cloud Figure Skating Club, Diamond Edge Figure Skating Club of Willmar, Alexandria Figure Skating Club, and new to the series this year, the Fergus Falls Figure Skating Club. This is a United States Figure Skating approved Basic Skills Competition Series with the approval posted in each participating arena. Competition announcements and packages are available through all participating figure skating clubs and/via the club websites or www.centralminnesotaseries.com. Each competition has its own entry forms – so please make sure to read the entire announcement for details. Questions regarding this series can be directed to any of the contacts listed below.

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of this competition is to promote an enjoyable, introductory, competitive experience for the beginning skater and develop their USFS basic skills in a fun environment.

EVENTS TO TAKE PLACE AT:

<p style="text-align: center;">EVENT #1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Diamond Edge Figure Skating Club</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Date: Saturday, January 14, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.diamondedgefsc.com PO Box 204, Willmar, MN 56201</p> <p>Contacts: Beth @ 320-214-0122 or Sue @ 320-599-4498 Or email diamondedgefsc@hotmail.com</p> <p>Competition Application Deadline: December 17, 2011</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Willmar Civic Center 2707 Arena Drive, Willmar, MN 56201 Rink Measures: 200 ft x 85 ft</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EVENT #2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Granite City Basic Skills Competition</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Date: Saturday, February 4, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.stcloudfsc.com PO Box 1401, St. Cloud, MN 56302</p> <p>Contact: Lori Stuart @ 320-260-2285 Or email lstuart@rogersbenefit.com</p> <p>Competition Application Deadline: January 1, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">St. Cloud Municipal Athletic Complex – MAC 5001 Veterans Dr., St. Cloud, MN 56303 Rink Measures: 200 ft x 85 ft</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">EVENT #3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fergus Falls Basic Skills Competition</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Date: Saturday, March 3, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.fergusfallsskatingclub.com 11640 150th Ave, Campbell, MN 56522.</p> <p>Contact: Laura Schwarz @ 218-770-5116 Or email ls_sk8er@hotmail.com</p> <p>Competition Application Deadline: February 4, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fergus Falls Community Arena 502 Friberg Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Rink Measures: 200 ft x 85 ft</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EVENT #4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Battle of the Blades</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Alexandria Figure Skating Club</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date: Saturday, March 17, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.alexandriafigureskating.org P. O. Box 471, Alexandria, MN 56308</p> <p>Contacts: Melinda Fults @ 320-304-2849 Or Email gfults@getel.net</p> <p>Competition Application Deadline: February 18, 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Runestone Community Center 802 Third Ave West, Alexandria, MN 56308 Rink Measures: 200 ft x 85 ft</p>

Entry into the Series is optional and not a requirement to participate by any of the hosting clubs competitions. However, to be included in the Series and season end awards ceremony you must be a Series participant and pay a one-time fee of \$20. You may enter the Series at any point during the season however; your points will not begin to accumulate until this fee is recorded.

FREE SKATE AND ELEMENTS/COMPULSORY PROGRAM SERIES POINT SYSTEM: A skater must be registered with the CMBSC Series to be eligible for accumulating points. Each event will have a maximum of six skaters.

The system for scoring points for the series trophies will be as follows:

1 st place	6 points
2 nd place	5 points
3 rd place	4 points
4 th place	3 points
5 th place	2 points
6 th place	1 point

A skater will earn three points toward their overall standing for each level of advancement throughout the duration of the series. In order to be awarded the extra three points he/she must compete in that level in at least one competition. The points for skaters moving up divisions will be awarded at the end of the series in Alexandria at the conclusion of Battle of the Blades on March 17, 2012. You need not be present at the season end ceremony to receive your award.

If an event has 2-6 skaters, the points will be awarded as if there were six skaters in the group. If there is only one skater in the group, that skater will be awarded three points.

All points follow the skater throughout the series, so if a skater moves up to higher levels, the points follow the skater. Once a skater moves up a level, they may not compete at a lower level.

Series trophies will be awarded 1st through 3rd place in each level from Snowplow Sam through test levels. 4th -6th place will receive a participating trophy. The series trophies will be awarded to the skaters at their level as of the last competition in the series. (Also see "Awards" below).

ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR PARTICIPANTS: The Competition is open to ALL skaters who are current eligible (ER.100) members of either the Basic Skills Program and/or are full members of U.S. Figure Skating. To be eligible, skaters must have submitted a membership application or be a member in good standing. Members of other organizations are eligible to compete but must be registered with the host Basic Skills Program/Club or any other Basic Skills Program/Club.

Eligibility will be based on skill level as of closing date of entries. **All Snowplow Sam and Basic Skills Skaters through Basic 8 must skate at highest level passed and NO official U.S. figure skating tests may have been passed including MIF or Individual Dances.** For the Free skate 1 – 6, Test Track and Well Balanced levels, eligibility will be based only upon highest free skate test level passed (moves in the field test level will not determine skater's competitive level). Skaters may skate at highest level passed OR one level higher BUT not both levels in the same event during the same competition. Skaters will be broken into groups by age to all extents possible. Males and females may, or may not, be placed in the same group.

RULES: The competition will be conducted under the rules set forth by the US Figure Skating "Basic Skills Competition Manual" program.

ENTRIES AND FEES: All entries must be postmarked no later than the deadline date noted for each event (see cover page of this announcement and/or individual registration forms per site). Space may be limited by site so please get your registrations in early. Late entries will be accepted if space permits, with a \$25 late penalty. Entry fees are per person, U.S. dollars. The first event is \$35; second event \$20; and third event \$15. NO refunds after closing date unless event is canceled by the hosting club. Each site has its own registration form and one must be completed for each of the site competitions being entered.

Entry into the Series is optional and not a requirement to participate by any of the hosting clubs. However, to be included in the Series and season end awards ceremony in Alexandria on March 17, 2012, you must be a Series participant and pay a one-time fee of \$20. You may enter the Series at any point during the season however; your points will not begin to accumulate until this fee is recorded. Each hosting club registration form will have a space to enter the Series and/or a check-box for those already apart of the Series so points are tracked accordingly. Please note **ENTRY FORMS MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND LEGIBLY** and returned with a check made payable to the hosting club. There will be a fee for returned checks.

AWARDS: All competitors will receive an award at each of the four hosting sites. All events are final rounds with awards handed out at appropriate times throughout the competition and a podium available for group and individual photos.

During the competition season, skaters will have the chance to compete at four different arenas and earn points for a final standing. Skaters' points from their top three performances will be calculated to determine Series placement. Series trophies will be awarded at the conclusion of the Central Minnesota Basic Skills Competition Series to the skaters with the highest point totals.

A traveling team trophy will be awarded to the figure skating club with the most entries throughout the Series. This is open to any figure skating club who wishes to participate and is not limited to the four hosting sites. The current team trophy holder is the Watertown Figure Skating Club of Watertown, SD, for having the most series participants during the 2010/2011 skating season.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: Information regarding groups and skating times will be emailed to you *or* mailed if you provide a self-addressed stamped envelope. Event schedules will be posted on each hosting clubs website within a week prior to the competition.

PRACTICE ICE: Practice Ice will be available at each of the hosting sites. Details are provided by site on the attached registration forms and/or will be provided by email, in a mailing, or on the hosts' website prior to each of the competition dates.

MUSIC: The music for all free skating programs and showcase must be provided on CD's by the skater. CD's should contain only one track of the competition music, be clearly marked with the name of the skater, event entered and length of music (not skating time). Due to compatibility and reliability reasons re-recordable (**CD/RW**) discs will not be accepted. The official competition music must be turned in at the registration table at the time of check-in. Time duration is always +/- 10 seconds. CDs must be clean and in a jewel case. A duplicate tape/CD should be readily available at all event times requiring music. Music may be picked up at the registration table following each event **AND NOT BEFORE**. Competition CDs may not be "borrowed" from Registration for practice ice. Every reasonable care will be taken, but hosting clubs cannot be responsible for CDs left at the end of the competition.

VIDEO TAPING AND PHOTOGRAPHS: Personal photography and videotaping may be done of your skater(s). No parents/spectators will be allowed within the judges' area of the rink.

REGISTRATION: The registration table at each location will be open 1 hour before the competition begins. Skaters will not be allowed to compete until they have registered. *Please register at least 30 minutes before your competition time.*

It is very important to the success of the series that skaters are placed in the correct divisions. If, for whatever reason, the local organizing committee discovers that a skater has been placed in a category that is below their class level, the chair and referee will have the option to move the skater to the proper division, even if this has to be done the day of the competition. This will ensure that every event is as fair as possible to the competitors.

QUESTIONS ?: Your questions and concerns are important to us so please feel free to get in touch with any of the contacts listed regarding individual competitions or participation in the Series. You can visit our website at www.centralminnesotaseries.com or contact any of the following Series organizers:

Lakes Area Classic: Beth Fischer 320-214-0122 / Sue Kidrowski 320-599-4498
Or Email diamondedgefsc@hotmail.com

Granite City Basic Skills: Lori Stuart 320-260-2285
Or Email lstuart@rogersbenefit.com

Fergus Falls Basic Skills: Laura Schwarz 218-770-5116
Or Email ls_sk8er@hotmail.com

Battle of the Blades: Melinda Fults 320-304-2849
Or Email gmfults@getel.net