



For NEW skaters only!

Frequently Asked Questions

What type of outfit should I wear to skating class?

The temperature in the arena is typically 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Your outfit should be warm, yet lightweight and close-fitting to allow for easy and safe movement. Baggy clothes and bulky snowsuits are not a good idea. Layers are best.

Make sure you wear:

- * Long sleeves
- * Gloves or mittens
- * Snug-fitting helmet or hat

Appropriate attire for young beginners is:

- * Warm-up suit
- * Slacks and sweater or lightweight jacket
- * Skating outfit

What about skates?

Rental skates are available at the front desk for a nominal fee (ask about our Discount Skate Rental Card) and are adequate for Tot and Beginner lessons. Children's sizes run about the same as shoes, while adult skate sizes run larger than shoe size. When trying on rental skates for the first time, remember that skates should fit snugly. The skate should fit like an outgrown gym shoe. Regardless of your long-range skating goals, remember that it's easiest to first learn on figure skates. Once you've got good balance and control, you can move on to hockey or speed skates. If you decide to purchase your own skates, our pro shop carries the Softec which we highly recommend.

Where does my class meet?

Most beginner classes are conducted on the Studio Arena. Parents and spectators are to observe the classes from the lobby. Spectators are not allowed in the studio to avoid distracting the students. On your first day of class, you may be directed to the Meeting Room for some off-ice instruction. During Main Arena classes, spectators are welcome in the bleacher area.

When can I practice?

As a beginner, it's important to learn to feel comfortable on the ice. The more time spent on the ice, the easier it is to accomplish this. As you progress, it is also important to practice so that you advance to the next level in our Skating School program. You can practice your skating skills at:

- * Public Skating Sessions*
- * FREE Skating School Practices**
- * Paid Freestyle Practices (with private instructor only)***

Remember, every skater is different and progresses at his/her own rate. Often, skaters will need to repeat a class before advancing to the next level. Don't be discouraged if your child/you need to repeat a level.

What about the ice shows?

ALL of our current students, including our Tot 1, Beginner, Everyone Skate and Adults, may participate in both the Holiday Recital and our Spring Show. Registration for the Holiday Recital is at the same time as registration for Session One and continues through the first week of classes. Registration for the Spring Show is during the months of December and January and requires skaters to be enrolled in Sessions Two and Three of Skating School. There is a separate fee for each show.

Where can I find the most current information about classes and events?

The Franklin Park Ice Arena publishes its Program Schedule--one for each session of classes. All classes, clinics and upcoming event registrations are included in this publication. Our website (fpice.com) also has this information available. Additionally, there are bulletin boards located throughout the lobby for Skating School programs and in the main arena for Hockey. It is helpful to check these on a regular basis. As part of the "green" philosophy of the Park District of Franklin Park, many of these publications will not be printed and handed out to customers; but rather be displayed on our lobby bulletin boards and available for viewing/printing at our website fpice.com.

Who should I talk to if I have any other questions?

Our friendly front desk staff is available to help you from 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. seven days a week. For questions specific to a class, please fill out an Instructor Question Form or contact the arena staff during the day at 847-671-4268.

2007-08

***Public Skating Sessions** are conducted on the Main Arena:

- Admission is \$5.00 (\$4.50 with Residency Pass)
- Skate rental is \$2 * Discount Skate Rental Card is \$20 for 15 rentals
- Schedules are available in the Franklin Park Ice Arena Programs and Services Guide, at the front desk and on our website (fpice.com)

****Skating School practices** are generally on the Studio Arena:

- Admission is FREE
- Practices are open only to *current* skating school students; no chaperones allowed
- Schedules are available in the Franklin Park Ice Arena Program Schedule, at the front desk and on our website (fpice.com)

*****Freestyle Practices** (figure skating practices) are conducted on the Main Arena;

- Fees are \$4.00-\$7.00 depending on payment option used
- Private lessons are allowed on all Freestyle practices
- Beginning through Beta skaters are allowed only with a private instructor; but may purchase some select half hour sessions for \$4
- Most participants are Gamma through advanced freestyle skaters
- Freestyle Schedules are posted on the bulletin board near the main arena doors and are available at the front desk and on our website (fpice.com).

Park District
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Ice Arena



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