



**ICELAND'S  
SKATE SCHOOL UPDATE  
58TH EDITION / FALL 2024-P1**



Join us for one of your favorite IceLand events!

**Scary Skate!!**

Come join us October 26th from 12:30-1:45.

Prizes, Games, Tricks, & Treats!

**Come dressed in your Halloween Best!**

Goody Bags will be given out to the first 75 paid children.

Entry Fee \$13.00 Skate Rental \$5.00

*\*LTS Red Cards may not be used for special events like Scary Skate.\**



**“Santa’s Hollyday Follies” —  
2024 Holiday Ice Show:**

**Sign up to perform in the show TODAY!  
Registration accepted through 10/19/24.  
All Ages! All Levels!**

Show dates are December 14th at 6:30pm and 15th at 12:30pm.

Tickets on sale 11/1/24.

\$10 per person + a non-perishable food item or new unwrapped toy to benefit Niles Family Services.

**We hope you are ready to join us in spreading some Holiday Cheer!**

**Learn to Skate Classes Upcoming Class Evaluations**

Saturday Class Evaluations begin: 11/18/23

Monday Class Evaluations begin: 10/30/23

Thursday Class Evaluations begin: 12/7/23

Registration Opens for the 2024 Winter Session on 11/6/23.

No classes 10/31 or 11/22-11-25.



**The holiday season is upon us and Team IceLand is collecting donations of new, unopened toys and non-perishable food items. Help us help others in the community.**

**Donation boxes will be located in the rink lobby from 11/1/24 to 12/16/24.**

**Important Dates:**

**11/1/24—Early Bird Spring Ice Show Registration Opens**

**11/6/23—Registration for the Winter Session opens for those skaters currently enrolled in classes.**

**12/14 and 12/15 Santa’s Hollyday Follies Ice Show**

**12/15 Santa Skate**

**1/6/25—Winter Learn to Skate Classes begin.**

**Private Lessons:**

If you are interested in private lessons for your child, please email our Skating Director Amy Forbes, at [afortbes@niles-parks.org](mailto:afortbes@niles-parks.org)

Private lessons can help your child progress faster and give them the opportunity to participate in more, such as recitals and competitions. Contact us for more info!





## ICELAND'S SKATE SCHOOL UPDATE 58TH EDITION / FALL 2024-P2



Parents often ask how long they should expect their skaters to be in a skating class level. We thought our newsletter would be a great opportunity to address this question.

There are several factors one should consider when asking this question. Additionally, keeping in mind how much time a skater may learn, practice, or study for other subjects or activities, should be kept in mind.

For example, children spend just about everyday of the school year practicing to read or do math problems and yet still may need more practice. Skating is no different. It take time to master skills. Skating is unique because many things can really only be practiced while on the ice. You simply cannot practice most skating elements while at home.

One factor to consider is a skater's time on the ice. In a ten week class session, in a 30 minute class, skaters are only on the ice a total of 5 hours if they achieve perfect attendance. Five hours is really not enough time to master much of anything. Skating requires complex coordination and balance. For the skater who only comes to their skating class once per week and never comes to practice, there should be an expectation that each level will take approximately one skating season. We consider our skating season to align with the school year, September through June. This means that a skater may need to repeat a level three or more times. With the higher levels, a skater may need even more time especially if they are only skating one time per week.

Skaters who want to make progress faster and learn more skills would need to practice more, perhaps take more than one class per week, or start private lessons.

Practice can be done on the public skate sessions. All skaters in a leveled class do receive the red public skate cards which affords them the opportunity to practice at least 10 times within their class session. Additionally, they can practice more by coming to additional public skate sessions and paying for those. If skaters really love to come to public skate, perhaps buying a public skate pass in December might be worth it.

As mentioned previously, skaters who really want to learn more quickly and advance in skating should consider taking private lessons. Many children take piano lessons, violin lessons, or tutoring for school, and the same is true for skating. Information is available about private lessons in the rink, by asking any instructor for the information, or emailing our skating director at [aforbes@niles-parks.org](mailto:aforbes@niles-parks.org). Skaters have lessons before and after school or early in the morning on Saturdays. Limited private lessons are available on some public skate sessions too based on the skaters level and the coaches availability.

Generally speaking, skaters will get out what they put in! Practice makes progress. There is no way to cut corners in skating, as all skills build upon one another. Never get caught up on the name of a level but on skills gained. For some skaters, it can be quick while others may need a little more time and practice. The best this thing to do is what is best for YOUR skater, YOUR time, YOUR goals. Practice will not hurt anyone. Everyone can feel like they are making accomplishments in skating with patience, time, and commitment.