

# Private Lesson & Practice Policies

## FREESTYLE PRACTICES

The following right-of-way order is to ensure safety for all skaters on the ice and is in effect during all freestyle practice sessions.

- 1st priority: Skater skating their program (wearing vest)
- 2nd priority: Skater in a private lesson
- 3rd priority: Skater entering a spin or jump

It is common etiquette to make an extra effort to stay out of the way of priority skaters. All skaters who accidentally run into each other or cut each other off are encouraged to say "I'm sorry" or excuse themselves in a polite manner, even if it is possible that the other person is more at fault. It shows graciousness, maturity, and mutual respect. We have many different levels of skaters that share the same ice. *Keep moving!* If you feel the need to stop and talk to another skater, you must move next to the boards. Look where you are going at all times! Wearing headphones during Freestyle sessions is discouraged because the wearer cannot hear the music being played or verbal warnings of dangerous situations.

### **High versus Low Freestyle Sessions...**

Skaters who have not passed Freestyle 3 may be given permission by the Manager or Skating School Director to skate the High Freestyle sessions when special circumstances make this the safer option.

Skaters who have passed Freestyle 3 should skate during the High Freestyle sessions, only.

#### **Exceptions to this policy are:**

- (1) Skater is very young and/or small in stature, and their safety would be a concern in a high freestyle session. **These skaters may practice Freestyle 4 and up skills while in a private lesson and may skate higher Freestyle programs when their music is being played.**
- (2) Skater is a part of an ensemble, couples, or other group number with younger and/or lower level skaters.
- (3) Skater is working on a Freestyle 3 or lower level program for a competition or a show.

**A skater who has passed Freestyle 3** is not allowed to practice higher level skills that would endanger the safety of the younger, less skilled skaters **except while in a private lesson, while their program music is being played, or while rehearsing the ensemble, couples, or other group number** (i.e., they may perform the higher level skill only if their music is being played and thus the other skaters are alerted to the need to stay out of their way).

**A skater who has not passed Freestyle 3** may only practice higher level skills during the low freestyle practices **when they are in a private lesson or when they have a mature "spotter"** watching them and the ice around them for the safety of younger, less skilled skaters.

## PUBLIC SESSIONS

Private lessons may be conducted during *uncrowded*, public sessions with the following considerations:

- (1) Reasonable precautions are taken to ensure the safety of less skilled skaters.
- (2) Program music may only be played when there are very few skaters on the ice (i.e., 5 or less) and the teacher takes precautions to ensure the safety of other skaters.