



## Skate Ontario Membership Policy FAQ

**Q: What is the Skate Ontario Membership Policy?**

A: The Skate Ontario Membership policy introduces an Annual Memorandum of Understanding (Annual MOU) between the Member Club/Skating School and Skate Ontario establishing a process for initiating and maintaining a well-defined relationship with Skate Ontario's Member Clubs and Skating Schools. The policy also introduces a new membership due payable to Skate Ontario by the Member Club/Skating School annually.

**Q: Who is considered a Member of Skate Ontario?**

A: Any skating club or skating school who is a Member of Skate Canada with an address registered in the Province of Ontario is a Member of Skate Ontario.

**Q: How do I become a Member of Skate Ontario? Is being a Member of Skate Ontario optional?**

A: No, it is not optional. If your club or skating school is located within the Province of Ontario and you are a Member of Skate Canada you are automatically a Member of Skate Ontario. Clubs and skating schools are granted membership to Skate Ontario via Skate Canada as described in Skate Canada Bylaw 8.3;

Skate Canada Bylaw 8.3 Affiliations with a Section shall be considered as follows:

- i. each club and skating school in Good Standing with its registered address being within a particular province or territory shall be a Member with the applicable Provincial/Territorial Sport Organization;

and as further defined in Skate Ontario by-law 1.2 (m);

Skate Ontario Bylaw 1.2 m) *Member* – means a club or skating school located within the Province of Ontario registered with the Corporation (Skate Ontario) and with Skate Canada pursuant to the provisions of these By-laws that is compliant with the Governing Documents and whose membership has not been terminated in accordance with the Act and these By-laws.

**Q: How do I register my club or skating school as a Member of Skate Ontario?**

A: To register as a Member of Skate Ontario a club or skating school must register with Skate Canada and list their location as an address from within the Province of Ontario.

**Q: Who does this policy apply to?**

A: This policy applies to all Skate Canada clubs and skating schools operating within the Province of Ontario.

**Q: Does this policy apply to me if I am applying to be a brand new club or skating school?**

A: Yes. This policy applies to brand new clubs and skating schools too. Effective September 1, 2023 the membership due for the first season of a new club or skating school is \$250. This fee is non-refundable and is due at the time of application.



**Q: How is the annual membership due calculated?**

A: Annual membership dues are calculated based on a per skater fee for the number of skaters registered from September 1 to August 31 of the previous membership year.

**Q: How will the membership due be calculated for my Member Club or Skating School if we were not active the last few seasons?**

A: The membership due will be calculated using the number of skaters registered in the last membership year that the Member Club or Skating School was active.

**Q: What is the per skater fee for 2023-24?**

A: No membership fee will be charged in 2023-24. Skate Canada announced a Section Registrant Fee increase of \$5 (to \$25) for the 2023-24 season that will be collected through the existing registration process. This replaces the Skate Ontario member fee of \$5 per skater from the previous registration year for the 2023-24 registration year.

**Q: How is the per skater fee determined?**

A: The Skate Ontario Board of Directors will review and set the per skater fee for the upcoming season every February moving forward.

**Q: Why do we need to have a Skate Ontario Membership Policy?**

A: A well-defined relationship between the Member Club/Skating School and Skate Ontario provides increased accountability to both parties. A formalized membership memorandum of understanding (MOU) provides a mechanism for increased transparency, identification of governance issues and an enhanced commitment to safe sport. Member Clubs/Skating Schools receive access to resources, education, and support that will make understanding their responsibilities as a sport organization easier.

The Skate Ontario Membership Policy is part of a larger strategy to add stability to the organization by reducing reliance on Government funding helping to ensure sustainability of the continued investment into a robust, progressive, and innovative offering of services and benefits to our valued Members.

**Q: What are the Member services and benefits that my club or skating school has access to as a Member of Skate Ontario?**

A: Members deemed to be in Good Standing are eligible to participate in all Skate Ontario activities including but not limited to:

- Registrants of Member Clubs/Skating Schools are eligible to participate in Skate Ontario sanctioned events, training and education sessions, clinics and other Skate Ontario hosted functions.
- Members can participate in the Ontario Skaters Promotional Contest as a fundraiser for their club/skating school.
- Members have access to the Skate Ontario Members Portal to create a profile and house important club records to assist with succession and records management.



- Members have access to exclusive resources housed within the Skate Ontario Members Portal to assist with club/skating school governance and operations.
- Members have access to consultations and support regarding both Governance & Operations and Skating Programs from the Skate Ontario Club and Skating School Services team.
- Members can be recognized via Skate Ontario's CanSkate Excellence program.
- Members are eligible to bid on hosting Skate Ontario sanctioned events and clinics.
- Members have access to monthly Presidents Club meetings.
- Members have access to training and education sessions.
- Members have access to special promotions and services via Skate Ontario partners and sponsors

**Q: How will it work?**

A: Member Clubs and Skating Schools will receive an annual MOU and invoice for each season they are an active Member with Skate Canada and Skate Ontario starting September 1, 2023. The MOU and invoice will be generated by Skate Ontario's finance team and sent by email to the email address associated with the Skate Canada registration for the Member Club/Skating School. Members in good standing will receive access to all services, support, and events offered by Skate Ontario. No invoice will be generated for the 2023-24 season.

**Q: What date will my Member Club or Skating School receive their MOU and invoice?**

A: Shortly after your registration with Skate Canada is complete and your club or skating school is showing as an active Member for the 2023-24 season in the Skate Canada database Skate Ontario's finance team will prepare your MOU and invoice. No invoice for membership dues will be generated for the 2023-24 registration year.

**Q: What if we are offering less or different programming this year and the number of registered skaters will be vastly different from the last registration year?**

A: It's understood that there is likely going to be some variance in number of registered skaters year over year. If there is a large discrepancy the Member Club or Skating School can contact Derek Ventnor ([dventnor@skateontario.org](mailto:dventnor@skateontario.org)) to discuss.

**Q: Where can I find more information about the Skate Ontario Membership Policy?**

A: The policy can be found on the Skate Ontario website here: <https://skateontario.org/policies/>. It is also posted inside the Members Portal.

**Q: I have questions not answered here. Who can I contact?**

A: Derek Ventnor, Chief Operating Officer ([dventnor@skateontario.org](mailto:dventnor@skateontario.org))  
Kate McNeil, Manager, Club and Skating School Services ([kmcneil@skateontario.org](mailto:kmcneil@skateontario.org))