

# Winchester Figure Skating Club

P.O. Box 1093  
Burlington, MA 01803  
www.winchesterfsc.com



## Spring 2017 Newsletter

### End-of-Year Exhibition

Please save the date for the Club's annual End-of-Year Exhibition and Celebration, to be held on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00. We invite all Club members to perform their program for families, friends, and other members. Sign-up sheets for the exhibition will be posted a week or two prior to the event.

As a token of the Board's appreciation of WFSC skaters and families, the event will be catered this year. So, please bring your appetites! More information will be emailed and posted closer to the date.

### Membership Announcement for 2017-18

The Board would like to thank its members who faithfully supported WFSC through the years – especially during the Club's financially difficult times of a few years ago. The Club is now in a much more secure place with a bright future ahead! As such, the Board voted to lower the annual membership fee for its Full Members.

For the 2017-18 skating year, Full Membership fees will drop to \$175. And, for skaters who take advantage of the Early Bird discount, Full Membership will be only \$150!

Please see page 4 of this newsletter for more details on renewal.

### WFSC Graduating Senior

The Winchester Figure Skating Club Board would like to congratulate member Noelle Romano who will be graduating high school this spring. This talented skater is about to embark on an exciting new phase of her life. Please see the Senior Spotlight section of this newsletter to learn about Noelle's skating memories and future plans!

### Important Dates

- 5/29/17 No Ice due to Memorial Day
- 6/22/17 End-of-Year Exhibition and Celebration 4:00-6:00
- 6/22/17 Session 3 ends
- 6/26/17 WFSC MIF/FS Test Session

### Coupons

As a friendly reminder, coupons are like cash. The Club cannot replace lost coupons. We suggest writing your skater's name on the coupons as soon as you receive them.

### Updates



Follow "Winchester FSC at the Burlington Ice Palace" for the latest news and rink closure updates.



### Mission Statement

The goal of the Club is to:

- Provide a safe, welcoming, and friendly skating environment,
- Foster, promote, encourage, advance, and improve figure skating,
- Encourage and cultivate a spirit of harmony among figure skaters.

# Senior SPOTLIGHT

## *Noelle Romano*

**Q.** What are your plans for after graduation?

**A.** After graduating from Shawsheen Valley Technical High School, I plan to further my education at Middlesex Community College to become an ultrasound technician.

**Q.** Do you plan to continue to skate after high school?

**A.** I currently do not have any plans to continue to skate after high school unless it is just for fun.

**Q.** What other activities have you been involved with, other than skating?

**A.** Other activities I've been involved in throughout my skating years have been dancing and softball and volunteering with BHSA.

**Q.** When did you first start skating?

**A.** I first started skating in BHSA's learn-to-skate program when I was four years old.

**Q.** What is your favorite skating memory or biggest skating accomplishment?

**A.** My favorite skating memory is when I was first learning to skate and wearing a snowsuit that I could barely move in. My biggest skating accomplishment is when I landed my axel and double Salchow.

**Q.** What is your favorite skating move?

**A.** My favorite skating move is definitely a sit spin.



**Q.** Is there anything else you would like to share?

**A.** I would like to thank my mom and dad for everything they have done for me the last 14 years. I wouldn't have done it without them. I really enjoyed being a part of WFSC and BHSA and would also like to thank my coaches, Christina Welch and Amanda Dascoli, for everything they taught me.

# Spotlight on Former Member:

## *Kyleigh Gaff*



Kyleigh at the Burlington Ice Palace in April 1997

Kyleigh Gaff, a member of WFSC from 1996 to 2001, has made great strides in the world of figure skating – both on and off the ice. She now holds the position of Coordinator of Synchronized Skating at U.S. Figure Skating in Colorado Springs, CO. Thank you, Kyleigh, for sharing your story!

Kyleigh (left) and Leslie Graham, USFS Director of Synchronized Skating, at the World Synchronized Skating Championships in April 2017



### Q. What do you enjoy about most about your position at USFS?

A. Presently, I am the Coordinator of Synchronized Skating at U.S. Figure Skating. Working at USFS allows me to stay involved with a sport that has meant so much to me since the age of three. The biggest satisfaction for me is that I am able to give back to athletes like USFS did for me. It truly is something magical to see the look on a skater's face after a free skate, at what may be the biggest competition of his/her life, and remind myself that I was once in his/her skates. Being able to be a part of a growing sport at such a critical time (synchronized skating is the fastest growing discipline in figure skating) is a joy because there are so many opportunities for me.

### Q. What is most memorable to you about your time as a member of WFSC?

A. Being able to always go back to Winchester Figure Skating Club and still recognizing some coaches and skaters is memorable. I grew up at the Burlington Ice Palace and I then split my time between the Ice Palace and Skating Club of Boston. Roberta Bailey coached me from the very beginning and I would not be here without her! Even though I finished all of my freestyle and moves-in-the-field tests between 2004-2006, I knew that I could always go back to Roberta and WFSC for help and to skate on freestyle sessions. When I decided to start down the synchro path, I went immediately to Roberta and her daughter, Megan (a former WFSC member and a Haydenette), to help me with the synchro basics needed at that time - spread eagles, in a bawlers, skating inline next to someone (the BIGGEST lesson), etc. It was a whole new world for me and I learned how to do it on a WFSC freestyle session.

### Q. What has been your skating career path since leaving WFSC?

A. Since ending my time at WFSC, I became a gold medalist in freestyle and moves-in-the-field. I also have my pre-silver dances. I "stopped" being a singles skater in 2006 when I was a freshman in high school and decided to pursue synchronized skating. I started on the Junior Team, Lexettes, out of Hayden Recreation Centre FSC. During my junior and senior years of high school, I was a 2 time National Bronze Medalist and represented Team USA in Rouen, France. From there, my skating career took me to Miami University (Ohio) where I was a 4 year member of their varsity team. I was a cross-skater (meaning I skated on two teams, Junior and Collegiate), was a National Champion with the Collegiate Team my sophomore year and a captain of the Junior Team my sophomore year. My junior and senior years I skated on the Senior Team, where I was a National Bronze Medalist, a National Silver Medalist and a member of the World Team, respectively. Throughout high school and college, I taught Learn to Skate lessons. Again, a thank you to Roberta for helping me begin my coaching career! After I graduated from Miami in 2013, I stayed to become the intern at the rink, there I taught basic, intermediate, and advanced ice skating classes to college students, taught Learn to Skate, and was an assistant director in our ice shows just to name a few tasks! I did this all while getting my Masters of Science in Sport Management and Leadership. After graduating in May, 2016, the position for Coordinator of Synchronized Skating at USFS happened to be posted. I moved to Colorado Springs, CO and become the coordinator in September, 2016.

### Q. What advice would you give to someone who is considering pursuing a career in figure skating?

A. Figure skating is unique because it never leaves you. My advice to anyone pursuing a career in figure skating would be to stay involved by coaching or volunteering. Not sure you will like coaching? Ask your coach if you could shadow them for a couple of hours. Get involved with a local competition to see how the event runs from "behind the scenes." Help out at the club show by choreographing numbers. If you want to continue skating, try skating in a show professionally, such as Disney on Ice or Holiday on Ice. Giving back to this sport is what makes it so special. Do not be afraid to pursue a career in figure skating because you can always adapt to different disciplines and learn new things as you get older. If any skater would like to get involved with figure skating after high school and would like to find a college that offers an intercollegiate figure skating team or collegiate/open-collegiate synchronized skating team, please feel free to reach out to me at [kgaff@usfigureskating.org](mailto:kgaff@usfigureskating.org).



## Membership Renewal – Early Bird discount through June 22<sup>nd</sup>

WFSC membership for the 2017-18 skating year is now open for registration! The Board has voted to lower the cost of Full Membership to \$175 in order to help make full club membership more affordable for its skating families. In addition, the Club will offer a \$25 Early Bird discount on all Full, Introductory, Non-Representing, and Adult membership applications that are submitted by June 22<sup>nd</sup> – the last day of our skating season.

The Board has also decided that there will be no increases to contracted, walk-on, and coupon ice prices for the 2017-18 skating year.

As a reminder, USFS memberships expire at the end of June. If you want to test, compete, or skate on Freestyle ice over the summer, you will need an active USFS membership. Submitting your WFSC membership in June will ensure that your USFS membership will remain active through the summer.

Membership forms can be found at the WFSC website ([www.winchesterfsc.com/forms](http://www.winchesterfsc.com/forms)). Please remember to complete and return before June 22<sup>nd</sup> to take advantage of the \$25 Early Bird discount!

## Exciting Changes in 2017-18 for WFSC Volunteers

The Board is currently drafting an incentive plan to reward those WFSC families who contribute more than the required number of volunteer hours – specifically in the valuable post of ice monitor.

The plan will go into effect in September 2017. More details to be emailed during the summer!

### 2016 – 2017 Board Members

Karen Stock, President

Jodie Thomas, Secretary

Katherine Bond, Treasurer

Roberta Bailey, Pro-Liaison

Jonathan Atkinson

Amy Langridge

Ted Lim

## Board Member Opportunities

Are you curious how the Club is governed and operates?

Would you like to help shape the future of WFSC?

If so, please express your interest to one of the current Board members. Due to the impending graduation of some of our skaters, there are expected to be vacancies on the WFSC Board within the next couple of years. Now would be a great time to acquaint one or two members to the activities of the Board.

The Board meets monthly in a casual setting at Panera in Burlington and welcomes new voices and opinions!

## RESULTS FROM RECENT TESTING SESSIONS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Lily T.	Pre-Juvenile	FS	2/23/2017
Lila S.	Intermediate	MIF	2/23/2017
Rachael L.	Pre-Preliminary	MIF	2/24/2017
Rachael L.	Pre-Preliminary	FS	2/24/2017
Ani K.	Novice	FS	3/16/2017
Taylor S.	Intermediate	MIF	3/20/2017
Sophia M.	Juvenile	FS	4/7/2017
Sophia M.	Junior	MIF	4/7/2017
Abigail M.	Juvenile	FS	4/7/2017
Erin L.	Preliminary	FS	4/17/2017
Christina C.	Pre-Juvenile	FS	4/17/2017
Emma L.	Junior	MIF	4/17/2017
Abigail M.	Junior	MIF	5/5/2017

Congratulations to all  
WFSC skaters with  
recent test and  
competition  
successes!

And, best of luck  
during upcoming  
events!

## RESULTS FROM RECENT COMPETITIONS

Skating Club of Boston Basic Skills Competition, February 4, 2017

Rachael L.	Pre-Preliminary Well Balanced	Program	1 <sup>st</sup>
------------	-------------------------------	---------	-----------------