

U Shaker Summer Synchronized Skating Clinic

When: June 14-August 13th Thursday 3:30-4:30
Ages: All ages are welcome

Qualifications: Must have passed at least Freeskate 2 LTS

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What is Synchronized Skating?

Synchronized Team skating (known as precision skating prior to 1999) is currently the fastest growing figure skating discipline. Growing from a mere 10 teams in 1950 to well over 500 teams world wide.

Synchronized Skating involves a team of up to 24 skaters performing various maneuvers and formations to music of a team's own choice. Synchronized refers to the importance of unison, the accuracy of formations and the precision of the team. It is Skate Canada's only *team* sport and has quickly arisen as an innovative and dynamic sport bringing new excitement and energy to the world of figure skating.

A well balanced program contains maneuvers such as circles, lines, blocks, wheels and intersections linked together harmoniously by a variety of transitions. The skaters entertain the crowd with themes, costumes, and eye-catching choreography.

Synchronized Skating first started as a recreational sport in the United States in 1957 and become popular in Canada in the mid 1970's. In the 1980's enthusiasm for this new sport generated tremendous growth and increased competitiveness which resulted in a division into Competitive and Recreational (now called Festival) teams.

In 2003 the international decision on whether or not to add Synchronized Skating as an Olympic sport will be made. If approved, the first Olympic event would be in 2006.