



**2021-2022 Season
Synchro Try-Out
Information**

Welcome to Chicago Skates try-outs!

For more than 30 years, our synchronized skating program has maintained the tradition of involving skaters in a team sport that builds character, cooperation and commitment, as well as skating skills. Skating in this organization is based on fun and learning. We want every skater to look forward to practice, work hard and take pride in their efforts and successes. In the process, the skaters will learn how to be creative, confident, and work toward a common goal. The team will also provide individuals with opportunities to lead, as well as to support their fellow skaters.

For those who are new to the sport, synchronized skating continues to be one of the most popular disciplines in figure skating. It is already a successful collegiate sport at many colleges and universities across the country, including Northwestern University here in the Chicago area. The sport is similar to synchronized swimming, in that a team of skaters perform a program in unison. The programs include elements such as intersections, circles, lines, wheels, blocks and creative elements. The objective is to blend skating elements such as footwork and jumps and spins into these formations, so that the skaters look like one unit as they perform. It is truly a spectacular sport to watch and participate in.

The coaching staff is looking forward to a fun 2020-2021 season and has ambitious goals for our future skaters. We hope to offer an opportunity for every skater that has an interest in synchronized skating. From our introductory teams to our higher level teams, we provide a team opportunity for most ages and ability levels.

We ask that you look through the following information regarding the commitments that skaters and their families must make to the program once they are accepted to our Chicago Skates family. Each skater is a valuable member of our team, but for our program to be successful, all skaters must meet their agreed upon responsibilities. Please carefully review this packet before try-outs and feel free to email any questions to the Figure Skating Coordinator: JWard@McFetridgeSportsCenter.net

See you at try-outs!

Chicago Skates Coaching Staff

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Follow us on Instagram - @ChicagoSkates_SST

Coaching Staff

Our staff's coaching philosophy is that the work we do as a team will translate to valuable life lessons. The Chicago Skates coaching staff is committed to building better skaters *on* the ice, in order to build better youths *off* the ice. Our knowledgeable and committed coaches will teach you the skills in a program to compete at your highest level and to learn from the experience. We are dedicated to the growth of the Chicago Skates organization, the Windy City FSC, and the sport of synchronized skating.

Claire Husaynu

Coach Claire started her synchronized skating career in 2005 and has just completed her first season coaching with Chicago Skates. She is originally from the Metro Detroit area and has previously skated with Team Elan, Evolution, and Crystallettes. She earned four national medals with the Crystallettes and was a member of Team USA at the senior level before graduating high school. Claire then went on to study at Michigan State University where she was a member of the synchronized skating team all four years. She earned two national medals at the collegiate level and served as executive board treasurer her senior year. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Psychology and was brought to Chicago to pursue her Master's degree in occupational therapy. Claire is excited to be a part of the Chicago Skates family and share her passion for synchronized skating with young skaters! Coach Claire will be leading the Pre-Juvenile team with Coach Miranda.

Kathy Murphy-Coach Kathy laid her synchro roots back in 1988, when she taught a synchro skills class at McFetridge. She eventually turned the class into McFetridge's first Chicago Skates team. Kathy continued coaching Chicago Skates teams for more than 30 years. After taking a 2-year hiatus from coaching, Kathy came out of retirement for the 2011-2012 season to coach the ISI Junior Youth Formation team and will now coach our Open Juvenile team. Coach Kathy started the Chicago Skates Scholarship Fund and continues to manage and award money to Chicago Skates families that are in need.

Miranda Shaver-Miranda has been involved in synchronized skating for the past 18 years and has just completed her fifth year on the Chicago Skates coaching staff. Miranda skated on Chicago Skates for nine years before graduating from Jones and attending college. She studied at Michigan State University where she joined their synchro team. She helped MSU earn several awards in the Collegiate division including a National Bronze medal in 2014. Her senior year, she served as Treasurer on the team's executive board. She graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor Degree in Economics. Miranda is excited to share her passion and enthusiasm for the sport with the new generation of Chicago Skates. She hopes to teach her skaters the valuable lessons that the sport offers and help them grow as skaters, teammates, and individuals. Coach Miranda will be leading the Pre-Juvenile team with Coach Claire.

*We are in the process of hiring additional coaches to lead the Aspire teams (Synchro Skills). There will be no interruption in team practices for these teams.



Try-Outs

Where: McFetridge Sports Center
3843 N. California
Chicago, IL 60618
773-478-2609

When: Monday, May 17, 2021 7:35-9:35 pm

Age: Based on skater's age as of July 1, 2021

Open Juvenile - Age 19 & under, passed Pre-Juvenile MIF or higher

Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:15-6:55 pm

Age: Based on skater's age as of July 1, 2021

Pre-Juvenile – Age 17 & under, passed Pre-Preliminary MIF

Saturday, May 22, 2021 8:00-8:45 am

Age: Based on skater's age as of July 1, 2021

Aspire Beginner (Synchro Skills 1) - Age 6-9, Gamma level & up

Monday, May 24, 2021 6:15-7:15pm

Age: Based on skater's age as of July 1, 2021

Aspire Pre-Preliminary (Synchro Skills 2) - Age 10-14, FS1 & up

***Skaters will be considered for the team on which they are currently rostered, as well as any higher level team they try out for. The coaches reserve the right to assign a skater to the team for which the skater is qualified to participate. The skater's ability, experience and maturity will be taken into consideration for placement.**

*To determine which time slot you are eligible to try out for, please read the Requirements and Try-out Skills on the following pages.

*Skaters trying out for these teams will not be expected to execute every maneuver perfectly, but they are expected to attempt each maneuver to the best of their ability. Skaters will be asked to execute these skills individually and in team formations (circles, lines and blocks).

Try-Out Registration Fee

There will be skills workshops for two weeks prior to the try outs. All workshop and try out fees will be paid for online at chicagoparkdistrict.com, using the links provided in the informational email.

Try Out Registration Deadline: May 13

Try Out Fee: \$25.00

Fill out the Try Out Registration Form using the link below and submit no later than May 13:
(Please be prepared to include USFS number, if already a member)

<https://forms.gle/7QVMUpCbkoa7rQJt8>

Team Results

Placement for each skater for the 2021-2022 season will be emailed on Wednesday, May 26. **Please make sure a current email address is entered in the Try Out Registration Form.** Families are asked to respond to that email with their **Decision of Intent by Sunday, May 30.**

Mandatory Parent Information Zoom Meetings will be held in early June to discuss season schedule, skater and parent Rules & Expectations, required clothing and fees.

Introductory Teams Requirements & Try-Out Skills

* Three out-of-state competitions, that will require an overnight stay in a hotel and may require missing 1 day of school; one local competition.

Aspire Beginner (Synchro Skills 1)	Try-Out Time: Saturday, May 22	8:00-8:45 am
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Open to skaters meeting the following minimum requirements:

- All skaters must be 6-9 years old and in Gamma or above
- Must be currently taking a McFetridge group class or private skating lesson
- No previous team experience is necessary

Skaters will be evaluated on the following skills:

- Strong forward & backward pumps (L & R)
- Forward & backward crossovers (L & R)
- Spirals
- Forward lunges
- Forward & backward swizzles
- Snow Plow Stop
- Fwd & Bkwd Outside Edge 1-foot glides
- Fwd & Bkwd Inside Edge 1-foot glides
- 2-Foot turns forward to backward
- Chasses

Skaters will also be evaluated on the following:

- The ability to learn and follow instructions
- The ability to skate and work well with others

Practice Schedule

Summer Thursday: On Ice: 5:00 – 6:30 pm (Shared with Aspire Pre-Preliminary Team-SS 2)

Fall-Spring Saturday: On Ice: 8:00 – 8:45 am
Off Ice: 8:50 – 9:30 am

Proposed Dues* (*Subject to change)

\$565.00 *Covers 45 min of ice time a week, 40 min of off-ice, coaching, competition entry fees (4 competitions), charter bus transportation for the skaters to 3 out of state competitions, lodging for coaches at competitions, lodging for bus driver at competitions.

Additional Expenses

Practice Attire (Dress & Warm-Up Jacket)	\$105-\$125
Required Transpack Skate bag (Embroidery Optional)	\$30 - \$45
Competition Dress & Tights	\$150-\$200

Make-Up & Miscellaneous Fees	\$75
Team Jammin Jacket (Suggested, not required)	Approx. \$140
Extra ice time throughout the season	
Parent transportation to/from competitions	
Lodging for skater/parent at travel competitions	

Aspire Pre-Preliminary (Synchro Skills 2) Try-Out Time: Monday, May 24 6:15-7:15 pm
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Open to skaters meeting the following minimum requirements:

- All skaters must be 10-14 years old and in Freestyle 1 or above
- Must be currently taking a McFetridge group class or private skating lesson
- Previous team experience not required, but recommended

Skaters will be evaluated on the following skills:

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| - Strong forward & backward skating | - Power Crossovers (forward & backward) |
| - Mohawks (L & R), Power Mohawks | - Outside & Inside 3-turns (L & R) |
| - Alternating Mohawks | - Power 3-turns |
| - Forward & backward lunges | - Forward & Backward Spirals |
| - Single Inside Forward Twizzles (alternating) | - Basic Warm Up Block |
| - Forward & Backward Cross Rolls | |

Skaters will also be evaluated on the following:

- The ability to learn and follow instructions
- The ability to skate and work well with others

The purpose of this team is to teach skaters the fundamentals of the sport and help them master the skills necessary to prepare them to be successful on more advanced teams in the future.

Practice Schedule (*Subject to change)

Summer	Thursday:	On Ice: 5:00 – 6:30 pm (Shared with Aspire Beginner Team-SS 1)
Fall-Spring	Thursday:	On Ice: 5:15-6:15 pm* *Every other week on ice 5:15-6:55 pm, alternating extra ice with Pre-Juv Off Ice: 6:15-7:00 pm (when not skating the longer on ice practice)

Proposed Dues* (*Subject to change)

\$600.00 *Covers 1 hour of ice time a week, 40 min of off-ice, coaching, competition entry fees (4 competitions), charter bus transportation for the skaters to 3 out of state competitions, lodging for coaches at competitions, lodging for bus driver at competitions.

Additional Expenses

Practice Attire (Dress & Warm-up Jacket)	\$105-\$125
Required Transpack Skate bag (Embroidery Optional)	\$30 - \$45
Competition Dress & Tights	\$150-\$200
Make-Up & Miscellaneous Fees	\$125
Team Jammin Jacket (Suggested, not required)	Approx. \$140-\$185
Extra ice time throughout the season	
Parent transportation to/from competitions	
Lodging for skater/parent at travel competitions	

Sectional Teams

Requirements & Try-Out Skills

4 of 5 competitions require out-of-state travel, with overnight stays at hotels. We are open to considering additional competitions for the season. For all out of state competitions, skaters may be required to miss 1 day of school. For the Midwestern Sectional Championship (January), skaters may be required to miss 2-3 days of school.

Pre-Juvenile

Try-out Time: Thursday, May 20

5:15-6:55pm

Open to skaters meeting the following minimum requirements:

- All skaters must be age 17 & younger
- Must be passed Pre-Preliminary Moves in the Field
- Must be currently taking private skating lessons at McFetridge and skating a minimum of 1 hour a week
- Previous synchronized team skating experience is strongly recommended

Skaters will be evaluated on the following skills:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong Forward & Backward Crossovers - Musical Interpretation - Double 3-turns: Inside/Outside; Fwd & Back - Gliding Maneuvers - Tango Stops (Front "T") - Alternating 3 Turns - Combination Spins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single and 1.5 Twizzles:
Fwd Inside & Back Outside, R&L - Brackets - Spirals Fwd & Back, Inside & Outside Edge - Lunges Forward & Backward - Outside/Inside Edges - Stroking, Forwards & Backwards |
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Skaters will also be evaluated on the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ability to learn and execute steps in a timely manner - The ability to skate and work well with others - Posture, Poise, Extension & Flexibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strength & Speed - Edge Quality - Rhythm, Presentation, Expression |
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Practice Schedule

THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY BOOTCAMP ON AUGUST 28 or 29 AT MCFETRIDGE, TIME TBD. ALL PRE-JUVENILE SKATERS MUST ATTEND THE BOOTCAMP IN ORDER TO BE CHOREOGRAPHED INTO THE PROGRAM.

Summer	Wednesday:	Off Ice: 5:45-6:45pm On Ice: 7:00-8:00pm
Fall-Spring	Monday:	Off Ice: 6:30-7:25pm On Ice: 7:35-8:35pm
	Thursday:	On Ice: 6:15-6:55pm; alternating weeks with Aspire Beginner-SS 1)

*There will be one mandatory Saturday evening choreography practice per month starting in September.

*Likely to add additional practices, when needed, possibly at other rinks.

Proposed Dues* (*Subject to change)

\$865.00 *Covers 1-2 hours of ice time a week, 1 hour of off-ice, coaching, competition entry fees (5 competitions), charter bus transportation for the skaters to 3 out of state competitions, lodging for coaches at competitions, lodging for bus driver at competitions.

Expenses

Team jacket & Apparel Approx. \$150

Additional Team Fees \$500

- Practice & Competition Dress (approx. \$275)
- August Boot Camp
- Make-up / Hair Supplies
- Unofficial Practice Ice at competitions
- Extra Ice Time at MSC or other rinks, when needed
- Some team meals
- Team Events: Team Building, Banquet
- Team Registrations
- Competition Photos and Ads
- Miscellaneous extra fees
- Choreographer fee
- Will be collected on a schedule explained at the parent meeting

Additional Expenses

Black Leggings

Transportation to/from competitions

Lodging for skater/parent at competitions

Equipment (skates, blades, guards, skate maintenance)

***IMPORTANT* Skater/Parent transportation to/from 2022 Midwestern Sectionals, January 26-30, 2022; Kalamazoo, MI**

Open Juvenile

Try-Out Time: Monday, May 17

7:35-9:35pm

Open to skaters meeting the following minimum requirements:

- All skaters must be age 19 & younger
- Must be passed Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field (passed Juvenile MIF, highly recommended)
- Must be currently taking private skating lessons at McFetridge and skating 2 hours a week
- Previous synchronized team skating experience is strongly recommended
- Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee you a spot on the team or on the competition roster

Skaters will be evaluated on the following skills: (Drill patterns will be taught at Workshop)

- Strong Forward & Backward Crossovers
- Double 3-turns: Inside/Outside; Fwd & Back
- Ina Bauers and Spread Eagles
- Tango Stops (Front "T")
- Power pulls
- Power 3-turns forward and backward
- Gliding Maneuvers
- Twizzles: R & L 1.5 forward, double backward
- Brackets- forward/backward, inside/ outside
- Spirals Fwd & Back and Change of Edge
- Lunges Forward & Backward
- Cross strokes forwards and backwards
- Illusions
- Backward outside and inside 3 turns

- Make-up / Hair Supplies
- Unofficial Practice Ice at competitions
- Extra Ice Time at MSC or other rinks, when needed
- Some team meals
- Team Events: Team Building, Banquet
- Team Registrations
- Competition Photos and Ads
- Miscellaneous extra fees
- Choreographer fee
- Will be collected on a schedule explained at the parent meeting

Additional Expenses

Black leggings

Lodging for skaters and parents at competitions

Parent transportation to/from competitions

Equipment (skates, blades, guards, skate maintenance)

***IMPORTANT* Skater/Parent transportation to/from 2022 Midwestern Sectionals, January 26-30, 2022; Kalamazoo, MI**

