



## **White Township Recreation / S&T Bank Arena IPA Skate Team: Rules and Expectations for the 2025–2026 Season**

### **\*Attention Parents and Skaters**

Welcome to the 2025–2026 season at White Township's S&T Bank Arena and the IPA Skate Team! To ensure a safe, respectful, and productive environment for all skaters, coaches, and families, we've updated our rules and expectations. These guidelines promote fairness, safety, and a positive experience for everyone.

**By order of White Township, any parent, skater, or coach who fails to comply with or refuses to sign the updated agreement may be subject to dismissal from participation.**

Thank you for your commitment to our skating community!

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### **General Information**

- Compliance: All skaters, coaches, and parents must sign this agreement to participate, per White Township policy.
- Communication: For questions or concerns, contact the Skating Director, Stephanie, at [stephanie@whitetownship.org](mailto:stephanie@whitetownship.org) or 724-403-3789 (Monday–Friday, 10:00 AM–2:30 PM).
- Remind App: Join the Freestyle Skaters Remind group (Class Code: 6b3676) for updates.
- New Processes:
  - Freestyle sign-in/payment
  - IPA Skate Team membership
  - Club Ice
    - Club Ice – only Club Members & Club Coaches can utilize this ice
    - The Skating Director will be present and available for any questions during this time.
- **More details COMING SOON!**



## Ice Session & Facility Guidelines

To maintain a focused and safe training environment, please follow these guidelines:

### On-Ice Safety & Conduct

- Independent Practice:
  - Skaters must be approved by their private coach or the Skating Director for independent practice and arrive with a clear practice plan.
  - Beginner skaters and hockey players must be supervised by a coach during freestyle sessions and stay near rink ends to avoid high-traffic areas.
- Hockey Players:
  - No sticks, pucks, or independent practice during freestyle sessions. Use designated Stick Time sessions.
- Freestyle Sessions:
  - Intended for skill development, private lessons, and independent practice (not family skating).
  - Priority order: 1) Skaters in lessons performing programs, 2) Skaters in lessons, 3) Skaters practicing programs independently, 4) Skaters practicing skills.
- Safe Skating:
  - Practice jumps in designated circles, spins in the center.
  - No tag, aimless laps, or purposeful contact.
  - Get up immediately after a fall and stay aware of surroundings.
  - Share the ice courteously and adjust patterns to avoid interrupting others.
  - Only practice skills taught by your coach; do not attempt advanced elements independently.
- Facility Rules:
  - Keep ice doors closed at all times.
  - No blocking ice entrances for conversations, photos, or videos (use areas above the glass).
  - Let's create a positive atmosphere within the arena; be kind and respectful on and off the ice.
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  - No over-ice conversations between skaters, coaches, or parents.
  - For everyone's safety, please refrain from tossing or handing items over the glass.
  - Only water is allowed on the ice; no food, flavored drinks, or props.



- No headphones or personal speakers; use phones only for choreography.
- Never enter the ice during Zamboni operation.
- Non-skaters (parents, siblings, etc.) are not allowed in player benches during figure skating sessions unless approved by the Skating Director.
- Program Music
  - Each skater/coach may play up to two program run-throughs per lesson (same or different programs).
  - Continuous playbacks are not permitted to ensure fair access to the sound system.
  - Please take turns – Only ONE skater may use the overhead music for interpretive practice while on lesson at any given time.
    - Ideally, Interpretive music or group routines should use small areas and be scheduled during less busy times.
- Props
  - Props (e.g., ribbons, hoops) are not allowed during regular freestyle sessions.
  - A dedicated “Prop Ice” session will be offered before competitions/shows for prop practice
  - For safety, props can ONLY be used while skaters are in a lesson, including Prop Ice.
  - Props must be removed immediately after use.
- Dress Code
  - Skaters must wear skating pants or tights (no bare legs), with hair tied up.
  - No jackets tied around the waist or crop tops when coaching.
  - Coaches/helpers: Wear a coaching jacket, team clothing, or plain black jacket and black pants/team sweatpants during programs.

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### **Choosing a Coach/ Duties of a Coach**

- Authority: Coaches determine level progression, competition readiness, skate recommendations, and program choices.
  - Coach Selection/Changes:
    - Contact the Skating Director to find a coach; do not approach coaches directly.
    - Resolve issues with your coach first before requesting a change through the Skating Director.
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## Skate & Attire Guidelines

- Skate Purchases:
  - Consult your coach before buying skates for proper fit and type.
  - Recommended: Reputable skate shops (not Amazon, Dunham's, or Dick's Sporting Goods).
  - Coaches assisting with purchases assume responsibility for fit/performance issues.
  - Resource: Figure Skates Guide (<https://whitetownshiprec.org/skates-guide/>).
- Maintenance: Sharpen skates every 10–20 hours; avoid sharpening right before competitions.
- Competition Attire:
  - Wear age-appropriate dresses suitable for your level.
  - Recommended retailers: Skater's Edge (Cleveland), Amazon, Etsy, or brands like GK, Capezio, Jerry's Skating World, Mondor, Chloe Noel.
  - Use Chloe Noel or Mondor tights.

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## Team & Event Expectations

- Conduct:
    - Represent White Township and the IPA Skate Team with professionalism and respect at all events (practices, competitions, shows).
    - Be courteous to maintain our team's positive reputation.
  - IPA Skate Team Membership (details forthcoming):
    - Requires enrollment in Figure Skating 101, payment of dues, and participation in at least one team activity.
    - All members must contribute a food item for team events.
  - Volunteering:
    - All skaters, parents, and coaches must volunteer (e.g., setup, cleanup, bringing food) at team events.
    - Non-contributors may be excluded from events.
  - Competition Protocols:
    - Only one parent per skater in locker rooms; no siblings or extended family.
    - Only coaches and skaters preparing for warm-ups/performances should be near ice entrances.
    - No parents/skaters in judges' boxes (except score sheet runners).
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### **Program Originality**

- Create unique music, outfits, and choreography to reflect your style.
- Do not copy others' programs without permission from all parties (coaches, skaters, parents).
- Ensure programs at other rinks are distinct to avoid conflicts.

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### **Ice Time Requests**

- Submit special ice time requests to the Skating Director, who will coordinate with the Rink Manager.

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### **Consequences for Non-Compliance**

To ensure fairness and safety, failure to follow these guidelines may result in:

- Verbal warnings or removal from the ice for the session.
- Temporary loss of ice time or coaching privileges.
- Permanent dismissal from the program (in severe cases).

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We're excited for a fantastic season! By working together and following these guidelines, we can create a supportive and thriving skating community. Thank you for your cooperation.

Skating Director: Stephanie

Email: [stephanie@whitetownship.org](mailto:stephanie@whitetownship.org)

Phone: 724-403-3789

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**Parent Name (Print):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skater Name (Print):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skater Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_