



# ICE ETIQUETTE & SAFETY RULES

## INTRODUCTION

Ice safety is of paramount importance to SFSC. All skaters on SFSC club ice must comply with the following Club Rules, must respect the rights of others, and must respect the arena's property and the property of others.

## A. RULES GOVERNING FREE SKATING SESSIONS

1. The maximum number of (depending on size and level) skaters allowed on the ice during each session is 20.
2. Reserve your ice on Ice+ and check in with the monitor before stepping on to the ice.
3. No breakable containers are allowed rink side. Drinks are allowed on or below the railing only. Food is not permitted near the railing or on the ice. Spills should be cleaned up immediately.
4. Please pick up all belongings (including dirty tissues, trash, water bottles, music, skate guards, etc.) at the end of the session.
5. Parents and skaters not in a session and/or other spectators should not loiter at the rails or benches. This is unsafe and interferes with a constructive training session.
6. Coaching by parents from the bleachers, benches, rails, or ice is not allowed at any time. Parents will be asked to leave the arena if this happens.
7. The benches by the ice (the hockey boxes) are to be used by the skaters and coaches only.
8. If skaters must talk to someone off the ice, even if for a brief time, they need to get off the ice to do so or the skater will be asked to leave the ice.
9. It is important for everyone's safety that all skaters stay aware of other skaters on the ice. Try to anticipate their patterns as you decide your own pattern.
10. If you are a less experienced skater, please be extra careful, stay aware of other skaters, and to look ahead of where you are skating to see what others are doing or are about to do. Please review good safety habits with your coach.
11. If you are an experienced skater, please be patient with the less experienced skaters. Remember – you were new to freestyles at one time, too.
12. Please be understanding if someone gets in your way.
13. Remember to look both ways *before* leaving the railing or skating across the ice.
14. Keep moving while on the ice. It is dangerous for both you and other skaters to stand still during a session. It is especially important not to stop in the middle of the ice or any of the jumping corners.
15. Skaters may not wear headphones or anything else which could obstruct your hearing or awareness of others. Single ear buds are not allowed to be worn on the ice.

## B. PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

1. Kicking, digging holes, scraping or stomping the ice with your blades and kicking the railings are prohibited. Any skater engaging in this behavior will be asked to leave the session immediately.
2. Being verbally abusive to skaters, coaches, or to the Ice Monitor is prohibited. Any skater engaging in this behavior will be asked to leave the session immediately.
3. Deliberately challenging, scaring, or intentionally blocking another skater is prohibited. Any skater engaging in this behavior will be asked to leave the ice immediately and for an indefinite period of time.
4. Videotaping by parents or adults of anyone other than your own skater is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Anyone engaging in this behavior will be asked to leave the arena for an indefinite period of time.

## C. CLEARING THE ICE

When the ice-resurfacer horn sounds, all skaters and coaches must leave the ice immediately. If you are skating to your music, please stop skating immediately, turn off your music, and clear the ice – no exceptions.

## ICE ETIQUETTE & SAFETY RULES

### D. MUSIC

1. The Ice Monitor on duty can be asked to play music, and during busy sessions will play music and maintain the line of those waiting to play music.
2. Program and Ice Dance music will be played on a rotational basis. If the Ice Monitor is not present, this will be done on the honor system with the responsibility left to the skaters and coaches.
3. After a skater's music has been played, their music or another program may be put at end of the line to re-enter the rotation.
4. Not everyone will be able to play their music on full sessions due to lengths of programs. Please try to be fair.
5. Coaches in a lesson may put the music of their current student ahead of other skaters. Everyone should appreciate this policy when they are in a lesson enjoying this privilege and graciously accept this policy when they are the ones being asked to wait in line. Coaches, please be considerate and do not bump a skater more than twice in a session.
6. Please do not stop and restart your music if others are waiting in line.
7. Please handle the music equipment with extreme care.

### E. RIGHT OF WAY

1. **A skater doing a program to music** has the right of way. Orange VESTS and safety BELTS are provided by the Ice Monitor to help identify the skater whose music is being played. Please wear the vest or belt when you play your music to help other skaters know you are skating your routine. Other skaters, please stay aware at all times of which skater is doing his or her program and do your best to stay clear of his or her pattern.
2. **Skaters taking a lesson** have the right of way over general skaters in the session.
3. **Skaters on the harness** also have the right of way. Please be mindful of the harness area.

### F. GROUP PROGRAMS

Groups of *THREE or more* skaters may NOT skate in programs or patterns together during any club ice sessions unless authorization has been obtained ahead of time from the SFSC Board and communicated to the Ice Monitor on duty.

