

February 26, 2008

Dear High School Participants,

In response to concerns raised by parents, and questions addressed to high school committee members about how much profit we make on the large competitions, the high school skating committee would like to share information with you regarding our history, how we are funded and how much the program costs to run each year.

This year marks the tenth season of high school figure skating in Michigan. We have become the largest and most successful program in the country. We started out on a shoestring budget and the Detroit Metro Council of Figure Skating Clubs (DMC) generously agreed to underwrite some expenses for us, in order to get the program up and running, and make the program viable, as they foresaw what a wonderful program it could be for high school skaters in Michigan. The eventual goal being that the program would become self-supporting. DMC supports multiple programs that enhance the sport. The last three years DMC has been subsidizing us even more, as we have been losing money. DMC's contribution to our program over these past years has been in excess of \$40,000 for awards and subsidies. They continue to support us by paying over \$5000 per year for medals and trophies that are awarded to our skaters. Remember, the high school skating program is a self-funded program that receives no money from any school systems.

Our judges and accountants are volunteers who are not paid to come to competitions, and are only reimbursed for expenses of travel. They do this because they love figure skating and know how many positive qualities skaters develop from their dedication to the sport. We feed them as a courtesy for their volunteering to help us.

As a committee, we continually discuss how to cut expenses as much as possible without taking away from the skaters we serve. We understand how expensive figure skating is for parents, as we all have had skaters ourselves. Some think we make money on the large competitions where we charge an admission fee. We never make a profit on any competition. Our admission fees for our individual competition in Dearborn this year totaled \$1000, while our ice fees for the same event were \$4320.

We think the balance sheet from last year printed with this letter will shed more light on our financial position. We hope that this information will make the fees you pay for high school figure skating more understandable and that you will continue to support our skaters in every way you can.

For information about high school figure skating, including our competition announcements and rules, please see the website, [www.sk8stuff.com](http://www.sk8stuff.com). It was created and is maintained by Don Korte, one of our high school figure skating judges.

Thank you,

Your high school figure skating committee

Michelle Dittmer Co-Chair  
Margie Banner Co-Chair  
Ellen Kolarik Treasurer  
Dorothy Estey Accountant  
Bill Estey Awards  
Laura Maki Referee  
Donna Haller Bookkeeper  
Dorothy Tank Individuals  
Don Korte Webmaster

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**High School Figure Skating  
Financial Report  
2006 - 2007 Season**

Income	
Admission Fees	1,575.00
Entry Fees	39,202.00
Merchandise Sales	<u>3,445.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>44,222.00</b>
Expense	
Bank Service Charges	20.00
Copies and Supplies	501.53
Ice Time	22,266.25
Judges Expenses	13,641.47
Meetings	92.50
Merchandise	3,771.00
Mileage	9,645.24
Miscellaneous	20.00
Postage	276.87
Rental	640.00
Travel	<u>1,789.80</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>52,664.66</b>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>(8,442.66)</b>

**Detroit Metro Skating Council Expenses  
2006 - 2007**

Metro Council Subsidy	8,000.00
Medals and Trophies	<u>5,000.00</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>13,000.00</b>