

# ESSA Club Report 2020-2021

## Highlights

1. An unexpected benefit of the COVID restrictions meant ESSA had to provide 1 on 1 meetings for all skaters to rent skates this season. This was more work on our part, but it gave us an opportunity to meet exclusively with each new family and explain the sport in detail. We plan to use a modified version of this process in the coming year as we feel it provided a more welcoming atmosphere than the mass skate rental events from years past.
2. With indoor sporting restrictions in the late winter, we were able to extend our long track season into March, several weeks after we usually return to short track. Many families were ecstatic that we were able to continue while many other sports had been halted.
3. The general positive attitude of the entire club leadership this season was phenomenal. It was such a difficult year, with very little predictability. The executive was able to react and adapt quickly to all of the changes.

## Accomplishments

1. ESSA is in the final stretch of design work for our 'Skater Passport' program. This program will present each of our young athletes with a passport or goals to be accomplished throughout their skating career. Stickers are awarded as goals are accomplished. This is intended to help athletes mark milestones, and track progress. Official launch is fall 2021.
2. ESSA is supporting two coaches as they take their level 3 courses this year.
3. ESSA has emerged this season in a strong financial position. Even after handing back many refunds for the partial season we were able to weather the pandemic no worse for wear financially.

## Activities and Initiatives

ESSA scaled back almost entirely on any activities and initiatives this season. With the understanding that most families were also 'just trying to get through the pandemic', we chose not to run any special activities. However, within the framework of our programming, we did try a few new things.

1. During December we ran virtual dryland for all athletes to keep them engaged after short track was stopped and before we were able to launch our long track season.
2. During long track season, recognizing that we could not effectively run socially distanced programming with 8-10 young children, we had parents step up to take groups of 3-4 skaters out at a time on a volunteer basis.
3. Coaches introduced time-trial nights for our older skaters which they very much looked forward to.

## Board and Executive

Chris Padbury, President (Voting)

Tammy Currie, Vice President (Voting)

Diane Anderson, Program Coordinator (Voting)

Adenike Ojisua, Treasurer (Voting)

Ryan Mazan, Registrar (Voting)

Jayson Merryfield, Secretary (Non-Voting)

Keri McFarlane, Coaching Coordinator (Non-Voting)

### Membership Numbers

107 Athletes

80 Associates

### Coaches

AJ Dimas-Lehndorf (Level 2)

Anna Goplen (Level 1 in-progress)

Jenna Calver (Level 1)

Jacob McKenzie (no levels, currently enrolled in Level 3 course)

Liam McFarlane (no levels, currently enrolled in Level 3 course)

Brandon Zhao (working on level 2 portfolio)

Eric Kapeluck (Level 1)

Emily Rendell Watson (Level 3 portfolio in progress)?

Allie Capstick (Level 2 Skate Canada)

Jessica Levins (no levels)

Jackson Havixbeck (no levels)

### Officials

TBD