

## Club Report LSSA 2020-21 Season

### • Club accomplishments

Like all clubs, the biggest priority was in keeping our skaters and coaches safe. This meant creating a COVID liaison position to stay current with the ever-changing restrictions and making recommendations to our club executive. We are proud to report that our skaters were able to participate under modified regulations for 5 full months with zero positive COVID cases in our club.

This season, LSSA was the proud recipient of one of the Canadian Tire JumpStart Grants. There are 3 components that we are allocating the fund towards. These include:

- **Reset** (Training) \$5,000 – Targeted towards coach and volunteer training. LSSA is looking at using some of this funding for registration software.
- **Rebuild** (Inventory) \$8,000. Purchases for suits and skates, particularly at the extra-small and larger sizes. Additionally, approximately 20 mats have been identified for repair. Repairs include zipper replacement and fixing cuts on the covers.
- **Recover** (Advertising) \$2,000. This would include traditional advertising, posters, paid social media, and outreach to target communities.

It was announced that Tim Cooney, our head coach, co-coach and mentor for several hundred skaters over the past thirty years, is stepping away from the sport that has seen LSSA grow from a handful of skaters and families to the strong presence and exposure it receives locally, provincially and at the national level. Tim's list of accomplishments and contributions are numerous and although he will surely be missed, he leaves our club in good hands with excellent coaches and junior skater-coaches who give back through volunteerism, reflecting the values and teamwork that Tim exemplified for so many years. In Tim's honour, The Tim Cooney Coach of the Year Award has been created and Tim was recognized as the first recipient.

### • List of activities and/or initiatives hosted by your club throughout the season

One of the goals this season, while toggling between on-ice and virtual environments was to keep our skaters engaged. Both novice and advanced skaters met weekly for our mountain bike program with sessions in the array of trails that span the Lethbridge coulee system and a trip out to Taber. We will continue the program, with appropriate restrictions in place, this summer, with at least one ride in the Waterton or Castle Mountain region.

Alien Inline, from Calgary, held a three-day inline skating camp in September to help our club get a jump on our skating season. Given Lethbridge's typically later on-ice start date compared with some other clubs in Alberta, it is anticipated that the inclusion of mountain biking and inline skating again, this off-season, will translate into better conditioning and performance for our skaters once the season is underway.

Our fundraising committee, although limited in our reach within the community this past season, saw success in partnering with a local coffee roaster that donates \$5 for every bag sold by one of our members back to our club. We attempted a 50/50 Rafflebox online raffle with

mixed results but would look to try this again in the future. One of our goals for next season is to increase our skater numbers by tapping into other social media outlets like Instagram.

- **Board/Executive members of your club**

- President – Tarek Adelman
- Vice-President – Carla Jensen
- Club Registrar – Cherise Eaves
- Director of Coaching – Hans Wesseling
- Treasurer – Callie Craven
- Secretary – Paige Peake

- **Membership numbers**

29 registered skaters (including 2 new). Our club took a big hit due to COVID cohorting rules at the start of the season. For comparison, the season previous was 49.

- **Number of coaches (and levels)**

- 5 Adult coaches. One NCCP Level 3 Coach, Tim Cooney (now officially retired), Paul Cooney and Rayel Green have coaching certifications underway
- 5 Junior Coaches: Jasmine Belisle, Riley Vanderburgh, Mikka Eaves, Braeden Kremenik, Zakhary Adelman

- **Number of officials (and levels)**

Officials – no change to prior season