

Maplewood Figure Skating Club

Lettering Program



The Maplewood Figure Skating Club is proud to partner with local schools to offer our club members the opportunity to earn a varsity letter at schools that do not currently provide varsity lettering recognition for figure skaters. This program is designed to acknowledge the hard work, dedication, and athletic commitment of our skaters. Please review the eligibility criteria carefully, and don't hesitate to contact the Lettering Advisor with any questions. See you at the rink!

Objectives:

- 1) To offer high school athletic status to dedicated and accomplished figure skaters.
 - 2) To extend sanctioned high school skating to the sport of figure skating.
 - 3) To give figure skaters the same courtesy in academic considerations that high school athletes typically receive from schools when official athletic events require them to leave school early, arrive late to school, or to be absent.
 - 4) To recognize the accomplishments, dedication, and significant time commitments of student figure skaters by offering a varsity letter opportunity to those who meet established criteria. Due to the demanding nature of figure skating—including early training hours, travel, and year-round competition—many skaters are unable to participate in traditional high school varsity sports. Awarding a varsity letter provides meaningful recognition of the athletic rigor, discipline, and exceptional time management skills required of these student athletes.
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Qualifications and Requirements for Varsity Letter

To be eligible, skaters must adhere to and meet the following criteria:

- 1) Must complete and return Intent to Letter to MFSC's Lettering Advisor no later than **October 31st**. This form gives the Lettering Advisor permission to contact the Skater's school. The Lettering Advisor will handle all official communications with respect to lettering.
- 2) Must be enrolled in a school that does *not* offer a varsity lettering opportunity for the sport of Figure Skating.
- 3) Must be a student in grades 7 through 12.
- 4) Must be a full MFSC club member. Introductory members are not eligible. Membership with the Club and with US Figure Skating must be in good standing.
- 5) Must abide by the High School and Minnesota State High School League rules of eligibility and conduct, including having a Sports Qualifying Physical form on file at the Skater's High School.
- 6) Must adhere to all School District rules, policies, and requirements and meet any district-specific eligibility requirements that apply to all student athletes.
- 7) Must submit tracking form documenting completion of lettering requirements to the Lettering Advisor by **April 15th**.

Skating & Club Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) The skater must train under the supervision of a professional figure skating coach.
- 2) Must have passed 2 of 3 test levels:
 - a) Bronze Singles
 - b) Bronze Skating Skills
 - c) Bronze Solo or Partnered Dance

- 3) Minimum test levels must be met by **April 30th** but do not need to be met before submitting an Intent to Letter form.
- 4) Must attempt (not necessarily pass) at least one US Figure Skating official test during the current Skating Season. Any skater who has passed their Gold Skating Skills and Gold Dance are exempted from this requirement.
- 5) Must skate a minimum of 100 hours on MFSC ice before **April 30th**. Skater is responsible for tracking ice time. (Note that some high schools may increase the skating-hour requirement; under those circumstances, the Skater is responsible for fulfilling the school's greater number of hours to meet the hours-skated eligibility criterion).
- 6) Must complete all MFSC Club Volunteer and Fundraising requirements. Buy-outs are not permitted and will forfeit eligibility for the lettering program. Skaters must track their volunteer requirements, which include:
 - a) 16 hours as a skate school helper—14 of which must be completed by **April 30th**;
 - b) 2 shifts at the car show;
 - c) 2 shifts as a Rink Monitor. These shifts are in addition to the family Rink Monitoring requirement and must be performed by the Skater before **April 30th**;
 - d) 5 additional volunteer hours. This requirement may be met by volunteering extra hours at the Fall Classic, doing extra car show shifts, working the concessions stand, doing extra skate school hours, helping clean-up and set-up for Club events, and other events that support the Club.
- 7) Participate as a Club Skater in the current year *and* previous year's MFSC Spring Show. Participating as a Club Skater means that the skater performed in at least two show freestyle numbers. The Family Number and Synchro do not count toward this requirement.
- 8) Participate in at least 1 exhibition or competition run by MFSC. This requirement is met by competing in the Fall Classic and/or participating in the Fall Classic exhibition or the Holiday skating exhibition. Northern Fusion synchronized skating exhibitions do not fulfill this requirement.
- 9) Participate in at least 1 non-MFSC competition hosted by another figure skating club.