

NORTHBROOK PARK DISTRICT

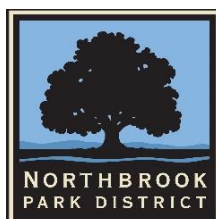


Northbrook Icette Program

TRYOUTS 2024

SATURDAY, December 16, 2023
Dance Instruction will be held on **FRIDAY,**
December 15, 2023

OPEN TO SKATERS IN 6TH GRADE & UP
AND IN FREE SKATE 5 & UP



WELCOME TO TRYOUTS!

Icette Program tryouts this season will take place on Saturday, December 16 starting at 1:10pm with the dance instruction taking place on Friday, December 15th starting at 4:20pm.

Registration opens at 9am on Monday, October 30 for residents and at 9am on Monday, November 6 for non-residents. Parents and skaters are responsible for the information contained in this packet. The Program Supervisor will be available via phone (847-291-2993) or email (alopez@nbparks.org) to answer any additional questions.

THE ICETTE PROGRAM

A proud tradition since 1969, the Icette Program focuses on dance skills, teamwork, dedication and leadership. Created in the style of the Ice Follies, the Icettes feature glamorous, dazzling costumes and theatrical dance production numbers. Many Icettes have skated in national touring shows, such as the Ice Capades and Holiday on Ice. Over the years, the Icette Program has grown to include skaters in grades 6-12. Most young skaters in Northbrook hope to become Icettes and to continue the tradition. The Icette Program is comprised of three dance teams consisting of skaters of various ages and levels. The program would not be the success it is without the efforts of its dedicated coaches Carly Andrews, Meredith Eisen, Becky Goldstein, and Suzy Hunt.

THE DANCETTES

Skaters must be in 6th grade or higher and in Free Skate 5 or above. This team is a “dance-on-ice” style team (no jumps/spins) and is a stepping stone into Jr. Icettes. Skaters will complete approximately 15 hours of rehearsal time from January to May. Each skater is expected to attend all rehearsals with few excused absences. **A parent of a Dancette skater is required to work two volunteer shifts during the production beyond any outside requirement from different organizations**, such as the Upper Level volunteer requirement. Dancettes will perform one number in Northbrook-On-Ice and may also perform at the Krolak Cup in early April. Dancettes are eligible to skate in an Upper Level number in the show.

THE JUNIOR ICETTES

Skaters must be in 7th grade or higher and in Free Skate 6 or above. Skaters will complete approximately 30 hours of rehearsal time from January to May. Each skater is expected to attend all rehearsals with few excused absences. **A parent of a Jr. Icette skater is required to work two volunteer shifts during the production beyond any outside requirement from different organizations**, such as the Upper Level volunteer requirement. Jr. Icettes will perform three* numbers in Northbrook-On-Ice and may also perform at the Krolak Cup in early April. Jr. Icettes are eligible to skate in an Upper Level number in the show.

THE ICETTES

Skaters must be in 9th grade or higher and have passed out of Free Skate 6. Skaters will complete approximately 80 hours of rehearsal from January to May. Each skater is expected to attend all rehearsals with few excused absences. **A parent of an Icette skater is required to work two volunteer shifts during the production beyond any outside requirement from different organizations**. Icettes will perform five* numbers in Northbrook-On-Ice. Icettes are not eligible for an Upper Level number in the show.

HISTORY OF THE ICETTE PROGRAM

More than 50 years ago, the Icette program was established to showcase skaters' dance styles on ice. Through the years, the program has been updated and the tryout process modified, but the criteria have remained constant. Skaters should have a strong technical background with the added elegance of style and the ability to learn large amounts of choreography, both over a short period of time and in one session.

The program began with just one team, the Northbrook Icettes. After 35 years, a second team (the Northbrook Jr. Icettes) was created to train skaters in grades 7 and 8. Due to the popularity of the program and the desire to train skaters at a young age, a third team was created (the Northbrook Dancettes) to add 6th graders into the mix. The Dancette team strives to be more inclusive, allowing skaters to learn and experience the program before advancing to a more demanding level. With the changes throughout the last decade, the Icette Program has become a series of stepping stones to prepare skaters for their ultimate Northbrook Icette experience.

WHY IS RETENTION SO IMPORTANT?

During the Icette Program season, the coaches share a large amount of choreography and blocking information with skaters. The amount of rehearsal time increases with each advancing team due to the increase in group numbers performed.

Dancettes: One Number/Approximately 15 hours of rehearsal
Jr. Icettes: Two Numbers*/Approximately 30 hours of rehearsal
Icettes: Four Numbers*/Approximately 80 hours of rehearsal
*Jr. Icettes & Icettes Combined: One Number

During the choreography process, numbers can change at the last minute due to revisions, pattern changes, lighting/prop cues, injuries or illness. Skaters are expected to adjust to changes with ease and cooperation.

SCHEDULING

Staff closely examines the schedule for all three teams and tries to avoid potential conflicts by comparing floor/ice/staff opportunities and practice times for synchronized skating, poms, orchesis, soccer, lacrosse, cheerleading, etc. Although we revise the schedule to accommodate skaters' other interests, we cannot avoid every conflict. This packet is produced early in the season to give plenty of notice to important dates and times. We expect all members to fully commit to the season and to make the Icette Program their number one priority.

TRYOUT CONFLICTS

Occasionally, conflicts arise that prevent a skater from attending the tryout session. If this occurs, the skater should alert the Program Supervisor at least two months prior to the tryout. If skaters have an absolutely unavoidable conflict, family emergency/death, or serious illness/injury requiring hospitalization, please contact the program supervisor immediately Ania Lopez at alopez@nbparks.org.

NORTHBROOK-ON-ICE

Northbrook-On-Ice is on Mother's Day weekend. The following dates require mandatory participation by all Icette Program members to remain eligible for the team. Skaters should attend the tryout clinic of the highest-level team they are trying out for. Friday clinic registration is included when you register your skater for the Saturday tryout. Mandatory dates are:

Friday, December 15	4:20-5:50pm – Icette Dance Instruction 6:00-7:30pm – Jr. Icette Dance Instruction	<i>Closed to the public</i> <i>Closed to the public</i>
Saturday, December 16	1:10pm – Icette Program Tryout	Fee: \$55/skater Code: 23238
Tuesday, January 16	5:30-6:00pm – Dancette Meeting (Multipurpose Room) 6:00-6:45pm – Jr. Icette Meeting (Multipurpose Room) 6:45-8:00pm – Icette Meeting (Multipurpose Room)	
Saturday, April 13	9:00am-1:30pm – NOI Picture Day	
Thursday, May 2	5:30-9:00pm – Action Shot Night	
Saturday, May 4	8:00am-6:00pm – Dress Rehearsal	
Sunday, May 5	8:00am-6:00pm – Dress Rehearsal	
Tuesday, May 7	5-9pm – Tech Night – Full Show	<i>Closed to the public</i>
Thursday, May 9	<i>NEW!</i> 6:00pm – Sensory Show	
Friday, May 10	7:00pm – Ice Show	
Saturday, May 11	11:00am & 4:00pm – Ice Show	
Sunday, May 12	1:00pm – Ice Show	

OPTIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The following clinics are highly encouraged for all members training to tryout this season or in upcoming seasons. Skaters in 5th grade and above and Free Skate 4 and above are eligible to participate.

Tuesday, November 28	Code: 23236	4:10-5:40pm – Optional Clinic	Fee: \$39R/\$49NR
Tuesday, December 5	Code: 23237	4:10-5:40pm – Optional Clinic	Fee: \$39R/\$49NR

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, December 11	Testing Cut-off for Icette Program Eligibility
Tuesday, December 12	Icette Program Tryout Registration Deadline
Monday, January 15	Specialty Tryout Registration Deadline
Saturday, January 20	Specialty Tryouts

ELIGIBILITY

Each tryout participant must choose **one** of the following eligibility requirements for both Winter sessions to be eligible for the Icette Program season. Skaters choosing to participate in the freestyle ice option should refer to “Freestyle Ice Eligibility Option” below for more details.

Free Skate Skating School class at the Northbrook Sports Center with 80% attendance rate for Session 1 & Session 2	OR	2 hours/week of freestyle ice at the Northbrook Sports Center with documented freestyle logs
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FREESTYLE ICE ELIGIBILITY OPTION

Skaters choosing to participate in freestyle ice for eligibility must inform the coach and Program Supervisor prior to Monday, January 8. Freestyle ice time will start to be counted as of Monday, January 8. Eligibility weeks coincide with Skating School session dates (concluding March 31). Skaters may complete additional hours on some weeks to make up for a loss of hours during others. Weekly practice logs will be provided upon request and must be submitted to the Program Supervisor on a weekly basis. The front desk will also have a sign in sheet for any skaters wishing to keep track at the time of purchasing freestyle ice time.

Skaters must participate during regular season freestyle ice. Winter break freestyle ice, public skating, cosmic, team practices, and rehearsal hours are not eligible.

ICETTE PROGRAM SKILLS LIST

The skills listed below are highly recommended for skaters training to become Icettes. The strength of skill performance will help to determine team placement, but skaters who master all of the skills are not guaranteed a position on the Dancette, Jr. Icette or Icette team. The Icette Program is based on a dance and theatrical background combined with the use of technical highlights throughout the routines.

ICETTE-STYLE FOOTWORK

- Front/Back T-Stops (Left and Right)
- Outside/Inside Show Stops (Left and Right)
- Chaîné Turns
- Split Falling Leafs
- Fan Kicks
- Rond De Jambes (Front and Back)
- Bauer Turn Bauer
- Inside Spread Eagle

ADVANCED SKILLS

- Outside Loops (LFO, RFO)
- Inside Loops (LBI, RBI)
- Brackets
- Inside Slide Stops (Right and Left)
- Mazurka
- Illusion (Forwards and Backwards)
- Twizzles – Single and Double (Right and Left)

TRYOUT GUIDELINES

VIDEOTAPING

Parents, coaches, and skaters will not be permitted to videotape skaters at the rink during the practice sessions on Friday or Saturday the week of tryouts. Each skater deserves the respect of practicing their routine/dance independently and free from worry that they are being watched, copied, or judged.

GROUP/SKATING ORDER

Skating order will be randomly selected during the night of the mandatory clinic. Skaters will be grouped by Jr. Icettes and Icettes. Each segment of the tryout will begin with a different skating order number.

TRYOUT TIMES

Tryouts are scheduled to begin at 1:10pm on Saturday, December 16. All skaters should arrive one hour before their warm-up time. Please check in at the Community Room to receive your number. All skaters should clear their schedules during the listed blocks of time, along with time before and after the tryout, to ensure no conflicts during tryouts and to accommodate for time changes that may occur.

TRYOUT ATTIRE

- For females: Black fitted shirt/tank top and black leggings - – no rhinestones or colored trim
- For males: Black skating slacks and a fitted black shirt – no rhinestones or colored trim
- Hair should be neatly tied back (half-up or ponytail) and slicked down – hairspray/gel highly recommended (no headbands); bobby pins will not be permitted on the ice
- Performance make-up
- Numbers will be pinned on the front of the shirt prior to warm-ups
- No previous Icette Program attire should be worn during any point of the tryout session (ex: Icette sweatshirt)
- No gloves permitted
- No underwear should be visible
- Hard guards required while in the holding room

CLOSED TRYOUTS

To maintain a level of objectivity, outside judges are brought in to ensure an equitable field for all skaters. The Director of Northbrook-On-Ice, Icette Program staff, and other Sports Center office staff will be present at the tryouts to assist in the execution of the tryout. Staff, non-staff coaches, and parents will not be allowed to view the tryout.

JUDGES

The judging panel is comprised of past Icette Program participants and/or those with experience in a variety of productions.

DANCETTE TRYOUT INFORMATION

This year, skaters wanting to become Dancettes will not need to try out*.

Dancette skaters will be required to know how to do two or more of the following skating maneuvers: *Spiral, Bauer, Biellmann, Spread Eagle (one direction only), Grab Spiral, 135 or 180, Hydroblade, Shoot-the-duck (backwards edge), Charlotte/Candlestick, moving splits, Johnny Slide.*

Reminder, Dancette qualifications are as follows: **6th grade or higher and in Free Skate 5 or above.**

**If too many skaters register for Dancettes than expected, we will hold a tryout after the Jr. Icettes at approximately 4:45pm.*

JUNIOR ICETTES TRYOUT INFORMATION

Dance Instruction: Friday, December 15 from 6:00 to 7:30pm

Tryout Date: Saturday, December 16

Jr. Icettes: 3:05-4:35pm (approximate and no guarantee – subject to change based on # of skaters trying out)

1ST SECTION OF TRYOUTS: DANCE PERFORMANCE (60%)

Participants will learn a 60-75 second dance at the mandatory dance instruction. The first performance will be executed as a whole group, the second by two large groups and the third performance will be done two at a time. The judges may request additional performances at that time.

2ND SECTION OF TRYOUTS: COMPULSORY ELEMENTS (40%)

Participants will be asked to perform compulsory elements. Groups of skaters will have a five-minute warm-up and then be asked to leave the ice. Skaters will be called individually and will pose at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the first element. Once the first element has been completed, skaters should pose at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the second element. Once the second element has been completed, skaters should pose again at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the third element. Once the third element has been completed, skaters should pose again at center ice, then exit the ice to conclude their tryout.

Skaters will not be prompted to execute their elements and instead need to continue with the stated pattern. Should the judging panel need more time to write comments and assign scores, the skater will be told to pause.

Skaters will have the opportunity to request a **reskate for one compulsory element** should they feel they are capable of a better attempt; however, this must take place **directly after the first attempt has been made once the skater has posed at center ice.** Judges will score the better of the two attempts. Skaters will not be prompted to perform a reskate and need to request the one reskate on their own.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- Single lutz or higher jump
- Spin (Option of solo or in combination) **Spin will be judged on quality not quantity of positions*
- Feature maneuver – Please choose **one** from the list below:
Spiral, Bauer, Biellmann, Spread Eagle (one direction only), Grab Spiral, 135 or 180, Hydroblade, Shoot-the-duck (backwards edge), Charlotte/Candlestick, split jump, Russian jump

SCORING

Since this is not a technical competition but a production by nature, scores are not solely awarded to the strongest skaters. Skaters must be proficient in their ability to dance and entertain in addition to their technical abilities.

The dance performance, spin and feature maneuver are scored on a 10 point scale related to execution. The single lutz or higher jump score is broken into two components: a 5 point scale for difficulty and a 5 point scale for execution of the maneuver.

Judges will score skaters within the set point range based on the categories listed below.

CATEGORIES WITH WEIGHTS

Dance Performance (60%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Icette Program skills (30%) • Presentation (30%) 	Compulsory Elements (40%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Lutz or Higher Jump (15%) • Spin (15%) • Feature Maneuver (10%)
Bonus Points: Number of years of participation in Northbrook-On-Ice (0.10/year) Number of years of participation in the Icette Program (0.25/year) Northbrook Park District Residents (0.25)	

SINGLE LUTZ OR HIGHER JUMP SCORING

Difficulty (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single lutz (1 point) • Single axel (2 points) • Double sal or toe (3 points) • Double loop or flip (4 points) • Double lutz or axel (5 points) 	Execution (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popped/Underrotated/Underrotated Fall/Wrong Edge (0 points) • Fully rotated fall (1 point) • Slow entrance, touch down on landing (2 points) • Slow entrance, shaky landing (3 points) • Speed into entrance, some speed on landing (4 points) • Powerful skating into entrance, strong landing with speed (5 points)
Difficulty Points + Execution Points = Overall Single Lutz or Higher Jump Score	

ICETTES TRYOUT INFORMATION

Dance Instruction: Friday, December 15 from 4:20 to 5:50pm

Tryout Date: Saturday, December 16

Ice times: 1:10-2:55pm (approximate and no guarantee – subject to change based on number of skaters trying out)

1ST SECTION OF TRYOUTS: DANCE PERFORMANCE (60%)

Participants will learn a 60-75 second dance at the mandatory dance instruction. The first performance will be executed as a whole group, the second by two large groups and the third performance will be done two at a time. The judges may request additional performances at that time.

2ND SECTION OF TRYOUTS: COMPULSORY ELEMENTS (40%)

Participants will be asked to perform compulsory elements. Groups of skaters will have a five-minute warm-up and then be asked to leave the ice. Skaters will be called individually and will pose at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the first element. Once the first element has been completed, skaters should pose at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the second element. Once the second element has been completed, skaters should pose again at center ice. After posing, the skater will perform the third element. Once the third element has been completed, skaters should pose again at center ice, then exit the ice to conclude their tryout.

Skaters will not be prompted to execute their elements and instead need to continue with the stated pattern. Should the judging panel need more time to write comments and assign scores, the skater will be told to pause.

Skaters will have the opportunity to request a **reskate for one compulsory element** should they feel they are capable of a better attempt; however, this must take place **directly after the first attempt has been made once the skater has posed at center ice**. Judges will score the better of the two attempts. Skaters will not be prompted to perform a reskate and need to request the one reskate on their own.



REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- Single Axel or higher jump
- Spin (Option of solo or in combination) **Spin will be judged on quality not quantity of positions*
- Feature maneuver – Please choose **one** from the list below:
Spiral, Bauer, Biellmann, Spread Eagle (one direction only), Grab Spiral, 135 or 180, Hydroblade, Shoot-the-duck (backwards edge), Charlotte/Candlestick, split jump, Russian jump

SCORING

Since this is not a technical competition but a production by nature, scores are not solely awarded to the strongest skaters. Skaters must be proficient in their ability to dance and entertain in addition to their technical abilities.

The dance performance, spin and feature maneuver are scored on a 10 point scale related to execution. The single axel or higher jump score is broken into two components: a 5 point scale for difficulty and a 5 point scale for execution of the maneuver.

Judges will score skaters within the set point range based on the categories listed below.

CATEGORIES WITH WEIGHTS

Dance Performance (60%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Icette Program Skills (30%) • Presentation (30%) 	Compulsory Elements (40%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Axel or Higher Jump (15%) • Spin (15%) • Feature Maneuver (10%)
Bonus Points: Number of years of participation in Northbrook-On-Ice (0.10/year) Number of years of participation in the Icette Program (0.25/year) Northbrook Park District Residents (0.25)	

SINGLE AXEL OR HIGHER JUMP SCORING

Difficulty (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single axel (1 point) • Double sal or toe (2 points) • Double loop or flip (3 points) • Double lutz (4 points) • Double axel (5 points) 	Execution (50%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Popped/Underrotated/Underrotated Fall (0 points) • Fully rotated fall (1 point) • Slow entrance, touch down on landing (2 points) • Slow entrance, shaky landing (3 points) • Speed into entrance, some speed on landing (4 points) • Powerful skating into entrance, strong landing with speed (5 points)
Difficulty Points + Execution Points = Overall Single Axel or Higher Jump Score	

RESULTS

- On the day of tryouts, the judges' scores are immediately entered onto a spreadsheet and the calculations are double-checked and judges' scores are reviewed for inconsistencies and/or bias.
- Team placement results with a finalized schedule and commitment contracts will be emailed to the main contact of each household on Sunday, December 17 by 10:00pm. Each team has the potential to field a maximum of 24 skaters; however, the actual amount fielded will vary season to season.

NO CONTACT PERIOD

The Program Supervisor and Icette Program staff will not be available for contact from the Friday before tryouts to the Tuesday morning after tryouts.

PARENT/SKATER CONFERENCES

If you have questions/concerns, we would like to speak to you in person. We are happy to meet with you on an individual basis. Blocks of time have been set aside for half-hour conferences with the Program Supervisor to review results and receive feedback on the skater's tryout. Skaters must be present for these meetings to take place. If you would like to schedule a conference, please call 847-291-2993.

GENERAL TRYOUT TIPS

FOR SKATERS

- Practice and review the Icette Program skills listed on page five.
- Eat healthy and be sure to get plenty of rest.
- Talk to past/present skaters who have been through the tryout; they can be an excellent source of information.
- Every time you practice, perform all moves "full out".
- If you make a mistake, don't panic! Show your ability to handle mistakes graciously and with confidence. Pick up where you left off, keep yourself calm and relaxed.
- Smile, make eye contact with the judges, and always show enthusiasm. Show your personality and have fun! The judges want to see who YOU are!

FOR PARENTS

- Prepare your skater for the possibility that they will not make the team they desire or have been on in previous years. If they choose not to accept other team options, are they okay with not being a part of the program?
- Encourage them to be realistic about their chances.

TENTATIVE TEAM PRACTICES

Until all teams have been fielded, practice schedules cannot be confirmed. We recognize the need to plan for the upcoming season; therefore, a tentative schedule has been provided for each team. Please note that days and times may change once teams have been fielded. Participants will be informed of any schedule changes prior to signing commitment forms for the season. Skaters who expect to miss numerous hours of practice due to other activities should reconsider their participation in the program.

DANCETTES		JUNIOR ICETTES		ICETTES	
January-February		January-February		January-February	
Off-Ice – Tuesdays 5-6pm		Off-Ice – Tuesdays 6-7:30pm		Off-Ice – Mondays 6:30-8:00pm	
March-May		March-May		On-Ice – Tuesdays 5:45-7:15am	
On-Ice – Thursdays 5:35-6:35pm		On-Ice – Thursdays 6:45-9:05pm		On-Ice – Thursdays 5:45-7:15am	
				January-May	
				Off-Ice – Sundays 5-6:30pm	
				On-Ice – Sundays 6:40-8:10pm	
				March-May	
				On-Ice – Sundays 9:30am-12:30pm	
				On-Ice – Mondays 6:30-9pm	

TEAM PAYMENTS

All families are required to provide a credit card and agree to the payment plan or pay the balance in full. Team payments include ice time, coaching/choreography fees, costumes, and locker room supplies. Seniors pay an additional \$125 for the senior number, costume, and collage in the program book.

If opting for the payment plan, four equal payments will be automatically processed at the time of registration, February 15, March 15, and April 15.

DANCETTES	JUNIOR ICETTES	ICETTES
(1) payment of \$300 OR (4) payments of \$75	(1) payment of \$640 OR (4) payments of \$160	(1) payment of \$820 OR (4) payments of \$205

ICETTE PROGRAM SWEATS

The payment for sweats varies for each team per season and is not included in the monthly payments. All skaters must purchase the team attire for Icette Action Shot night. Icettes must purchase the entire sweats outfit.

PARENT VOLUNTEERING OPTIONS (ALL TIMES ARE TENTATIVE)

Dress Rehearsal: 7:30am-1pm or 1-5:30pm

Tech Night: 5-9pm

Friday Show: 6-10pm

Saturday Afternoon Show: 10am-3pm

Saturday Night Show: 3-7pm

Sunday Show: 12-4pm

Parents in the Icette Program must devote their volunteer shifts to the locker room areas first. Once those times fill up, they can sign up for shifts in other areas, such as sales tables or the Community Room. Information regarding volunteer sign-up will be sent to each participant in the spring.

LOCKER ROOMS

Icette Program teams will use locker rooms for dress rehearsal days, tech night and all four shows. Head volunteers for each locker room will organize the snacks and water needed for each event. Team locker room assignments will be communicated before the shows.



REPORTING PROBLEMS

If you experience any hurtful behavior or harassment, report it directly to your team coach. If the coach cannot take care of the situation, the Program Supervisor and Facility Manager will be brought in; the situation will remain confidential to all parties involved.

FEEDBACK & QUESTIONS

If you have any additional questions, please email Ania Lopez, Program Supervisor, at alopez@nbparks.org. If the question is general and applies to all parents or skaters, the information will be emailed to all eligible to tryout.

