



Skate Ontario Super Series vs Skate Canada Summer Series
Message from Skate Ontario Technical Director

Dear coaches, athletes and parents in competitive skating in Ontario,

There have been some very significant changes to the competitive landscape in Canada over the last few months. One of the biggest changes has been the introduction of the Skate Canada Summer Series to all of the competitors in the Pre-Novice to Senior events throughout the country. As we all know, Skate Ontario has been running a Super Series event for the past two years, and will continue to do so in 2016. The Skate Ontario Super Series final events over the past two years have proven to be a huge stepping stone for all of the Ontario athletes in their pursuit of excellence moving through Sectionals, Challenge and Canadians. This year will be no exception. Ontario athletes have proven to be some of the most exceptional in the country, and competing against one another, head to head, for the title of Ontario Super Series Champion, has prepared each and every skater for the events that follow. The Skate Canada Summer Series will be another fantastic tool for everyone to use, to see where the athlete ranks within the country.

Both of these series will benefit the athletes of Ontario, and it is highly recommended that the athletes, coaches and parents participate in both of these events. The Skate Ontario Super Series will continue to have a final event, as we have over the past two years based on the summer event scores for each of the athletes. The Skate Canada Summer Series will also create a top list of athletes, for which they will receive a bye through Sectionals into Challenge, plus be invited to a seminar with Skate Canada. The Skate Ontario final gives the athletes a chance to go head to head with the best in the province before having to compete at Sectionals or Challenge, and the Skate Canada list provides a bye to an event that is important to all involved, and an opportunity to work with the other top athletes in the country in a seminar situation. Both results are tremendous opportunities for growth and development of the athletes and coaches. The most advantageous aspect, is that athletes can utilize the same summer competition events for both of the series scores. Skate Ontario will still allow one event for Pre-Novice, Novice and Junior to be a US based event, while the Skate Canada series will only accept domestic events for Pre-Novice and Novice, while allowing Juniors and Seniors to use US based events for score. In essence, you will not need to change your competition plans for the summer in order to participate in both series.

Skate Ontario is implementing some changes for 2016, which will be the introduction of the Juvenile events into the Skate Ontario Super Series. Skate Ontario will also be eliminating the Senior events as there are a smaller number of athletes at this level, and the Skate Canada Summer Series will be a better avenue for this group. Another significant change to the series will be the elimination of the bursary awards at the end of the final. We will be substituting the bursaries, with seminar opportunities **for all participants of the Skate Ontario Super Series**. Skate Ontario Super Series finals winners will be given a

plaque with the title of Skate Ontario Super Series Champion, along with medals for all podium positions. The Super Series final will take place in Barrie at Oktoberfest in October, 2016.

With any and all changes in sport, come questions that need to be answered. My feeling is that it is in the best interest of the development of the Ontario athletes to be a part of both the Skate Canada Summer Series, and the Skate Ontario Super Series. The introduction of our Super Series to the Juvenile skaters allows a new group to become involved in a head to head opportunity with the best in the province. Both series will drive our sport to greater heights and allow Ontario and Canadian athletes to excel in any event throughout the world.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly through email technicaldirector@skateontario.org.

Thank you,

Scott Rachuk
Skate Ontario-Technical Director