



# Ice Dance Etiquette

## Welcome to the Minneapolis Ice Dance Weekend

### Sponsored by the

### Starlight Ice Dance Club of the Twin Cities.

Potentially dangerous situations can occur if there are too many people on the ice at once or if a couple overtakes the couple in front of them. We also want to ensure that everyone gets to dance as much as possible. So that everyone has the best possible experience, please adhere to these guidelines.

### Flights

We skate two flights of each dance so that everyone can have a chance to skate. If there are more ladies than men:

- **LADIES:** If you dance the 1st flight, please defer to those who did not before pursuing a 2nd flight dance.
- **GENTLEMEN:** Please try to dance the 2<sup>nd</sup> flight with a lady who did not dance the 1<sup>st</sup> flight.
- **ADVANCED SKATERS:** If it's crowded, please give less advanced skaters a chance to skate the low level dances. You know they won't be skating the high level dances.

### Avoiding Overlap

Overlap occurs when two couples are trying to occupy the same spot on the ice and is inherently dangerous. Safe distance will always be maintained if everyone starts properly and then skates the pattern at the same speed and correct tempo.

- **Starting a Dance.** At the start of a dance, skaters should queue up on both ends of the rink. Once the first couple reaches the other end, couples still in the queue should wait for the next flight. Enter the dance only if you can maintain a safe distance between the couple in front of and behind you.
- **Solo Skaters and Flocks.** Please allow all couples to start their dances ahead of you and all couples the right of way during dances.
- **Right of Way – Majority Rules.** Because skaters of all levels attend this event, right of way will be given to the majority skating that dance. In other words, if slower skaters predominate, then fast skaters should adjust or yield. Similarly, if faster skaters predominate, slower skaters should yield or bail out.
- **Maintain Tempo.** Correct spacing can be maintained only if everyone skates the steps in the correct number of beats. If a dance is challenging for you so that you cannot skate a complete pattern on tempo, please let the advanced skaters start first.

Please keep an eye out for each other and exercise good judgment and common courtesy while on the ice. We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable ice dance experience.

Thank you for your cooperation. Enjoy the weekend! We are happy that you are here.