



# The Skating Club of Boston



**The Skating Club of Boston  
900 Worcester Street  
Wellesley, MA**

**January 12, 2015**

The Skating Club of Boston is pleased to provide the following information to the 900 Worcester Street Committee in support of its desire to develop the 900 Worcester Street property in Wellesley, MA as the new home of The Skating Club of Boston. The highlights of the Club's proposal are outlined in the following information summary.

### **Background for The Skating Club of Boston**

The Skating Club of Boston (the "Club") is a 501(c) (3) non-profit institution incorporated in 1912, making it the third oldest skating club in the United States. The Club is a founding member of U.S. Figure Skating, the governing body for the sport in the United States and a member of the USOC. The Club is also one of only three U.S. Figure Skating clubs [450 total member clubs] to own its own facility. With its recent centennial anniversary, the Club has over 100 years experience in all elements of managing ice-skating facilities, programming and events, including related community programs. With its demonstrated history of producing skaters that reach the upper echelons of national and international competition, its unmatched event management experience, and its vibrant and expanding skating school offering children and adults the best instruction for learning how to skate, the Club is one of the most respected and admired skating institutions in the United States.

With a growing membership of more than 600 members, including 37 members who are Wellesley residents, the Club is a community of families, athletes and professionals united by a love of skating and a commitment to bringing excellence to every facet of the sport. Through the richness of its programs, the quality of its coaching and administrative staff, and the energy of its members, the Club ensures that all of its skaters have the opportunity to pursue their dreams while also giving back to the community. From the recreational skater to the Olympic athlete, the singles skater to the team member, the beginner to the lifelong enthusiast, The Skating Club of Boston continues to add to its premiere place in the figure skating world on a daily basis.

## **Proposed Facility at 900 Worcester Street**

The Skating Club of Boston anticipates the following plans for its new facility:

- A. **Three Skating Rinks** One surface will be an Olympic size rink and the other two will be NHL size rinks. The main performance arena [Olympic size surface] will have seating for 2,000 people, which will be used for approximately 10 events per year. These will include *Ice Chips*, the longest running ice show in the world, as well as other regional, national and international competitions.



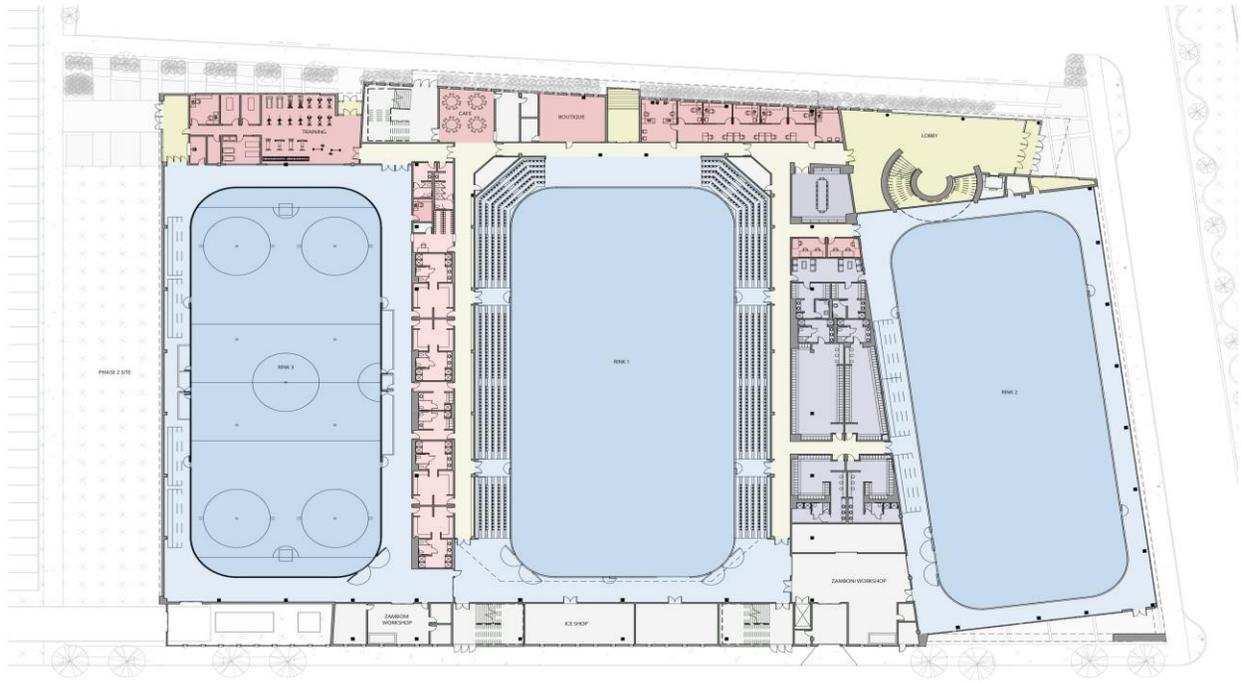
- B. **Café** There will be a café with seating in a temperature-controlled environment.
- C. **Boutique** There will be a boutique that will offer a selection of merchandise appropriate for all users of the facility.
- D. **Dance Studio** There will be a dance studio with classes and instruction for skaters and all members of the community, including adults.
- E. **Off-Ice Training Facility** There will be an off-ice training center for endurance and strength training.

- F. **Locker Rooms** There will be separate ladies and men’s locker rooms for both figure skaters and hockey players.
- G. **Library/Function Room** There will be a library and multi-function room, which will serve as a meeting and conference room.
- H. **Quiet Study Areas** There will be quiet study rooms for students who wish to take advantage of their time between on-ice and off-ice training at the facility.
- I. **Club Room**. This room, on the second floor overlooking two of the rinks, will include a full professional kitchen. It will be used for Club dinners and other special events, with additional availability for rental to the community.



The new facility’s design is intended to provide a fully functional skating and athletic facility, along with an environment that fosters social interaction, community building and friendships; not only among children but also among parents and other adults in the surrounding community. With its social dinners and other special events, The Skating Club of Boston is much more than a place to skate. It is a community institution where memories are made, lifelong friendships are forged and many dreams are realized.

# First Floor



12/3/13

THE SKATING CLUB OF BOSTON

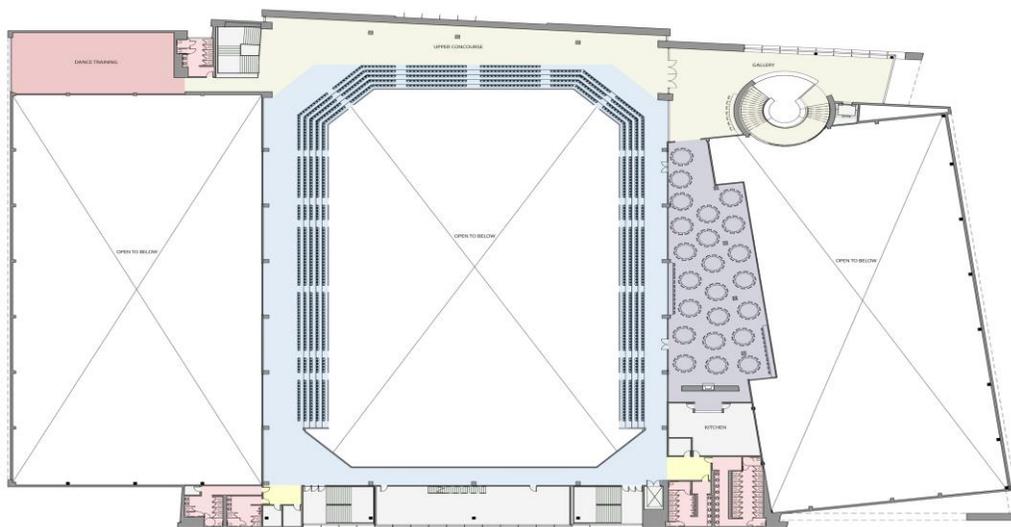
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

ARC Architectural Resources  
Cambridge

176 LINCOLN STREET



# Second Floor



12/3/13

THE SKATING CLUB OF BOSTON

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

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## **Programming**

With its move to Wellesley, The Skating Club of Boston plans to continue its legacy as the unequaled leader in promoting the sport, and excellence in all of the skating disciplines. With two additional rinks, the Club will be able to capitalize on unmet demands for ice time, expand its programs, including its offerings to the public, and create additional opportunities for its competitive skaters. In addition, the Club will initiate a comprehensive dance program that will be available not only to skaters, but to members of the community of all ages. The following summarizes the Club's planned programming.

- A. **Men, Ladies, Pairs and Dance** These are the traditional programs of figure skating and widely enjoyed on television and in the news. The Club recently fielded a pair team at the Sochi Winter Games that won the U.S. Olympic Team bronze medal.
  
- B. **Team Skating** Synchronized Skating and Theatre-on-Ice are two of the fastest growing U.S. Figure Skating disciplines, with synchronized skating likely to be added to the 2018 Winter Games in Pyeongchang, Korea. These are programs that create a unique opportunity for skaters who wish to train and compete in a team environment, whether it is the highly skill-based skating required for synchronized skating, or the more performance-based skating of Theatre-on-Ice.
  
- C. **Skating Academy** The Skating Club of Boston's Skating Academy has grown to be New England's premier skating school, offering top-quality instruction in all of the U.S. Figure Skating basic skills programs, for both children and adults. This includes a combined curriculum offered in conjunction with USA Hockey, and a therapeutic skating program for children with a variety of learning, physical and emotional challenges. The Skating Academy currently offers multiple programs at 5 locations in the greater Boston area.
  
- D. **Public Skating.** The demand for public skating (recreational skating sessions that are open to anyone with the interest to skate) is another popular offering that will be expanded with the addition of multiple ice surfaces. These sessions are great family entertainment for children and adults of all skill levels. These offerings help incorporate the Club into the fabric of the community.

- E. **Hockey.** One of the NHL-sized rinks will be primarily dedicated to hockey with seating for approximately 500 spectators. There will be separate locker facilities for both men and women. The Skating Club of Boston will prioritize demand from Wellesley institutions (schools and WYH), and enter into agreements on scheduling and any other matters. The Club also anticipates offering hockey ice time for executive leagues and other adults, and would also designate priority for Wellesley residents.
- F. **Dance.** There will also be an active dance program that will be available to members of the community of all ages.

### **Community and Charitable Activities**

As a charitable 501 c (3) non-profit corporation, the mission of The Skating Club of Boston includes engaging in community and charitable activities for the benefit of the surrounding community. The following is a sample of some of the ways that the Club engages as a community resource.

- A. **Skate Therapy** As previously mentioned, this programs provides opportunities to skate for youth with a wide range of mental, emotional, physical challenges.
- B. **Skating in the Schools** This unique program provides students with experiential learning through a combined after school skating program and in school curriculum.
- C. **Ice Chips.** The Club's annual ice show that benefits local groups including Boston Children's Hospital and the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts.



D. **The Boston Common Frog Pond.** The Club manages this iconic facility on a year-round basis in a public/private partnership with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. Through this relationship, the Club operates the Frog Pond to provide four seasons of family entertainment, including a year-round offering of events, programs and shows that are free to the public.

E. **High Profile Events in Boston** The Skating Club of Boston has hosted and will host the following events in Boston, some of which have generated approximately \$25 million in visitor spending to the greater Boston area.

1. 2016 ISU World Figure Skating Championships [March 2016]. This will be the first time that the World Championships have ever been held in Boston. (TD Garden)
2. 2014 and 2001 U.S. Figure Skating Championships (TD Garden)
3. 2013 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships (Boston University's Agganis Arena)
4. 2012 U. S. Synchronized Skating Championships (DCU Center in Worcester).

- 2009 U.S. Figure Skating Eastern Sectional and the 2012 New England Regional Championships (The Skating Club of Boston in Brighton).

F. **High-Profile Events in Wellesley** At its new home in Wellesley, the Club anticipates continuing its tradition of hosting top level competitive skating events which may include the following:

- U.S. Speed Skating Olympic Trials
- U.S. Figure Skating Eastern Regional and Eastern Sectional Championships
- U.S. Sectional Synchronized Skating Championships

### **900 Worcester Street Site**

Given the site constraints relating the floodplain and wetlands, the Club will reconfigure its footprint to fit within these requirements. See the revised footprint below. The Club is confident that it will be able to provide all the facilities and programming in this revised design that are outlined above. This design also anticipates providing just under 200 parking spaces, which is sufficient for the Club's day-to-day requirements.

