



February 15, 2006 - revision

It has come to the attention of the Jackson Hole Figure Skating Board (JHFSC Board) that there is interest in club skaters learning and performing somersault style jumps (e.g. back flip). Without knowing the extent of the interest and how soon the skater would perform the jump, the JHFSC Board has taken the following steps:

1. Inquired with the JH Invitational Competition Chairman, Gary Merrell, whether this type of jump will be allowed at any JH Invitational competition. As Competition Chairman, Gary response was, "absolutely not."
2. Inquired with Jack Searle, Chief Referee of the 2006 JH Invitational whether this type of jump will be allowed. Mr. Searle's response was, "absolutely not."
3. Inquired with the USFS National Competition Chairman, Larry Kriwanek, what the USFS rules are on the matter. Mr. Kriwanek's response was that these jumps are not allowed under rule SSR 3.27E, "Somersault type jumps are forbidden."

Based on the response of these three USFS Officials and the fact that the Invitational is a USFS sanctioned event, the JHFSC Board has no choice but to ***not allow somersault type jumps*** at any JH Invitational competition. In light of the rule clarification and after careful consideration of the potential liability to the club, the JHFSC Board, voted to amend the club policy regarding somersault type jumps effective immediately:

"No somersault jumps are allowed by amateur JHFSC member skaters in any JHFSC performance, exhibition, or USFS sanctioned event. No amateur club skater is allowed to learn, practice or perform somersault jumps during JHFSC class time or club ice. The repercussion of such unauthorized activity is immediate termination of membership for the skater in Jackson Hole Figure Skating club as well as immediate termination of the Guardian or Senior member responsible for the skating club member."

This policy and repercussion may be deemed harsh; however, the club is responsible to USFS, fellow club members regardless of membership level, and the overall well being and safety of all active club skaters. The club's policy does not change the consequences from USFS judges, referees or competition chairs and the JHFSC skater will assume all responsibility and liability should a somersault jump be considered in a USFS sanctioned event.

Respectfully posted to all JHFSC Club Members and Coaches,

Leslie R. Montgomery
JHFSC President