



# Indianapolis Junior Roller Derby

## Welcome to IJRD!

IJRD is a parent-run, non-profit, volunteer organization operating to provide an opportunity for junior skaters to participate and excel in the sport of roller derby.

We are an inclusive organization and support all skaters and their families regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, body type, sexual orientation, citizenship, abilities, etc. and expect all adult members and skaters to treat each other with respect and kindness.

### IJRD Skaters

**IJRD accepts skaters ages 7 to 17.** Our skaters range from beginners who may have only been on skates a few times to world-class junior derby athletes. Our volunteer coaches work with skaters where they are and help them to learn and improve at their own pace. IJRD skaters train hard, have fun, respect their teammates and coaches, and love the sport of roller derby. Our Varsity and JV teams compete throughout the Midwest and, at times, will bout as far away as the east coast, southern US, or west of the Mississippi.

As skaters improve, their skills and knowledge of the sport will be assessed by the coaches. The athletic committee will select skaters for the JV and Varsity teams based on their knowledge, skills, teamwork, and dedication. Transfer skaters will also be assessed by the athletic committee upon joining to determine the appropriate level for each skater.

Potential skaters and their parents/guardians are encouraged to observe a practice session before joining to meet current skaters and coaches and ask any questions they may have. Contact [membership@ijrd.org](mailto:membership@ijrd.org) to make arrangements. Practice is at a private facility so only skaters and family may attend. Our current practice schedule is as follows:

#### Rookie and JV skaters

- Monday 5:30-7:00pm
- Friday 6:00-7:30pm

#### Varsity skaters

- Wednesday 6:00-7:30pm: Varsity skaters
- Friday 7:30-9:30pm: Varsity skaters only

In addition to practices, JV and Varsity skaters participate in open scrimmages on designated Friday evenings during regular practice time. Rookie skaters are encouraged to stay and watch and parents are encouraged to use this time to learn and practice non-skating official roles.

### IJRD League

IJRD is managed by a volunteer board of directors made up of parents/guardians of skaters. Everything we do relies on the involvement of our great group of adult members (skaters' parents, guardians, and, in some cases, grandparents too!) We all work to make sure important roles are filled each season and returning members help new ones each season to learn the ins and outs of this exciting sport. Everyone comes together on home bout days to help and cheer on all of our skaters.



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## What It Costs

**Annually** (due upon joining and in January each following year)

Each calendar year there are two annual fees, the membership fee and the insurance fee.

1. **Annual Membership Fee - \$55 per family** (The annual membership fee covers all skaters in a family living together in the same household.)
2. **Annual Athos Insurance Fee - \$20 per skater** (The Athos accident insurance covers skaters during practices, bouts, and outside events while on skates.)

## Monthly

**Monthly Dues - \$40 per skater/month**

In addition to the two annual fees, monthly dues are due for **each month of official practice**. There are **no official practices in December, July, and August**. New members do not pay monthly dues for their first month in IJRD. Dues are due the 1st of each month. If dues are paid after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month they will be considered late and will be assessed a \$5.00 late fee. Spring practices begin the middle of January but no dues are assessed for that month.

\* **Monthly Dues Multi-skater Discount:** If there is more than one skater in a family living in the same household, the dues for the first skater in the family are the standard \$40/month and dues for other family member skaters are \$20/month.

\*\* **Monthly Dues Paid-in-full Discount:** If you pay your monthly dues all at once for a season (Fall: due in September; Spring: due in February), you receive a 10% discount. The paid-in-full discount does not stack with the multi-skater discount.

## What the Fees Pay

The Membership Fee and Monthly Dues ensures that we pay the necessary fees to remain members in good standing with the Junior Roller Derby Association (JRDA), our sanctioning body, as well as provides

- access to our practice facility for weekly regular practices
- training equipment for our coaches and supplies for our medic
- opportunities for our skaters to participate in festivals, parades, and other activities,
- scrimmage shirts for each skater
- facility rental, officials, supplies, food, etc. for our home bouts,
- end-of-season festivities and awards
- and much more!



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## Payment Methods

Payments may be made by Check, PayPal, or by Credit Card (using Square). No other forms of payment are accepted by IJRD. Checks may be made payable to IJRD.

## Other Costs

- **League Jerseys:** Once a skater has advanced to JV and can be rostered for bouts they will need 2 IJRD jerseys (1 red and 1 black). Jerseys are ordered 2-3 times each year to allow members purchasing options. Jerseys are currently \$65 each. Rookies are also welcome to order a jersey.
- **Travel:** For away bouts, all parents and skaters are responsible to pay for their own travel. This includes hotel rooms, gas, extra tickets to bout, and other associated costs with traveling.

## Equipment

**SKATERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO SKATE WITHOUT ALL REQUIRED EQUIPMENT.**

### Required Equipment

- **Quad Skates:** short boot with 4 wheels (no inline skates)
- **Protective Gear:**
  - helmet,
  - mouth guard,
  - wrist guards,
  - elbow pads, and
  - knee pads
- **Practice Shirts:** 1 plain black shirt and 1 plain white shirt with skater's name and number on the back (once the name and number have been checked)
- **Plain solid black leggings or shorts for bouts**
  - any color leggings or shorts allowed for practice
  - shorts are required to be at least 2" below the butt cheek
- Reusable Water Bottle



### Recommended Equipment

- Tailbone Protector or Hip Pads
- Outdoor Wheels
- Skate Tool

Skater without proper gear will not be allowed to "hang out" at the practice facility. Should they arrive at practice and find they are not prepared to skate, they will be expected to condition at the coach's discretion.



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## Volunteer Service Requirements

IJRD is a parent-run organization with no paid positions so we all work together to make sure everything gets done. because of this, it is **mandatory** for our adult members to volunteer in some capacity for the league. There are opportunities to serve throughout the year in different ways including helping with recruitment, marketing, fundraising, skater safety, etc. If committing to a larger volunteer position isn't possible, assisting with home bout days and scrimmages counts as meeting the service requirement.

### Home Bout Day Service

Home bouts require an all-hands-on-deck approach to make them work. A home bout includes 1 JV bout and 1 Varsity bout. We are responsible for **fully staffing all three bouts**. For **each** bout, in addition to setup and teardown, we need

- 11 Non-Skating Officials (NSOs)
- 2 people to staff the admissions table
- 2 people to staff the merchandise table
- 1 person to staff the check-in door
- 2 people for security
- 2 people for track maintenance
- 1 person responsible for skater food

That's 17 - 21 people multiplied by 2 bouts for a total of **42 spots** that need filled that day.

Because we can't have home bouts without filling these spots, **at least 1 adult member per skater\* is required to assist at all home bouts** when your skater is participating. Parents/guardians of non-participating skaters are strongly encouraged to also help out.

The most important positions, and the ones that have to be filled for the bout to happen, are the 33 NSO positions. Because of this, **at least 1 adult member for each skater\* must be trained on at least 2 of the Non-Skating Official (NSO) positions and must sign up for an NSO position at each home bout** when your skater is participating. Usually people sign up for one of the bouts their skater is not in so they can cheer them on. If folks sign up to NSO more than one bout, there may be more adults signing up for NSO positions than are available, so you'll also be asked for your preferred non-NSO position.

*Families that do not meet home bout day service requirements risk having their skater be ineligible to be rostered for future bouts.*

\* In addition to parents and guardians, older siblings and other close relatives/friends can help with home bouts. Note that they have to be over 18 years old to be trained to serve as an NSO.



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## Attendance Policy

In order to participate in bouts, IJRD requires skaters to regularly participate in league practice. A **minimum of 60% attendance** at regularly scheduled league practices is required to be eligible to be **rostered** for a bout. In the situation where a skater does not meet the required 60% attendance level, “makeup attendance credits” can be earned through certain other activities as long as the skater has attended at least 4 regularly scheduled IJRD practices in that month. Skaters can earn makeup attendance credits as follows:

- Credit equal to 1 IJRD practice can be earned for a practice or open scrimmage with another roller derby league.
- Credit equal to ½ an IJRD practice can be earned for participating in speed skate practice.
- Credit equal to ½ an IJRD practice can be earned for participating in other sporting events such as school athletic teams or cheer or other youth league sports.

## Travel Policy

We are a travel league. Our Varsity and JV teams compete throughout the Midwest and, at times, will bout as far away as the east coast, the southern US, or west of the Mississippi. Skaters and their families bear the cost of travel including food, lodging, tickets to the bout venue, etc.

Skaters rostered for away bouts are expected to travel. All effort will be made to inform families of the rosters as early as possible. Skaters should also inform their coach immediately upon learning of an immovable commitment during either fall or spring season. If we are not able to field a full roster for an away bout to which we have committed, we will have to pay a substantial cancellation fee. Additionally, cancelling harms IJRD’s reputation in the sport of junior roller derby which affects our ability to schedule future away bouts. *Rostered skaters who do not travel and do not have serious extenuating circumstances risk not being rostered for future away bouts.*

Dates and locations for away bouts will be announced in the IJRD Facebook group as soon as they are confirmed. Once an away bout is announced, all Varsity and JV skaters who have previously been rostered are expected to hold that bout weekend open and ensure they are able to travel if rostered.

## Communication

IJRD’s official means of communication is the Facebook group “IJRD Group for Parents, Coaches, & Skaters” (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1031652463543525/>). It is a private group so new members must request to be added. After clicking the Join Group button you will be asked for your skater’s name to verify your identity. **Only registered members will be added to the group.**