

# Bremerton FSC

## MERIT AWARD POLICY

### Believe, Dream, Achieve

Each year, your club gets the chance to say thank you for pursuing your skating dreams here with us, by supporting you with some of the costs of doing that.

merit [mer - it] (n.):

1. claim to respect and praise; excellence; worth
2. Something that deserves or justifies a reward or commendation; a commendable quality, act, etc..

#### Why is it called a “merit” award?

The first reason is in recognition of your commitment to your skating.  
The second is in recognition of your contribution to your club.

#### Who can get these?

You are eligible if:

- you have a current Individual, Family, or Professional Membership
- you have participated in a club fundraiser this season
- you have completed your volunteer hours

**I participated in a  
US Figure Skating sanctioned  
competition or test session, or  
professional development  
education this season.**

## BELIEVE AWARD

You may apply for a Believe Award  
using the attached form.  
The deadline is May 31st.

**My skating pursuits this season also  
included placing in a qualifying spot or  
earning an invitation to a  
US Figure Skating national event.**

## ACHIEVE AWARD

You may also apply for an Achieve  
Award using the attached form.  
The deadline is May 31st.

AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN OUT  
AT THE ANNUAL AWARDS  
CELEBRATION HELD AT THE  
CLOSE OF THE SEASON  
(SEASON RUNS JULY 1ST  
THROUGH JUNE 30TH).

## **FAQs**

### **1. Do I have to apply to get an Award?**

You should apply for the award(s) you want. If the club board is aware of a skater who qualifies for an Achieve Award who has not applied, it may still be awarded.

### **2. How much are the Awards?**

The amounts of awards will be determined by the board after the application deadline. This will give the board the ability to maximize what we are able to award for all our eligible skaters.

For Believe Awards, the board will set an amount that we believe reflects a majority of the current cost to register for a competition or test session; in recent years that has been between \$50 and \$75. If a skater withdraws from the event, or a professional from the education course after having received Merit funds, the monies must be refunded to the Club.

For Achieve Awards, the board will make an evaluation of the funds we have at our disposal and the number of eligible skaters. The aim is to support these skaters by defraying a portion of the substantial costs associated with participation in these qualifying and national events.

### **3. Which events are Achieve Award eligible?**

Competition structures and opportunities are constantly changing and being created and we want to be adaptable to that. Guiding rule will be, if you have to qualify or earn an invitation, it's eligible. Some current examples: National Excel Festival, National Showcase, NQS Sectionals.

### **4. I don't compete but I do test. Can I get a Merit Award?**

Yes, not all skaters choose to compete but your club would still love to support you on your skating journey. You may apply for a Believe Award for a testing expense.

### **5. Can a skater receive both Believe and an Achieve Award in the same year?**

Yes!

### **6. Why are fundraising and volunteer hours required to be eligible? What if I pay my unmet volunteer hours?**

Participation in fundraising and completion of volunteer hours are part of the agreement you make when you join and/or renew your membership each season. Supporting your club in those ways allows your club to support you in this way and many others. No, paying the unmet volunteer hours fee will not satisfy that eligibility requirement.

### **7. We have more than one skater on our membership. Can each skater receive an award?**

Because they are so low, Additional Family Member fees contribute very little to Merit Awards funds. Accordingly, additional skaters in a family may only be eligible for an award for each additional instance of fundraising participation your family has completed in a year (for example: family contributes a basket to the auction and one skater gets sponsors for a Frozen 5K or family contributes two baskets to the auction à the family may apply for Awards for two skaters). No additional volunteer hours are expected.

### **8. Why aren't Crossover, Introductory Individual, Introductory Family, Associate, and Supporting Adult membership categories eligible?**

Introductory Individual and Introductory Family are discounted memberships not eligible for full club benefits.

Crossover and Associate memberships are Limited memberships and not eligible for full club benefits.

Supporting Adult memberships are non-skating memberships.

### **9. What are my required volunteer hours?**

Family memberships are required to complete 10 hours (5 if you joined December 1st or after).

Individual and Professional memberships are required to complete 5 hours (2.5 if you joined December 1st or after).

# Merit Award Application

Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Skater/Professional's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Award: **Believe** **Achieve**

Competition / Test Session/  
Professional Development: \_\_\_\_\_

Host Club/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of award payee: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to skater  
(if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach proof of registration (e.g., registration receipt, event schedule for skater, etc.)

*Bremerton FSC use only*

date received:		documentation attached:		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
membership category:	<b>Family</b> (not Introductory)	<b>Individual</b> (not Introductory)	<b>Professional</b>	<b>other:</b> (not eligible)	
volunteer hours met?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	Fundraising participation completed?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
approved:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	date paid:		
check #:			delivery method:	<b>hand-delivered</b>	<b>mailed</b>