

Eagle River Summer Skating School Staff 2022

June 13 – 24th, 2022

Joe Buckland

Joe is a staff coach at the Detroit Skating Club and Novi Ice Arena. Joe is a former British National champion and also competed at both the World and European championships. Joe coaches and partners all levels of ice dance. In addition, he does choreography and coaches through Senior Moves in the Field.

Collin Brubaker (updated 2022)

Collin is from Chicago, Illinois. He started skating at the age of six following in the footsteps of his older siblings. Collin is a former team USA member. He is a US National Junior Silver Medalist and represented the USA in ISU Junior World Championships, ISU Grand Prix Skate Canada, and other international competitions. After finishing his competitive career, he completed his degree in Finance & Communications at Eastern Michigan University.

Alex Gamelin (updated 2022)

Alex is a 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games competitor, 2017 & 2018 World Championships competitor, and two-time South Korean National Ice Dance Champion. He is also a former Team USA competitor and a USFS Triple Gold Medalist in Free Dance, Pattern Dance, and MIF. He has trained under 1994 & 1998 Olympic Champion, Evgeny Platov, and most recently, under the coaching team lead by world-renowned ice dance coach and choreographer, Igor Shpilband. Alex has been coaching since 2008 and has worked with students from their very first steps in the Learn to Skate Program to world ranked international competitors. He has helped his students achieve USFS Gold Medal status in Pattern Dance and MIF.

Brandon Mroz (updated 2022)

Brandon is a staff professional at the Colorado Springs World Arena Ice Hall, a world renown USOC training site. He specializes in free-style, choreography and off-ice jump training. As a skater, Brandon's list of accomplishments are highly impressive. In 2011 he was recognized by both the ISU and US Figure Skating to be the first skater to land a quad lutz in competition. He was the US Men's Olympic alternate for the Vancouver Winter Games in 2010. In the same year, he took third place at the Trophee Eric Bombard and second place at the Grand Prix Cup of China. In 2009, Brandon was the Senior Men Silver Medalist at US Nationals and he also finished ninth at the World Figure Skating Championships. After finishing a successful competitive skating career, Brandon was a professional show skater from 2014-2019.

Otar Japaridze

Otar has been coaching since 2008. His students have competed at the Junior US Figure Skating Championships, National Solo Dance Championships, ISU Junior Grand Prix and other numerous competitions. He has also taken many skaters through their tests which include achieving Gold levels of testing. As a competitor in ice dance, Otar has participated in many major international competitions including the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and three World Championships.

Joel McKeever (updated 2022)

Joel is a 10-time National competitor, 9-time International competitor, 2-time World competitor, qualified for 1998 Olympics. He holds the National Champion title for Fours in 1991. As a skating professional he has 26 years of coaching experience and teaches Singles, Pairs, Moves in the Field, Power classes and Stroking. Joel's current & past Clients include UD Collegiate Team; Intermediate, Novice & Junior US Pairs Champions in addition to extensive numbers of skaters who have passed Senior Moves, Freestyle and/or Pairs. Joel is an outstanding technical coach and places an emphasis on good sportsmanship and manners that build character.

Marcie Kierpiec (updated 2022)

This will be Marcie's 34th year as an Eagle River Summer School staff coach with 37 years coaching experience. She is a Junior National Coach who spent 19 years in Delaware as a staff professional at both the University of Delaware Training Center and the Skating Club of Wilmington and now currently resides in Michigan. She has to her credit US and Canadian Gold Dances, Senior and Junior International Dances, Novice Freestyle, Silver Free Dance, 6th Figure and is a certified Level 4 hockey coach with USA Hockey. Marcie coaches all levels of dance, moves in the field and P.O.W.E.R. Hockey, and specializes in the latter two disciplines. In addition to her skating and coaching credentials, Marcie holds both a BA (Michigan State University, '91) and MA (West Chester University, '11) in French. She recently completed her BS degree in Exercise Science (December '16) with an emphasis in strength and conditioning at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Her final semester consisted of an internship with USA Hockey's NTDP in Plymouth, MI. In addition to coaching figure skating at camps in Michigan and Wisconsin, she is a full time P.O.W.E.R. Skating instructor for AA and AAA teams in lower Michigan and off-ice strength coach for individual hockey players.

Elena Rodrigues

Elena is a USFS Gold Medalist in Freestyle, Moves, Dance and Solo Free Dance and has passed all International Dances. She has 15 years teaching experience and has been on coaching staff for the Eagle River summer skating school since 2013 and currently coaches at the Pettit National Ice Center in Milwaukee, WI. She specializes in teaching all levels of freestyle, choreography, and moves in the field but has also had much success coaching skaters through high level ice dance tests. She has passed the Registered Sports Science exam and Basic Accreditation through the Professional Skaters Association and is actively pursuing more ratings. She is also a coach to Regional competitors at the qualifying level. As a skater, Elena was an ISU Junior World, ISU Four Continents, and Winter University Games competitor. Elena earned a BS in Kinesiology and Health from Miami University with a double minor in Coaching and Management and Organizations where she competed for both the Miami University Synchronized Skating program and also the Intercollegiate Freestyle Team. Elena also has earned an Associates Degree in Nursing.

Brittyni Carlson (updated 2022)

Brittyni has 5 years experience performing as a professional ice skater, in which 4 of those years included touring and skating in Europe with Holiday on Ice. During her travels and in between contracts she trained at the International Skating Academy in Utrecht, Netherlands, trained adagio/pairs skating in Australia with Olympic coaches, and also worked with a principle pair team from Disney on Ice. In addition to skating with Holiday on Ice, Brittyni performed in various other shows around the United States under multiple short term contracts. Her testing credentials include achieving her USFS Senior Freeskate test, USFS Senior Moves test, USFS Gold Dance test, USFS Senior Solo Freedance test, and USFS Preliminary Pairs Test. Professionally, Brittyni has 17 years coaching experience which include 3 years with the Medford Figure Skating Club, 6 years with the Timberline Figure Skating Club and 8 years with both the Valley and Greater Green Bay Figure Skating Club where she currently teaches on a full-time basis.

Kourtney Hyland (Rowe) (updated 2022)

Kourtney has passed USFS level tests including Senior MIF (as well as the Senior Supplemental MIF), Adult Gold Freeskate, Gold Dance and all International dances, Canadian Gold Dance, Senior Solo Freedance, First Figure, and Pre-Juvenile Pairs. Kourtney graduated from UW-Stevens Point with a Bachelors degree in Biology with double minors in Psychology and Coaching as well as an Associates in Forensic Science. She has been coaching for 14 years, specializing in moves and dance. Skaters have accomplished USFS gold medals in moves, solo free-dance, dance, and international dances.

Danielle Wolosek

Danielle has passed tests through Senior Moves in the Field, Senior Partnered Free Dance, Gold Dance, all 10 International Dances, Canadian Gold Dance, Junior Free Skate, Intermediate Pairs, as well as Preliminary and 1st Figures. She has been skating since she was 4 years old and has realized a few years ago that her true passion is coaching. In order to learn more about the competitive nature of the sport, IJS and high Freestyle technique, Danielle has taken advantage of the opportunity to travel back and forth from Wisconsin to Colorado in order to learn from Olympic level coaches at the 7K International Skating Academy. She continues to share her love of skating with all of her students as she makes them smile, while continuing to train them to be the best skaters they can be.

Grace Hoger (updated 2022)

Grace has passed USFS level tests including Senior MIF, Junior Freeskate, Gold Dance, and Preliminary Figures. Grace currently attends Winona State University working towards a bachelors degree in Cellular Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. She has been skating for 21 years and coaching for 8 years. She currently competes collegiality for the WSU figure skating team. She loves to work with students and share her passion for the sport.

Montana Grabowsky

Montana has passed USFSA tests including Senior Moves in the Field, Gold Ice Dance & 4 International, Canadian Gold Dance, Juvenile Freeskate, Senior Solo Free Dance, and Juvenile Pairs. Montana is currently attending UW-Stevens Point for Marketing and is also taking coaching classes. Montana has been skating for 10 years, Learn to Skate instructor for 8 years, and 6 years professional coaching experience. Montana has also been choreographing programs and show numbers for the past 9 years. Montana enjoys coaching and showing her love for this sport to skaters.

Trina Kaczmarek (updated 2022)

Trina is a USFS Gold Medalist in Dance, Free Dance and MIF. She has passed her International Dances (original 5), Junior Freestyle, 6th figure and Intermediate Pairs. Trina grew up skating with the Eagle River FSC and also spent time training in Denver, Lake Placid, Indianapolis and the Twin Cities. While in college she trained in CA for a year where she competed with her ice dance partner in Pacific Coast Sectionals in Senior Dance. After graduating with a BS from UW-Stout she moved to Indianapolis to continue skating and begin her career. While there she auditioned for Disney on Ice and had the opportunity to skate internationally in Aladdin and Beauty and the Beast. Trina has 12 years of coaching experience.