

BEGINNING PRIVATE LESSONS: Frequently asked questions

Q: How does it work & how much does it cost?

A: Unfortunately, there isn't a straightforward answer to the cost question, but below you will find a brief breakdown. The total cost will depend on several factors; how often your child skates and for how long, and how much the hourly rate of the coach that you choose to arrange lessons with charges (we all set our own rates).

The first thing our skating director will do is ask that you provide me all days and times that your skater is available for lessons and let me know how many lessons they want weekly. That way they can begin searching for coaches who have availability that will line up with yours. In terms of the pricing to go in this direction, there are 3 components:

1. Ice Time

You will pay the rink for ice time. If you choose to sign a contract, the cost is \$12 per hour which you will pay when you register, with the option for payment plans if it is over \$300. If you prefer not to lock yourself in through the end of the contract, you can choose to pay "drop-in" which is \$18 per hour or \$9 per half hour. To go that route you will register online previous to every time you plan to have your child skate. You need to check-in at the front desk when you arrive to the rink.

2. Membership

To be on freestyle sessions and work with private coaches all skaters need to be full US Figure Skating members. As of July 1st each year you'll need to gain membership for your skater through the Lansing Skating Club as an Introductory Member for the first year, and a Standard Member every year after. You can do this at lansingskatingclub.com.

3. Coaching Fees

Our coaches are independent contractors who set their own rates and invoice their clients directly for their lesson fees. Our coaches typically bill their students once per month. Typically in our arena we give 20 minute or 30 minute lessons. Our coaches fees range from around \$45/hour to \$120/hour depending on background and experience!

Q: How long are the lessons?

A: Typically we give 20 or 30 minutes lessons. You can arrange with your coach whatever length of time you're comfortable with according to the age of your child and the recommendation of your coach.

Q: Who do I contact to get started or for more information?

A: Our Skating Director, Erin Banner, can be reached at ebanner@biggbycoffeeicecube.com if you have more questions about our program. If you would like to pursue private lessons, please email Erin with the days and times your skater is available for lessons, and how many lessons you would like them to have per week. Erin will work with the coaching staff to find an instructor who is interested and available to begin lessons with your child. Once a coach has responded to the request, you will receive an email with their contact information!

Q: What does my skater need to wear on Freestyle Sessions?

A: The best thing for them to wear is form fitting clothes that stretch easily. They will need gloves and long sleeves. Layers are helpful! Jeans, hoods, winter jackets, helmets and hockey skates are not allowed on freestyles.

Q: Where can I buy skates?

A: I recommend finding your coach first and letting them advise you further about purchasing skates! If you are in need immediately however, here is some information - unfortunately, we don't have many options in the Greater Lansing Area. We strongly recommend that all skaters are fitted in person vs. ordering online. Our preferred locations for skate fitting and purchasing are: Detroit Custom Skate Shop in Bloomfield Hills at (248) 335-8790 or Podium Skates in Garden City at (734) 525-1704.