

FEBRUARY 2009

# PCSSC

PARK CITY  
SPEEDSKATING  
CLUB  
NEWSLETTER



## SPEEDSKATE

### Did you know.....

At the 1988 Winter Olympics, held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, short track was a demonstration sport. It was upgraded to a full Olympic sport in 1992 and has been part of the Winter Olympics since. The program was expanded from 4 in 1992 to 8 in 2002.



FYI: Our new skater, Noah Tippetts, has broken his ankle and has been unable to attend practices. Noah, we wish you a speedy recovery!

# KNOW YOUR SKATER OF THE MONTH:

## Ricardo Velardi:



I was born in Mexico City in 1957. I was a member of a club that offered a lot of sports. With all my brothers, we spent a lot of time at the swimming pool. That was the first sport I competed in.

Later on I started to do some springboard and platform diving and that was the sport I did for many years. I traveled the world competing in diving for about fifteen years. During that time, with all my brothers we used to play tennis, badminton, squash, racquetball and judo. We played or did tournaments on most of them.

I came up to the U.S. in 1977 when B.Y.U. recruited me to compete on their diving team. One of my hobbies was and still is falconry. After I finished school I moved to Reno Nevada to work with a friend of mine on a breeding project for falcons. Besides breeding birds, I was training falcons that went to the royal families in Dubai, Bahrain, U. E. etc...

In Reno I met my wife Annette. She had a restaurant that sponsored a bike racing team, so I spent a few years doing a few races in California.

I can not recall how far back was it that I wanted to try a winter sport. I was traveling through Innsbruck Austria in 1975 a few months before the winter olympics, and I think since then it left me with the desire to try a winter sport, but of course it was impossible to do any of that in Mexico.

At around the year 2000 our son Ruli wanted to play hockey, so having the rink only two blocks away from our house, it was an easy thing. After Ruli's sessions, a group of skaters from the Oval would come down to do some very basic drills for Short Track Speedskating. That sure looked different and caught my attention. I spoke to the coach and he encouraged me to come up to the Oval and try it out. It was a little to far of a drive, so I only tried it about six time on long track.

After we moved up to Park City and we heard there were plans for a new skating rink, I felt I wanted to keep learning how to skate just to be able to stay on my feet.

There was no speedskating club yet, so I tried Hockey a few times. Figure skating never caught my interest, but soon after that the P.C. Speedskating club was form. I tried it a few times, probably one of the most difficult sports I have done but I fell in love with the sport, my best way to describe is like doing meditation with the benefits of getting a workout at the same time.

The skaters, coaches and the people involved in this sport are one of a kind, and has been one of the best things I have gotten involved during my adult life.

So keep skating and have fun.

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**\*\*\*\*\*Please note\*\*\*\*\***  
**NO DROP IN**  
**on Sunday February 1st.**  
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# FEBRUARY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <b>NO DROP IN</b>	2 	3	4 <b>NEW 6 WK SESSION</b> 6:30PM-8:00PM	5	6	7
8 <b>DROP IN</b> 09:15AM-11:00AM	9	10	11	12	13	14 
15 <b>DROP IN</b> 09:15AM-11:00AM	16 	17	18 <b>SKATE SESSION</b> 6:30PM-8:00PM	19 <b>RACE DAY</b> 5:30PM-7:30PM OVAL 	20	21
22 <b>DROP IN</b> 09:15AM-11:00AM	23	24	25 <b>SKATE SESSION</b> 6:30PM-8:00PM	26	27	28

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**\*\*\*NEW 6 WEEK SESSION BEGINS**  
**Wednesday February 4TH!**  
**6:30PM-8:00PM\*\*\***  
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**February Holidays**  
 Groundhog Day - 2  
 Valentines Day - 14  
 President's Day - 16