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Historical Roller Skating OVERVIEW

Issue No. 26

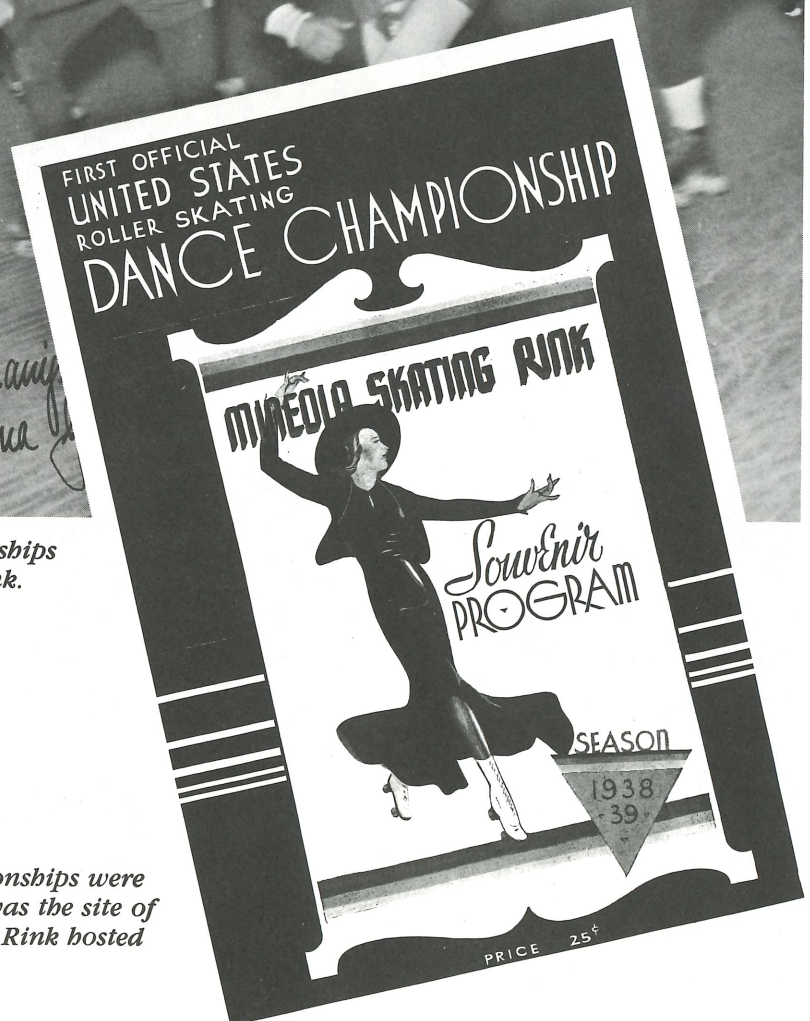
June 1988



The first U.S. national amateur speed championships were held in 1937 at Arena Gardens Skating Rink. (Gift of Richard and Marge Martin McLauchlen)

The National Championships

The first U.S. national amateur artistic championships were held in 1939. The Mineola (N.Y.) Skating Rink was the site of the dance competition. Detroit's Arena Gardens Rink hosted figures as well as speed. (Gift of Millie and Jim Ferris)



1940s

Gay Blades Rink, located in New York City, was the site of the 1946 championships. (Gifts of Richard and Marge Martin McLauchlen)



A ticket from 1941. (Gift of Albert Gaydos)



A sticker from the 1947 championships, the first one to be held in the West. (Gift of Roy E. Claudin)



A sticker from the 1949 competition. (Gift of Paul Gilbert)

1950s

The championships were held at Mammoth Garden in Denver, Colo., three times during the decade of the 'fifties. (Unless otherwise noted, the items pictured on this and the following pages were gifts to the museum from the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association.)



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ROLLER SKATING RINK OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Skating News

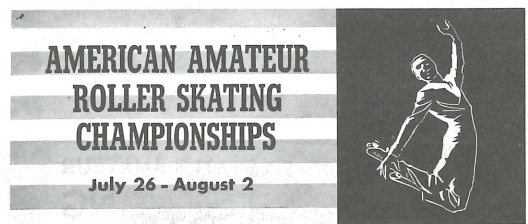


1954 CHAMPIONSHIPS ISSUE

The Roller Skating Queen Contest was a feature of the national championships until the mid-1970s.



A sticker from 1951. (Gift of Paul Gilbert)



1956
RSROA
OFFICIAL
SOUVENIR PROGRAM
50¢

RICHMOND ARENA
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIPS - AUGUST 2

1960s



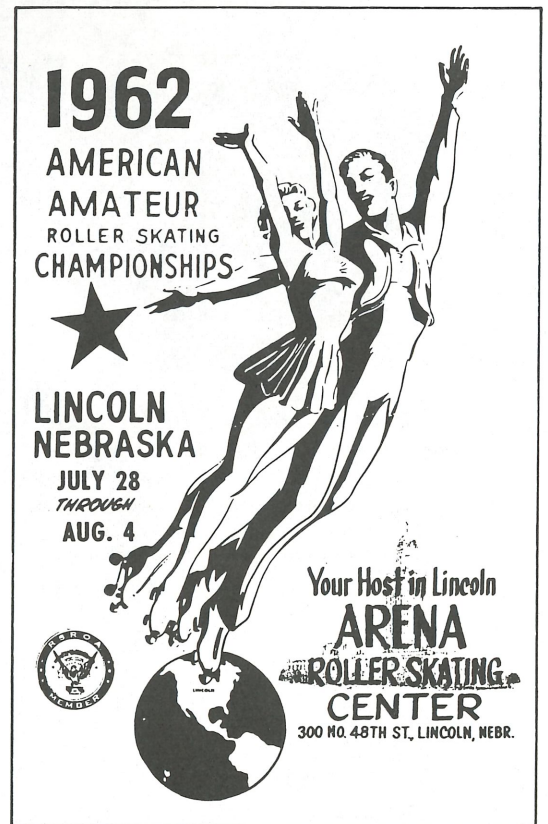
The competitor's patch, given only to entrants in the 1966 championships. (Gift of Adele R. Kiefer)



National championship competition for roller hockey began in 1961. The Rolling Ghosts of Lubbock, Texas, claimed the ball hockey title each of the first four years.



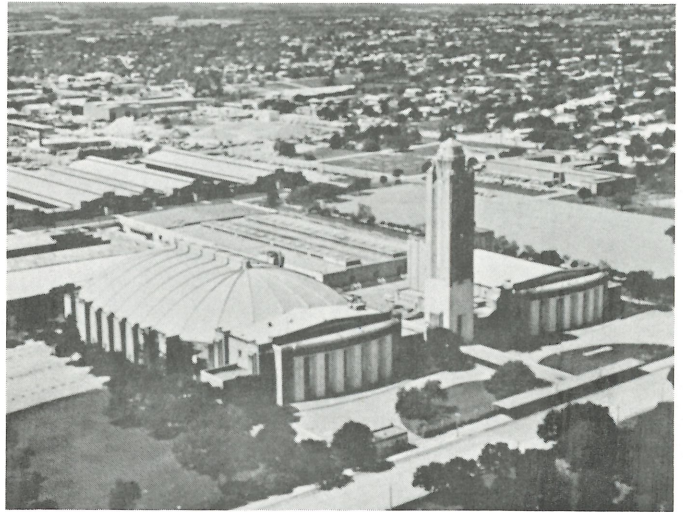
The 1968 awards ceremony for Juvenile Girls Singles. In addition to the award presented to each skater, a large challenge plaque or trophy was given to the club of the winner of each event to display for a year. In 1970, these awards were replaced by smaller plaques that could be kept permanently by the clubs.



A sticker from a Lincoln, Neb., rink.



1970s



Will Rogers Coliseum, Ft. Worth, Texas, was the site of nine national championships between 1961 and 1983.

The warm-up for a speed session at Pershing Auditorium in Lincoln, 1973.

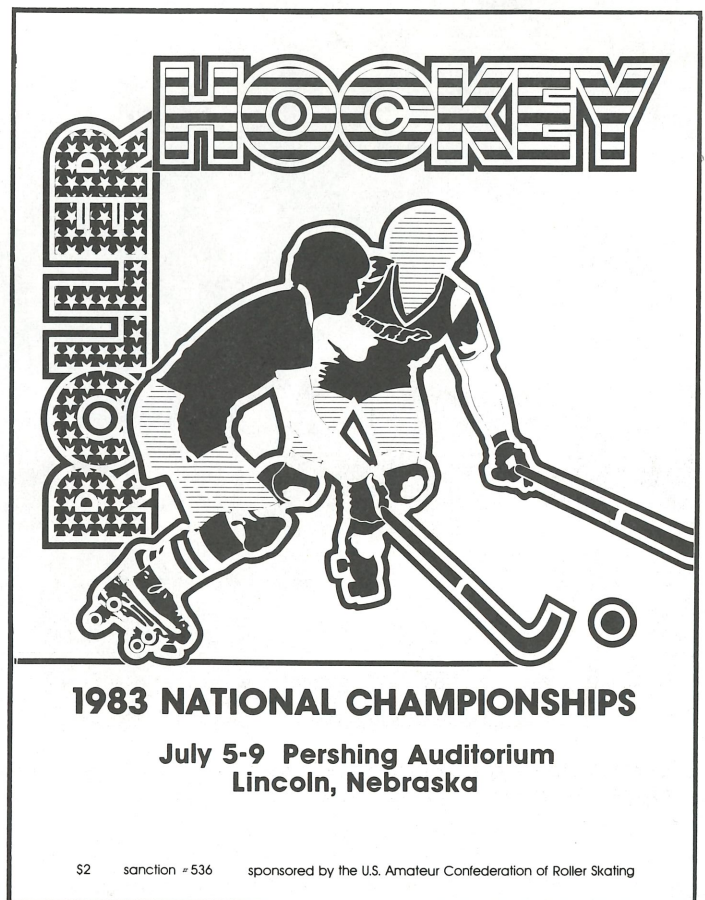
1980s



A souvenir patch from 1982. (Gift of the United States Amateur Confederation of Roller Skating)



A souvenir patch from 1986. (Gift of USAC/RS)



A program cover.

Sites of National Championships

Artistic and Speed

Year	Venue	City/State	Year	Venue	City/State
1937	Arena Gardens (speed)	Detroit, MI	1962	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1938	Sefferino Rollerdrome (speed)	Cincinnati, OH	1963	Memorial Coliseum	Portland, OR
1939	Arena Gardens (speed and figures) Mineola (dance)	Detroit, MI Mineola, NY	1964	Convention Center	Louisville, KY
1940	Cleveland Public Auditorium	Cleveland, OH	1965	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1941	Cleveland Public Auditorium	Cleveland, OH	1966	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1942	Convention Hall	Philadelphia, PA	1967	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1943	Arena Gardens	Detroit, MI	1968	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1944	Arena Gardens	Detroit, MI	1969	T.H. Barton Coliseum	Little Rock, AR
1945	Not held because of World War II		1970	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1946	Gay Blades	New York, NY	1971	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1947	Municipal Auditorium	Oakland, CA	1972	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1948	Rollercade	Cleveland, OH	1973	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1949	Riverside Stadium	Washington, DC	1974	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1950	Mammoth Garden	Denver, CO	1975	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1951	Rollercade	Cleveland, OH	1976	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1952	Mammoth Garden	Denver, CO	1977	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1953	Rollercade	Cleveland, OH	1978	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1954	Mammoth Garden	Denver, CO	1979	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1955	Rollercade	Toledo, OH	1980	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1956	Richmond Arena	Richmond, VA	1981	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1957	Oakland Auditorium	Oakland, CA	1982	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1958	Rollercade	Cleveland, OH	1983	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX
1959	Boston Arena	Boston, MA	1984	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1960	T.H. Barton Coliseum	Little Rock, AR	1985	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
1961	Will Rogers Coliseum	Fort Worth, TX	1986	Indiana Convention Center	Indianapolis, IN
			1987	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE
			1988	Pershing Auditorium	Lincoln, NE

Hockey

Year	Venue	City/State	Year	Venue	City/State
1961	Will Rogers Coliseum (ball)	Fort Worth, TX	1977	Foothill Skate Inn (ball)	Sacramento, CA
1962	Pershing Auditorium (ball and puck)	Lincoln, NE		Rainbow Rink (puck)	Houston, TX
1963	Memorial Coliseum (ball)	Portland, OR	1978	Skateland (ball)	Fort Smith, AR
1964	Convention Center (ball)	Louisville, KY		Rainbow Rink (puck)	Houston, TX
1965	Pershing Auditorium (ball)	Lincoln, NE	1979	Skateland (ball)	Fort Smith, AR
1966	Will Rogers Coliseum (ball and puck)	Fort Worth, TX		Rainbow Rink (puck)	Houston, TX
1967	Pershing Auditorium (ball and puck)	Lincoln, NE	1980	Jolly Time Skateland (ball)	Fort Worth, TX
1968	Pershing Auditorium (ball and puck)	Lincoln, NE		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
1969	T.H. Barton Coliseum (ball and puck)	Little Rock, AR	1981	Skateland (ball)	Fort Smith, AR
1970	Pershing Auditorium (ball and puck)	Lincoln, NE		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
1971	Gibson Arena (ball and puck)	Muncie, IN	1982	TC's Family Fun Center (ball)	Green Bay, WI
1972	Roll Arena (ball)	Lubbock, TX		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
	Skate Ranch (puck)	Lubbock, TX	1983	Pershing Auditorium (ball)	Lincoln, NE
1973	Skateland (ball)	Salem, OR		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
	Rollertime (puck)	Salem, OR	1984	Pershing Auditorium (ball)	Lincoln, NE
1974	Ice Arena (ball)	Des Moines, IA		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
	Roller Palace (puck)	Shelbyville, IN	1985	Jolly Time Skateland (ball)	Fort Worth, TX
1975	Ice Arena (ball and puck)	Des Moines, IA		Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
1976	Skate Ranch (ball and puck)	Lubbock, TX	1986	King's Skate Country (ball)	Reno, NV
				Aloha Rink (puck)	St. Louis, MO
			1987	Skateland (ball)	Fort Smith, AR
				Shore's Skateland (puck)	Mt. Clemmons, MI
			1988	Moon-Glo II Rink (ball)	Bedford, PA
				Shore's Skateland (puck)	Mt. Clemmons, MI

Curator's Corner

Museum Raffle

Congratulations to Beverly and Mitchell Thibodeaux of New Iberia, La., winners of the top prize of \$5000 in the 1988 raffle. The other lucky ones whose numbers were drawn on May 12 at the RSROA Convention in Orlando, Fla., are: \$250 - Jerry Derrick, Charleston, W. Va.; Gene Hodges, Fayetteville, N.C.; John Bing, St. Louis, Mo.; Lew Quintin, York, Pa.; Winnie Young, Mays Landing, N.J.; Bob Reinmann, Lake Oswego, N.Y.; Mary Sue Ferraro, Glens Falls, N.Y.; Ray Mead, Bellingham, Wash.; Al Kish, Toledo, Ohio; Recreational Sports Insurance, Barker, Texas; Alice Anselmi, Pontiac, Mich.; Scott Newberry, Schenectady, N.Y.; Peggy Beeghly, Littleton, Colo.; and Kay Bing, St. Louis, Mo. \$100 - Dee Hollenbeck, Montgomery, Ill.; Mike and Kay Pattison, Federal Way, Wash.; Mike Druze, Bristol, Conn.; Louis Armbruster, Farmington Hills, Mich.; Ted Rendfrey, Cherry Hill, N.J.; Jack Breen, Milford, Mass.; Helen Murphy and Charlie Kirchner, Deptford, N.J.; Susan Maiolo, Suffield, Conn.; Patricia Hede-gard, Mt. Dora, Fla.; Jim and Sharon McMahon, Danville, Ill.; Mills Lynn, Charleston, W.Va.; Al Strunk, LaMesa, Calif.; Diana Grice, Gastonia, N.C.; Don Perkins, Leominster, Md.; and Mildred Smits, Seaside, Ore.

Summer Season Arrives

This summer promises to bring more than the usual number of visitors. Together with the seven other museums in Lincoln, we observed International Museum Days on May 21 and 22. Posters encouraged everyone to "Celebrate Lincoln - Visit a Museum." Stopping at five of the eight attractions during that weekend entitled museum-goers to participate in the drawing for a grand prize package that included food, lodging, and entertainment in Lincoln.

Our brochures are being distributed at rest stops along Interstate 80, which crosses Nebraska passing just north of Lincoln. Linking New York and San Francisco, this is one of the most heavily traveled tourist routes in the country. Nebraska Vacation Guides, who staff the Interstate information centers, will be promoting this museum as they encourage motorists to stop and enjoy Nebraska's attractions.

And once again, we look forward to greeting participants, officials, and spectators who will be in town for both the North Central Regional and the USAC/RS National Artistic and Indoor Speed Championships.

Museum and the Media

The museum continues to enjoy mention in national publications. Recent ones include April issues of *Good Housekeeping* and *Woman's Day* and May issues of *Grit* and *On-Your-Way*.

A new travel guide from Collier Macmillan Books lists us also. *Weird, Wonderful America: The Nation's Most Off-beat and Off-the-Beaten-Path Tourist Attractions* by Laura A. Bergheim proclaims, "For everyone who's every strapped on a pair of skates and hit (in more ways than one) the pavement or rink floor for a spin or two, this is a museum filled with universal memories and little-known facts.... There's no better place to learn about the role skates have played in history—or the wheels of fortune to come."

Contributors of \$5 receive their choice of the National Museum of Roller Skating

Pin or Patch (please specify)

Contributors of \$15 or more become honorary members of the Museum and receive a membership pin and card, the quarterly newsletter, and free admission to the museum.

Individual/Family \$ 15.00 Patron \$250.00
 Donor \$ 50.00 Benefactor \$500.00 +
 Associate Patron \$100.00

Check or money order enclosed payable to the National Museum of Roller Skating.

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Anne Diffendal, Director and Curator.

Historical Roller Skating Overview is mailed quarterly to the honorary members of the National Museum of Roller Skating. Contributions from readers are welcome. Address inquiries and comments to the Museum Director.



Pershing Auditorium, Lincoln, Neb., site of the 1988 USAC/RS National Artistic and Indoor Speed Roller Skating Championships, has hosted this event fifteen times since 1962. (Courtesy of the Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau)



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