



## Roller derby thriving in Wisconsin rinks

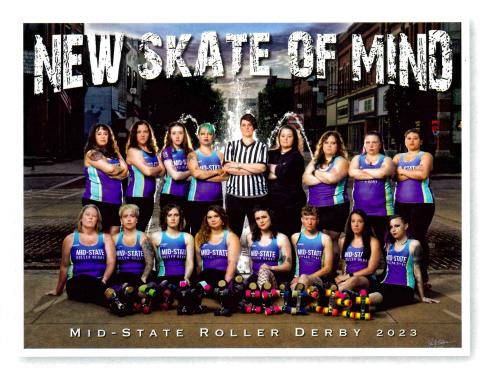
lat track roller derby is a fast-paced, adrenaline-pumping sport that's gaining popularity worldwide. It involves two teams of skaters racing around an oval track, trying to score points by passing opposing players. Similar to ice hockey, it's a thrilling combination of speed, strategy, and teamwork. The sport is known for its fierce competition and empowering atmosphere, where skaters of all backgrounds come together to showcase their skills.

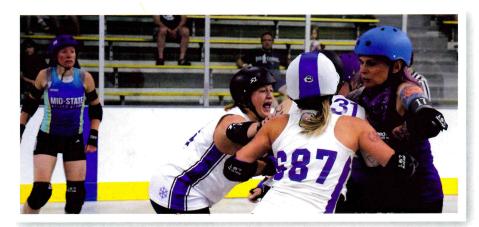
The Mid-State Roller Derby League, founded in Stevens Point, Wisconsin in 2010, is a competitively ranked, inclusive roller derby league. MSRD is a skater-owned and operated 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and member of the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association (WFTDA), the international governing body of roller derby. Mid-State Roller Derby is committed to empowering and supporting diversity amongst their members and community.



→ Skaters from all backgrounds come together to showcase their skills and competitive spirit.







A typical season begins in January/ February of each year and runs through August with practices three days per week during the season. Practices are 2-2.5 hours long and require no additional staffing. A typical practice rental fee would be around \$100. While ice is in, the MSRD starts their season in Marshfield, Wisconsin, practicing at Melody Gardens Skate Rink until they are able to move into an ice rink in either Wausau or Stevens Point.

The MSRD has three to four bouts per season and has hosted a two-day

tournament that brings seven roller derby teams from across the United States and Canada to the Marathon County Ice Area, in Wausau. Event rental fees range from \$400-\$500 and do require some clean up after. Facility rental fees are covered by monthly membership dues, admission fees, beer sales and merchandise sales.

One huge advantage to having practices and bouts in an ice arena is the climatecontrolled conditions, spectator seating, and locker rooms for teams and refs. Plus, a standard NHL-size floor is large enough for a WFTDA-regulated roller derby track. The track and other markings do need to be laid out on the floor with gaffing tape, but hockey boards can stay in.

If you are considering hosting an event in the offseason, keep in mind that you will need air conditioning or at least large fans to keep t he air moving. Facilities in warmer, humid climates need to be aware of humidity, which can cause concrete floors to sweat. Floor conditions must be dry for players to participate.

Roller derby is a fun way to welcome new customers into your facility! ©