

RollerCon junior

IVANNA S. PANKIN, SOCIAL ROLLER DERBY

RollerCon Junior debuts THIS SUMMER!

After almost a decade of amazing experiences at RollerCon there was one crucial element of our community that we couldn't seem to easily fit into the magic: Junior skaters. After struggling to accommodate them at our adult event for years, we have found a solution: Junior Skaters need their OWN RollerCon.



RollerCon Junior has been a long time coming. Juniors have been part of RollerCon from the very early days, volunteering, even managing their own departments and running volunteer crews. Juniors have wanted to skate at RollerCon for years, too. Unfortunately, our safety, insurance and liability rules make it difficult to integrate Juniors easily the adult skating events at the convention. Though junior roller derby seems to have grown in pace with adult derby, we never really had enough kids or enough extra track space at RollerCon to do many juniors-only skating events at our late summer convention. And the social events? Don't get me started about Juniors at the social events - sometimes I have to cover my own eyes at what happens off the track at RollerCon!

Juniors and their families and coaches have been asking for RollerCon Junior forever, so after years of research, it is time!

RollerCon Junior

May 30th – June 1st, 2014

Riviera Royale Convention Center
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

This summer, RollerCon Junior will bring together the next generation of skaters to celebrate roller derby in a convention of their own, with the best features of our world famous late-summer adult event. We have some of our most popular and amazing RollerCon coaches on our all-day Training Track. We have bouts planned, and kids are cooking up themed challenges already – and we've scheduled open scrimmages just for juniors on our Competition Tracks. We've got tons of vendors and shopping, right next to our main tracks. We're also lining up some great social events, including social skates and theme parties in our Fun Rink, a Junior Derby Prom and a whole lot more, all planned by the same people that host the biggest, safest, funnest and most inclusive derby event of the year, every year! Every day we plan more events, with help and suggestions from the Juniors themselves. Hey, Juniors: get involved and help plan this thing!

get a login to the junior section
of our forum

rollercon.com/forum

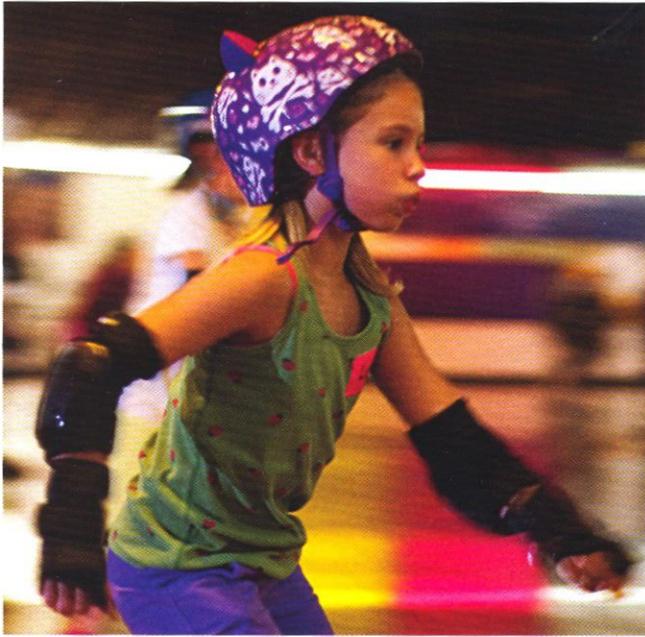
You have to request membership to see the RollerCon forum boards, and that does require being APPROVED. It takes a couple emails, but we take the kids safety very seriously. The Junior boards (and most of the adult RollerCon boards, as well) have been restricted to registered membership only, with no guest viewing, so RollerCon and RollerCon Junior attendees can openly communicate – to get info, get challenges organized and more!

tell us what songs to play
at the junior prom

tinyurl.com/JRprom-setlist

You know we love those google forms. Here's one for the juniors!

We're asking the kids to decide on their own set list for the RollerCon Junior Prom, and we're running a contest with great prizes including RollerCon Junior t-shirts and more. Kids can enter as many times as they want with as many songs as they want to hear!



photos by Jeffrey Kerekes, ilovenewhaven.org

volunteer at the convention

Just like the big event at the end of Summer, we'll be counting on Juniors and their parents to make RollerCon what it is. It takes hundreds of us to make a great convention! As the RollerCon Junior event schedule develops, so does our Help Wanted schedule, with shifts in safety, traffic, registration, officiating and all the other departments that make this convention happen. Our online hours tracking system credits volunteer hours towards any of our next events. So volunteer hours earned this year can be "spent" on discounts and free tickets at RollerCon in July, or at the next RollerCon Junior, or RollerCon Down Under... you decide! If you already have a Volgistics login, just look for RollerCon Junior shifts during the dates of RCJR (May & June). If RollerCon Junior will be your first time at RollerCon, start here: tinyurl.com/volgistics-app

That's just a few ways to get involved, but like the big event at the end of summer, RollerCon Junior is going to be whatever people make of it.

Want to skate non-stop for three days? No problem. Want to learn new techniques from the best skater coaches in the sport? Easy. Want to hang with Juniors from all around the world by the pool, or at themed parties and social skates? Done. But we're not leaving the parents and coaches out. There will be seminars and events geared for adults involved with Junior derby to connect and learn from each other, as well. As the RollerCon Junior schedule develops, we'll be sticking to the same master plan as RollerCon: too many events of every kind to choose from, so you can't go wrong no matter what you do! We're providing summer derby overload, Junior-style. The kids will have to rest for the remainder of summer just to get enough energy start school in the Fall. On the interwebs – SO MUCH INFO:

rollerconjunior.com

facebook.com/RollerConJR

Schedule and Events:

rollercon.com/about/junior-skaters/rcjr-events

Tickets: rcjr14.brownpapertickets.com

a few words about juniors in Las Vegas

Not sure if RollerCon Junior is right for your kid? The Riviera Royal Convention Center location is the site of many children's' activities each year, including dance groups from toddlers on up, youth and teen basketball, volleyball and karate tournaments and groups, and more. The Royale Convention Center is a secure room, where only convention pass-holders may enter. The convention activities take place at the East end of the Riviera campus, far from the casino, bars and other adult-oriented Las Vegas entertainment, and the hotel is offering affordable rates for convenient family-sized rooms, including up to four people in each room for our same low group rate. And finally, the convention space is large enough for three tracks and plenty of roller derby vendors and activities, including skating, training, bouts, social events and seminars for both the kids and the adults who help Junior derby succeed. For a LOT more information, check out rollerconjunior.com.

See you there! 🍷