



Transition & Implementation Plan for the new Beginner Curriculum “This is Roller Derby”


Removal of the Minimum Skill Requirements (MSRs)

From December 15 on, the former Minimum Skill Requirements will be removed from the WFTDA Sanctioning Policy and thus no longer required for WFTDA charter skaters participating in a WFTDA-sanctioned game, and no longer recommended in general. There will be no other baseline skill requirements for entering into a WFTDA-sanctioned game.

Furthermore, WFTDA Member Leagues no longer have to provide proof of the Skater Rules Test.

This means that every league can decide for themselves on a program and procedure for deciding when a skater is eligible for (sanctioned) gameplay.

We acknowledge that a game is not the environment to learn the fundamentals of roller skating or roller derby. Per the updated [WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines](#) we recommend safe skills for playing roller derby: that skaters know how to stop, fall small and be comfortable skating next to each other. Please note that WFTDA-sanctioned games must adhere to the *WFTDA Risk Management Guidelines* per the WFTDA Sanctioning Policy.



New Curriculum “This is Roller Derby”

As guidance for new participants entering the sport, the WFTDA is providing a plan for leagues to develop their skaters to be able to play WFTDA-regulation and sanctioned games.

The curriculum outlines different stages which promote early contact and game play in a safe environment (Introducing Contact and Recovery Guide). It also offers advice (Recommendations on Mixed Level Play) and policy recommendations on Creating and Inclusive Training Environment. There are also additional resources including guidance on how to teach specific skills (Skills Cards) and how to have conversations about skill level and development.

We anticipate that some of these tools can be used internally for supporting individual skaters and externally to highlight required skill levels between leagues for mixed scrimmages, guest skaters, transfer skaters. We do, however, want to emphasize that these tools are not intended as another testing method.

Resources Overview

Resources & Additional Guides Overview	Backlog Product Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Main Curriculum “This is Roller Derby”● Additional Resources<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Glossary○ Coaching Resources Library○ Introducing Contact & Recovery Guide○ Recommendations on Mixed Level Play○ Skills Cards○ How to Create an Inclusive Training Environment○ Player Development Map○ Transition plan	<p>We are looking to release additional guides in 2021 including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Template for building a lesson plan;● Values Cards and additional Skill Cards;● Officials-specific Curriculum/Guidelines and Training;● Risk Management & Safety in Coaching/WFTDI Wellness recommendations;● Updated WFTDA Skills videos. <p>Please note we are working on a plan for Translations.</p>

Transition & Implementation

What does this mean for you?

- You no longer need to test your WFTDA-charter skaters on the MSRs
 - We recommend moving away to a considered team tryout process
- You no longer need to test any of your members on the MSRs
- You no longer need to test your new beginner skaters on the MSRs
 - We recommend creating a beginner program that works for you and support your coaches and training staff in the transition based on the new curriculum
- We recommend a new language for determining skill levels and identifying appropriate level opponents

How do we switch to the new program?

The WFTDA will provide help in the transition and beyond as we understand that currently leagues are not practicing and leagues won't be able to test the new principles as they are developed.

Leagues can continue with existing plans and establish new structures when they have had more time to assess and apply the curriculum to their league environment.

In the WFTDA “[Skater Education & Training](#)” Community Workspace the former Curriculum Task Force will help answer questions and offer guidance while you transition to a new program or process. Sign up for the WeFTDA Collective to get access yourself or have your WFTDA Skater or Official Representative join.

Community Sourcing

As we are changing to this new system, we also want to change to a new resource-sharing approach!

WFTDA Education is opening up its process and is looking to create a resource-sharing hub in the new WFTDA community forum. You can be involved by sharing your resources or working with us to create new ones based on community requests.

The Skater Education and Coaching/Training panel will be in charge of the reviewing and vetting process of such requests for resource creation and sharing. You can access the request form on the WFTDA “[Skater Education & Training](#)” Community Workspace.

To start the community resource-sharing process, we have identified the following priority resources for coaching and training:

- Sport Training Package
 - Recommendations for off-season planning
 - Off skates recommendations
- How to give/receive feedback
- Good Practice Collection
 - Roles: Bench, Coaches, Captaining
 - Assessing: Tryouts, Rostering, Selection
 - Policies
- Other Coaching Resources
 - Different learning and teaching styles
 - How to scale drills up and down
 - How to train new coaches
 - Mentorship/buddy system
 - How to be an inclusive coach

The long term vision for WFTDA is to create a coaching or training certification program and curriculum with all these resources combined.

Still have more questions? We want to hear from you via this [feedback form!](#)

