

# Pacific Coast Championships

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*Los Angeles Figure Skating Club, Inc.*

The fine new Pan Pacific Ice Arena, Los Angeles, was the bustling scene of the Pacific Coast Meet, sponsored by The Los Angeles Figure Skating Club, Inc. This year it was decided to take two days for it, February 24 and 25, giving all groups more chance to practice and incidentally to become acquainted, as we had contestants from Spokane (1200 miles distant), Seattle, Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Due to the fact that the Los Angeles skaters have many temptations to turn professional for pictures and shows, our club has lost many promising skaters as well as title holders—Mary Taylor, Ernest Berry, Edna Holmes, Pat Merifield, etc. However, there is a new crop springing up as seen in the Juvenile Class. This event was a source of great entertainment for the audience. Eight little girls, ranging from five to eleven, were ready with their “eights” and “threes to center” and one-minute free programs! The judges, who had to find their tracings and control their sentimental impulses to give 5's, were not to be envied. Clever and well-poised little Beverly Licht of Oakland won by a few points from Pauline Carabin of Los Angeles, whose airy graceful “free” was balanced by very good figures. Lael Peters, Seattle, proved a very close third.

The Men's Novice had a group of really good skaters, among them young Del Jones of Spokane who registered Juvenile, but having no competitor entered the Novice, and can he skate! Watch out for him! Wm. Wade of Spokane won; Wm. Hart of San Francisco was second and Wm. Udell of Oakland third. In the Ladies' Novice class a real competition was staged by a group of young enthusiasts who had practiced so faithfully that no one could guess the outcome. Donna Attwood of Los Angeles who had very recently taken up the game became Novice Coast Champion with very good figures and a remarkably well executed and varied program. Marcella May of Oakland took second with skating that was strong, free and extremely graceful. Betty Laberee of Spokane was a close third.

In the Junior Men's class we had those brotherly rivals, the Galbraiths of San Francisco. This time Murray won from Sheldon by a small margin. Meryl Baxter, third, Oakland, and George Monnier, fourth, Seattle, gave the winners good competition. All four boys did fine figures and splendid programs, including a split-Lutz by Sheldon and fine Axels by the other three. Jean Sturgeon of Los Angeles skated splendidly in her evening performance



*Loaned by Spokane Figure Skating Club.*

BETTY LABEREE AND WILLIAM WADE  
*Pacific Coast Junior Pair Champions*

to try to catch up to Mary Ruth Barnes of Spokane whose figures were just too good. Mary Ruth by a safe margin and good free skating won the Junior Ladies' title.

The Senior Ladies! Barbara Gingg, Oakland, title holder; Ramona Allen, Oakland, back from England and New York after intensive training by a famous "pro"; Britta Lundquist of Seattle with her remarkable natural talent—all three real championship material. Result? Barbara won, taking

away the lead Ramona Allen had in figures. Britta's free skating was beautiful, giving her a close third place. Lloyd Baxter of Oakland and Eugene Turner, Los Angeles, gave each other "a run for their money" in the Senior Men's. Baxter's remarkable jumps (split-Lutz, double loop, etc.) and fine free program following good figures made Eugene Turner do some real skating to win.

The Senior Pair Skating was a real feature of this Meet as we had the National Junior Pair—Betty Lee Bennett and Johnny Kinney of Seattle—in their inimitable dashing number. How the audience enjoyed them and asked for more! Pauline Neuman and Ray Young won second place with a good program of spirals and lifts. The Junior Pair event was interesting since each important skating center (Spokane, Oakland, Seattle, Los Angeles) was represented. The programs were pleasing and varied, William Wade and Betty Laberee of Spokane placing first. It being the first time Spokane was represented in a Pacific Coast event, we were happy to have them take home three first place trophies (Ladies' Junior, Men's Novice, Junior Pair). Dorothy Beskow and Arthur Rude, Oakland, placed second and Dorothy and Ralph Beymer of Seattle, third. Eleven couples entered the Dance Competition which was won by Barbara Ann Gingg and Drexel Gibbins of Oakland.

The trophies were beautiful metal plaques mounted on black wooden bases. These were presented by Frances Langford, radio singing star, and Jon Hall, featured star in "Hurricane", who was guest announcer. We were fortunate in having so representative a group of judges—Roger Turner, Boston; Henry Anderson, Vancouver, B. C.; Felix Locher, Los Angeles; Alex Young, Jr., San Francisco; S. Charles Peffers, Oakland—whom we wish to thank as well as all those who contributed to this very successful and enjoyable Pacific Coast Meet. Not mentioned as an official part of the Competition, but certainly a high-light in the proceedings, was the gay party at the Hollywood Plaza Hotel where a characteristic Spanish-style buffet supper was served to 254 guests, terminating the event.

*Ladies' Senior*

1. Barbara Ann Gingg, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.
2. Ramona Allen, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
3. Britta Lundequist, Seattle Skating Club.

*Men's Senior*

1. Eugene Turner, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
2. Lloyd Baxter, Oakland Figure Skating Club.

*Ladies' Junior*

1. Mary Ruth Barnes, Spokane Figure Skating Club.
2. Jean Sturgeon, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.

*Men's Junior*

1. Murray Galbraith, Skate and Ski Club.
2. Sheldon Galbraith, Skate and Ski Club.
3. Meryl Baxter, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
4. George Monnier, Seattle Skating Club.

*Ladies' Novice*

1. Donna Attwood, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
2. Marcella May, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
3. Betty Laberee, Spokane Figure Skating Club.
4. Mary Thomas, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
5. Jean Thomas, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
6. Fay Simon, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
7. Paula Schertzinger, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
8. Georgia Shattuck, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
9. Margaret Dodge, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.

*Men's Novice*

1. William Wade, Spokane Figure Skating Club.
2. William Hart, Skate and Ski Club.
3. William Udell, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
4. Arthur Rude, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.
5. Del Jones, Spokane Figure Skating Club.
6. Edward Bodell, Oakland Figure Skating Club.

*Juvenile Girls*

1. Beverly Licht, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
2. Pauline Carabin, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
3. Lael Peters, Seattle Skating Club.
4. Suzanne Allen, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
5. Gloria Licht, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.
6. Joan Carol, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
7. Helen Hirschfield, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
8. Eunice Shapro, Seattle Skating Club.

*Senior Pairs*

1. Betty Lee Bennett and John Kinney, Seattle Skating Club.
2. Pauline K. Neuman and Ray Young, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.

*Junior Pairs*

1. Betty Laberee and William Wade, Spokane Figure Skating Club.
2. Dorothy Beskow, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club, and Arthur Rude, Oakland Figure Skating Club.
3. Dorothy and Ralph Beymer, Seattle Skating Club.
4. Peggy Jean Young and William Schleifer, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.

*Dance*

1. Barbara Ann Gingg and Drexel Gibbins, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.
  2. Edith Musser and Howell Janes, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club.
  3. Fay Simon and Eugene Turner, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
  4. Janet Steklenburg and Claude Gilker, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.
- (Fourteen couples entered)