



BLACK GOLD OPEN TEAM BIO: 2013-2014 ROSTER

Black Gold Open team is comprised of 17 members with skaters from Calgary, Okotoks, and Carstairs. The team consists of veteran synchronized skaters who have been together for quite a few years, with a couple new faces coming from other synchro teams. Our team ranges in ages from 17 – 37! But when it comes to skating, age lines become blurred, and the love of synchro is the main focus. Our skaters have many different interests and professions, from teachers to pharmacy techs, accountants, high-school and university students, human resources and talent specialists, administrators, personal fitness trainers, and youth coordinators. All of us come together twice a week for few hours of hard training, and perfecting our program.

Our season started off in the last weekend of August with 4 intense days of choreography on and off the ice. We worked with Monique and Andrea St. Cyr and Jennifer Beauchamp. We first listened to our music before we even set foot on the ice, and were excited to hear the dynamic music of a Paso and Tango influenced Spanish theme. We were inspired when we heard the strong beats, and defined staccato notes from this piece, and we were definitely excited to portray a strong and confident 'Senorita' on the ice. Once again, it was very thrilling and enlightening to work with Jennifer on this program. Jennifer is a World Synchro Champion, and has a great passion for the sport of synchro. It was another great way to start our year!

This season our goal as a team has been to bring our character to life, and work on definitive movement on the ice. We brought in Choreographer and Latin Ballroom Dance Champion Eric Caty. Eric is known for his choreography on the reality tv show 'So You Think You Can Dance'. Eric has really taught us a lot about our hands, feelings and emotions and last but not least our rib cages! It has been really interesting working with Eric, as he has given us quite a few different moves to work on, think about and perfect while performing the program. After our first session with him, quite a few of us had sore bodies! However, we are definitely grateful for the infusion of Latin moves and feeling he has brought to our team and program.

Our coaches Monique and Andrea St. Cyr have been pushing us this season to bring another dimension to our skating. Blending a diverse group of skaters, talents and strengths, to showcase our team to the best of its ability. We as a team are enjoying the challenge they have presented to us, and we are definitely up for it!

The Calgary Synchronized Skating Club has been a huge support for the Black Gold Open team. We couldn't do it without our executives, managers, food moms, travel coordinators, music players, dress maker, parents and fans! They make everything happen, and for that we are truly grateful. We love seeing you in the stands and hearing all the cheers!

We hope you enjoy watching our inner 'Seniorita's' come out on the ice! See you at Nationals in Burnaby, BC.

Sincerely,

Black Gold Open 2014



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: DOUG JESSEN



CHOREOGRAPHY WITH ERIC CATY
PHOTO COURTESY OF: JINELLE ST. CYR

Coaches: Monique and Andrea St. Cyr **Choreographers:** Monique and Andrea St. Cyr, and Jennifer Beauchamp **Manager:** Kristy Casebeer

2014 Team Roster:

Alana Forbes, Alisa Nixon, Ashley O'Toole, Cassandra Kellsey, Danika Dugan, Haley Cedergren, Jillian Hughes, Jinelle St. Cyr, Katrina Gilroy, Kelsey Jordan, Krista Wright, Nicole Shulz, Majlis Theander, Melissa Hill, Stefanie Jessen, Sydney Bernard