

Bill Cushman Scholarship

The Bill Cushman Scholarship was established in 2012 in honor of Bill Cushman. Bill devoted his life to speed skating and the Midway Speedskating Club for more than 50 years. He was a charter member of the club and a competitive skater until 1960 (except for the two years he served in the US Army). Upon completing his competitive skating career, Bill served as a long-time club coach as well as coach and manager of several US World Speedskating teams; and was manager of the 1980, 1984, and 2002 US Olympic Speedskating teams. Bill served US Speedskating President from 1989-2000 and was a US Speedskating Board member from 1972-2002. He was inducted into the National Speedskating Hall of Fame in 1996, and was honored with the George Howie Award in 2010 for his outstanding contributions to the speed skating community.

A graduate of St. Paul Monroe High School (1952) and in the University of Minnesota (1956), Bill once said *"The basic goal of Midway is to give the youth of our area a program to develop into the best skaters each can be and provide a direct path to World and Olympic competitions, while having fun and completing their education. It can be done!"* This scholarship was developed to carry on Bill's belief that education is an integral part of a skater's development, and to assist Midway skaters and coaches with their education as they continue their competitive skating career past high school.

This scholarship is sponsored by the Bill Cushman Memorial Fund and administered by the Midway Speedskating Club. Post-secondary scholarships of \$2000 may be awarded each year to qualified current club members or coaching staff to assist with tuition, fees, books, and room and board.

Prerequisites

The following are requirements in order to be eligible for the Bill Cushman scholarship:

- Current Member of Midway Speedskating Club
- High school diploma
- Registered for post-secondary education (must be able to provide transcript if requested)
- Training with a coach/program approved by Midway Speedskating Program Director, Coaching Staff and Board of Directors
- Full intention of competing in the upcoming speed skating season and attending identified competitions:
 - US Championships (Jr and/or Sr)
 - Am Cup Racing Series
 - International Competitions (if qualified)
 - Other competitions as identified by approved coach/program

Application

Applications will be evaluated on:

- Completeness (application packages must be complete when submitted, incomplete applications will not be considered)
- Neatness
- Skating Accomplishments (National Teams, World Teams, etc.)
- Academic Goals
- Applicants Statement
- Letters of Recommendation

Completed applications must be submitted via email to:

- Kim Nyquist – Bill Cushman Scholarship Committee Chair: mknyquist@gmail.com

Application Deadline: **TBD**

2022 CUSHMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

Applicants for a BILL CUSHMAN scholarship must continue to be a member of the Midway Speedskating club and plan on continuing to compete Nationally or internationally in Speedskating competitions while pursuing a college education. Applicants must be a high school senior intending to attend college in the next academic year, a student currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program at a recognized college or university, or an individual planning to resume their education in the next academic year at the college level. Scholarship awards will be sent directly to the college or university of the applicants choosing to be credited to his or her account for the 2022-23 school year. If you are awarded the scholarship and you do not compete in the 2022-23 season you will have to pay back the money to Midway Club.

APPLICANT: Complete all sections of this application. Use N/A in sections that don't apply to you.

The Covid-19 pandemic has dominated the news and disrupted the lives of everyone in 2020 - 2022. The Scholarship Committee understands that opportunities for training, and competition as well as for service to school or community were vastly curtailed. Recognizing these facts, the Scholarship Committee will give greater weight to the applicant's academic achievement and the quality of the essay. In addition to the expression of financial need, the essay should include a discussion of the how hardships of the past year have impacted your life.

Send all documents as **PDF FILES** via e-mail to Kim Nyquist(mknyquist@gmail.com) referencing Cushman Scholarship Committee.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT ON OR BEFORE April 1, 2022.

IMPORTANT - The following criteria will be used to evaluate your application:

- **Completeness of application,**
- **expressed financial need,**
- **academic achievements,**
- **quality of essay,**
- **letters of reference,**
- **level of skating experience**
- **school or community service,**
- **current and continuing member of the Midway Speedskating Club**

Applications, including all support documents and completed application must be sent electronically as PDF files on or before **April 1, 2022**. Awards will be announced at Midway annual banquet.

QUESTIONS: E-mail, Kim Nyquist (mknyquist@gmail.com) Scholarship Committee Chair.

2022 BILL CUSHMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

1. PERSONAL

Name _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____
 Number Street City State Zip
Phone _____ E-Mail _____

2. SPEED SKATING HISTORY

Year first registered with MIDWAY CLUB? _____

A. Speed Skating Experience, Include competitions attended and awards, teams made, training camps,

3. EDUCATION

Name of Current School _____
Grade or Status _____
Other Schools Attended _____
Extra Curricular Activities & Awards

Include tutoring, student government, ROTC, volunteer coach (non skating), etc.

****ATTACH ALL AVAILABLE TRANSCRIPTS, INCLUDING MOST RECENT****
FROM HIGHSCHOOL OR COLLEGE YOU ARE ATTENDING

4. EDUCATIONAL GOALS

Name of University or School you plan to attend _____
Degree you plan to obtain _____
Career you plan to pursue _____

5. APPLICANTS STATEMENT

Attach an explanation, (1 page max) describing

- Your personal goals, for life, and for speed skating;
- School or community service, examples: hospital volunteer, Scout leader, Eagle Scout, Volunteer fireman, volunteer coach (non skating), Habitat for Humanity, National Guard, EMT, etc.;
- How THE CUSHMAN Scholarship could help you. Note that these are for post-secondary education. Scholarship funds may NOT be used to support expenses for training, travel for competition, equipment, or coaching;

- Statement or discussion of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on your life

6. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Submit two letters of recommendation from people unrelated to the applicant: one from someone such as your coach or a friend, who knows you and your speed skating and lifetime experiences, and another from one of your teachers or someone who knows your academic performance and potential.

Letters of recommendation must be current and dated. Please do not include previously submitted letters.

Due date: April 1, 2022