

Silver Comet Linear Park Skatepark Grand Opening Powder Springs, Georgia - 14 October, 2023 Skateboarding Demo Highlights and Roster

# HIGHLIGHTS

• X Games Gold Medalists and Olympic hopefuls arrive in Powder Springs to celebrate the grand Opening of the Silver Comet Linear Park Skatepark, the latest international competition skatepark to be built in the U.S. This celebration promises to be one of the Atlanta region's most significant skateboarding events of 2023.

• Designed and built by California Skateparks, the firm responsible for creating many of the world's most renowned skateparks and competition courses (including the X Games and the Tokyo 2020 Olympics), the Silver Comet Linear Park Skatepark will be the only international competition-standard facility to be built in the U.S. ahead of the Paris 2024 Olympics and is expected to be a training destination for many Olympic hopefuls.

• Atlanta's infamous Stratosphere Skate Shop, an institution and anchor for Atlanta-region skateboarding, will host an amateur Best Trick competition in the skatepark immediately following the Pro Demo to let local talent shine.

# PARK

# Andy Macdonald (@andymac720)

Andy has been crowned as skateboarding's World Champion nine times in the World Cup Skateboarding Series. He has competed in 23 X Games and owns 23 medals across five disciplines. Known for his clean image, Andy has made many high-profile TV appearances promoting a positive drug-free lifestyle, and of course, skateboarding. Andy's appearances include 60 Minutes, the Craig Kilborn show, and The Tonight Show where he surprised everyone by ollieing onto Jay Leno's desk after being introduced. The culmination of Andy's work with the Partnership for a Drug-Free America was a speech at the White House to introduce President Bill Clinton, where Andy was the first person to ever ride a skateboard down the smooth marble hallways inside the White House. Besides skateboarding, Andy likes eating candy, listening to music, going to the movies, and bouncing on the trampoline with his kids.

Andy Macdonald is one of skateboarding's best ambassadors and most skilled professionals, and is known to millions of skateboarders all over the world as Andy Mac. Most recently he was invited to join the British National Skateboard Team to try and qualify for the Park event at the 2024 Olympics in Paris.

# Grace Marhoefer (@gracemarhoefer)

After successive knee injuries spoiled her chances of making Team USA for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, Grace Marhoefer is on-track to resume her place on the team for the Paris Olympics next year. Growing up skating her local park in Cocoa Beach, Florida, grace thrived on the challenge of learning new tricks and pushing herself to improve. Overcoming her injuries and returning to form, she finds herself tapping into those same motivations to keep progressing.

That motivation has led Grace to conquer not just the Park format, where she excels at flying out of bowls and powering through slides and grinds, but also the Street format with its tricky technical urban terrain. She credits the differences between these formats to her ability to excel at both—they each provide a very different head space. But after making the Finals at the 2022 Park World Championships in Sharjah, UAE and winning a Bronze Medal at this year's X Games, Grace is on track to achieve her goal of getting to Paris. Spending some quality time on the international-standard competition course in Powder Springs will get her that much closer to realizing her dream.

#### Trey Wood (@treywood)

Trey Wood first hopped onto a skateboard at the age of three while on a family vacation in Venice Beach, CA. Though he returned to his home state of Arizona, it wouldn't be long before a skateboard brought Trey back to California. He returned to Golden State in 2012 and left a big impression on the entire industry. Trey entered the X Games Big Air event, where he not only earned an impressive fifth-place finish, but became the third youngest competitor in X Games history as an 11-year-old. That same year, Trey skated in the Dew Tour Mega 2.0 event, and in the Damn Am Woodward West vert event, which he won! Two years later, in 2014, Trey would prove to any doubters that he was not simply a big-air and wooden-ramp specialist, but that he could carry his skills over to concrete bowls and skate with the best of them, winning the 14-and-under division of the Vans Combi Bowl event.

The fun still hasn't stopped for Trey, as he's still finding new ways to showcase his skate skills. At the 2016 Clash at Clairemont, a new contest format was held called Skatercross Skateboard Racing, and Trey reigned supreme. Up against fellow young guns and seasoned veterans, he came in as fresh as anyone else to the new format. By the end of the series of gaps, berm walls and other obstacles, it was clear that he possessed the entire skill-set with his first place victory. As for what's next, you'll just have to wait and see.

# STREET

# Cobe Harmer (@cobeharmer)

Honolulu to Atlanta transplant Cobe Harmer is no stranger to the Silver Comet Skatepark. Ever since it opened this Summer, the world-class park has been a regular part of his skating routine, which includes finding skate spots on the streets of Atlanta and surrounding areas and filming clips. His and his sponsors' social-media feeds are brimming with footage of Cobe flying off stair sets and grinding down handrails that weren't designed for skateboarding. So, his visits to the Silver Comet Linear Park Skatepark provide the welcome challenge of raising the bar on his tricks on terrain that's actually designed for it.

At the grand Opening event in Powder Springs, Cobe will bring true street sensibilities to skating the competition course at the Silver Comet Skatepark. The results are sure to be creative, entertaining, and representative of the uniquely urban style of Atlanta street skating.

# Cordano Russell (@cordano04)

Cordano Russell lives in Carlsbad, California, but originally hails from Ontario and currently represents Team Canada in international competition. With his faith informing everything he does, he also finds comfort in it while under constant pressure to perform. Cordano's been pursuing a career as a professional skateboarder for more than a decade, but that's not kept him from excelling in other endeavors, as well. A student at the prestigious University Of San Diego, he is currently pursuing a BA in Business Administration.

While Cordano lives in the U.S. and is representing Team Canada, his mother is a native Italian, which he attributes to his being a "family guy." Though he is many things, one attribute that truly stands out about Cordano is his skateboarding. His power and style make him a master of any street obstacle, whether that's in a competition course or out in the street. As he attempts to qualify for the Paris Olympics, Cordano will tap into his diverse talents and all of his strengths to make his family and country proud.