



## **Des Moines Derby Dames Joins Women's Flat Track Derby Association**

**Des Moines, IA—September 1, 2011—** The Women's Flat Track Derby Association (WFTDA) is proud to announce today that the Des Moines Derby Dames has been accepted as a member of the WFTDA, the national governing body for women's amateur flat track roller derby in the U.S.

As a new member of the WFTDA, the Des Moines Derby Dames joins the ranks of over 75 all-female, skater owned and operated leagues nationwide that have united to lead the growing sport of women's flat track roller derby. WFTDA member leagues engage in sanctioned interleague play, including regional and national tournaments. The Des Moines Derby Dames will be a Class B member in the South Central region.

"I can't say how happy...proud...elated...unreal this is to me!" said Malay Bouaphakeo, Founder of the Des Moines Derby Dames. "When I started this [league] I knew we'd get there, but just didn't know how fast we would. This would not have happened if it were not for the skaters, volunteers, NSOs, refs, coaches, and the Leads Board to help us get here. I can't say how much this means to me and should mean to them! THANK YOU, THANK YOU! WE DID IT!"

The Des Moines Derby Dames next home games will be September 24<sup>th</sup> (Crash Test Dolls v. Oskaloosa Roller Girls) and November 5<sup>th</sup> (Dames v. Babe City Rollers) at the 7 Flags Event Center.

### **About the WFTDA**

Founded in 2004, the WFTDA promotes and fosters the sport of women's flat track derby by facilitating the development of athletic ability, sportswomanship, and goodwill among member leagues. The governing philosophy is "by the skaters, for the skaters." Women skaters are primary owners, managers, and operators of each member league and of the association. WFTDA's operational tasks include setting standards for rules, seasons and safety, and determining guidelines for the national and international athletic competitions of member leagues. All member leagues have a voice in the decision-making process, and agree to comply with the governing body's policies. For more information, visit [www.wftda.com](http://www.wftda.com).

### **About Des Moines Derby Dames**

The Des Moines Derby Dames is an organization of women and men who share a passion for roller derby and what it represents – athleticism, integrity, sportsmanship, and community. The Des Moines Derby Dames organization is made up of two teams: The Dames and the Crash Test Dolls. Our spunky skaters collect bruises and sore muscles on the track. Off the track, we're working hard to bring the nation's fastest-growing sport to Des Moines on an unprecedented level. [www.dmderbbydames.com](http://www.dmderbbydames.com)

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### **Contact:**

Liat Kinard  
PR/Marketing Des Moines Derby Dames  
515-491-6612  
[media@dmderbbydames.com](mailto:media@dmderbbydames.com)