



## FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

### **SKATING ACTIVITIES AND ALERT LEVEL 2**

The Board have reconfirmed the decision made in June 2020 regarding Tests and Competitions not being held at Covid Alert Level 2. Further, they have advised that NZIFSA coaching courses and skater development workshops will not be held at Covid Alert Level 2. While we appreciate how challenging and disruptive this may be, the Board believes this is the responsible decision to make under the circumstances. Protecting the health and wellbeing of our members, including those coaches and officials undertaking activities on behalf of NZIFSA, and doing our bit to minimise the potential spread of Covid 19, has to take precedence. We are still among the most fortunate people in the world at the moment and we want to stay that way.

### **A MESSAGE FROM SANDRA WILLIAMSON-LEADLEY**

I wanted to say a huge thank you to the NZ Skating Community for all of the positive thoughts, notes, emails and visits while I have been in the hospital. All of your messages have helped me through a rough patch and have made almost a month in the hospital (by the time I get out) a bearable experience!

A special thanks to all of the coaches and Operations/Development Group people who have stepped in to ensure that the planned Skater Development camps have been able to go ahead.

I wanted to let you know a little bit about my condition and where I am at with my health at the moment. This is so you all have the same information and know what to expect when you see me. I have been diagnosed with a non-life threatening and treatable condition. It has affected my vision and balance. I still can't wear my glasses and thank goodness for audio books and extra-large font on computers and phones. I am using a walking stick at the moment so don't be surprised by that – it is a temporary measure. However, I won't be ice skating anytime soon! At this stage I am not sure exactly when I will be back at tests or competitions. I am getting out of hospital next week and will continue to be an outpatient while they sort out my medication, eyesight and walking. The doctors and other hospital staff are working with me to make sure I make good progress and that when I return to judging, etc., I am good to go.

I hope that gives you a little insight into where I am at, and how much your messages and visits have meant.

Yours in skating,  
Sandra Williamson-Leadley

## **DEVELOPMENT SQUAD TRAINING PLANS**

Training plans for the Development Squad skaters were due on 15 January. The due date was then extended to 31 January. Thank you to all of those skaters who have sent in their training plans and/or let Sandra know that these are in process and are waiting to be signed off by the coach. Sandra will be starting to work through the skaters' training plans and write up comments for the individual skater or couple and their coach(es) for discussion in the coming weeks. If you have not got your plan in or not been in contact with Sandra about your plan, please do so by Monday 1 March so she can factor in working on this for you and complete the work in a timely manner.

## **SELECTION TO INTERNATIONAL A TEAM**

We are very pleased to advise that Charlotte Lafond-Fournier and Ricky Kam have gained the necessary Total Element Score (TES) at the video monitoring session conducted over the weekend of 12 & 13 of February to be named as International A Team Representatives in Senior Ice Dance.

This selection is as per the decision communicated in the June 2020 newsletter that recognised the challenges our skaters that live and train overseas faced with regards selection and the ability to compete at the 2020 Nationals. The Board had agreed that, in the event that these skaters were unable to attend the 2020 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships, either due to travel restrictions or the 14 day quarantine requirement being in place, that they be given the opportunity to be selected to the respective grade for International selection and Australian Nationals. Selection would be subject to evidence of attaining the TES for the International A or B team, or Australian Nationals, as applicable. This evidence could be competition results or a pre-approved monitoring session.



## **NOMINATION FOR VIDEO EVALUATION FOR 2021 ISU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

In response to the disruption to international competitions, the ISU has taken the extra-ordinary decision to allow evaluation by video for determining whether skaters have met the minimum TES for entry into the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021 to be held in Stockholm, Sweden from March 22–28, 2021.

Before submitting any skaters for evaluation, the NZIFSA wanted to be confident that they were capable of meeting the TES or were at least close to it. To this end our senior skaters were asked whether they wished to be considered and advised of the initial monitoring requirement. Our 2020 Ladies Champion Ruth Xu, Mens Champion Douglas Gerber and our Quebec based ice dance couple Charlotte Lafond-Fournier & Ricky Kam confirmed their desire to be considered for this. A huge thank you to all the people involved in these monitoring sessions. The short lead in time and the high TES requirement were always going to be a challenge. Following the monitoring sessions Charlotte Lafond-Fournier and Ricky Kam were nominated for video evaluation by the ISU. The ISU advised us yesterday that unfortunately they did not meet the minimum TES for entry into the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021. When we reviewed the ISU scores, we can see they were less than one point off both the Rhythm Dance and Free Dance TES. Even though they will be disappointed, they should be very proud of what they have achieved.

## COACHING COURSES

### Level 1 Coaching Course - Queenstown 22 & 23 May

To be eligible to attend this course you must have:

- NZIFSA Coach membership for 2021 (full coach membership rather than KiwiSkate coach membership)
- hold a minimum of an inter-silver test in any discipline
- be a minimum of 16 years as at 1 January 2021
- have a minimum of Introduction to Coaching level qualification, and
- have earned the Coach Education Points required to maintain accreditation at your current level by 31 March 2021

This course will include:

- a series of online presentations / training courses starting 9 March
- an online exam
- the face-to-face training and practical assessment in Queenstown 22 & 23 May

The course fee is \$300. Please submit your online registration and make payment no later than 3pm 1 March 2021.

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/Level1CoachingCourseQueenstown2223May>

### KiwiSkate & Introduction to Coaching Courses

Unfortunately, we had to postpone the KiwiSkate & Introduction to Coaching Course that was scheduled to be held in Auckland on 20 & 21 February because Auckland was still at Covid Alert Level 2. We are trying to reschedule both of the following courses and we are currently exploring options for holding these in the April school holidays

- Paradise Botany, Auckland – dates to be confirmed
- Southern Region – dates and location to be confirmed

These courses will be open to new KiwiSkate coaches as well as currently accredited coaches wishing to attain points to maintain their accreditation. The course cost is \$60 plus \$10 for the manual.

The courses cover two levels:

- KiwiSkate Assistant Course - individuals must be 14 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and it is recommended they hold their Elementary test.
- Introduction to Coaching Course – individuals must be 15 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and must hold a Preliminary test in any discipline. Coaches from different codes may apply to the Coaching Director for test dispensation based on their achievements/qualifications.

Please contact the Coaching Director at [coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz) if you have any questions regarding your eligibility.

All attendees must also pay the appropriate coach membership fee prior to registration. The coach membership forms and fee information can be found on the forms page of the NZIFSA website <https://nzifsa.org.nz/forms/>

## **MODERATORS FOR COACHING COURSES**

We would like to hear from Level 2 or 3 coaches who are interested in training to become moderators for the KiwiSkate Assistant and Introduction to Coaching courses. Ideally, we will have a small pool of experienced coaches that are available to run the coaching courses outside their own region. A good understanding of the KiwiSkate programme, evidence of leadership ability, training-the-trainers experience, and a commitment to their own development as a coach will all be considered. Expressions of interest will be evaluated by a sub-committee appointed by the Board. Please complete the online expression of interest by 15 March 2021. <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/EOIModeratorIntroToCoachingCourses>

## **MODERATORS FOR PRE ELEMENTARY, ELEMENTARY AND JUVENILE WORKSHOPS**

NZIFSA are holding three workshops for Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile level skaters. The dates and locations are as follows:

- Botany, Auckland, 24 & 25 April
- Christchurch, 24 & 25 April
- Queenstown 8 & 9 May

We are interested in expressions of interest from coaches who would like to be considered as moderators for one or other of these camps. Ideally, we would like to give skaters the chance to work with coaches they do not normally have, to mix things up a little. We are therefore likely to be looking for a coach from outside the region. We anticipate that Level 2 coaches are more likely to have the skill set and level of experience we are seeking; however, Level 1 coaches will be considered. Interested coaches are asked to complete the online form outlining their skill set and experience and motivation for applying for this role by 8 March 2021. <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/EOIModeratorForSkaterWorkshops>

## **UPCOMING SKATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

### **Free Dance – Dunedin, 27 – 28 March**

This camp is for ice dancers of all levels, but suitable for dance couples only. Ben Agosto has been confirmed as the international moderator for this workshop with Kim Lewis as our local coach coordinator. Skaters will need to be in Dunedin for a 1:00pm start on the Saturday and will finish by 6:00 pm on Sunday evening. This can be negotiated for skaters travelling from out of town due to flight availability.

The closing date for registrations is **14 March 2021**. Skaters can register for this workshop at: [https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/\\_2021DevelopmentWorkshopForFreeDance](https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2021DevelopmentWorkshopForFreeDance)

### ***Cost information:***

- \$40 for NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$80 for all other skaters
- Level 1 – 3 Coaches – Free

### **Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile camps**

We are pleased to confirm that we are offering three camps for Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile level skaters rather than two. The dates and locations are as follows:

Botany, Auckland, 24 & 25 April

Christchurch, 24 & 25 April

Queenstown 8 & 9 May

The closing date for registrations is **1 April 2021**. Skaters can register for these workshops at:

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/DevelopmentWorkshopsForPreElementaryToJuvenileSkaters>

#### ***Cost information:***

\$40 for NZIFSA Development Squad Members

\$80 for all other skaters

Level 1 – 3 Coaches – Free

## **RECENT SKATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

It has been a very busy couple of months with a number of skater development workshops around the country. We have continued to tap into the expertise of high-level overseas coaches to try and ensure our skaters had something a bit different this year, recognising the challenges and disruption skaters had to deal with last year due to covid-19. Many of the coaches we have been working with are in areas where they are dealing with quite strict limits on their activities. They are so pleased for us and the special situation we are in that has allowed us the freedom to hold these workshops.

There are clearly limitations around having a remote coach. However, with a mix of static and tracking cameras at our end that allow the remote coaches to see what we are doing on the ice, and TV screens that allow us to see the remote coach and watch them demonstrate or show videos, this is working. Having a coach coordinator at our end to make this all work has been key.

But without Alan Greenstreet and Mike Slater putting in huge hours and in Alan's case, 100's of kms of travel, these workshops likely would not have happened. We have also had great support from local rink staff, club members and parents at each of the workshops. Special mention of Michael Holtz for leading the tech end at the camp in Gore. A huge thank you to all those who have made these workshops possible.

We have included below some of the feedback we had from skaters on the workshops they attended

### **Synchronized Skating (All Levels) – Avondale, Auckland, 15-17 January**

A really successful workshop led by the wonderful Karen Wiesmeier, head coach and ISU Technical Specialist from San Diego Figure Skating Club. Charlotte Van Uden did a great job as the local coach moderator and was supported by Sam Snoad and Afton Sperry as demonstrators. There were 29 skaters and 2 coaches who attended this workshop.



#### **Daniel Harvey-Cross**

In the holidays I took part in the 2021 NZIFSA Development Workshop for Synchronized Skaters. It was a three-day camp starting early on Friday 15th of January and finishing late on Sunday 17th of January. It

was held at the Avondale rink in Auckland. Our coaches were fantastic. We listened to Karen Wiesmeier on a large screen, who joined us live from Canada and then watched Charlotte who demonstrated for us on the ice. On the first day we started off all together and then split into three groups for our workshops. I learnt lots of new patterns. Some were very tricky but after a lot of practice - by the last day I could do them. We went to a hall to do our off-ice stretches. It was really hot and I missed the cool ice rink. It was a very interesting camp and we all had a lot of fun. I was very tired but happy at the end of the camp. Luckily I could rest all day Monday! Thank you very much to everyone who made the camp possible.



**Sally Garelja**

While I was looking forward to getting back to the cool rink, I was a bit worried that my legs wouldn't work after at least a month's summer break. But in the end they were fine, thanks to a good mix of warm up exercises, before moving on to more challenging footwork sequences over the weekend. It was my arms that ached. Karen insisted on heads up and arms at shoulder height at all times, all part of looking synchronised. Even though she was on the other side of the world, she made it clear she was watching us. It was also clear that she had a vast knowledge of technical details, from blade position in a line, to the many ways a pivoting block can stall. Plus, Karen had plenty of ideas of how to add interesting features to the skating elements - I hope our coaches took plenty of notes. It was a great opportunity to learn from an international level coach.

My favourite new move was the pivoting block, sitting on the l-o-n-g inside edge before the mohawk. But I won't be trying the spiral - duck underneath your neighbour's leg move - any time soon. Good on those that gave it a go. My thanks go to the other adults and also to the Black Ice girls who were really engaged, as well as supportive both on and off the ice. I was reminded of how much I love Annie's edges, skating with music, and the simple beauty of being synchronised. We left with plenty to practise, and a really positive start to skating in the new year.

### **Basic and Intermediate Novice Singles – Dunedin, 19-22 January**

There were only five skaters and one coach who attended this workshop. A very successful and worthwhile workshop in spite of the small numbers. Our virtual coaches were Christy Krall (jump specialist) and her coaching team (Janet Champion (spin specialist), Andrew and Kat – (movement and stroking skills). Rosie Armstrong was the local coach coordinator and Mirika Armstrong attended as a demonstrator.

#### **Ann Kyle**

Over 19th to the 22nd of January a small group of our basic to intermediate novice skaters from Queenstown, Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland were able to attend a virtual training camp in Dunedin, with coaches Christi Krall, Janet, Cat and Drew in USA.

Christi Krall is a former skater and a world and Olympic team coach. She has also coached some amazing skaters including Patrick Chan. As well as Christi, who worked on jumps in this camp we had Janet Champion on spins, Catarina Lindgren and Drew Meekins on stroking.

Throughout the 4 days we started off on ice doing stroking in the morning, then we would go on to have a jumping or spinning session. After that we would go on to have an informal webinar on spinning or jumping, then off-ice and dance. After all the moderators' time was done we would have Rosie for the rest of the afternoon recapping what we had learnt and helping us execute it. When the camp had come to the end we had a great team challenge to finish off the amazing 4 days. It was observed by the parents at the end of the week everyone attending the camp had great improvements.

I really enjoyed this camp and I would like to thank all the people that helped out behind the scenes as well as those who were with us. I would like to thank Rosie for the great help she gave us during moderator time in the practice session. Overall this camp was a great experience, great learning and was super worth it.



#### **Olivia Bayne (abridged)**

I am very thankful for NZIFSA to have allowed me to attend such a wonderful camp a couple of weeks ago. I have now built up on many skills, and however challenging the first day or two was for me I am glad that I got the most out of it. Having the opportunity to learn from coaches on the other side of the world was really inspiring. They taught in a calm and encouraging manner, while giving us useful advice after each presented activity.

We worked on doubles with Christy, starting from the Salchow all the way to the Lutz and Axels. The most important phrase being 'All right' which helped us to stay over our right side on take off, in air and landings. We used the 'Home' position to help us with this too. Overall Christy helped us to strengthen and clean up our jumps and be more consistent by using different approaches techniques.

We had Spins with Janet including basic position strength of forwards and backwards Camel, Sit and Uprights as well as variations, laybacks, combo spins and centering spins. She told us the importance of having your own style and if some positions don't work for you then try something different. She would always remind us to experiment with our spins and get the basic positions clean and consistent first.

Drew and Kat's stroking taught us edge control and use of our blades, shoulder and hip stacking and power to keep momentum.

Although only six of us attended this camp, it meant more quality of coaching and focusing on the students' weak points. I enjoyed getting to know the other skaters personally rather than just competitors.

I have felt more confident now after spending time working on skills, spins and jumps that I did not want to attempt beforehand. Thank you very much to Christy Krall, Kat and Drew, Janet Champion and especially Rosie Armstrong and the team down in Dunedin for making this camp possible. I got a lot out of it for such a short time so thank you so much and I hope that sometime in the future that I will get to work with you all again!

### **Adult Singles – Christchurch, 6 & 7 February**

Jan Calnan from Ottawa was engaged for this workshop, with some great support at her end from coach Gabriela Palomeque (from Ecuador – but stranded in Canada due to Covid 19) and skater Liam (and Lynne). Michelle Russell was the local coach coordinator. There were 25 skaters from around the country that took part, ranging in age from early 20's to early seventies, and from pre-bronze level to gold/elite level.



#### **Linda White**

The weekend of 6-7 February was spent at the Adult skaters training camp, coached by Jan from Ottawa, Canada via zoom! Our coach on this end of the link was Michelle Russell. There were about 25 adults present with a range of abilities, beautifully managed by the coaches. We alternated between on ice stroking and turns, moving on to jumps and spins. Then on to Beckenham school for off ice fitness, stretches, interpretation and dancing! Those of us with back and knee issues found being on the ice (and wearing those boots) very painful by the end, but an opportunity not to be missed. Sue from Dunedin joined us, plus about 5 skaters from Auckland. If it wasn't for the technical expertise of Alan Greenstreet and Jeanette King moving the TV, video cameras, cables, laptop, etc every time we changed location this amazing remote coaching would never have happened, thanks to you both. I hope this is the start of



further group training opportunities for adults. It was great to get to know everyone too. I highly recommend this to everyone.

Jan and Gabrielle decided that “Since it was a virtual seminar, we figured that it’s all right if we included ourselves into the group photo virtually”



### **Pattern Dance – Gore, 6 – 8 February**

Ben Agosto was the remote coach for this workshop, with his wife Katherine Hill providing additional input around the off-ice activities. Kim Lewis was the local coach coordinator and there were three couples, two solo skaters and two coaches that attended.

#### **Tim Bradfield**

Firstly on behalf of all the skaters that attended the pattern dance camp in Gore, I’d like to thank all the volunteers from Ice Sports Southland who helped set up and play the music. Also a special thanks to Michael Holtz for his IT skills!

Overall I think everyone would agree that they learnt something new or improved existing parts of their pattern dances. It was great to have the guidance of Ben and Katherine over Zoom as well as coaching from Helen and the technical skills of Kim.



#### **Glenda Bronkhorst**

What an amazing experience it was to be part of the pattern dance camp. We were a small group of skaters with a love of ice dance. Ben Agosto and Katherine Hill put us through our paces in a comprehensive training schedule which included compulsory dances for this coming season as well as off-ice dance classes and strengthening routines. This camp was a great opportunity for preparation and confidence building for the upcoming competitions.

## **OFFICIALS' TRAINING IN 2021**

### **Probationary Judges Introductory Course – Online, Date to be confirmed - late March.**

Online seminar via Zoom. This course is aimed at existing probationary judges and any other individuals who are interested in becoming judges. It is likely to be 2 x 2 hour sessions.

Moderators:

- Beth Crane
- Ethan Swinburnson

If you are interested in becoming a judge please contact our Officials Director, Melissa Cummings, at [officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz).

### **Ice Dance Judges and Ice Dance Technical Specialists Seminars – Online, 20-21 March and 17 - 18 April**

Both will be online seminars. We will have more details for you soon.

### **Judges Seminar (Programme Components for all disciplines) – Christchurch, 8-9 May**

Venue: Riccarton High School, Christchurch. Proposed timetable: Sat 10.00am – 4pm, Sunday 9am – 2.00pm (approx.)

Moderator:

- Beth Crane (ISU Judge, Ref and TC, ISU Program Components Seminar Leader, Lead on GOE Positive Bullet videos, Lead on Toolkit for Virtual Events, 50+ years as an official)

This seminar is suitable for all judges, including probationary judges.

If you are planning to attend, please complete this registration form on or before Saturday 3rd April, 2021

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2021ProgramComponentsSeminar>

If you are booking flights, please email our CEO, Jeanette King, at [ceo@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:ceo@nzifsa.org.nz) prior to booking because NZIFSA has AirNZ credits which we may be able to use for your flights.

### **Judges Seminar (GOE for Singles Skating) – Christchurch, 22 & 23 May**

Venue: Riccarton High School, Christchurch. Proposed timetable: Sat 10.00am – 4pm, Sunday 9am – 2.00pm (approx.)

Moderators:

- Beth Crane (ISU Judge, ref and TCISU Program Components Seminar Leader, Lead on GOE Positive Bullet videos, Lead on Toolkit for Virtual Events 50+ years as an official)
- Susan Heffernan (ISU Tech Controller/Referee from Canada)
- Jamie McGrigor (ISU TS singles and pairs, coach singles and pairs, former international pair skater)

This seminar is suitable for all Singles judges, including probationary judges.

If you are planning to attend, please complete this registration form on or before Saturday 3rd April, 2021.

[https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/\\_2021GOESeminarSingles](https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2021GOESeminarSingles)

If you are booking flights, please email our CEO, Jeanette King, at [ceo@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:ceo@nzifsa.org.nz) prior to booking because NZIFSA has AirNZ credits which we may be able to use for your flights.

### **Referee Training (all disciplines) – Online, 29/30 May TBC**

Online seminar. This training is for all existing referees, as well as those judges who would like to be considered for first appointment as a referee (see section 3.4 of the NZIFSA Officials' Training, Appointment & Promotions Policy).

### **Announcers course – Online, dates TBC**

Online seminar via video conference. While we are fortunate to have a handful of people who are quite happy to do the announcing at competitions, this is often one of the roles that clubs struggle to find willing volunteers for. This training course will give people more confidence to take on this role. It would be good to see a couple of volunteers from each club keen to do this. We will have more details on this soon.

### **Mock Panels for all Competition Officials - May 2021**

The plan is to run mock panels in three centres (Auckland, Christchurch and somewhere in Otago/Southland) before the competition season starts. This will give everyone, including Data/Replay Operators, Judges, Tech Specialists and IJS Technicians, a chance to go through their paces before we run our first competitions for the year.

## **OUR CONDOLENCES TO ANITA AND BROOKE TAMEPO AND FAMILY**

Our sincerest condolences to our President, Anita Tamepo and Brooke (who was competing in Senior ladies up until 2019) and their extended family on the passing of Al Tamepo – husband and father of Anita and Brooke respectively. It has been a particularly tough year for the whole family as Al fought a very challenging battle with cancer. Very sadly he lost that battle on Friday 29 January. Our thoughts are with Anita and Brooke.

## **SABRINA SNOAD AND JURA SYNCHRO**

Sabrina is a reporter for Jura Synchro and at the end of January the new Jura Synchro YouTube news channel featured [an update on synchro and skating in NZ and AUS.](#)

Additionally there is an article about Sabrina on [Jura Synchro](#)

and a takeover on the OneTeamMVMT Instagram page. This is really great exposure for New Zealand and our love of ice skating, that will be seen by many. Thank you Sabina for your efforts to raise the profile of synchronized skating in New Zealand

If you don't have an Instagram account, you can [click here](#) to access the OneTeamMVMT takeover using Facebook.

## **NZIFSA AGM TO BE HELD IN AUCKLAND ON 10 APRIL 2021**

The AGM is to be held Saturday 10 April with meetings for the Board, Operations and Development Groups on Sunday morning. The meeting will be held in the staffroom at the Cockle Bay School, Sandspit Road, Cockle Bay, Auckland 2014.

It's important to us that we have good representation of members from around the country. Each Club is entitled to send 3 delegates and NZIFSA will contribute towards the travel expenses of 2 of these delegates (refer the NZIFSA Travel and Reimbursement Policy on the NZIFSA website). During the AGM itself these club delegates, members of the Board, Operations Group, Development Group, Honorary Life Members, and coach members are all entitled to speak, but it's only the nominated voting delegates that get to vote. In addition to this, any other club members of affiliated clubs are welcome to attend, but they only get to speak at the Member Forums. We are coming out of a difficult year and are looking ahead to new possibilities for 2021 and we look forward to seeing as many people there as possible.

The Board did consider whether we held the meeting via video conference. However, after careful consideration the decision was made to have a face-to-face meeting.

We anticipate starting with the AGM at around 1pm followed by member forums at approximately 2pm, and a social get together from 4-5pm. We will finalise the schedule for the afternoon closer to the time, but this timeframe should provide enough guidance for any travel bookings.

The following positions are up for election in 2021 and we would like to encourage people to consider standing for these roles:

- President
- Two Board members
- Treasurer
- Skater Development Director
- Coaching Director
- Test & Competition Secretary

Each of these roles is for a period of two years. A call for nominations has been sent out. Nominations, including a CV, need to be submitted to the General Secretary at [secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) via your club no later than **8 March**.

Following the AGM the Board also need to appoint people to a number of additional roles. They are seeking expressions of interest for the following:

- Anti-Doping Officer
- Grants Officer
- Child Protection Officer
- Administrative Support Officer
- Technical Support Officer \*
- Marketing & Promotions Officer \*
- High Performance Officer\*

\* indicates vacancies or proposed new positions normally appointed in an even year that will be appointed for a one year term.

If you would like to talk to someone about any of these roles, please contact the General Secretary at [secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) or CEO at [ceo@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:ceo@nzifsa.org.nz) . We would also like to encourage anyone interested in standing for the President or one of the Board Member roles to be an observer at the 9 March video conference meeting of the Board. Please make contact with the President at [president@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:president@nzifsa.org.nz) at least one week prior to the meeting if you are interested in attending.

## **NZIFSA POLICIES CURRENTLY UP FOR REVIEW**

After an initial review, the Board have proposed some changes to the **Travel and Reimbursement Policy** including changes to the maximum reimbursement rates to help ensure fair and equitable reimbursement of expenses. The proposed rates better reflect the normal airline prices for flights between the various centres and the fuel reimbursement figures have been recalculated based on modern cars using 9.4 L / 100km and a petrol price of \$2.10. The proposed accommodation rate reflects the gradual increase in accommodation costs over recent years. Members are invited to make final submissions on the proposed amendments by 9 March 2021 on the Policy Submissions Forum.

The **Funding Policy** and **Electronic Meetings Policy** are open for your input as part of the first phase in the review process. If you would like to propose any changes, please do so by 15 March. Your submissions will be considered by the Board when they review the policy and a draft of any proposed amendments will be put back out for member submissions.

## **NZIFSA BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board is on 9 March 2021. Please send any correspondence for this meeting to the General Secretary ([secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz)) by 2 March at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the following meeting (11 April 2021).

All the best in skating

Anita Tamepo, Grant Howie and Jeanette King  
President, Vice President and CEO  
NZIFSA