



JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

MASK WEARING AT TEST & COMPETITIONS

A reminder that, while mask wearing is no longer mandated by the Government, NZIFSA had determined earlier this year that masks would still be required at all NZIFSA sanction Tests & Competitions. NZIFSA ask that masks are worn by everyone in an indoor setting, unless they are on the ice, they are very young, or they have an official mask exemption.

Research has shown that masks worn properly play an important part in limiting transmission of covid and other airborne illnesses. Masks aren't the whole answer. Anyone who is unwell needs to stay home and test for Covid. Where possible additional measures are encouraged, such as physical distancing, keeping spaces well ventilated, and regular cleaning / sanitising your hands.

Thank you for the great efforts we have seen at some events to create a positive culture around mask wearing and for the additional steps that have been taken to minimise the risk of transmission of Covid and influenza that are so prevalent at present.

Why are we asking for masks when the government and the rinks do not require them? There are a number of reasons including the following:

- We have a number of people in our skating community that are immunocompromised. This includes some of our officials. For them to be comfortable making themselves available for competitions, they need to be confident that they can minimise the risk to their health.
- If our officials get sick and/or are required to isolate, they can't be available for the next competition.
- Skaters are wanting to qualify for Development Squad selection and to compete at our National Championships. We do not want to see their ability to be selected compromised by illness and time away from training.
- We also have skaters and their coaches that are busy preparing to compete in international competitions. We do not want to see their preparation or their participation in these competitions compromised.

We appreciate everyone's efforts to help try and minimise the impact of Covid on our skating community.

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

It is so exciting to see a large cohort of New Zealand skaters able to head away to international competitions after the travel restrictions of the last couple of years. We wish them all the very best with these competitions.

Sydney Synchro Festival, Sydney, Australia, 26-28 August

Sandra Williamson-Leadley will be attending as an international official. Sandra will also be attending the ISU Judges and Referees seminar to be held alongside this competition.

Cranberry International, Boston, Mass. USA, 10-14 August

Senior Women Jojo Hong

Junior Grand Prix, Ostrava, Czech Republic, 31 August – 3 September

Junior Women Mirika Armstrong

Coach Rosie Armstrong

SEA Trophy, Singapore 2-4 September

Advanced Novice Women Jazmyn Evangelou

Advanced Novice Women Christine Aixinjueluo

Junior Women Cara Tang

Junior Women Ruth Xu

Junior Women Misaki Joe (subject to confirmation SEA will accept 3 skaters)

Junior Men Dwayne Li

Junior Men Douglas Gerber

Senior Men Douglas Gerber

Coach Bess Cao

Mathieu Wilson has been appointed as the Team Leader for this competition

Sue Petricevic will be attending as an International Judge (pending judges draw)

Junior Grand Prix, Riga, Latvia, 7-10 September

Junior Women Cara Tang

Junior Men Dwayne Li

Challenger Series USA, Lake Placid, USA 12-16 September

Sandra Williamson-Leadley will be attending as an international official

ISU International Adult Figure Skating Competition, Ottawa, Canada 21-24 September

Sandra Williamson-Leadley will be attending as an international official

UPCOMING OVERSEAS CLUB COMPETITIONS

2022 Onyx Challenge, Rochester, USA, 19-20 August

Junior Dance Isabelle Guise & Ethan Alday

96th Middle Atlantics, New York, USA, 7-11 September

Sue Petricevic has been invited to judge at this competition

RECENT KIWISKATE COACHING COURSE

The final KiwiSkate Coaching course for the year was held in Auckland 23 & 24 June. Unfortunately, Kim Lewis who was supposed to be the lead moderator, caught Covid and was therefore unable to attend. Rosie Armstrong who was set to assist with this course, stepped up to run it on her own. A huge thank you Rosie for this. There were 11 coaches there on the Saturday and 10 on the Sunday. Covid again had an impact on how many coaches we had take part in this course with five health/ covid related withdrawals.



NOMINATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AND SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS ARE DUE BY 1 SEPTEMBER

We would like to encourage clubs and individual members to nominate the person who you think is the most outstanding volunteer administrator and the skater who displays the attributes of a great sportsperson for the NZIFSA Administrator of the Year Award and the Sportsperson of the Year Award respectively.

Nominations must be received by the General Secretary secretary@nzifsa.org.nz by **1 September**. The Board will be the selectors for this award and will announce the recipients at social function at the end of the 2022 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships.

Criteria for the Administrator of the Year Award

- Take on a leadership or integral role in their club / sub-association
- Take on administrative/organisational roles and perform their duties in a manner that progresses the sport or enhances the functioning of the club / sub-association
- Positive role model for other administrators of our sport
- Possibly work in a mentoring role within the club / sub-association

Criteria for Nomination for Sportsperson of the Year Award

- Positive role model for other skaters
- Demonstrate a 'fair play' attitude/good sportspersonship
- Positive and tangible contribution to their club and the sport in general
- Active role in the activities offered by the club and/or skate school, e.g. club nights, fundraising, KiwiSkate coaching sessions, etc.

NOTE: While skating achievement is considered, it is not the basis of this award

NZIFSA POLICIES CURRENTLY BEING FINALISED

The Board will be reviewing the feedback received on the **Selection Policy** and **Skater Development Policy** at the meeting on 9th of August. This is somewhat delayed. However, given the importance of these two policies, it was considered important that the Board have the opportunity to consider and discuss the feedback fully.

NZIFSA BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board will be held on Tuesday 9 August. If you have any correspondence that you would like the Board to consider, please send it to the General Secretary (secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) by Tuesday 2 August at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date is likely to be tabled at the September meeting.

All the best in skating,
Rochelle Stansfield and Jeanette King
President and CEO
NZIFSA