

NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER – JUNE/JULY

This Newsletter introduces Imelda Sheerin (Hegarty) who is the NZIFSA Child Protection Officer. Here is a little of Imelda's background. As you will see, she is well conversant with our sport.

I am the current Child Protection Officer for the NZIFSA.

I have been involved in New Zealand figure skating for 25 years, as a competitive skater to senior level, as a kiwiskate coach and most recently as a technical specialist. I have also spent some time in Canada during my big OE teaching skating. I now practice as a corporate lawyer, but still try to keep my sporting side alive by running. I completed my first marathon this year—definitely on par with the end of a 4 minute free programme!

My primary role as the Child Protection Officer is to act as a contact person for reporting of concerns under the NZIFSA's Child Protection Policy. Staff, coaches, officials, volunteers and parent(s)/caregiver(s) should be familiar with the policy and those 'on the ground' need to take an active role in monitoring compliance with the policy.

Figure skating provides children with an opportunity to develop not only their athletic and artistic potential, but also a wide range of other skills that will serve them in good stead for life beyond figure skating. It is crucial that the environment in which children participate in the sport and develop these skills is safe, protected and positive.

I can be contacted in my role as Child Protection Officer by email at imelda82@hotmail.com or by phone on 021752784.



DEVELOPMENT CAMPS PROGRESS

We are pleased to announce that the Board has appointed Jill Borland as the Skater Development Officer.

Jill has kindly offered her services as she is currently not employed as a Coach due to the Christchurch earthquake which has resulted in her working in Balclutha. Jill brings many attributes to this position and has commenced working on the planning of camps to be held in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin prior to 2012 National Championships. Skaters named in the Development Squads will be receiving full information shortly.

Jill also has plans for 2013 and we look forward to hearing these in due course.

RESULTS SKATERS COMPETING AT HOLLINS TROPHY

We congratulate all the following skaters and hope they gained valuable experience from this Competition which is one of the largest held in Australia.

Pre Primary Ladies	Anastasia Ozerova	6 th
Primary Ladies	Alicia Dennis	16 th
Intermediate Ladies	Krystal Deets	12 th
Intermediate Men	Michael Durham	1 st
	Daniel Cheuk	2 nd

Novice Ladies	Brooke Tamepo	8 th SP	12 th FS	8 th Overall
	Tracey Danbrook	10 th SP	14 th FS	12 th Overall
	Preeya Laud	16 th SP	11 th FS	15 th Overall
Intermediate Men	Thomas Woodbridge	4 th SP	3 rd FS	3 rd Overall
Junior Ladies	Sarah MacGibbon	7 th SP	7 th FS	7 th Overall
Senior Men	Cameron Hems	4 th SP	4 th FS	4 th Overall

We have since received an email from the Sydney Figure Skating Club thanking the NZ competitors for making the trip to Hollins this year.

2012 ADULT INTERNATIONAL OBERSTDORF

Two Dunedin skaters competed at this yearly event.

Karl Hewitt competed in the Silver Freeskate II placing 3rd (5 skaters) and Silver Artistic 2nd (3)

Sue Hoseit competed in Silver IV Freeskating placing 3rd (6 skaters) and Silver Artistic 3rd (5)

Below an article written by Sue and Karl.

The ISU sanctioned competition is held in the Alpine village of Oberstdorf, Germany – the training ground for current world champion Carolina Kostner and the German dancers Nelli Zhiganshina and Alexander Gazsi. The three rink stadium is the centre of training for all winter sports disciplines and it is wonderful to see these young athletes training and living within the stadium. It is a fantastic competition, this year attracting 364 athletes from 37 countries. Each year the numbers grow and each year it is a true delight to meet up with like minded individuals from every country. Many have skated previously but just as many are adult beginner skaters, some because their children skated and some because they love the sport. The common thread is that everyone is there to do their best, and to enjoy the sport they do together. The village is welcoming and the cows herded off to their field each day is true Bavaria.

From the training camp in the days leading up to the event, the three day event that this year some days stretched from 6.00am to 11.00pm and the final closing banquet, it was amazing; lots of skating, great competitions and renewing friendships.



Sue Hoseit and Karl Hewitt promoting NZ at the opening ceremony.

Anyone who has travelled to this event would encourage all adult skaters to attend. Sue has competed at the competition since the very first one eight years ago and is determined to be one of a few that have been to all 10 competitions. Let's put out a challenge to get stronger representation next year.

64th ISU CONGRESS

The 2012 ISU Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 11-15 June. This was a five day conference attended by all ISU Member Countries. New Zealand was represented by Jeanette King (President, and Wendy Clucas (CEO). Sue Petricevic was also there as a member of the ISU Disciplinary Commission.

We left in snow and a temperature at minus 5 degrees and arrived at temperatures in the mid 30's where when the air conditioning was set at 20 we were cold. Our return was a reality check back to winter.

Congress meets every two years, and hold elections once every four years. It is a very busy and intense time where delegates have the opportunity to speak to submissions from Member Countries and vote.

In total there were over 330 proposals presented for consideration by delegates. In addition to proposed changes to the Constitution and General Regulations considered by the full Congress, technical issues were dealt with by the separate branches of Figure Skating and Speed Skating. Many of the rule changes are to be introduced 2014/15 season.

Of real importance to New Zealand was the deletion of preliminary rounds at ISU World Championships. This will place more emphasis on our skaters competing at Internationals and Grand Prix events. This decision also has ramifications to our two ISU Judges who will now not be able to officiate at an ISU World event unless we have skaters qualifying but may go in the draw for Four Continents unless of course we have a skater entered when they can obviously officiate.



Sue Petricevic (ISU Disciplinary Commission), Jeanette King and Wendy Clucas (NZIFSA Delegates) at the Welcome Dinner hosted by the Ministry of Youth & Sports and the Ice Skating Association of Malaysia

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION – SOCIAL MEDIA

The ISU are launching a new You Tube Channel Network this summer. A number of videos at www.youtube.com/SkatingISU will be available on the new Channel.

They also have facebook that they encourage all members to go to, comment and interact on them. The Singles one is www.facebook.com/isufigureskating. This community is very reactive and quick to comment sharing pictures and videos of skaters on and off the ice which is very popular.

ISU Championships are available on the ISU Skating Channel (pay channel). <http://livemanager.eurovision.edgesuite.net/isu/pay/index.html>. This channel is available in countries without any television rights (Australian, Malaysia, Singapore etc).

ISU ANTI-DOPING EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - CLEAN SKATER

Our Anti Doping Officer will be advising our International Athletes regarding this as it could become compulsory for all skaters who enter an ISU Event.

We'd like to encourage all athletes to do this online interactive education program available on <http://isu.realwinner.org>.

By completing the nine modules the skater will be registered as certified. Skaters who have completed this stated it was a good way to learn something new and learn at the time you want. It is reported to be fun as well as being informative.

JUNIOR GRAND PRIX ASSIGNMENTS

Based on New Zealand Skaters results at the 2012 Junior World Championships, ISU allocated New Zealand one entry in three Junior GP events for Ladies Singles and Dance.

Singles	Lake Placid, USA	29 August – 2 nd September
	Linz, Austria	12 – 16 th September
	Dresden, Germany	10 – 14 th October
Dance	Linz, Austria	12 – 16 th September
	Istanbul, Turkey	19 – 23 th September
	Dresden, Germany	10 – 14 th October

Our dance team of Shane Speden and Ayesha Campbell have nominated Linz, Austria and Istanbul, Turkey whilst our Junior Ladies Champion Madelaine Parker will compete at Lake Placid, USA and Dresden, Germany.

Iyryn Quigley runner up in the Junior Ladies has declined the opportunity to compete in Linz, Germany.

We were also allocated one entry in two Junior GP's for Mens Singles and one entry in three Junior GP's for pairs Unfortunately we don't have skaters in these grades to fill these positions.

SENIOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

Morgan Templeton (nee Figgins) has submitted an entry to the US Senior International Competition at Salt Lake City and intends to enter a further International in Graz, Austria to try and gain the TES scores she needs to qualify for 4 Continents and Worlds.

ALLIE ROUT

Some members will remember Allie from Auckland who was a very successful Figure skater holding New Zealand Titles in all Grades, and a recipient of an ISU Development Grant due to her performances at International Competitions and Junior Worlds the first year she qualified.

Last year she represented NZ Speed at the Junior World Short Track Speed Skating championships in Melbourne, exceeding all expectations due to limited training and managing to do PB's in all her races.

We congratulate Allie on her achievements and wish her well for the future.

UNIVERSITY GAMES 2013

These are to be held in Trentino, Italy December 2013. Please go to the website www.universiadetrentino.org for further information and advise Ina Paul our Test and Competitive Secretary if you wish to enter.

75TH ANNIVERSARY

This year the New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Association celebrates 75 years of existence. A 50th Jubilee was celebrated in 1987 with an excellent book authored by the Late Rhona Whitehouse being published. Unfortunately, records are not so easily referable now so a further issue of a published book is highly unlikely. Should anyone be interested in assisting to organise an event to celebrate 75 years of activity please get in touch with Jeanette King at president@nzifsa.org.nz.

COACHES ACCREDITATION SUB-COMMITTEE

The NZIFSA Coaches Accreditation Policy has been in place for 4 years now - long enough to see what parts of it are working well and to identify where there is room for improvement. The policy is up for review again in the latter part of the year with submissions due 15 October. The NZIFSA Board believe it's therefore timely to relook at our coaches accreditation system to see whether it meets our needs in the manner we had hoped, or if we need to adapt it further. With this in mind the Board have decided to form a sub-committee made up of a cross-section of coaches from across New Zealand, the President, CEO, and Coaching Director. The Board are also looking at whether we can get input from Sport NZ's coaching specialists.

The Board are seeking expressions of interest from coach members who would like to be considered for this sub-committee. The Board will then make the decision as to which 5-7 coaches are appointed, keeping in mind that we will be looking for:

- Reasonable representation from each area
- A range of disciplines
- A range of experience
- Coaches who will communicate with other coaches in their area

It is expected that the sub-committee will meet via Skype on several occasions over the next 2-3 months, and that those involved will need to commit time to collecting information from and providing feedback to coaches in their area and from other sources as deemed necessary.

What the Board expect the sub-committee to achieve

- Identification of what parts of the current system work well
- Identification of what areas need further work
- Development of a vision of where we want our coaches accreditation to be and a plan of how we get there

KIWI SKATE ASSISTANT AND INTRODUCTION FOR COACHES COURSE

This course is to be held in Alexandra 14 and 15 July and moderated by Kim Lewis. Please contact the Coaching Director for more information at coachingdirectornz@gmail.com.

NZIFSA WEBSITE

The Board have plans to reintroduce the General Forum page on our website again for members to contribute to. So keep an eye on the Website for its reintroduction.

POLICIES UNDER REVIEW

The following policies are on the Members' Forum for final submissions at present

- Funding Policy
- CEO Limitations Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Governance and Management Policy and Job Descriptions

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE NEW CLOSING DATE FOR THE 2012 NATIONALS IS FRIDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

Due to the South Island Sub Association Championship date having to be changed owing to a clash of dates with the North Island Championships the closing date has been extended to Friday 7th September. However our Test and Competition Secretary, Ina Paul would appreciate that if your club's entries are not affected by South Islands results if you could still submit your entries by 1st September. Entries (the individual entry forms and club summaries) can be either posted or emailed to Ina, with a copy of club summaries and payments going to the Treasurer.

We take this opportunity to wish you all a very successful skating season.

Jeanette King, President
Wendy Clucas, CEO