

NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

SKATER DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CAMPS



A very successful skater development camp was held in Auckland Friday 22-Sunday 24 January. This camp was moderated by Debbie Darvill and Marina Tsevina, and provided a great start to the skating season for those that attended.

In addition, NZIFSA provided support for skaters to attend a skater development camp in Christchurch Monday 18 – Friday 22 January.



NZIFSA Development Camps in April with Manon Perron

As mentioned in the last two newsletters, NZIFSA are organising a further development camp in Dunedin (26-28 April), and one in Auckland (29 April - 1 May), with Olympic Solidarity funding via the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC). These camps are for our NZIFSA Development Squad members, any of our other skaters that are Juvenile level or up, and our Level 1 and up coaches. We're very excited to have Manon Perron as the primary moderator for these camps. Information about these camps and registration forms were emailed out two weeks ago. Registration forms and payment are due by 5pm Friday 8th April, 2016. Please contact our Skater Development Director, [Liudmila Kuznetsova](mailto:Liudmila.sk8coach@me.com) Liudmila.sk8coach@me.com, or our Coaching Director, Caitlyn Paul coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz, if you did not receive this information.

ISU Development Trophy – Poland 11-17 April 2016

We finally received the announcement for the ISU World Development Trophy to be held in Gdansk, Poland 11 - 17 Apr 2016, and Bridget has been busy communicating this information to all those who are eligible to attend. This opportunity is available to Development Squad members who meet the ISU age requirements as at July 2015, for Basic Novice A (≥ 10 and < 13 years), Basic Novice B (≥ 13 and < 15 years), and Junior (≥ 13 and < 19 years). The following skaters have expressed interest in attending

Basic Novice A Ladies	Grace Greenstreet
Basic Novice B Ladies	Zara Anthony-Whigham
Junior Ladies	Tracy Danbrook Christina Floka (subject to the ISU accepting her as an additional entry in this grade)
Junior Mens	Brian Lee



Caitlyn Paul has been appointed as Team Leader for this event

Early notice of ISU Ice Dance Seminar in Seoul, Korea August 14 – 20, 2016

There will be an International Ice Dance Development Training Seminar for Ice Dance Coaches and Couples of beginner, Novice and Junior (but not lower than Novice Basic skating level) from Asia, Oceania, the Pacific region and South Africa. The age of the couples should be according to the current ISU age requirements for Novice (≥ 10 and < 15 years for girls and < 17 for boys) and Junior (≥ 13 and < 19 years for ladies and < 21 for men) Ice Dance Couples, as at 1 July 2016.

Each Member may enter a maximum of 3 Couples and up to 1 alternate and 2 Coaches to the Seminar. The Seminar is also open to Coaches wishing to attend without Skaters at their own cost. Please refer to ISU Communication No. 1990 for more detail.

If you are interested in participating in this please email the General Secretary (secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) by Monday 2 May at the latest.

SUE PETRICEVIC AND SANDRA WILLIAMSON LEADLY JUDGING AT 4C'S

Sue and Sandra have both recently returned from judging at the ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships held in Taipei, Taiwan, 16 – 21 February.

Prior to the Four Continents competition, Sandra also judged Trophy D'Ecosse 2016, which is a synchronised skating competition, held 11-14 February in Dumphries, Scotland.

NEIL GAMBLE'S PASSING

Very sadly, Neil Gamble died on Sunday 3 January following a courageous battle with cancer.

The following is from an email to DISC members from Morgan Figgins

Many of you will know Neil as the person who along with his curling buddies toiled endlessly to ensure that Dunedin had an ice rink after the Big Chill on Kaikorai Valley road closed down. He was determined to build a new facility. Not only did he convince the Council it was a good idea, but once the building was secured he spent endless hours ensuring that the rink was built to his standard, whether it was seeking funding, laying the insulation and the pipes, or building the "best ice in New Zealand". He set very high standards.

He managed the current rink for the first eight years and will be remembered for running a tight ship. Without Neil's persistence there would be no ice arena in Dunedin today.

Neil helped so many struggling young skaters to learn business skills behind the counter. He was so good to his staff and protected them in all sorts of situations. There was so much good in him and I was very lucky to have had him a part of my skating career; supporting me with a job, funding and ice time to train. I would've never represented New Zealand in Junior & Senior Worlds and many other competitions if it wasn't for his kind heart. He may have come across a little scary/grumpy at times but if you knew him you'd agree that it's once in a life time that you come across a sense of humour like his and it's extremely sad to see the world without it.

STROKING SEMINARS FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS

The first of the stroking seminars to work with coaches and officials on the new stroking tests took place in Auckland on Sunday 13 December. Further seminars were held in January in Christchurch and Dunedin for coaches and Officials in those areas. The requirements for the new stroking tests are all on the NZIFSA website, and coaches and officials will be sent copies of the stroking manual this week.

COACHING COURSES IN 2016

There are a number of coaching courses planned for 2016.

- An Intro to Coaching Course and a Level 1 Coaching Course will be held in May in Dunedin.
- A Level 2 course is being offered by the Australian Professional Skaters Association in May.

Dates for the above will be confirmed in the near future.

If you have questions about any of the above courses, please contact the NZIFSA Coaching Director, Caitlyn Paul (coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz)

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS IN NZ

A reminder to skaters, particularly those that are new to competing, that details of upcoming competitions can be found on the NZIFSA website <http://www.nzifsa.org.nz/competitions/>
We would like to draw your attention to the fact that Disney on Ice in Christchurch is on at the same time as South Islands, so please make sure that you don't purchase tickets for 19-21 August if you are planning to compete at South Islands.

2016 AGM OF THE NZ ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION, INC

The AGM will be held in Auckland on Saturday 9 April at the offices of Apparel Lines, 17 Rennie Drive, Airport Oaks, Auckland 2022.

Delegates that are flying in should plan to arrive before 12.30pm and depart any time after 5.30pm on the Saturday. The AGM will be preceded by member forums starting at 1.15pm, with the AGM itself starting at approximately 2.45pm, and followed by a social afternoon tea 4.00 - 5.00pm. All members are most welcome to attend the forums, and for that matter the AGM (though they won't have speaking rights at the AGM unless they are a delegate).

A call for nominations for the positions that are up for election this year has been sent out to clubs, life members, coaches and officials. Nominations, including a CV, need to be submitted via your home club to the General Secretary, secretary@nzifsa.org.nz no later than **Wednesday 9 March**.

Anyone interested in standing for the Vice President, Board Member or CEO roles is invited to be an observer at the next video conference meeting of the Board on 8 March, and should make contact with the President at president@nzifsa.org.nz by Wednesday 2 March to arrange this.

NZIFSA BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board is on Tuesday 8 March. 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 1 March at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the following meeting which is to be held 10 April following the 2016 AGM.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR OUR 2016 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Note the following is a provisional schedule for the 2016 New Zealand Figure Skating Championships to be held in Christchurch 11-14 October. Every effort will be made to hold the events on the days listed below, the order of the events is however likely to change.

Monday 10 October Unofficial practices

Tuesday 11 October

- Juvenile Ladies & Men
- Pre Primary Ladies & Men
- Primary Ladies & Men
- Intermediate Ladies & Men
- Pairs
- Dance PD & SD

Wednesday 12 October

- Novice Ladies & Men SP
- Junior Ladies & Men SP
- Senior Ladies & Men SP
- Dance FD
- Synchro FS

Thursday 13 October

Novice Ladies & Men FS
Junior Ladies & Men FS
Senior Ladies & Men FS

Friday 14 October

All adult grades (including synchro)

Official practices are expected to be held between 6.00am and 10.00am each day and the competition between 3.00pm and 7.00pm each day, with the exception of Thursday where we expect to finish the competition by 5.30pm. Unofficial practices for Adults are expected to be held on Thursday evening from 5.45- 7.00pm.

The Banquet will be on Thursday 13 October following the completion of the standard grade competitions.

All the best in skating,
Sandra Williamson-Leadley and Jeanette King