

NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2012

CORRECTION: The last newsletter reported that Thomas Woodbridge placed 3rd in the Intermediate Grade at Hollins Trophy in Sydney, it was in fact the Novice Grade. Our apologies for this error Thomas.

ANTI DOPING GUIDLINES

Our Drug Officer Jan Christieson has produced a two page information guideline on how a skater can be a drug free Clean skater. This was done with the intention of issuing it to Development Skaters and those selected to represent New Zealand. As it is useful information for all skaters you can now download this from our Website nzifsa.org.nz under the Rules and Regulations heading.

ISU have posted two updates No's 1765 and 1766 which all representatives skaters should familiarise themselves with. These latest ISU communications have yet to be uploaded to our website but can be found on the ISU website www.isu.org.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Lake Placid Junior Grand Prix

Congratulations to Madelaine Parker who competed at the second Junior Grand Prix of the season at Lake Placid. From a field of 25 skaters she placed 16th in the Short Programme and 17 in the Freeskate ending up in 17th position. Watching her performance on U Tube, I don't think she could have wished for a better skate. Sandra Williamson-Leadley acted as a Judge there and alongside her was a former New Zealand skater/judge who competed in Singles and Synchro, Elizabeth Alexandra. Our Junior Dance Team of Ayesha Campbell and Shane Speden competed in two Junior Grand Prix events, one in Austria the other in Turkey immediately prior to our Nationals.

In Austria they placed 15th in the Short Dance from a field of 16 and 16th in the Freedance. It was pleasing to note that their Component Marks have risen. In Turkey they obtained 15.79 TES in the Short Dance and in the Free Dance posted a Jnr World ISU qualifying score of 27.09 with 27.00 being the mark. Unfortunately, they must also achieve the Short Dance score as well. They are not far off this mark and so they are currently considering competing in a further recognised International Event for another attempt.

The Junior Grand Prix's can now be viewed via the ISU Website on Youtube.

US Senior International – Salt Lake City

Morgan Templeton was to compete at this event with Susan Petricevic officiating as a Judge. Unfortunately, Morgan was unable to attend due to personal reasons, however, the US allowed Sue to remain on the judges panel. I understand she was placed on several panels. The US has been very good in accommodating New Zealand and plan to continue to do so in order that countries like ours may participate with supposedly less cost and travel.

ISU World Development Trophy

The ISU Council has initiated a new competition with the name of ISU World Development Trophy with the objective of giving an incentive to the development of the ISU Members who are currently of inactive status or lower level activity in one or more than one skating principles.

For non-European ISU Members the Trophy for figure skating will be held in Manila, Philippines in the disciplines of Figure Skating (Ladies; Men; age categories: Novice A, Novice B, Junior) and Ice Dance age (categories: Basic Novice, Advanced Novice, Junior).

Tentative date: 8-14 April, 2013

The NZIFSA are keen to support this Development Trophy and will have more information for you soon regarding this competition.

ISU DANCE SEMINAR

There is to be an ISU Dance Seminar to be held in Brisbane, Australia at the time of their National Championships December 3rd – 7th. Moderators for this Seminar will be ISU Dance Chairperson Halina Gordon-Poltorak, Wendy Langton and Mika Saarelainen. Nominations for this close at ISU Head Office on Monday 22 October. Eligible judges were contacted and have now been emailed the Application Form.

COACHING ACCREDITATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Coaches were invited to apply to be part of a Board appointed Coaching Accreditation Sub-Committee. As only seven applied all were appointed and to date three meetings have been held. The first via Skype, the second during the South Island Championships with the Auckland Member joining on Skype and a third at the time of Nationals. Unfortunately, not all could attend due to commitments with skaters. All meetings have been very positive and we look forward to more debate with a resulting improved accreditation program.

ISU DVD

The International Skating Union (ISU) have provided Member Federations with a DVD on the evolution of figure skating (mens, ladies, pairs and dance) plus some general information on synchronised skating programme components and assessment. Unfortunately at this point in time, we are unable to make copies. Once copies can be done each club will be sent one. Note - these discs are not to be sold. If you want a personal copy then please ask your club if they can arrange for copies to be made.

2012 NZ NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONGRATULATIONS to all the skaters who participated in these championships. It was pleasing to see the comradeship between fellow competitors and the manner in which you all presented yourselves for competition.

Also a very big thank you to the organising committee and of course all the officials, some of whom spent many cold hours rink side performing their duties.

Due to the predicted late finish to the competition on the Tuesday night the organisers arranged for a Brunch at Butterfly Creek the following morning. Unfortunately, many of the skaters were unable to attend, however, those that were able to had a very enjoyable morning.

The following announcements were made at the Brunch Banquet:

ALLCHURCH SHIELD

The winner of the Allchurch Shield (Club gaining the most points) was the Auckland Ice Figure Skating Club with 68.5 points. A great effort.

The other clubs scored the following

| Centaurus | Glenburn | Dunedin | Ice Sports Southland | Allegro | Qnstown | Cantbry Masters | West Akl | Alex |
|-----------|----------|---------|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------|------|
| 27.5 | 26 | 15.5 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 7.5 | 4 | 0 |

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

The award for Administrator of the Year went to **June Laird** - Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club.

June was nominated by her club for her services over a number of years. She was a founding member of CMFSC, joined the committee in 2005 and has been secretary since 2006/07. She is described as meticulous in the way she carries out her role, and has great attention to detail. June has been very successful with grant applications, getting over \$90,000 for workshops, club championships, costumes and travel and accommodation for members since she has been secretary. June has also shown herself willing to help other clubs develop their grant application skills.

June has been described as the glue that helps bind the club together. She has a friendly and welcoming manner and a great sense of humour. She is always supportive of new and old members and has a way of encouraging them to participate in club activities. She has played a pivotal role in organising club trips and has given full support to other committee members to offer further activities to club members. June she has also been newsletter editor for a number of years, and more recently has been working with another club member to produce a great newsletter documenting the activities of club members.

We would also like to acknowledge the other nominees for their service to ice skating. **Michelle Erickson** was nominated by the Auckland Ice Figure Skating. Michelle has been involved with AIFSC since 2008 when she first managed the Juvenile Synchronised skating team the "Ice Picksies". In 2009 Michelle put up her hand to go on to the committee and took on the role of Treasurer towards the end of that year while still continuing to manage the synchronised teams. She has worked tirelessly as Treasurer for almost three years. Her incredible attention to detail, in particular the way she has tracked the individual fundraising efforts of skaters has been greatly valued. Due to personal and health reasons, Michelle had to hand in her resignation in October 2011, but she has continued in the role over the last year until AIFSC was able to find a replacement and she could teach them the ropes. AIFSC will be farewell Michelle towards the end of this year and it is clear that she will be missed by the AIFSC.

The Board received a third nomination for Administrator of the Year, but unfortunately it was received well outside the timeframe noted in the Rules and Regulations. We would however like to acknowledge the nomination of **Anita Tamapo** from the West Auckland Ice Skating Club. Anita has worked tirelessly, efficiently, collegially and creatively in a number of key roles this year, including test coordinator for Paradise Botany, secretary for the North Island Ice Skating Sub Association, and secretary of the West Auckland Ice Skating Club

SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR

The award for Sportsperson of the Year went to **Rachel Gregory**, Alexandra Ice Skating Club

Rachel is recognised as a great role model for AISC skaters, showing young skaters a culture of volunteering. Rachel has assisted their coach to train the synchronised teams, helped with KiwiSkate lessons and stroking and dance lessons. She has played an active role in call club activities, supporting all skaters and coaches. Rachel is a top level skater who by actions is teaching others a positivity about the sport and volunteer work.

We would also like to acknowledge the other nominee for this award – **Anne Verheul**, Auckland Ice Figure Skating Club. Ann was instrumental in getting the adult synchronised team Icy Chicks started. Ann is always cheerful, nurturing and encouraging, bringing a great atmosphere to training sessions. She captained and managed the team for 2 years, and has worked voluntarily with AIFSC Sync development teams, as well as assisting with Tiny tots. Ann always volunteers at AIFSC competitions, and volunteers her time in a number of other ways to help promote and support figure skating.

NZ Nationals 2013

The Host for the 2013 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships is the Dunedin Ice Skating Club. The proposed dates are 2-5 October 2013. A preliminary schedule will be made available in February 2013 so that people can begin to make their travel plans.

SELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE SKATERS

The following Skaters have met the NZIFSA criteria to be eligible for selection to represent New Zealand at International Competitions

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| Singles Novice | Tracy Danbrook |
| Junior | Brin Berge Madelaine Parker* |
| Dance Junior | Ayesha Campbell/Shane Speden |

* Subject to medical clearance and monitoring

SELECTION OF SKATERS FOR AUSTRALIAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

While the following skaters have met our selection criteria, the final numbers of skaters from each grade accepted to compete at the Australian National Championships will be determined by Ice Skating Australia. This may not be all three place getters from our NZ Nationals. NZIFSA will advise skaters named as soon as we are informed.

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|-----------------------|---|
| Primary Ladies | Anastasia Kuznetsova, Rebecca Lau, Keely McGuigan, Zara Anthony-Whigham (substitute), Zelda Ladefoged (substitute), Alicia Dennis (substitute), Rebecca Lilly (substitute), |
|-----------------------|---|

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|----------------------------|---------------|
| Intermediate Ladies | Krystal Deets |
|----------------------------|---------------|

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Intermediate Men | Michael Durham, Daniel Cheuk |
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| Novice Ladies | Tracy Danbrook, Preeya Laud |
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| Junior Ladies | Brin Berge, Jessie Park Sarah MacGibbon, Eerina Watkins (substitute), Kaho Hirafune (substitute) Madelaine Parker (substitute)* |
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* Subject to medical clearance and monitoring

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Junior Men | Thomas Woodbridge |
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| Senior Ladies | Morgan Templeton |
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Junior Dance Ayesha Campbell & Shane Speden

Adult Synchro Spectrum
Icy Chicks

TALENT ID / AGE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Juvenile Nicola Korck, Pei-Lin Lee, Charli Roi, Harrison Bain
Pre Primary Haylee Booth, Abbey Heale
Primary Zara Anthony-Whigham, Alicia Dennis, Anastasia Kuznetsova,
Zelda Ladefoged, Rebecca Lau, Rebecca Lilly, Keely McGuigan

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Novice Tracy Danbrook,
Junior Brin Berge, Kaho Hirafune, Sarah MacGibbon, Jessie Park, Madelaine Parker,
Eerina Watkins, Thomas Woodbridge
Senior Morgan Templeton
Junior Dance Ayesha Campbell & Shane Speden

RULES AND REGULATIONS SUBMISSIONS

For those who attended the Rules and Regulations forum at the time of Nationals you will be aware of the discussion and suggestions that took place. And a big thank you to those people who contributed to that forum and those who have been making submissions on the Rules and Regulations forum on our website. Your input is much appreciated, and there have been some really interesting discussions regarding some of the proposed changes.

To our other Members, this is your opportunity to have a say. You are invited to contribute by making submissions on our website. If you are uncomfortable with this, then please feel free to put in writing your thoughts to our National Secretary for posting. The only requirement is that any alterations must be made as you would like them to appear in the Rules and Regulations, and you should include a rationale for any changes you propose.

The close off date for submissions is the 31st of October

OTAGO UNIVERSITY BLUES AWARD



Melissa Morris awarded with a Blues at the Otago University for her excellence in Ice Skating. Congratulations Melissa, you have worked tirelessly for many years and now contributing by means of Judging.

For our next Newsletter it would be great to receive some photos from skaters participating at the Australian Nationals.

Good luck to all who compete.

Jeanette King - President

Wendy Clucas - CEO