

## OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Almost this entire newsletter is focused on the outcomes from our Nationals Championships last week and we are sure you will join us congratulating all the skaters who competed, and in particular those that achieved the selections that they were hoping to.

### JUNIOR GRAND PRIX EVENTS - RESULTS

#### Yokohama, Japan 7 – 11 September 2016

Brooke Tamepo	19 <sup>th</sup> /24 SP	18 <sup>th</sup> /22 FS	18 <sup>th</sup> /22 Overall
Michael Durham	18 <sup>th</sup> /22 SP	17 <sup>th</sup> /22 FS	18 <sup>th</sup> /22 Overall

#### Tallinn, Estonia 28 September – 1 October 2016

Tracy Danbrook	32 <sup>nd</sup> /33 SP	32 <sup>nd</sup> /33 FS	32 <sup>nd</sup> /33 Overall
Harrison Bain	27 <sup>th</sup> /28 SP	28 <sup>th</sup> /28 FS	27 <sup>th</sup> /28 Overall

Congratulations to these international representatives.

### NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS & NEW ZEALAND ADULT SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS, CHRISTCHURCH 11-14 OCTOBER

We'd like to extend a sincere thank you to the organisers, officials and volunteers for making it such a successful event. In particular we would like to acknowledge the work of the members of the organising committee from Centaurus Ice Skating Club and Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club.

Our National championships are the pinnacle event of our skating calendar and we wish to congratulate all those who met the qualification criteria to be able to compete. We got to enjoy some great skating over the four days of competition. All the results can be found on the Competitions section of the NZIFSA website <http://www.nzifsa.org.nz/competitions/>.

### SELECTIONS FROM THE 2016 NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Provisional announcement of selection of representative skaters and those that had made the development squads was made at the banquet following the completion of the standard grades at the National Championships and the confirmed selections are listed below.

#### Selection of International A Team Representative Skaters

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

#### *Advanced Novice Ladies*

Jojo Hong  
Nicola Korck



**Junior Ladies**  
Brooke Tamepo\*  
Tracy Danbrook\*



**Junior Men**  
Michael Durham\*  
Harrison Bain



**Senior Ladies**  
Allie Rout



\* Junior level representatives till 30 June 2017, after which they are no longer age eligible for Junior international competitions

It's great to see skaters performing at this level.

### **Selection of International B Team Representative Skaters**

The International B Team provides an opportunity for a further group of skaters to gain experience at international competitions. These skaters are eligible to attend any international competitions where the number of spaces available to New Zealand in any grade exceeds the number of selected International Representatives, but they aren't eligible for any NZIFSA funding for this.

**Basic Novice A Ladies**  
Mirika Armstrong  
Grace Greenstreet  
Natasha Woodacre



**Basic Novice A Men**  
Douglas Gerber\*\*



**Basic Novice B Ladies**  
Ella Smith



**Advanced Novice Ladies**  
Pei-Lin Lee



**Junior Ladies**  
Zara Anthony-Whigham

**Junior Men**  
Brian Lee (subject to monitoring)

\*\* Basic Novice A representative till 30 June 2017, then Basic Novice B from 1 July 2017 due to ISU age requirements.

## **Selection of Skaters for the Australian Figure Skating Championships**

The following skaters have met our selection criteria to compete at the 2016 Australian Figure Skating Championships. Ice Skating Australia is not always able to accept all of our skaters to compete, and we are awaiting confirmation as to whether they have places available for all those that met our selection criteria.

### ***Basic Novice A Ladies***

Mirika Armstrong  
Sophie Shallard  
Natasha Woodacre



### ***Basic Novice B Ladies***

Ella Smith  
Amy Wang  
Grace Greenstreet



### ***Basic Novice B Men***

Douglas Gerber



### ***Intermediate Men***

Reuben Dougherty



### ***Advanced Novice Ladies***

Jojo Hong  
Nicola Korck  
Pei-Lin Lee



### ***Junior Ladies***

Brooke Tamepo  
Tracy Danbrook  
Zara Anthony-Whigham  
Kaitlin Chamberlain



### ***Junior Men***

Michael Durham  
Harrison Bain  
Brian Lee (subject to monitoring)



### ***Senior Ladies***

Allie Rout  
Preeya Laud

### ***Mixed Age Synch***

Kia Kaha

**NZIFSA Development Squad** (listed alphabetically by surname). Those marked with \* met the Development Squad selection criteria at either the North or South Island Championships.

***Pre-Elementary Ladies***

Marina Chen\*  
Ann Kyle\*  
Cara Tang\*



***Elementary Ladies***

Brooke Cathro\*



***Juvenile Ladies***

Lucie Holtz\*  
Cordelia Shi  
Emmanuel Tsang\*



***Juvenile Men***

Stepan Kadlcik\*

***Pre-Primary Ladies***

Marika Armstrong\*  
Jess Hay\*  
Rivers Richens\*  
Natasha Woodacre\*



***Pre-Primary Men***

Star Richens\*



***Primary Ladies***

Grace Greenstreet\*  
Ella Smith\*



***Primary Men***

Douglas Gerber\*



***Advanced Novice Ladies***

Jojo Hong  
Nicola Korck\*  
Pei-Lin Lee\*



***Junior Ladies***

Tracy Danbrook\*  
Christina Floka\*  
Brooke Tamepo\*  
Zara Anthony-Whigham\*



***Junior Men***

Harrison Bain\*  
Michael Durham\*



*Senior Ladies*  
Allie Rout\*



*Juvenile Synch*  
Botany Blades



## **OTHER IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE AT THE NATIONALS BANQUET**

### **Administrator of the Year**

There were only three nominees for the Administrator of the Year award this year, which was disappointing as we know we have some really great administrators out there in our clubs. The quality of the nominees was, however, far from disappointing. The three nominees in alphabetical order are Debbie Groenewegen, Ina Paul and Karen Smith.

Debbie Groenewegen is the first of our nominees. AIFSC note she personifies what a club looks for in terms of a dedicated volunteer, committee member and skating parent. She has been involved in skating since 2011 when her daughter started skating. Early on Debbie saw a need and started producing skating pants and dresses to sell to skaters. This has morphed into regular second hand dress sales. When her daughter started doing synchro, Debbie was quick to step up as team manager, and helps ensure newbies skaters find their way round the systems. She has coordinated the skater costumes and taken on the role of synchro treasurer. A role that has grown as the number of skaters has grown. In 2015, despite already spending hours on skating related administration, Debbie was nominated for the role of AIFSC Secretary. This involves a massive number of tasks including club membership, TC registrations, meeting minutes, agenda, member emails and facilitating all club communication. She is always at competitions helping organise synchro, or volunteering to marshal or time-keep. She does all these tasks with quiet efficiency, and is always looking at ways to improve club administration.

The second nominee for this award is Ina Paul. Ina has had various roles in the Centaurus Ice Skating Club over the previous 15 years. She has been Secretary for the Club for a number of years, and is currently the Assistant Secretary, taking on responsibility for the monthly club newsletter. She is also responsible for keeping the membership database updated, organising test days and coordinating judges for tests and club champs. This is all in addition to her role as NZIFSA Test & Competition Secretary.

Our final nominee for this award is Karen Smith. Karen joined Glenburn Figure Skating Club in 2012 and has been a member of the committee since joining the club. She is currently club secretary, though it is noted that this title goes nowhere near describing all the areas Karen is involved. The club would not run as efficiently as it does without her tireless work in this role. She is the rock of the Glenburn club, and the liaison with new and existing members and other clubs. She is also the Test Secretary for the club. She coordinated club jackets, completes all the funding applications for GFSC and is the main organiser of all the fundraising events. With her IT experience she has also built and maintained the club website.

All three nominees clearly make a significant contribution to their clubs, but also beyond that. The Board after some deliberation decided to award the Administrator of the Year award to Debbie Groenewegen.

### **Sportsperson of the Year**

The Board received only three nominations this year. The three nominees were, in alphabetical order, Tracy Danbrook, Varshana Schelling and Pansie Sun.

Tracy Danbrook started skating in 2007 attending a “bring a friend day” and has loved the sport from the word go. 2008 – 2014 she divided her time between singles and synchro – double teaming for 4 of these years. Tracy was novice ladies champ 2011 and 2012 and Junior ladies in 2014, been selected to various development squads over the years and earned the opportunity to represent NZ at a number of international competitions, including the Junior Grand Prix in Japan in 2014 and in Estonia this year. The nomination notes that Tracy has always believed that putting back into a sport is important. She is always trying to encourage new skaters and grow the sport. She has been a Kiwiskate coach for the past 4 years and has been passing on her love of synchro to a squad of “newbie” synchro skaters to great effect. She is always and positive on the ice and polite to all skaters, coaches and officials, and encouraging to others, and keen to grow her knowledge.

The 2nd nomination for this award is for Varshana Schelling. Varshana has been skating for Centaurus Ice Skating Club for the past 5 years. She is very hard working and determined to reach each of her goals, all while having a smile on her face and a positive attitude even at her 6am training sessions. She always takes the time to interact with everyone whether its’ a team member, coaches or kiwi skaters showing enthusiasm and passion for the sport which has a positive effect on all around her. Varshana is actively involved in club events and took on the role of CISC club captain this year, proving a great role model for all our members by giving them a helping hand and offering support when needed. She also coaches learn to skate and adult classes while currently completing her level 1 coaching accreditation so she can pass on her knowledge and love of the sport to others.

The final nomination is for Pansie Sun. Pansie has been skating since 2007 and has always pushed herself to try new and challenging thing. Not only has she competed in Adult Bronze Freeskate and Interpretive events, she also competed in Adult Pairs with Stuart Brown. As a skate school coach at Avondale, she displays huge enthusiasm for the sport. She encourages and supports other skaters by showing them that she is always willing to try something new on the ice. Pansie is also an active club member, helping at club events, and can always be relied upon to supply home backed cookies. She is described in the nomination as a wonderful ambassador for the sport and has been nominated for the 2nd year running to acknowledge her importance to the club. Unfortunately Pansie has been plagued with an ankle injury and hasn’t been able to compete, but she is still there supporting other club members.

Three outstanding nominees and a very difficult decision for the Board. The Board are however very pleased to announce that the winner of the Sportsperson of the Year award for 2016 is Tracy Danbrook.

### **The Allchurch Shield**

The Shield is named after Sandy Allchurch and is awarded to the club that gets the highest number of points, based on where their members place in the various grades, at our New Zealand National and Adult Skating Championships. Sandy Allchurch was actively involved in the Association for many years and was at the inaugural meeting in June 1937 of what was,

until 2011, the New Zealand Ice Skating Association. Sandy was also Patron for our Association for many years, and was very dedicated to supporting ice skating. Being able to present this award each year is a rather special acknowledgement to Sandy and the contribution that he, and others like him, have made to our sport.

As the adults had yet to compete it wasn't possible to announce the winners at the banquet. When all the results had been included at the conclusion of the adult grades, the Allchurch Shield was won by Auckland Ice Figure Skating Club. Well done AIFSC.

#### **Summary of the Allchurch Shield points**

Auckland Ice Figure Skating Club (AIFSC)	28
Centaurus Ice Skating Club (CISC)	21
Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club (CMFSC)	19
Glenfield Figure Skating Club (GFSC)	18
West Auckland Ice Skating Club (WAISC)	16
Dunedin Ice Skating Club (DISC)	13
Ice Sports Southland (ISS)	5
Allegro Ice Dance Club (AIDC)	0
Alexandra Ice Skating Club (AISC)	0
Queenstown Ice Skating Club (QISC)	0

#### **VENUE FOR 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The proposal from the Dunedin Ice Skating Club to host the 2017 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships has been accepted by the Board. We hope to be able to confirm the exact dates in the next newsletter.

#### **JUNIOR GRAND PRIX TO BE HELD IN AUSTRALIA IN 2017**

Australia will be hosting an ISU Junior Grand Prix in Brisbane in 2017. The dates have yet to be confirmed, but they are currently allotted the week of 21-27 August 2017.

#### **NZIFSA BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the NZIFSA meeting is the combined Board, Operations Group and Development Group meeting to be held Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 November in Christchurch. This is one of our two major planning meetings for the year, the other being immediately after the AGM in April. At this meeting in November the Development Group and Operations Group members present their plans and budgets for 2017 for Board consideration. The Board also have a regular board meeting to consider any matters that have arisen since the last month, review the financial reports, and review the policies that are currently on the members' forum for input. They will also review the proposed changes to the Rules & Regulations, including the proposed changes that arose for the member forums at Nationals last week. If you have any items of correspondence that you would like the Board to consider, they will need to be sent to the General Secretary ([secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz)) by Saturday 29 October at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the following meeting.

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