



Christmas is just about upon us and the NZIFSA Board, Development and Operations Groups would like to wish all the members of the NZ Skating Community a ***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*** We hope that you have a wonderful summer break.

CORRECTION TO SELECTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Due to an oversight when preparing the selection lists for approval we inadvertently missed one of our skaters off the lists published in the October newsletter.

Intermediate Novice Ladies Claudia Clarke

Congratulations Claudia and apologies for this error.



RESULTS FROM INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The following skaters have represented New Zealand at recent competitions overseas

Swan Challenge (Inter-club competition), Bled, Slovenia, 1 - 4 November

Silver V Artistic	Sue Hoseit	Overall 3 rd /3
Silver V Freeskate	Sue Hoseit	WD

Skate Celje (European Criterion Competition), Celje, Slovenia, 22 - 25 November

Junior Ladies	Jojo Hong	SP 6 th	FS 4 th	Overall 4 th /24
---------------	-----------	--------------------	--------------------	-----------------------------

Inge Solar Memorial / Allen Trophy, Innsbruck, Austria, 11 - 18 November

Senior Ladies	Isabella Bardua	SP 30 th	FS 28 th	Overall 27 th /33
---------------	-----------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------------------

Warsaw Cup, Warsaw, Poland, 22-25 November

Senior Ladies	Isabella Bardua	SP 22 nd	FS 21 st	Overall 21 st /23
---------------	-----------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------------------------

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Both Jojo Hong and Harrison Bain are trying to gain the Total Element Scores (TES) they need to qualify to compete at the 2019 ISU Junior World Championships. Jojo achieved the required TES in her Freeskate at the recent Skate Celje competition but still needs to get a TES of 23 in her Short Programme at an International Competition. Harrison achieved the required TES in his Short Programme at the Junior Grand Prix in Vancouver in September and is very close to getting the TES in his Freeskate. I'm sure you'll join us in wishing them both all the very best for these competitions.

Mentor Toruń Cup, Poland, 8-12 January 2019

Junior Ladies Jojo Hong

Skate Helena 2019, Belgrade, Serbia 15 - 19 January 2019.

Junior Men Harrison Bain

Reykjavik International Games, Iceland, 30 Jan - 2 February 2019

Junior Ladies Jojo Hong

Oceania Novice International, Melbourne, Australia 15 – 17 May 2019

We're very pleased to be able to confirm that this Novice International competition will be held again in Australia next year. This competition is a joint affair between Ice Skating Australia and NZIFSA and has funding from the International Skating Union Development Commission.

The competition is for Basic Novice, Intermediate Novice and Advanced Novice Singles skaters and Basic Novice and Advanced Novice skaters in Pairs and Ice Dance. New Zealand can send a maximum of 5 entries per grade. Eligible skaters in the International A and B teams will be contacted in the New Year regarding this competition.

Held in conjunction with this competition will be an interclub competition for Singles skaters in "Cubs" and "Chicks" and Intermediate grade skaters. Cubs need to be born between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2010, Chicks must be born 1 July 2010 or later and Intermediate skaters must have reached the age of (15) before July 1 2018. Age eligible skaters in the Development Squad and Intermediate grades will be contacted early in 2019 regarding this competition.

A Coaches Seminar will be held on 18 & 19 May immediately following the competition. We expect to have more information about this seminar soon.

RESULTS FROM THE RECENT AUSTRALIAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

We had a large team of skaters compete at the 2018 Australian Figure Skating Championships in Sydney 30 November – 7 December 2018. Well done to all our skaters. Even qualifying to compete in Australia is an achievement. It was also really great to see our skaters there supporting their NZ team mates when they were able. The event was live streamed and you can still view all our skaters on <https://www.youtube.com/c/NSWIceSkatingAssociation>

Basic Novice Ladies	Hope Zhang	Overall 11 th /32
	Brooke Cathro	Overall 19 th /32
	Jordon Laker	Overall 24 th /32
	Victoria Larsen	Overall 29 th /32
Intermediate Novice Ladies	Ruth Xu	Overall 3 rd /32
	Cordelia Shi	Overall 4 th /32
	Yvonne Li	Overall 14 th /32
	Grace Greenstreet	Overall 18 th /32
	Lucienne Holtz	Overall 27 th /32
	Emilia Crooks	Overall 28 th /32



**Douglas Gerber, 1st
Advanced Novice Men**

Intermediate Novice Men	Stepan Kadlcik	Overall 1 st /1		
Intermediate Ladies	Katie St Clair-Newman	Overall 9 th /24		
Intermediate Men	Ezra Dalkie	Overall 2 nd /2		
Advanced Novice Ladies	Mirika Armstrong	SP 8 th	FS 8 th	Overall 8 th /23
	Hannah Sime	SP 20 th	FS 16 th	Overall 19 th /23
	Rebekah Sime	SP 15 th	FS 20 th	Overall 20 th /23
Advanced Novice Men	Douglas Gerber	SP 1 st	FS 1 st	Overall 1 st /7
Junior Ladies	Dani Gebser	SP 2 nd	FS 5 th	Overall 3 rd /24
	Ella Smith	SP 14 th	FS 12 th	Overall 12 th /24
	Nerin Cornwell	WD		
Senior Ladies	Isabella Bardua	SP 7 th	FS 7 th	Overall 8 th /10
Basic Novice Pairs	Nerin Cornwell & Reuben Dougherty			Overall 1 st /1
Basic Novice Synchro Mixed Age Synchro	Titanium	Overall 7 th /11		
	Black Ice	Overall 6 th /11		
	Kia Kaha	Overall 9 th /11		
Adult Silver Ladies	Clare Wu	Overall 8 th /24		
Adult Gold Ladies	Sheryl Squier	Overall 9 th /16		
Adult Masters Elite Ladies	Charlotte Van Uden	Overall 2 nd /4		



Our Mixed Age teams, Black Ice and Kia Kaha, looking stunning in red, plus our own Sabrina Snoad who skates with Aussie team, Nova



Dani Gebser, 3rd Junior Ladies

REVISED INTERNATIONAL SELECTIONS FOLLOWING THE AFSC

As per our Selection Policy, the Australian Figure Skating Championships offer another opportunity for our skaters to be selected to the International A and B Representative Teams. There were no changes to the international selections announced in the October newsletter.

ELIGIBILITY TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

There has been extensive discussion over the last few years about skater's eligibility to represent New Zealand at International competitions, including at the Members Forum at the 2018 National Championships. The Board have also spent a large number of hours working through this trying to make sure that what we do is not only fair, but is consistent with all the ISU Rules and General Regulations.

At the pinnacle of international sporting is the Olympics. To compete at the Olympics athletes must be a citizen of the country for which they compete (Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter). That's pretty clear cut. We do have New Zealand citizens who are living and training overseas. If we are fortunate enough that they qualify to compete at the Olympics, they can only represent a country they are a citizen of. To earn a spot for a NZ skater they also need to be competing at the Olympic qualifying competitions as a New Zealand representative.

The ISU has its own set of requirements around representation at international competitions sanctioned by the ISU and they take a bit more working through. In ISU Rule 109 Section 2 they specify that skaters must be a citizen or have resided in the country for at least one year. To find out what the ISU mean by the term "resided" we then refer to ISU Communication 2030 which deals with Citizenship / Residence Requirements and Clearance Procedure. In section 3 of ISU Communication 2030 they define resided as "the country in which the Skater has been lawfully living for at least one year with the intention to remain permanently or for an indefinite period of time. In order to prove lawful residence, the ISU requires a copy of a regular resident permit confirming the skater is entitled to reside in the country for at least one year. They specifically state that "residence permits for limited purposes such as for students, visitors, tourists, guest works, business persons, etc. are not accepted".

Add in to the mix the requirement that if skaters change the ISU member country that they are representing at international competitions, they face a 12-month stand-down before they can skate for their new member. Having to step back from international competitions for a year could seriously disadvantage a skater.

In order to keep things as simple as possible and try and avoid our skaters ending up in this limbo for a year, NZIFSA have determined that only citizens and those holding permanent resident visas can be selected to represent New Zealand. While holders of a resident visa have many of the same rights as permanent residents, they don't have an indefinite right to re-enter New Zealand. There is always the risk that those on a resident visa will not be granted the right to re-enter NZ. Any skaters caught up in this visa situation would no longer be able to represent New Zealand and would face the year stand-down before being able to represent the country they are a citizen of or their new country of residence.

We are aware that NZIFSA is accused of creating barriers to skaters competing, but we trust that the above explanation goes some way towards improving the understanding of what the constraints are within which we need to operate, and that we do have the long term best interests of all our skaters at the forefront of our thinking.

HALBERG AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Board of NZIFSA are very pleased to advise that Jeanne Begej has been nominated for the ISPS HANDA Halberg Lifetime Achievement Award and Jojo Hong for the SKY Sport Emerging Talent Award. We will know the outcome of these awards Thursday 21 February 2019.

2019 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, GORE, 3-6 OCTOBER

We are very pleased to confirm that the 2019 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships will be Gore and hosted by Ice Sports Southland. The competition will run Thursday 3 October – Sunday 6 October. The proposal is that the banquet be held on the Saturday night with adult grades competing on the Sunday. Practice ice will be available on Wednesday 2 October. We hope to have a provisional schedule for you early in the New Year.

We have also noted that Air NZ have announced trial direct flights between Auckland and Invercargill. The commencement date will be announced when tickets go on sale in January.

OFFICIALS TRAINING IN 2019

-5 +5 GOE Seminar for Judges, Christchurch 30 & 31 March

NZIFSA will be using the new -5 +5 Grade of Execution (GOE) from the start of 2019. To help our judges get up to speed with this we will be holding a seminar in Christchurch on the weekend of 30 & 31 March. All judges will be required to attend this prior to judging in 2019. The Moderators for this will be Sue Petricevic - Singles and Pairs, Angelique Clyde-Smith (Australia) Synchronized, and Sandra Williamson-Leadley - Ice Dance. We are very grateful to have some Olympic Solidarity National Activity Funding via the New Zealand Olympic Committee to support this development of our officials.

The plan is for the Singles & Pairs to be held on the Saturday, the Synchro on Sunday morning and the Ice Dance Sunday afternoon. Judges should plan for a 9.30 am start on Saturday morning for the Singles & Pairs, and if doing the Ice Dance on Sunday afternoon, to finish around 5pm. Judges are encouraged to keep an eye out for cheap airfares and book their flights ASAP. Travel reimbursement is as per the NZIFSA Travel and Reimbursement Policy for existing and probationary judges. If you are interested in taking up judging or have any questions about eligibility to attend this please contact our Officials Director, Jeanne Begej at officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz

Please register online by 4 March at

https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_55GOESeminarForJudges2019 There will be more information to follow.

IJS Calc Operator and Accountant Training, Christchurch 6 & 7 April

We have a shortage of people with the skills to set up competitions on the International Judging System and to run the IJS Calc during the competitions. This two day training seminar is for both new and existing Calc Operators and Accountants. If you are at all interested in taking up the Accountant and/or Calc Operator roles or have any questions about eligibility to attend this please contact our Officials Director, Jeanne Begej at officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz

The moderator for this training is Kate Rotondo from Australia. We will have more details soon as to the proposed schedule, but at this stage the training is expected to start at 9:30am on the Saturday and finish around 4:30pm on the Sunday. Officials are encouraged to keep an eye out for cheap airfares and book their flights ASAP. Travel reimbursement is as per the NZIFSA Travel and Reimbursement Policy. Again, we are very grateful to have some Olympic Solidarity National Activity Funding via the New Zealand Olympic Committee to support this development of our officials.

Please register online by 11 March at

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/OfficialsSeminarForAccountantsAndCalcOperators2019> There will be more information to follow.

IJS Technician Training Planned for 2019

NZIFSA purchased 2 new computers systems to run the IJS. One of these will be based in Auckland and the other in the South Island. We are looking to develop a pool of people with the skills to be able to set the system up for competitions, trouble shoot during the event, and then pack it all away afterwards. This training will be for existing IJS Technicians and for new people with a good handle on computers who are keen to take on this role. Because of the geographic challenges in the South Island we are very keen to have 2-3 people in each location that can manage the computers for their competition. We don't yet have dates confirmed for this training, but we are calling for expressions of interest. Please register online at <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/ExpressionOfInterestIJS Technician Training 2019>. We will follow up in the New Year with more information.

STROKING SEMINARS FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS

In response to a number of requests for a repeat of the stroking seminars held in 2016, Sandra Williamson-Leadley, Caitlyn Paul and Connor McIver will be running seminars for coaches and officials to revisit the requirements and expectations around these tests.

Auckland (Botany) 4:15-7.15pm Saturday 23 February

Christchurch 4:00-7:00pm Saturday 2 March

Dunedin 3:30-6:30pm (approx.) Sunday 3 March

Registration for these seminars can be made via Cognito Forms

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/StrokingSeminarForCoachesOfficials2019> Further information will be made available closer to the time.

COACHING COURSES

NZIFSA is planning on running three KiwiSkate & Introduction to Coaching Courses this year. The dates are still being confirmed, but currently we are looking at:

Christchurch	February
Auckland	March
Alexandra	May

We expect to have more details for you soon. These courses will be open to new KiwiSkate coaches as well as currently accredited coaches wishing to attain points to maintain their accreditation. The courses cover 2 levels:

- KiwiSkate Assistant Course - individuals must be 14 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and it is recommended they hold their Elementary test.
- Introduction to Coaching Course – individuals must be 15 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and must hold their Preliminary test in any discipline. Coaches from different codes may apply to the Coaching Director for test dispensation based on their achievements/qualifications.

Please contact the Coaching Director at coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz if you have any questions regarding eligibility.

There is no Level 1 Coaching Course planned for 2019

SKATER DEVELOPMENT CAMPS

NZIFSA has three camps planned for the April school holidays. Please put these dates in your diaries now. As has been the practice in the last few years, all skaters who are named to the NZIFSA Development Squads will be subsidised by NZIFSA with cheaper registration fees and some funding towards travel costs to attend these camps. More details will be made available and registrations will open in January.

Basic Novice to Senior Camp with Christy Krall, Dunedin 15-19 April 2019

NZIFSA are very pleased to be able to confirm that Christy Krall is coming back to New Zealand in April to run another Skater and Coach Development Camp. For those who didn't have the pleasure of working with Christy last year, she is an Olympic level coach at the renowned Broadmoor Ice Arena in Colorado Springs, USA with lots to offer both skaters and coaches. This camp is for Basic Novice to Senior level competitive skaters and Level 1-3 coaches (including those coaches working on their Level 1 Accreditation). All skaters must hold the correct test levels by the closing date for registrations.

Pre-Elementary to Juvenile Camps – 24-26 April 2019, Auckland (Botany) and Gore

These two camps are for Pre-Elementary to Juvenile level competitive skaters and any KiwiSkate coaches over 15 years or Level 1 coaches. All skaters must hold the correct test levels by the closing date for registrations.

NIISSA Synchro Development Camp, Auckland, 19-20 January 2019

The North Island Ice Skating Sub Association (NIISSA) is hosting a Synchronized Camp with Madonna Randall, L3 Synchronized Coach from Australia.

Date: 19 – 20 January 2019

Place: Paradise Ice Arena, Botany, Auckland

They are still accepting registrations, so please register online at [NIISSA Synchronized Camp with Madonna Randall](#). NIISSA have secured funding for the camp from Lion Foundation and as a result have been able to offer a very competitive camp fee as follows:

Skaters – \$100

Coaches – \$50

There is no cost to attend the Technical Seminar, but registrations are required. Skaters need a minimum of Test 0 (Elementary) Stroking (Standard or Adult stream) **OR** if no test at this point, membership of an existing Elementary synchronized team is required. The focus of the camp is on developing synchronised skills rather than working on a programme, so skaters aren't expected to attend as a part of their team. We don't have a lot of skaters in a given grade in any one centre in NZ, so this is a great opportunity to be able to train with other skaters from around NZ that are of a similar level.

Proposed One TeamMVMT, ISA and NZIFSA Synchro Development in Australia 19-21 April

Ice Skating Australia and NZIFSA have teamed up with OneTeamMVMT (OTM) to seek ISU Development Funding for a Synchronized Skating Development Camp in Australia in April. OTM is a federally-registered non-profit organization based out of Canada with significant experience and real passion for developing synchronized skating.

We hope to have confirmation soon as to location and head coach, but this is certainly looking like a great opportunity for Synchro development in our region. We are aware that the dates do overlap with the Christy Krall camp, but we weren't able to avoid this. Once confirmed we expect to be able to send up to 3 skaters and a coach from each of the 3 teams that competed at AFSC. To be considered to attend this April camp NZIFSA are likely to have an expectation that the skaters and coaches have attended the NIISSA Synchro Development camp in January

SCHOLARSHIPS

The NZIFSA is, for the second year, offering two scholarships of NZ\$4000 to help support skaters to train overseas for a period in 2019. One scholarship is to be offered for Advanced Novice, Junior or Senior level skaters, and the other is to be offered for Basic Novice and Intermediate Novice skaters. The scholarship may be awarded for Singles, Pairs or Ice Dance. If awarded for Ice Dance or Pairs, the scholarship is to be shared as a team. This offer is only open to skaters who have been selected following NZ Nationals to the NZIFSA Development Squad in Basic Novice or above.

The intent of the scholarships is to provide some financial support to enable some of our most talented skaters to train overseas, working with internationally recognized coaches and skating alongside high-level skaters.

The NZIFSA are hoping that these scholarships are something we can offer on an ongoing basis, but this is dependent upon ongoing funding being secured. If you are interested in contributing towards establishment of an ongoing scholarship fund please contact contact Bridget Danbrook secretary@nzifsa.org.nz, Anita Tamepo president@nzifsa.org.nz or Jeanette King ceo@nzifsa.org.nz

TC REGISTRATION FEE TO INCREASE NEXT YEAR

The Test and Competition (TC) Registration fee is to increase next year for the first time in many years. All 2019 TC registration will be \$85 and the additional \$10 will be directed towards skater scholarships.



ISABELLA AT THE TOYOTA SPORT CENTRE

Isabella Bardua was invited to perform an exhibition number at the Toyota Sports Center annual Christmas show last week in Los Angeles. She was Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz portion of the show and skated to Somewhere Over the Rainbow.

NZIFSA AGM TO BE HELD IN CHRISTCHURCH ON 27 APRIL 2019

The AGM is to be held Saturday 27 April with meetings for the Board, Operations and Development Groups on Sunday morning. The venue has yet to be confirmed, but we anticipate starting with the AGM at around 1pm followed by member forums at approximately 2pm, and a social get together from 4-5pm.

The following positions are up for election in 2019 and we would like to encourage people to consider standing for these roles:

- President
- Two Board members
- Treasurer
- Skater Development Director
- Coaching Director
- Test & Competition Secretary

The Officials Director role is also up for election for a 1 year period, as this position was filled by Board appointment following the last AGM.

If you have any questions about any of these roles please don't hesitate to contact Bridget Danbrook secretary@nzifsa.org.nz, Anita Tamepo president@nzifsa.org.nz or Jeanette King ceo@nzifsa.org.nz

FAREWELLING SOME SPECIAL PEOPLE

A Special Farewell to Kathy Craven – Patron of Canterbury Masters Figure Skating Club

Kath Craven passed away on 29 November aged 89. An active skater until a little over a year ago Kath was Patron of CMFSC for 15 years and an amazing role model to skaters of all ages. In 2013 Kath was voted NZIFSA Sportsperson of the Year in recognition of the qualities she possessed. Skaters from around NZ who competed at CMFSC champs at any time will have met Kath, as she was often marshalling, and offering words of support and encouragement in addition to competing. Please see the special CMFSC newsletter dedicated to Kath <https://cmfsc.files.wordpress.com/2018/12/december-2018.pdf>

Our Condolences to Kendra and Chris Street

Noel Street, Life Member of CMFSC, and President of the then NZISA 1992-1994, passed away on 17 November after a long battle with some debilitating health issues. Noel has been a keen skater. Our thoughts are with son Chris (KiwiSkate coach and National Dance Champion 1997), daughter-in law Kendra (Senior level Judge) and grandson Luke (a very promising young speed skater).

Our Condolences to the King/McIver Household

Kathleen King, mother of our CEO, Jeanette King, and grandmother of Connor (Technical Director and skater) and Liam McIver, passed away on 30 October after a short battle with cancer. For the past couple of years Kathleen lived in a flat attached to Jeanette's home and in that time happily opened her home to skaters, coaches and officials who were in Christchurch for competitions, seminars or meetings. She touched many lives and will be missed by many.

CREATING A POSITIVE SKATING COMMUNITY

Figure skating is an incredibly tough sport physically as well as emotionally, particularly as skaters progress up through the grades. It can also be a wonderful source of lifelong friendships and provide people with a sense of being part of a very special community with a shared love of figure skating. But creating an environment in which all our skaters can achieve their best and feel part of a positive community requires a commitment from all of us. With this in mind we'd like to remind you of our Code of Ethics which you can find on the NZIFSA website. <http://www.nzifsa.org.nz/rules/Code%20of%20Ethics%20v3.0.pdf>

A special plea – before you say anything about another skater, coach or official, stop and think about whether your action is going to help create a more positive skating community. If what you were going to say would be hurtful or harmful, then don't say it!

All the best in skating and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Anita Tamepo and Jeanette King
President and CEO
NZIFSA