

## NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

May 2016 NEWSLETTER

### DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS/CAMPS

#### ISU Development Trophy – Gdansk Poland 11-17 April 2016



We had four development squad skaters attend the ISU World Development Trophy in Gdansk, Poland 11 - 17 Apr 2016. From left to right we have Christina Floka, Tracy Danbrook (Junior Ladies), Zara Anthony-Whigham (Basic Novice B Ladies), and Grace Greenstreet (Basic Novice A Ladies), with Caitlyn Paul as Team Leader/Coach.

The following is a report written by three of the skaters about their experience.



After 30 hours of travelling we finally arrived in Gdansk Poland for the 2016 World Development Trophy. On Saturday (9 April) we went to search for the ice rink, and were lucky to have 2 practices on the rink before the start of the competition on Monday. The competition was a great experience for all of us as there was an average of 20 skaters per grade with 18 nations competing.

After the competition came the training with two amazing coaches; Shanetta and Alexander, from whom we learnt a lot. The first day the main focus for all groups was improving our skating skill and presentation on the ice. The other sessions covered the more technical side of things looking at our jumps and learning some new techniques. Overall we know we all took a lot from the training sessions from both coaches and had an amazing experience competing and learning with skaters

from different countries. Some of us met up with old friends and new friends were made.

Once the hard work was done we were able to fit in a bit of sight-seeing and shopping!! On the day before we flew home, we took a train out to Malbork to see a beautiful castle which looked like something out of a movie and somehow managed to get lost on the train twice! We also had many tram trips to old town Gdansk where we explored the city and restaurants. The European Architecture and cobbled roads are something we had not seen before and it was simply amazing.



Overall we all had an amazing experience during our time at the 2016 World Development Trophy and will have many memories that we will treasure for life. 🐾

- Zara, Grace and Tracy

#### 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 meet the above criteria and are interested in participating in this seminar, please email the General Secretary ([secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz)) by Monday 9 May.

### **NZIFSA Development Camps with Manon Perron**

We've had lots of very positive feedback from the development camps held in Dunedin (26-28 April) and Auckland (29 April - 1 May) with Manon Perron from Canada as moderator. We were very fortunate to have been granted Olympic Solidarity funding via the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC) that made this all possible. The funding was to be used to run development camps for our Development Squad skaters and for coaches. We were able to open this camp up to allow skaters Juvenile level and up to attend. From experience we have learned that for any event we need to have clear criteria and stick with them. I know there are some very disappointed skaters (and parents) who didn't meet the criteria we had set. We are, however, hoping to be able to bring Manon back again next year, so hopefully those skaters who just missed out this time will be eligible to attend next time. In the meantime, the coaches that attended have learnt heaps and will be applying those learnings to all their skaters.



The following is an excerpt from an email from Nicola Korck (13) who has recently returned to NZ.

I have trained with both Manon and Igor camps in Brisbane but this camp was the most exciting for me. Even though Manon knows me from Brisbane and I have had private lessons with her - she was the first person who got me to do my double axel last year in Australia - so to have her come here and for her to see me do it was an honour. She always compliments everyone and gives everyone a critique to work on. The third day was my favourite day as that was the day Manon asked me to do a triple toe in front of everyone and I was so proud of myself for landing it ( even it wasn't fully rotated). I am so motivated to have my triples by the end of the year and now working on triple loops and triple toes - Manon spoke with the parents and my mom told me the importance of getting a good nights rest as an athlete and that is something I am now doing as I never thought it was that important. Manon also said to never compare yourself to anyone and that is great advise as she told everyone that one girl Tara Lipinski won gold in the Olympics at 13 and another girl won gold In the Olympics at 27 so the best advice I have now is that everyone will eventually be able to do everything if they work hard and never give up.

And this from Stephanie Meachem

I wanted to acknowledge what a wonderful and rewarding experience my daughter Claudia Clarke had in Dunedin on the recent development camp. She came away buzzing and enthused with everything she learnt over the three days.

Claudia and other fellow skaters commented how much Manon shared her love of skating and what a fantastic and patient coach she is.

## 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/>. Your Club's test/competition secretary or secretary will also have information available and will be able to assist with entries.

## UPCOMING INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS IN AUSTRALIA

Just a reminder that if you wish to compete in an interclub competition in Australia, you need to request permission from the NZIFSA. This should be done in plenty of time and before you purchase your airfares. Please contact the General Secretary at [secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) with details of the

The NZIFSA encourage NZ skaters to compete in the following interclub competitions:

**Hollins Trophy** – Canterbury Olympic Ice Rink (Sydney) 10 – 13 June (this is also a competition where skaters can gain selection to be an A or B representative squad member).

The Announcement is now on the Sydney Figure Skating Club website. **Closing date for entries is date 22 May**. Entries from New Zealand are to be submitted by Affiliated Clubs, provided the skaters have been given approval from NZIFSA to compete. Entries **MUST** be on the applicable entry form and be accompanied by the completed Planned Program Content Sheet (PPC) for all programs.

**WinterSun Trophy** – Acacia Ridge Ice Rink (Brisbane) 6 - 10 July

**Crystal Challenge** – O'Brien Arena (Melbourne) 5 – 7 August

For information about other competitions, such as artistic and synchronized skating events, please check the following link for a complete listing of events around Australia: <http://www.isa.org.au/images/Documents/ISA%20National%20Calendar%20160303.pdf>

## UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

**Asian Open Figure Skating Trophy 2016 Manila, Philippines, August 4 – 7, 2016.**

We would like to encourage our International A & B team skaters to consider attending this competition. We don't have any details at this stage, just the dates and location.

### Junior Grand Prix allocations

New Zealand has been allocated the following JGP events:

Ostrava, Czech Republic 31 August – 4 September (1 Pairs)

Yokohama, Japan 7 – 11 September (1 Ladies, 1 Men, 1 Dance)

Tallinn, Estonia 28 September – 2 October (1 Ladies, 1 Men, 1 Dance, 1 Pairs)

## COACHING COURSES IN 2016

**Registrations for Level 2 Coaching Course closed 30<sup>th</sup> April**

The Australian Professional Skaters Association (APSA) is holding a level 2 coaching seminar in Sydney on June 14th-16th 2016. Registrations closed 30<sup>th</sup> April, so we trust all interested coaches have already registered and notified our Coaching Director, Caitlyn Paul at [coachingdirector@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:coachingdirector@nzifsa.org.nz).

## **Level 1 Coaching Course Dunedin 14 & 15<sup>th</sup> May**

Information about this course has been sent out to coach members. If you have questions about this course, please contact the NZIFSA Coaching Director, Caitlyn Paul ([coachingdirector@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:coachingdirector@nzifsa.org.nz)).

**Registration and payment are due by Friday 6 May.**

### **Introduction to Coaching Course**

An introduction to coaching course for Kiwiskate coaches and Assistant Kiwiskate coaches is to be held in Christchurch. Dates still to be confirmed. We will advise dates ASAP.

### **BABY GIRL FOR FORMER COACHING DIRECTOR MICHELLE RUSSELL**

On the 24 February Michelle and Buzz Russell became the proud parents of the gorgeous Jasmine Russell. Congratulations Michelle and Buzz. As you may have worked out from the picture below left, Jasmine's dad is a fireman



### **WALK IN WARDROBE ICE SKATING**

Sarah Macgibbon has created a facebook page called Walk in Wardrobe Ice Skating. The page is designed for people to share, buy and sell items including costumes, tights, boots etc. Sarah noted that she set this up because we are such a small sport over here, it can be hard to find skating apparel and hard to find people to pass things on to! If anyone would like to be a part of the page they can look up members and ask to be added or contact Sarah to be added.

Facebook: Sarah Macgibbon

### **2016 AGM OF THE NZ ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION, INC**

The AGM was held in Auckland on Saturday 9th April at the offices of Apparel Line. A big thank you to Apparel Line for letting us use their offices and to Barbara Lindsay-Taylor for arranging this venue. Thanks also to Bridget Danbrook for organising all the airport pickup times etc.

Each year, at the AGM, elections are held for approximately half the positions that make up the NZIFSA. Which positions are elected each year is spelled out in the Constitution (which you can find on the NZIFSA website). In addition to the elected positions, the Board are responsible for the appointment of a small number of Operations Group roles. These appointments were considered at the Board meeting on the Sunday following the AGM. All these positions are for a two year period.

In presenting the outcome of the elections we thought it might be useful to provide an outline again this year on the structure and functions of the various groups within the NZIFSA. Those that were elected at the 2016 AGM are indicated by an \* and those that were appointed by the Board are indicated by \*\*.

<b>Board</b>
Responsible for strategic planning, policy review and the prudent financial management of the Association.
President - Jeanette King, Vice-President - Barbara Lindsay-Taylor*, Board members - Keith Darvill, Wendy Gardiner* and Sue Hoseit

<b>Operations Group</b>
Responsible for the day to day operation of the Association. In addition to the more visible roles like the Secretary responding to communications, and the Treasurer keeping track of the finances, there are all sorts of other activities that take place in the background that make the organisation function. For example the police checking of all our coaches, the oversight of the test results, and the grant applications to mention just a few.
CEO – Sandra Williamson-Leadley* General Secretary – Bridget Danbrook* Treasurer – Tracy McGuigan Test & Competition Secretary – Ina Paul Anti-Doping Officer – Wendy Thompson Marketing & Promotions Officer – Aleisha McCall** Child Protection Officer – Imelda Sheerin Grants Officer – Sam Snoad Honorary Solicitor – Peter Woods**

<b>Development Group</b>
Responsible for coordinating the development of officials, skaters, coaches and the Rules and Regulations.
Skater Development Director – Liudmila Kuznetsova Technical Director – Connor McIver* Officials Director – Jeanne Begej* Coaching Director – Caitlyn Paul High Performance Director – this position is currently vacant, and the Board is not intending to appoint anyone to this role at the moment.

We would like to acknowledge those people who have put their names forward to be considered for these roles. Your willingness to contribute in this way is much appreciated. Congratulations to those who have been re-elected/appointed to their roles, and a special welcome to Jeanne Begej and Peter Woods.

### **ISU CONGRESS DUBROVNIK, CROATIA, 6-10 JUNE 2016**

Sandra Williamson-Leadley, Jeanette King and Connor McIver will be representing NZIFSA at the International Skating Union Congress in Dubrovnik in June. Sue Petricevic will also be attending as a member of the ISU Disciplinary Commission.

It is an election year this year. It has been 6 years since the last elections, rather than the usual 4. Ottavio Cinquanta, the current President, is no longer eligible to stand again, and it appears that there will be some very significant changes in the make-up of the ISU Council and some of the Technical Committees.

We are very pleased to be able to confirm that we have nominated Sue for election to the Disciplinary Commission again, and Sandra for a position on the Synchronized Skating Technical Committee.

In addition to the elections, there are quite a number of rule changes proposed, and we will report back on these when we return.

## **CONFIRMATION OF QUALIFYING TES FOR ENTRY TO THE 2016 NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Board have approved the following minimum TES for skaters wishing to qualify to compete in the 2016 New Zealand National Championships. Skaters must have met the following minimum TES points in the grade they will skate at Nationals at a Club or Regional Sub-Association Championship held between 1 June and the closing date for entries to the NZ National Championships.

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>TES</b>
<b>Juvenile Ladies and Men</b>	<b>7.50</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Pre Primary Ladies and Men</b>	<b>8.00</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Primary Ladies</b>	<b>9.25</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Primary Men</b>	<b>10.00</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Intermediate Ladies</b>	<b>9.25</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Intermediate Men</b>	<b>10.00</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Novice Ladies</b>	<b>20.25</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Novice Men</b>	<b>25.50</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Junior Ladies</b>	<b>24.50</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Junior Men</b>	<b>35.50</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Senior Ladies</b>	<b>33.25</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Senior Men</b>	<b>48.00</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Juvenile Pair Skating</b>	<b>6.50</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Pre Primary Pair Skating</b>	<b>7.00</b> (Free Skate only)
<b>Primary Pair Skating</b>	<b>8.50</b> (Free Skate Only)
<b>Novice Pair Skating</b>	<b>23.25</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Junior Pair Skating</b>	<b>36.75</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Senior Pair Skating</b>	<b>43.75</b> (SP and FS)
<b>Juvenile Ice Dance</b>	<b>12.25</b> (PD and FD)
<b>Pre Primary Ice Dance</b>	<b>16.50</b> (PD and FD)
<b>Primary Ice Dance</b>	<b>18.00</b> (PD and FD)
<b>Novice Ice Dance</b>	<b>18.25</b> (PD and FD)
<b>Junior Ice Dance</b>	<b>32.50</b> (SD and FD)
<b>Senior Ice Dance</b>	<b>41.75</b> (SD and FD)

As we don't have the requirements for synchronised skating from the ISU, and it might still be some time before they are available, we don't have any qualifying TES for synchronised skating.

### **NZIFSA BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board is on Tuesday 17 May. If you have any correspondence that you would like the Board to consider, please send it to the General Secretary ([secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz)) by Tuesday 10 May at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the May meeting (date to be confirmed).

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