



JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Oceania International Novice Figure Skating Competition Melbourne 16-18 May

Congratulations to all our skaters who competed at the inaugural Oceania International Novice Competition in Melbourne. This competition is run by Ice Skating Australia (ISA) in conjunction with NZIFSA and with funding support from the International Skating Union Development Commission.

For most skaters it was not their first experience competing overseas, but it was a first to represent New Zealand at an International event. They all took it in their stride and had very good performances. As this was an international competition, ISU age groups for Novice grades applied, which saw many skaters from both NZ and Australia competing in a grade different to what they had competed in during 2017.

Basic Novice A - Ladies	Mirika Armstrong	6 th /26
	Emmanuel Tsang	8 th /26
	Natasha Woodacre	11 th /26
	Lucienne Holtz	16 th /26
	Praewa Saguanwongse	23 rd /26
	Neske Groenewegen	26 th /26
Basic Novice A - Men	Star Richens	2 nd /3
Basic Novice B - Ladies	Jessica Hay	3 rd /18
	Claudia Clarke	4 th /18
	Rivers Richens	13 th /18

This competition is the first of what we intend to be an annual competition to be hosted 2 years in Australia and then 1 year in NZ (2020). We are currently working with ISA to confirm dates and location for the competition in 2019 and hope to have this information soon.

The following is from Claudia Clarke

We had an early start on Tuesday morning meeting up with the rest of the Christchurch and Dunedin group at Christchurch Airport. Arrived in Melbourne in time for another breakfast, checked into our accommodation then off to the rink at 1.00 pm for the unofficial practice. Our accommodation was really good and within walking distance to the ice rink and close to a small shopping centre.

The ice rink was really big and with two rinks, with a bar, gym and cafe. The competition ice was really smooth and nice, similar to Dunedin's ice. It was great that my Aunty and Uncle who live in Melbourne were able to watch me skate for the first time. I enjoyed watching all the skaters

from the different grades with all the various programmes, music and dresses as there were so many more skaters than home. We cheered loudly for the Kiwi skaters!!!



From Lucie Holtz on her first international competition

So the reason we were actually in Melbourne was to compete at the ISU Oceania International Novice Figure Skating Competition. This was the first time this competition was held, which was very exciting. This event was specifically for Novice skaters. At the same time was the cubs and chicks interclub competition where some NZ skaters were also competing. Probably the most memorable moments was waiting to see how Claudia did. Claudia skated second in her grade and was in the lead for most of the competition. It was very intense waiting and waiting and waiting to see what would happen. I was very proud of our support crew at the event, there was amazing screaming for all skaters, even for the NZ officials and judges. I found it really nice how all the skaters received medals at the prize givings.

I really liked how even though all the NZ skaters are from different places we supported each other. We spent time with each other and got to know others who weren't from our own club. It was cool that we were all staying at the same place. I enjoyed going for dinner with the team after everyone had competed, and finally being allowed to get the caramel popcorn waffles for breakfast the next morning.

Overall it was a great experience and I would love to do all again.

Oceania Inter-Club Competition Melbourne 16 May

There was also an Inter-Club competition held in conjunction with the International Novice Competition and we had 3 skaters representing their clubs in the Cubs Girls.

Cubs - Girls	Marina Chen	2/6
	Jazmyn Evangelou	6/6

Unfortunately, Christine Aixinjueluo had a fall during the competition and had to be withdrawn after a knock to the head.

Both the Oceania International Novice Competition and the Oceania Inter-Club events were live streamed and you can watch the following grades at these links:

Basic Novice A and Cubs and Chicks Interclub, Basic Novice Pairs

<https://livestream.com/pixelvision/oceania-day1>

Basic Novice B, Advanced Novice Dance and Advanced Novice Short Programme

<https://livestream.com/pixelvision/oceania-day2>

Advanced Novice Freedance and Advanced Novice Freeskate

<https://livestream.com/pixelvision/oceania-day3>

ISU International Adult Competition, Obertsdorf, Germany 14-19 May

Silver Men II Artistic	Karl Hewitt	2 nd /8
Silver Ladies V Artistic	Sue Hoseit	4 th /4
Silver Men II Freeskate	Karl Hewitt	6 th /9
Silver Ladies V Freeskate	Sue Hoseit	4 th /4

Some notes on Oberstdorf from Karl Hewitt

During the month of May, the 14th ISU Adults International competition was held in the mountain village of Oberstdorf, Germany. This year, just over 700 competitors attended the event, and NZ had two competitors attending, both from the Dunedin Ice Skating Club. Sue Hoseit was attending her 13th event and Karl Hewitt his 4th.



On arrival in Oberstdorf, the weather was spectacular, with glorious blue skies and a hint of mountain air freshness. Enough to inspire a few rounds of the "Hills are alive with the sound of skate bags rolling down the village streets". Training comprised most of my first week, with a mix of patch sessions on the practice rink and attending the camp with world class coaches on the main rink. Not being able to skate since the NZ Nationals in October, my legs felt the full force of these sessions, along with sore and blistered feet.



In the Artistic event I was not happy with the way I skated and was really surprised when my score was announced. I was sitting in 2nd place with four other skaters to compete. Nervously I waited for each of the scores to be announced and I remained in 2nd place. This was beyond any expectations I had placed on myself so I was absolutely thrilled to have placed again.

Sue was to follow me later in the day with her Artistic event. She performed really well, and with a change of costume for this event, she looked stunning. With her upbeat, quick changes of music and rhythms, Sue really turned on the charm and wowed the audience.

My next event was first thing the following morning, so after completion of the awards ceremony which took place at around 11.30 the night before, I wasn't feeling quite awake. Having drawn position 1 for our group, nerves somewhat got the better of me. I completed my Freeskate in a blur, and realised that I missed an element, leaving me in 6th place out of 9. I was happy with the result and felt great that I finished in an upright position. This is a great motto for adult skate. Finish and still be upright.

The highlight for me of the trip was seeing the current Olympic and world Champion pairs skaters, Aliona Savchenko & Bruno Massot, who train and coach in Oberstdorf. Apparently when my music started for my Artistic Bruno turned and watched the whole routine before continuing on his way.

For any adult who is thinking of attending this event, my advice would be to just do it. Once you have been, you will want to go back. Regardless of your level of skating or how you think you may not be able to compete to a standard, this event is open to all. The comradery between all the skaters is awesome. And you will make lots of life-long friends from all around the world.

OCEANIA COACHING SEMINAR WITH BRIAN ORSER, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, 19-20 MAY

A two-day coaching seminar was run following the Oceania International Novice Figure Skating Competition. World renowned figure skating coach, Brian Orser, was moderator for this course.



Ann Campbell, Gordon Rushton, Charlotte Van Uden, Mathieu Wilson, Debbie Darvill, Rosie Armstrong, Bess Cao, Brian Orser, Caitlyn Paul, Grant Howie, Michelle Carroll, Marina Tsevina

The following notes on the coaching seminar are from Mathieu Wilson

We spent two days in Melbourne over the weekend with the majority of the time spent on the ice. While this seminar was supposed to be a coaches' seminar aimed at teaching of skaters at novice basic a and b level, the large number of coaches and fact that both groups were relatively similar in level resulted in the seminar probably turning into more of a skaters' seminar with a lot of doubling up of information as we went through teaching points for warmups/skating skills, each of the jumps, and some different spin

Coming out of this it has cemented my teaching approach for skaters, with many of the exercises, focus points and strategies for teaching already in use, and added a few new exercises to integrate into existing teaching to assist students in developing jumping skills as well as improving flying spins. It was particularly interesting to note Brian's focus as a top coach more on the importance of managing skaters, enhancing an existing internal drive to succeed, having a great training environment and an excellent team around skaters for teaching. While we often struggle with this as a small country, it is an important point for us to continue to improve on working together as coaches, as we are (hopefully) all in this for one reason - to see skating grow as a sport in New Zealand, and support all skaters no matter where they are and who teaches them to improve, and thereby improve the training environment and level of skating across our training centres.

From Marina Tsevana on the Coaching Seminar with Brian Orser

Brian Orser is an outstanding coach. His knowledge of figure skating technique, his ability to analyze every individual mistake and find solution is very instructive. Figure skating is changing so quickly and it's very important to continue learning and mastering new ways and techniques with one of the best coaches in the world. It was a great and rare opportunity for me as a coach to take part in this seminar. Every coach must continue to study throughout professional career. My students became champions and represented New Zealand for many years. Now I have new young promising students and I feel sure that this seminar gives me new knowledges, new ideas, new non-standard approaches in my coaching.



Our four very excited demonstrators with Brian, from left to right, Claudia Clarke, Emmanuel Tsang, Brian Orser, Mirika Armstrong and Luci Holtz

Highlights from Lucie Holtz

I had lots of highlights over my trip but one of my favourites was meeting Brian Orser and being a demonstrator with Claudia, Mirika and Emmanuel at the coaches' seminar! It was strange to think that I was in the presence of a 2 time silver Olympic medalist and coach of

Yuzuru Hanyu and Javier Fernandez. While at the seminar, though it was for coaches, I learnt a lot, especially on skating skills and how important they are. Some of my favourite things we did were butterflies and double loop combos. On the second day of the seminar we had a Q&A session where we got to ask Brian questions, and he asked us some. He told us about his life as a competitor, like what he would do to prepare for a competition, and his life now as a coach.

And from Claudia Clarke

Walking to the rink for the first day of the Brian Orser camp I was so nervous but he was so friendly. I really liked how he did the exercises with us and showed us how to do them in depth on the ice. He helped me improve with my jumps and the technique, which made me more confident to try harder jumps than I would usually practice at home. I came home enthusiastic and eager to practice these harder jumps. Fantastic opportunity which I would love to do again.

RESULTS FROM HOLLINS TROPHY COMPETITION, SYDNEY, 8 – 11 JUNE

Congratulations to everyone who participated at Hollins Trophy, we hope you had a great experience and it has encouraged you to continue improving and reach your personal goals. The results are listed below:

Elementary Ladies (Juvenile equivalent)	Cara Tang	Overall 4 th /26		
	Jazmyn Evangelou	Overall 10 th /26		
	Marina Chen	Overall 11 th /26		
Basic Novice A Ladies	Victoria Larsen	Overall 9 th /31		
	Rebekah Sime	Overall 14 th /31		
	Jenna Scholtz	Overall 25 th /31		
Basic Novice A Mens	Dwayne Li	Overall 1 st /4		
	Stepan Kadlcik	Overall 4 th /4		
Advanced Novice Ladies	Hannah Sime	SP 16 th	FS 13 th	Overall 14 th /18
Advanced Novice Men	Douglas Gerber	SP 1 st	FS 1 st	Overall 1 st /6
Junior Ladies	Jocelyn (Jojo) Hong	SP 1 st	FS 1 st	Overall 1 st /13
	Danielle Gebser	SP 2 nd	FS 4 th	Overall 3 rd /13
	Ella Smith	SP 11 th	FS 9 th	Overall 9 th /13
	Asia Tapealava	SP 7 th	FS 11 th	Overall 11 th /13
	Katie Sewell	SP 13 th	FS 12 th	Overall 12 th /13
Junior Men	Harrison Bain	SP 2 nd	FS 2 nd	Overall 2 nd /6
	Brian Lee	SP 3 rd	FS 4 th	Overall 3 rd /6
Senior Ladies	Brooke Tamepo	SP 4 th	FS 4 th	Overall 4 th /6
	Sarah MacGibbon	SP 5 th	FS 5 th	Overall 5 th /6



Our Junior and Senior skaters at Hollins Trophy.
Brian Lee, Sarah MacGibbon, Brooke Tamepo,
Harrison Bain, Jocelyn Hong and Danielle Gebser

REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS FROM HOLLINS TROPHY COMPETITION

The NZIFSA Selection Policy provides an opportunity for skaters who were selected to a representative level at the New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships last year, to meet the international representative selection criteria based on their performance at the Hollins Trophy competition held in Sydney 8-11 June 2018.

We're very pleased to announce that the following skaters have met or re-met the selection criteria at Hollins Trophy to be included in the International Representative Teams for competitions with closing dates from 1 July 2018 to 1 week after the finish of our National Championships.

International A Team selection criteria met at Hollins

- Advanced Novice Men - Douglas Gerber (moved up from Intermediate Novice)
- Junior Ladies – Jocelyn (Jojo) Hong (re-attained selection TES for A Team)
- Junior Men – Harrison Bain (re-attained selection TES for A Team)

International B Team selection criteria met at Hollins

- Junior Ladies – Ella Smith (moved up from Advanced Novice)
- Junior Ladies – Asia Tapelava (re-attained selection TES for B Team)
- Basic Novice Ladies - Victoria Larsen (moved up from Juvenile)
- Basic Novice Ladies – Rebekah Sime (re-attained selection TES for B Team)
- Basic Novice Men - Stepan Kadlcik (re-attained selection TES for B Team)

Note: we are using the new names of Basic Novice and Intermediate Novice in place of Basic Novice A and B.

Skaters who met the selection criteria at the 2017 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships, and who are still age eligible for that grade at 1 July 2018, are still included in the International Representative Teams, however, the order of priority for assignment to international competitions may have changed following Hollins Trophy. The confirmed list of all the international representative skaters in order of priority is as follows:

International A Team Representatives

Advanced Novice Ladies

Jocelyn (Jojo) Hong *



Advanced Novice Men

Douglas Gerber



Junior Ladies

Jocelyn (Jojo) Hong

Nicola Korck

Pei-Lin Lee



Junior Men

Harrison Bain
Brian Lee



Senior Men

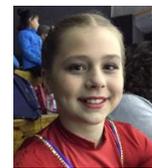
Brian Lee



International B Team Representatives

Basic Novice Ladies

Victoria Larsen
Rebekah Sime
Ally Landon Lane
Natasha Woodacre
Cordelia Shi
Lucienne Holtz
Neske Groenewegen
Praewa Saganwongse
Yvonne Li



Basic Novice Men

Stepan Kadlcik
Star Richens * / **



Intermediate Novice Ladies

Emmanuel Tsang
Jessica Hay
Claudia Clarke
Mirika Armstrong
Grace Greenstreet
Rivers Richens



Intermediate Novice Men

Tama Anthony-Whigham



Junior Ladies

Ella Smith
Asia Tapealava
Isabella Bardua*



Senior Ladies

Brooke Tamepo
Isabella Bardua



Senior Men

Michael Durham



Mixed Age Synchronized

Black Ice
Kia Kaha

- * Skaters are eligible for selection to a grade other than the one they competed in due to age
- ** Due to ISU age requirements, skaters cannot be named in the International B Team for Basic Novice B as they are currently too young for this age group

JUNIOR GRAND PRIX ALLOCATIONS

We had reported in our last newsletter that the ISU had allocated New Zealand JGP's in Austria and China. It has since been brought to our attention that China is no longer hosting the JGP and that one will be held in Vancouver Canada instead. We are still awaiting final confirmation of which Junior Grand Prix events we have been allocated. At this point in time we anticipate it will be the following events for singles:

Linz, Austria 29 August–1 September
Vancouver, Canada 12-15 September

We expect to be sending one Junior Lady and one Junior Man to the above two competitions. We had hoped to be able to confirm which skaters will be attending which event in this newsletter, but that information isn't yet finalised. NZ don't have any pairs or dance couples eligible to compete at the JGP events.

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Asian Open Figure Skating Trophy, Bangkok, Thailand, 1-5 August 2018

Asian Trophy is being held in Bangkok from 1-5 August. Any International representative skaters wishing to attend this need to seek permission from NZIFSA before they book flights by writing to the General Secretary secretary@nzifsa.org.nz and noting what grade they wish to compete in.

CONGRATULATIONS

We'd like to extend out congratulations to Tracy Danbrook, Senior Ladies skater, on the arrival of Hayden Hipkiss born 18 May 2018



ISU CONGRESS, SEVILLE, SPAIN 5-9 JUNE



Every two years the International Skating Union (ISU) holds Congress. Congress is a meeting of delegates from all the member federations and covers speed skating as well as figure skating. There were about 270 delegates from both speed and figure who got together to work through the Constitution and the General Regulations that apply to all. We then split into our two groups to discuss and review the rules and technical requirements for our sport.

Jeanette King, Connor McIver and Sue Petricevic

Unfortunately, at the last minute, Sandra Williamson-Leadley was unable to attend due to work commitments, but Connor McIver and Jeanette King attended as the delegates for New Zealand and Sue Petricevic as a member of the Disciplinary Commission.

At this Congress the final day of the five days of meetings included the election of all the officers. Congratulations to Sue Petricevic who was successfully re-elected to the Disciplinary Commission. This is no mean feat, and definitely raises New Zealand's profile with the ISU. We were also very pleased to see that Susan Lynch from Australia was re-elected to the Singles and Pairs Technical Committee.



Sue Petricevic, with the rest of the Disciplinary Commission

All the best in skating
Anita Tamepo and Jeanette King