

## MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

### RECENT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

#### Coupe du Printemps, Luxembourg 18-20 March 2022

Senior Women Jojo Hong SP 3<sup>rd</sup>/10 FS 4<sup>th</sup> /10 Overall 3<sup>rd</sup> /10



Jojo had an outstanding skate, achieving the TES in the short programme that is the qualifying requirement for the ISU World Figure Skating Championships. Sadly, it was not in time to compete at this year's World Championships, but a fantastic achievement that Jojo can be very proud of. We are so excited for her!

It has been great watching Jojo go from strength to strength this season and seeing her qualify and compete at Four Continents for starters. We are very proud to call you a Kiwi.

### UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

#### 2022 World Figure Skating Championships, Montpellier, France, 21-27 March 2022

Senior Dance Charlotte Lafond-Fournier & Ricky Kam  
Unfunded Team Leader Christian Fournier



Photo credit: Eventphotography.eu  
From Santa Claus Cup

For the first time since the ISU brought in qualifying TES for Championship Events, New Zealand will have skaters competing at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships. A huge congratulations to Charlotte and Ricky for this great achievement.

The event will be livestreamed on the [ISU Skating YouTube Channel](#). Make sure to subscribe to receive live stream notifications.

The Rhythm Dance starts Friday 25 at 11am Montpellier time – or 11pm Friday night for us.

The Free Dance starts Saturday 25 at 5:05pm Montpellier time – or 5:05am Sunday morning for us.

We wish Charlotte and Ricky all the very best.

## **UPCOMING INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS**

Olivia Hughes from ISS, is enjoying her time in the USA at Shattucks-St Mary School and making the most of the opportunities to take part in competitions while there, including these two upcoming competitions.

### **Skate Nashville Competition, Nashville, USA, 7-10 April 2022**

Free Skate (IJS) Excel Juvenile Plus Olivia Hughes

### **Bluebonnet Open, Austin Texas, USA, 22-24 April 2022**

Free Skate (IJS) Excel Juvenile Plus Olivia Hughes

Another of our skaters who trains in North America is off to an Interclub competition in Belgium.

### **Hivernia Cup (Interclub), Mechelen, Belgium, 16-17 April 2022**

Junior Ladies Ally Landon-Lane

## **NEW ZEALAND SKATERS OFF TO ISU WORLD SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPS**

Following in the footsteps of a number of other synchronized skaters, including Aleisha McCall (nee Haslemore) and Sabrina Snoch, who crossed the Tasman to join Australian synchronized skating teams, Anya Gipp and Liam McIver have been training with Sydney based Team Unity. As part of Team Unity they are off to the 2022 ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada 7-9 April 2022. Afton Sperry, who was until recently skating with our own Auckland based Black Ice, has returned to the United Kingdom, and is training with their Icicles Senior team that are also competing at this event. We wish these skaters all the best.

## **UPCOMING KIWISKATE COACHING COURSES**

The NZIFSA are planning four KiwiSkate Coaching Courses and for the first time we will be holding one in the Wellington region. These courses will be open to new KiwiSkate coaches as well as currently accredited coaches wishing to attain points to maintain their accreditation. The course cost is \$60 plus \$10 for the manual.

The courses cover two 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 an Elementary test in any discipline.
- KiwiSkate Coach Course – individuals must be 15 years of age as at 1 January prior to the course and must hold an Elementary 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](mailto:coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz) if you have any questions regarding your eligibility.

All attendees must also pay the appropriate coach membership fee prior to registration. The coach membership forms and fee information can be found on the forms page of the NZIFSA website <https://nzifsa.org.nz/forms/>.

### **Alpine Ice, Christchurch, 26 & 27 March**

The course will start approx. 3pm on Saturday and finish around 3pm Sunday.  
Registrations for this course closed on **Tuesday 8 March**.

### **Frosty Spot Indoor Ice Rink, Upper Hutt, 23 & 24 April**

Registrations for this course close on **Friday 1 April**.

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseWellingtonApril2022>

### **Dunedin Ice Stadium, 7 & 8 May**

The course will start around 3pm on Saturday and finish late morning on Sunday.  
Registrations for this course close on **Tuesday 12 April**.

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseDunedinMay2022>

### **Paradise Botany, Auckland, 24 & 25 June**

This is Matariki weekend. The course will start approx. 1pm on Friday and finish around 2pm on Saturday.

Registrations for this course close on **Tuesday 31 May**.

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/KiwiSkateCoachingCourseAucklandJune2022>

Note, the times given above are a guide only. The detailed schedule will be sent out prior to each seminar.

## **RECENT SKATER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

### **Youth Interpretive workshops in Auckland and Christchurch 12 & 13 March**

A huge thank you to our wonderful skaters and coaches who made these two Youth Interpretive workshops so much fun and so productive. Yasmin Walker and Gordon Rushton led the Auckland workshop and Varshana Schelling and Michelle Russell led the Christchurch workshop. While we only ended up with nine skaters in Auckland and eight skaters in Christchurch, they came away from it enthusiastic about doing more.



## UPCOMING SKATER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Because of ongoing travel restrictions and quarantine requirements we will not be bringing international coaches to New Zealand for these workshops. Instead, for our Basic Novice – Senior Singles, Dance and Synchronized Workshops we will connect with them via an online video platform (e.g. Zoom, Teams, etc.) as we did in 2021.

We do want to highlight that these workshops are being **heavily subsidised** by NZIFSA, utilising some of the funding that we get from the International Skating Union (ISU).

As has been the practice in the last few years, all skaters who are named to the **NZIFSA Development Squads will be further subsidised** by NZIFSA with cheaper registration fees and are eligible for reimbursement of up to half their travel costs to a maximum of 50% of the rates for travel to NZIFSA meeting in sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the Travel and Reimbursement Policy.

Note: Development Squad members will only be eligible for a discounted registration fee for development workshops, if they had returned their training plans to the Skater Development Director by the **15 March 2022** deadline.

Each of the camps will include on-ice and off-ice activities such as nutrition and sports psychology. The expectation is that all skaters **fully participate in all the activities**. Please set aside the time to attend all the activities. In addition to developing your skills and expanding your knowledge of skating, one of the benefits of getting our skaters together for these workshops is the chance to spend time with other people who are as passionate about skating as you are.

### Youth Interpretive workshop in Dunedin

We have one further Youth Interpretive development workshop planned for 2022. This workshop has 6 hours of ice time as well as some off-ice activities. We are still working out the details of the off-ice activities, but below please find an indication of likely start and finish times each day. Note these times are indicative only, and we will have detailed schedules for participants very soon.

**Dunedin 2 & 3 April** (starting 1:30pm on Saturday and finishing 2:00pm on Sunday)

#### ***Who are these workshops for?***

These workshops are for skaters aged at least 12 years and not more than 17 years at 1 July 2022, who are not intending to compete in Singles this year. The whole idea is to create an opportunity for this age group to stay involved in skating, even if the more technical elements are not currently within their reach. The skaters do not need to be club members to take part in the workshops. Hopefully if we can spark their interest, they will join clubs so that they can take part in club competitions etc.

#### ***Registration***

Registrations for the Dunedin workshop have been extended to **Wednesday 23 March**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

[https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/\\_2022YouthInterpretiveWorkshopDND](https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2022YouthInterpretiveWorkshopDND)

The cost for skaters to attend is **\$80**.

Coaches may attend for free. Note, KiwiSkate or Apprentice Level 1 coaches can attend as coaches, but only if they are not planning to compete in the Youth Interpretive grade this year. They will be invoiced retrospectively if their plans change and they enter a Youth Interpretive competition in 2022.

### **Synchronized Skating Workshops in Auckland and Dunedin**

We have two workshops planned for our Synchronized skating teams. These workshops are open to KiwiSkate through to Senior Level teams. Unfortunately, the decision has been made not to extend these particular workshops to our adult teams.

For the Auckland camp we have secured Heather Paige as our international Moderator. Heather is a Moderator/Mentor for the ISU SYS Technical Committee and Coach/Director of the Starlights SYS teams out of the Chicago area in the US.

For the Dunedin Cutting Edge team, we have arranged for them to work with their mentor coach Anu Oksanen.

**Dunedin, 10 April** (starting 7:00am and finishing early afternoon on Sunday)

**Auckland (Botany), 15 – 17 April** (starting 5:15pm Friday and finishing around midday on Sunday)

The different length of these seminars reflects the number of teams expected to attend the two different workshops.

#### ***Registration***

Registrations for these workshops have been extended to **Wednesday 23 March**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

[https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/\\_2022WorkshopsForSynchronizedSkating](https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2022WorkshopsForSynchronizedSkating)

### **Basic Novice to Senior Singles Workshops in Dunedin and Auckland**

We are pleased to confirm that we are holding two workshops for Basic Novice to Senior level skaters. The dates and locations are as follows:

**Dunedin, 19 – 22 April** (starting 8:00am Tuesday and finishing 5:30pm Friday)

**Auckland (Botany), 23 - 26 April** (starting 9:00am Saturday and finishing 6:30pm Tuesday)

Our apologies for any confusion caused by the transcription error in the day and times recorded in the February newsletter for the Dunedin workshop

#### ***Registration***

Registrations are due **on or before Sunday 27 March**. All skaters must hold the correct test levels by the close of registrations. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

[https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/\\_2022WorkshopsForBasicNoviceToSeniorSkaters](https://www.cognitofrms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/_2022WorkshopsForBasicNoviceToSeniorSkaters)

**Cost information:**

- \$80 for Novice Grades - NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$200 for Novice Grades - Any Other Skaters
- \$120 for Junior & Senior - NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$250 for Junior & Senior - Any Other Skaters
- \$100 for Level 1 – 3 Coaches

**Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile Workshops**

We are pleased to confirm that we are holding three workshops for Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile level skaters. The dates and locations are as follows:

- Christchurch, 23 & 24 April** (starting 7:30am Saturday and finishing by midday on Sunday)
- Auckland (Botany), 31 April & 1 May** (starting 9:00am Saturday and finishing by midday on Sunday)
- Queenstown, 14 & 15 May** (starting 9:45am\* Saturday and finishing by midday on Sunday)

\*The start time of the Queenstown workshop may need to be revisited. We will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible if any change to this timing is required.

**Registration**

Registrations for the Christchurch and Auckland workshops are due **on or before Sunday 3 April**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2022WorkshopsForPreElementaryToJuvenileSkatersAKLorCHC>

Registrations for the Queenstown workshop are due **on or before Sunday 24 April**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2022WorkshopForPreElementaryToJuvenileSkatersQueenstown>

**Cost information:**

- \$40 for NZIFSA Development Squad Members
- \$80 for all other skaters
- Level 1 – 3 Coaches – Free

**Pattern Dance Workshop – Dunedin, 21 & 22 May**

This workshop is for ice dancers of all levels, but suitable for dance couples only. The plan is to tie this workshop in to the ISU Ice Dance Development Seminar in Oberstdorf that is likely to be delivered virtually. Skaters will need to be in Dunedin for a 9:30am start on the Saturday and would be finished by 2:00 pm on the Sunday.

**Registration**

Registrations are due **on or before Sunday 24 April 2022**. Skaters and coaches can register online at:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/NewZealandIceFigureSkatingAssociation/2022WorkshopForPatternDance>

**Cost information:**

Skaters selected to ISU Dev workshop – Free  
\$80 Skaters not selected to ISU Dev workshop  
Level 1 – 3 Coaches – Free

## **REMINDER - ICE DANCE PARTNER TRY OUTS – NOVICE AND JUNIOR AGE-ELIGIBLE SINGLE SKATERS**

The Centre of Excellence in Oberstdorf, Germany, in cooperation with the ISU Development Program, has put out a world-wide invitation for Novice and Junior-age single skaters to express an interest in attending an ice dance partner ‘mix and match’ and to learn the fundamentals of ice dance. **The try outs will take place in Oberstdorf from 15 to 18 May 2022 and you must be willing to travel there to participate.**

The seminar aims to introduce young single skaters to the ice dancing discipline as an alternative career path. Interested novice and junior athletes get a detailed insight into dancing and ice skating with a partner through various exercises on the ice and in the dance studio. At the same time, the invited international ice dance experts will assess the suitability of the participating athletes for the ice dance category and form potential new ice dance teams from the corresponding talents.

Each ISU Member may enter all interested eligible athletes with no limitation. However, due to the limited Seminar capacity, there will be a selection process, in which the number of entries per region and the potential of the skaters for future development will be considered. The final list of participants will be communicated to NZIFSA after the deadline of 10 April 2022.

If you are interested in putting your name forward to take part in the try outs, please send an email with **your name, current skating test level, highest competition grade and any ice dance experience you have** to the Skating Development Director - Sandra Williamson-Leadley, [skating.development@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:skating.development@nzifsa.org.nz), **by 6:00 pm, 28 March 2022** so these can be sent in to the ISU by the deadline. **All names of eligible skaters will be sent in to the ISU.** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sandra.

## **OFFICIALS’ TRAINING IN 2022**

The details of the officials training activities for 2022 are still being finalised and we will have more information for you soon. However, below please find an outline of what is planned. Please note that the dates are indicative only.

### **Referee Training (all disciplines) – Online, 23 or 24 April**

Three separate online workshops (Singles/Pairs, Dance and SYS) will be held back-to-back during one day. This training is for all existing referees, as well as those judges who would like to be considered for first appointment as a referee.

### **New Probationary SYS and New Probationary Dance Judges – Online 30 April or 1 May.**

Two separate online workshops aimed at existing probationary judges and any other individuals who are interested in becoming judges for Synchronised Skating or Ice Dance.

### **Ice Dance Judges and Ice Dance Technical Specialists Seminars – Online 14/15 May**

Both will be online seminars. We will have more details for you soon.

### **SYS Judges and SYS Skating Technical Specialists Seminars – Online 14/15 May**

Both will be online seminars. We will have more details for you soon.

### **Mock Panels for all Competition Officials - May /June**

The plan is to run mock panels in three centres (Auckland, Christchurch and somewhere in Otago/Southland) before the competition season starts. This will give everyone, including Data/Replay Operators, Judges, Tech Specialists and IJS Technicians, a chance to go through their paces before we run our first competitions for the year.

## **SELECTION COMPETITION, DUNEDIN 18 – 19 JUNE 2022**

This competition is to determine selection and priority order for international competitions with a closing date between 7 July 2022 and one week after our National Championships. The competition will be open to skaters in Basic Novice to Senior grades in all disciplines, plus Mixed Age Synchronized, who are age eligible for international competition in their respective grade as at 1 July 2022 and meet the citizenship/residency requirements (refer table below). If you are unsure whether you meet the age eligibility requirements for your grade, please contact the NZIFSA [secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz).

The Provisional Schedule can be found on the competitions page of the NZIFSA website <https://www.nzifsa.org.nz/competitions/> and the Announcement will be available soon. Entries for this event must be submitted via your club and be received by NZIFSA by Friday 27 May.

## **NZIFSA AGM WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING ON 9 APRIL 2022**

The AGM is to be held Saturday 9 April via Zoom in response to the prevalence of the current Omicron variant of COVID-19. Please click the following link to join the meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86331714212?pwd=R01hY3N3OU82L0Vkc0xXaTZUYkRNQT09>

Meeting ID: 863 3171 4212

Passcode: 697441

The schedule for 9 April is as follows:

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Member Forums

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm AGM

Each Club is entitled to send 3 delegates to the AGM. During the AGM itself these club delegates, members of the Board, Operations Group, Development Group, Honorary Life Members, and coach members are all entitled to speak, but it's only the nominated voting delegates that get to vote. In addition to this, any other members of affiliated clubs are welcome to attend, but they only get to speak at the Member Forums.

**Reminder:** Club Secretaries to advise who the club delegates are at least 7 days prior to the AGM.

There are a number of positions up for election at the AGM and we have received the following nominations for these:

- Vice President (Caitlyn Paul)
- CEO (Jeanette King, Paul Searancke)
- One Board Member (Tracy Hipkiss, Caitlyn Paul, Selina Rae, Laura Thompson)
- General Secretary (Mandy Gerber, Fiona Marsh)
- Technical Director (Connor McIver)
- Officials Director (Michael Holtz)
- Skater Development Director (Sandra Williamson-Leadley)
- Coaching Director – no nomination received
- Honorary Solicitor (Julian Airey)

Curriculum vitae's have been circulated to clubs. Clubs are encouraged to refer back to the job descriptions of the positions and decide the best fit candidates to receive the club delegates vote at the AGM.

We will report back to you in the April newsletter the outcome of the elections and any Board appointments where no nominations have been received.

We have the following **Member Forums** planned and encourage people to come along and participate in these forums.

- Skating 101
- Music Copyright (TBC)

## **NZIFSA POLICIES CURRENTLY OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The **Anti-Match-Fixing and Sports Betting Policy**, **Health & Safety Policy** and **Members' Forums Acceptable Use Policy** are all open for your input as part of the first phase in the review process. If you would like to propose any changes, please do so by **30 April**. Your submissions will be considered by the Board when they review the policy, and a draft of any proposed amendments will be put back out for member submissions.

The **Child Protection Policy**, **Finance Policy** and **Funding Policy** are currently being reviewed by the Board after the initial call for submissions. A draft of any proposed amendments will be posted by **14 April** and a call made for any feedback on the proposed amendments.

## **NZIFSA BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board will be held on Tuesday 12 April. 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 5 April at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the April meeting.

All the best in skating,  
 Rochelle Stansfield and Jeanette King  
 President and CEO  
 NZIFSA