



## MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

It has been another busy month with the NZIFSA AGM in Auckland, two Pre Elementary to Juvenile Skater Development Workshops, two Introduction to Coaching courses, the Level 1 Coaching course getting underway with on-line sessions and online training for Ice Dance Technical Specialists. At the same time we are busy planning for future activities.

### **DECISION REGARDING HOLLIN'S TROPHY AND SELECTIONS**

The Board have reviewed the current situation with regards Hollins Trophy as a Selection competition and wish to advise that:

**1) Hollins Trophy will not be used as a Selection and Prioritisation competition in 2021.**

The NZIFSA are aware that selection competitions are at the forefront of your mind as we move closer to the competitive season. The current New Zealand Government travel advice is to not travel overseas, with the exception of Australia, where the government advice is to "exercise increased caution" and we now have two way quarantine travel to most parts of Australia. However, we are aware of the increased uncertainty and risk around travel to Australia as a result of COVID-19. Further to this, Ice Skating Australia (ISA) have released information to their skating community discouraging Inter-State competitions. ISA are advising skaters to be careful when booking airfares and accommodation for interstate competitions and is taking no responsibility for any losses. ISA are instead pursuing a strategy of online Benchmark events. While not prohibiting skaters from attending inter-state events, they are discouraging and providing an alternative. NZIFSA respect their moves to limit interstate travel and have decided that Hollin's Trophy will not be used as a Selection competition this year.

**2) Provision of a separate selection competition in New Zealand to replace Hollins this year will be investigated by NZIFSA.** Such a competition will be dependent on availability of officials and ice time and both of these are in short supply. We expect to be able to advise whether this is an option or not by mid-May. Note, if it did prove possible to hold such an event it would only be open to those that were eligible for International Selection - i.e. currently skating Basic Novice or up and who met the criteria at our 2020 National Championships for selection to a representative level (e.g. Australian Figure Skating Championships or International) and who meet the ISU age requirements for the respective grade.

**3) Priority order for selection to compete at International Competitions.** If we do not hold an alternative Selection competition, priority order for selection to compete at international competitions is based on the results at our 2020 National Championships. The list of International Selections, in priority order, can be found in the November 2020 newsletter. <https://nzifsa.org.nz/news/>

**4) While NZIFSA discourage international travel, we will not prohibit skaters from attending competitions.** As noted above, the New Zealand Government advice is to avoid international

travel, excepting Australia, where the government advice is to “exercise increased caution”. Skaters still need to seek permission to attend any overseas competitions via the General Secretary, and should allow more time so that discussions can be had regarding the skaters awareness and assessment of the risks. Please note that any attendance at such competitions is at the risk of the participants, with no liability on the NZIFSA. Anyone considering international travel to attend competitions needs to consider very carefully the risks associated with such travel and be aware that COVID-19 related disruption to travel is not covered by travel insurance.

Sport NZ have prepared information for National Sporting Organisations regarding international travel for high performance sports. While we do not come under their high performance sports umbrella, these guidelines are still useful. <https://sportnz.org.nz/media/3789/guidelines-for-international-travel-march-24.pdf>

## **APPROVAL IS REQUIRED FOR ALL COMPETITIONS OUTSIDE NEW ZEALAND**

This is a reminder that skaters must have written approval from NZIFSA before they enter any overseas competition (Rules & Regs 209.9 c). This is even more important if you are considering entering one of the “virtual” competitions that we have seen promoted recently. Some of these events do not appear to have been sanctioned by their national organization or the ISU and include an open invitation to skaters who do not necessarily belong to ISU member federations. Skaters participating in these events risk being ruled ineligible for any NZIFSA or ISU sanctioned events. Can you please ensure that you request permission from NZIFSA by emailing [secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) before considering entering any events.

## **MTF FINANCE - FUTURE LEGENDS SCHOLARSHIP**

We would like to draw your attention to the new Future Legends Scholarship launched by MTF Finance on 1 March. It has been developed to support and nurture talented young Kiwis from a range of disciplines. They are looking for the legends of tomorrow; the sporting greats, the performers, the change-makers.

Applications are open to New Zealanders aged 13-21 years.

Winners will be chosen from three categories:

- Sport
- Academia and entrepreneurship
- Music and arts

MTF Finance will award six \$5,000 cash prizes nationwide over two rounds throughout the year.



**FUTURE LEGENDS SCHOLARSHIP**

**We're looking for the legends of tomorrow.**  
The sporting greats, the performers, the change makers.

The Future Legends Scholarship has been developed to support and nurture talented individuals from a range of disciplines. MTF Finance will award six \$5,000 cash prizes over two rounds throughout the year. Applications are open to young New Zealanders aged 13-21 years.

**Want to apply?**

Information on the scholarship and how to apply can be found at [mtf.co.nz/futurelegends](http://mtf.co.nz/futurelegends)

	<b>Opening Dates</b>	<b>Closing Dates</b>
Round 1	1 March 2021	28 May 2021
Round 2	1 August 2021	29 October 2021

This scholarship provides young Kiwis with the opportunity to further develop their knowledge and skill, so they can take on new challenges and experiences that may not otherwise be available. We are hoping that you can share this information with your future legends in the making. <https://www.mtf.co.nz/next-generation-future-legends/>

## **UPCOMING COACHING COURSES**

### **Level 1 Coaching Course - Queenstown 22 & 23 May**

Registrations for this course have now closed and the initial online training sessions are underway.

## **RECENT COACHING COURSES**

### **KiwiSkate & Introduction to Coaching Courses**

Two KiwiSkate & Introduction to Coaching Courses have been held in the last week, one in Auckland 22 & 23 April with Caitlyn Paul as moderator that was attended by 13 coaches, and the other in Gore 24 & 25 April with Kim Lewis as moderator that was attended by 6 coaches.



Our Auckland course attendees rocking their beautiful hire skates ready for assessments.

## **UPCOMING SKATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

### **Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile workshop – Queenstown 8 & 9 May**

Registrations for this workshop have now closed. Stephanie Woodacre is the moderator for this workshop. We look forward to reporting on this workshop in the next newsletter.

## RECENT SKATER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

### Pre Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile Workshops – 24 & 25 April



We had 13 skaters and 5 coaches take part in the workshop held at Paradise Botany, Auckland. Caitlyn Paul was the coach moderator for this workshop and kept them engaged, both on and off ice.



Sarah Macgibbon was the moderator for the same workshop in Christchurch, engaging 9 skaters from the South Island region.



## RECENT OFFICIALS' TRAINING COURSES

### Ice Dance Technical Specialists Seminar – Online, 2 May

There were 8 officials involved in this online training that was delivered by Karen Butcher (ISU Judge and Referee, International Tech Controller for Ice Dance), Marie Bowness (ISU Tech Spec Ice Dance) and Marisa Gravino (Canadian National Tech Spec Ice Dance).

## UPCOMING OFFICIALS TRAINING

### Registrations have already closed for:

- Judges Seminar (Programme Components for all disciplines) – Christchurch, 8-9 May
- Judges Seminar (GOE for Singles Skating) – Christchurch, 22 & 23 May

If you missed the registrations for these please contact the Officials Director, Melissa Cummings, via [officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:officials.director@nzifsa.org.nz)

### Announcers Course – Online, 6 June

Wendy Martin is currently a rinkside event announcer for Skate Canada Nationally, and within her province is known as the “Voice of BC” for livestreaming of all figure skating events produced by the BC/YK Section of Skate Canada. Wendy has been engaged to run a training course for anyone interested in or already doing the announcers role at competitions. Course information and a registration form will be circulated to clubs soon.

### Introduction for Calc Operator / Accountant role – Auckland

NISSA are organising an introductory training session for people interested in the IJS Calc Operator / Accountant role . Derryn Neaves and Mandi Gerber have offered to run this introductory session. Please contact Selina Rae if you are interested [niissa.president@gmail.com](mailto:niissa.president@gmail.com).

### Mock Panels for all Competition Officials - May / June 2021

The plan is to run mock panels in three centres (Auckland, Christchurch and somewhere in Otago/Southland) before the competition season starts. We are looking to lock in some dates very soon. 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.

## NZIFSA AGM IN AUCKLAND ON 10 APRIL 2021

Congratulations to our new President, Rochelle Stansfield, who was elected at the AGM held in Auckland on Saturday 10 April. Thank you to all who have put their names forward to be considered for election or appointment. Congratulations to those who have been re-elected/appointed to their roles, and a special welcome to Julie Guise.

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 at the top of the Rules & Regulations section of the NZIFSA website). In addition to the elected positions, the Board are responsible for the appointment of a number of Operations Group roles. These appointments were considered at the Board meeting the day after the AGM. Those that were elected at the 2021 AGM are indicated by an \* and those that were appointed by the Board are indicated by \*\*.

Board
Responsible for strategic planning, policy review and the prudent financial management of the Association.
President – Rochelle Stansfield*
Vice-President – Grant Howie
Board members – Julie Guise*, Sue Hoseit*, Laura Thompson

**Operations Group**

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 – Jeanette King
- General Secretary – Fiona Marsh
- Treasurer – Vanessa Anderson\*
- Test & Competition Secretary – Ina Paul\*
- Anti-Doping Officer – Preeya Laud\*\*
- Marketing & Promotions Officer – to be appointed
- Child Protection Officer – Sheryl Squier\*\*
- Grants Officer – Sam Snoad\*\*
- Administrative Support Officer – Debbie Groenewegen\*\*
- Technical Support Officer – Alan Greenstreet\*\*
- Privacy Office – Fiona Marsh\*\*
- Honorary Solicitor – Julian Airey

**Development Group**

Responsible for coordinating the development of officials, skaters, coaches and the Rules and Regulations.

- Skater Development Director – Sandra Williamson-Leadley\*\* (1 year appointment)
- Technical Director – Connor McIver
- Officials Director – Melissa Cummings
- Coaching Director – to be appointed
- High Performance Director – this position is currently vacant, and the Board is not intending to appoint anyone to this role at the moment.

As part of the AGM the Board presented a remit to change the NZIFSA Constitution to formalise the Administrative Support Officer and Technical Support Officer roles that have been filled by ad. hoc. appointments to the Operations Group for the past two to three years, and to include the role of Privacy Officer as part of addressing the requirements of the Privacy Act 2020.

The AGM is also an opportunity to recognise the significant ongoing voluntary contribution of those that keep the Association running. A special thank you to all our NZIFSA Office Bearers for their time and effort they put in. The AGM is also a chance to acknowledge the contribution of those that are stepping back from their roles.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to **Anita Tamepo**. Anita had been our President since April 2017. Anita’s endless commitment and consideration whilst in this role, ensured that skaters best interests were always front and centre of the decision-making process. Anita’s knowledge and experience will certainly be missed around the Board table. Unfortunately, Anita had to step back from her role to care for family members in 2020. Vice President, Grant Howie, capably took on the responsibilities of President during this time.

We would also like to acknowledge the contributions of **Simone Thornett** as Coaching Director. A big thank you for the effort and time you have contributed over the past year. It’s not any easy role to take on.

## NZIFSA MEMBER FORUMS

Three Member Forums were held following the AGM.

- **Future Plans.** Members shared their ideas for raising the profile of the sport and increasing participation. Winter Games – can we convince them to accept us back? Is a gala at Nationals an option? Communicate info re. NCEA credits for skating. Synchro – can we address gap in age groups for young adults? Coach skills shortage, can we get coaches on skills list?
- **Privacy Policy.** Clubs need to be aware that they are required to have a Privacy Policy and appoint a Privacy Officer. The Board are in the final stages of providing guiding documents to support Clubs.
- **Tests and Competitions** – NZIFSA has updated the Competition Checklist and Guidelines for clubs and sub associations. These can be found on the T&C page of the members area of our website. We are also working on updating the Website Administration for Clubs information and looking to develop a Checklist and Guidelines for Test Sessions. We will advise clubs when these are available.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TRACY HIPKISS

Congratulations to Auckland coach Tracy Hipkiss on the arrival of Layla on 27 March. A sister for Hayden.



## PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR OUR 2021 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Note the following is a provisional schedule for the 2021 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships to be held at Paradise Botany, Auckland 9-12 October. Every effort will be made to hold the events on the days listed below, however, the order of the events will change from that listed below.

### Friday 8 October

Unofficial practices

### Saturday 9 October

Basic Novice Under 12, Ladies & Men FS

Intermediate Novice Under 12, Ladies & Men FS

Synchro up to and including Advanced Novice FS (includes Adults)

Junior & Senior Synchro SP

### Sunday 10 October

Advanced Novice Under12, Ladies & Men SP

Pairs SP (all grades)

Adult Interpretive (all grades)

Waltzing Trophy

Norman Wright Dancing Trophy

Junior & Senior Synchro FS

### Monday 11 October

Juvenile Under 12, Ladies & Men FS

Advanced Novice Under12, Ladies & Men FS

Junior Under12, Ladies & Men SP

Senior Ladies & Men SP

Pairs FS (all grades)

Ice Dance RD and PD (all grades)

Adult Bronze FS

### Tuesday 12 Oct

Junior Under12, Ladies & Men FS

Senior Ladies & Men FS

Adult Silver, Gold & Elite FS

Ice Dance FD

Official practices are expected to be held each morning with competition in the afternoon/evening as per the draft outline below. Ice time will be made available for unofficial practices. The times outlined below are indicative only.

Days/Dates	Unofficial Practice	Official Practice	Competition
Friday 8 October	4:45 – 7:15pm		
Saturday 9 October	6:00 – 8:00am	8:00am – 12:15pm	4:45 – 8:15pm
Sunday 10 October	6:00 – 7:30am	7:30 – 11:45am	4:45 – 8:15pm
Monday 11 October		6:00am – 1:30pm	1:30 – 9:45pm
Tuesday 12 October		6:00 – 9:30am	10:00am – 1:15pm

## **NEXT NZIFSA BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the NZIFSA Board is on Tuesday 11 May 2021. Please send any correspondence for this meeting to the General Secretary ([secretary@nzifsa.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzifsa.org.nz)) by 4 May at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the following meeting.

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