

NEW ZEALAND ICE FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

MAY NEWSLETTER

As reported in the Easter Newsletter we had skaters competing in various competitions in Asia and Europe. It is a pleasure to be able to include their reports and results from these competitions, and to note that they have been returning very good results, even though in our “off season”.

SINGAPORE NATIONALS (30-31 MARCH) AND MALAYSIAN NATIONALS (4-5 APRIL) REBECCA LAU AND JO-ANN CHIN

Singapore Championships

Basic Novice B Rebecca Lau 2nd
 Jo-Ann Chin 4th

Malaysian Championships

Basic Novice B Rebecca Lau 2nd (6)
Basic Novice B Sub Jo Ann Chin 1st (1)

Two competitions, 14 Days, and at least 36 hours travelling! By Rebecca Lau and Jo-Ann Chin

Given the opportunity to compete in Singapore and Malaysia was both exhilarating and a different experience. From the amount and support from audiences to the type of rink we skated in was a big contrast.



Skating in front of the New Zealand community is a lot different from skating in front of a 4 tiered mall with strangers watching you from above, all surrounding the barrier on each level, however the support was immense. We only had a few days to adjust to the different size of rinks at the Malls and as transport was difficult in Singapore and ice time were a limited commodity for both countries we had to make the best of it. Battling warm ice rinks with uneven distribution of cool air, and not so perfect ice was humbling and it made us appreciate how good we have it in Dunedin and Christchurch. Nevertheless retail therapy after practice made it all worthwhile!

Jo-Ann met up with her coach from when she skated back when she was 5 years old. That was where her first steps in skating started.

If you ever get the chance to compete in Asia, you should take it. It’s a different experience and let’s face it, everyone should be able to compete in a place where McDonalds is right above you when you skate, next to Dunkin Donuts, Haagen Dazs, KFC, and Pizza Hut, surrounding them at least once in their lives!

SARAH MACGIBBON - 11TH SILVER SKATE COMPETITION – FINLAND

Sarah MacGibbon competed in the Junior Ladies and although she reported that she didn’t skate to her best making a few mistakes she placed 3rd and won the lovely trophy pictured below. The second photo is of Sarah on an outdoor rink she skaters on in Stockholm.



ISU DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION – MANILA, PHILIPPINES 16-20 APRIL

We had 5 skaters attend the inaugural ISU Development Trophy. Not all those who had met our selection criteria attended, which was disappointing as it was a marvellous opportunity to spend four days training with top Russian coach Viktor Kudrovstev.

We can be very proud of the results our team achieved.

Junior Men	Thomas Woodbridge	placed 4 th	out of 5
Basic Novice B Ladies (13 – 14yr)	Tracy Danbrook	3 rd	out of 14
	Rebecca Lau	4 th	out of 14
Basic Novice A Ladies (10 – 12yr)	Abbey Heale	3 rd	out of 13
Men	Harrison Bain	2 nd	out of 4

The team was ably led by Coach/Team Leader Deanna Pielak-Jones. Also travelling with the team at her own cost was Caitlin Haynes to further educate herself and Susan Bain accompanied Harrison.



From left to right - Harrison Bain, Deanna Pielak-Jones (Coach/Team Leader), Rebecca Lau, Thomas Woodbridge, Viktor Kudrovstev (Moderator), Abbey Heale, Caitlin Haynes, Tracy Danbrook.

The event wasn't without some hick-ups. Thomas in particular had a very eventful trip both departing Germany where he was attending on a school trip and his return to Frankfurt from Manila.

ISU ICE DANCE DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR CANCELLED

Unfortunately with days to go before the group were to leave NZ, ISU cancelled the event due to ongoing unrest and threat of war from North Korea. Very disappointing for Patrick Costley, Debbie Darvill, Kim Lewis and Michelle Carroll who were all booked for their trip to Seoul.

KELLY HOEBERGEN - OBERSTDORF ADULT INTERNATIONAL 15-18 MAY

Kelly Hoebergen will be the sole competitor from New Zealand at this years' Adult International in Oberstdorf this month. Sue Hoseit and Val Wessling are planning to attend as spectators. We wish Kelly well.

NZIFSA AGM

The AGM was held in Christchurch Saturday 27th April. It was a very positive meeting, and we'd like to thank the attendees for their constructive input into the meeting and the forums that were held before the AGM. It was also a pleasure to be able to welcome our Patron Alan Weeds and his wife May to the meeting.

Elections were held for the following positions: President, 2 Board Members, Treasurer, Coaching Director, Test and Competition Secretary and Honorary Auditor, though it's probably a bit of a stretch to call these an election when disappointingly there was only one person standing for each of the available positions. We would however like to sincerely thank those people who did put their names forward for these roles.

Unfortunately two key positions remain unfilled – Secretary and Skater Development Director. After a plea from President, Jeanette King, we received expressions of interest for both positions. As these names were received after the required date for nominations these people could not be considered for election, however, these names will now go forward to the Board who are able to make appointments for a one year term to fill any vacancies. The next Board meeting is Monday 13 May, and we hope to be able to announce appointments soon after that.

As of the AGM the Officers of the NZIFSA are as follows:

Patron	Allan Weeds
Board	
President	Jeanette King
Vice President	Robyn Morris
Board Members	Barbara Lindsay-Taylor, Keith Darvill, Dion Cunningham
Operation Group	
CEO	Wendy Clucas
Secretary	Board to appoint
Treasurer	Tracy McGuigan
Test and Competition Secretary	Ina Paul
Anti-Doping Officer	Jan Christieson
Marketing & Promotions Officer	Aleisha Haslemore
Child Protection Officer	Imelda Sheerin
Grants Officer	Board to appoint
Honorary Solicitor	Ian Grant
Honorary Auditor	Mike Wallace
Development Group	
Coaching Director	Kim Lewis
Skaters Development Director	Board to appoint
Technical Director	Sandra Williamson-Leadley
Officials Director	Heather McDonald

UPDATING CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

Would clubs please update their club details on the NZIFSA website to ensure that emails are sent to the correct people. If you have any questions about how to do this please email the General Secretary.

POLICIES UNDER REVIEW

There are a number of policies up on the Members' Forums for review at present and we encourage members to take the time to look at these and respond with any suggestions to improve these policies.

The policies listed below are up for initial submissions. The Board will take your submissions into consideration when reviewing these policies.

- Skater Development Policy

- Selection Policy

- CEO limitations Policy

- Governance & Management Policy (including position descriptions)

- Governance Management Linkage Policy

In addition to these are the following two policies that the Board have reviewed and are seeking submissions on proposed changes before finalising the policies.

- Funding Policy

- Coaching Accreditation Policy

Winter seems to be fast approaching and with it the competition season upon us. Good training everyone.

Jeanette King

Wendy Clucas