



NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

There's just over 4 weeks till Christmas and there's lots happening in the skating world. If you follow the international competitions you will no doubt have been spending a bit of time on YouTube watching the Grand Prix competitions. There has been some amazing skating at these events, and Sandra Williamson-Leadley considers herself very fortunate to have had the opportunity to judge at the recent Cup of China Grand Prix Competition, and in particular to have had the pleasure of judging some truly outstanding ice dance.

ADDITIONAL SELECTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL B TEAM AND AFSC

We are very pleased to announce that Brian Lee, who was injured earlier this year, has been given medical clearance to skate, and subsequent to that performed very well at a monitoring session at the start of November. He has accordingly been confirmed as an International B Team representative, and a representative at the Australian Figure Skating Championships.

We are also very pleased to confirm that Christina Floka, who withdrew during our National Championships due to injury, has also been given medical clearance and passed her monitoring session over the weekend, to be confirmed as an International B Team representative, and a representative at the Australian Figure Skating Championships.

UPCOMING AUSTRALIAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The following skaters will be competing at the 2016 Australian Figure Skating Championships in Melbourne 26 November – 2 December 2016.

<i>Basic Novice A Ladies</i>	Mirika Armstrong Natasha Woodacre
<i>Basic Novice B Ladies</i>	Ella Smith Amy Wang Grace Greenstreet
<i>Basic Novice B Men</i>	Douglas Gerber
<i>Advanced Novice Ladies</i>	Nicola Korck Pei-Lin Lee
<i>Junior Ladies</i>	Brooke Tamepo Tracy Danbrook Zara Anthony-Whigham Kaitlin Chamberlain Christina Floka
<i>Junior Men</i>	Brian Lee
<i>Senior Ladies</i>	Preeya Laud
<i>Mixed Age Synch</i>	Kia Kaha
<i>Adult Gold Ladies</i>	Erin Wylde
<i>Adult Synchro</i>	Spectrum

We wish these skaters all the best and look forward to reporting their results in the next newsletter.

RECENT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Open Andorra 2016 – 16-20 November 2016, Canillo, Andorra

Brian Lee has just competed at the Open Andorra 2016, Canillo, Andorra in junior men, and placed 5th out of 5 in what was a very strong grade. A great effort Brian.



CORRECTION TO THE LAST NEWSLETTER.

We're not sure how many people noticed that we had come up with a new club in our last newsletter. In reporting the Allchurch shield results we somehow managed to end up with Glenfield instead of Glenburn Figure Skating Clubs. Our apologies for this error.

CONGRATULATIONS NICOLA KORCK ON WINNING AN AMP SCHOLARSHIP

The following is taken from the Green Bay High School newsletter

We are very happy to announce that Nicola was one of eleven New Zealanders selected as part of the national AMP Scholarships programme, and is set to receive a \$10,000 scholarship to help her reach her dreams of performing on the world stage.

Nicola will be featured on the documentary series, Dare to Dream. Each episode follows an AMP Scholarship recipient as they turn their dream into reality. The show will be aired on TV ONE and all episodes are available [OnDemand](#).

Nicola applied for the AMP Scholarship via their website and was shortlisted out of 3,500 applicants to go along for an interview - along with a presentation with clips and photos.

As this is such a big opportunity for someone so young, 13 year old Nicola worked very hard compiling all her achievements and photos into a 10 min presentation and arrived at her interview dressed in her skating gear and boots! The judges and directors were extremely impressed with her effort and invited her in to the interview room where she was filmed by a TV crew.

Needless to say, she came out of her interview beaming, to judges feedback saying that while she was humble and not wanting to boast, Nicola was capable of tactfully explaining her dream of competing internationally for New Zealand, while striving for the international score to be able to represent NZ.

The very next day, Nicola received an email to say she was one of the 12 selected out of the 3500 applicants chosen for a scholarship worth up to \$10,000 dollars.



KOREAN ICE DANCE DEVELOPMENT SEOUL 14-20 AUGUST

Back in August, Michelle Carroll (coach) headed off to Korea for the ISU ice dance development seminar with skaters, Tara Jones and Ezra Dalkie. The following are some excerpts from Michelle's report on this trip.

Our schedule was a busy one, with meals at the hotel, so we had to bus twice a day to the ice rink. It took a day or two to get used to the schedule, but all the skaters made friends quickly. They were put into groups relative to their age/ability and Ezra and Tara did really well in their group.

The schedule covered basic skating skills and elements from Ice Dance as well as morning lectures, and classes for coaches in the afternoon. There was also some down time in the afternoon for the skaters, where they had to create a short group project to perform on the last day. This really got everyone working together and we found some interesting characters!

On the ice, the skaters learned techniques, dance holds, and keypoints from the pattern dances and also had lessons on specific elements, Twizzles, spins, and developing a step sequence. Lifts were left out this time due to safety, which is understandable but equally disappointing! The coaches were fantastic. It was a pleasure to work with and learn from them.

There were a few outings to experience downtown Seoul and the surrounding area, mainly with a view to go shopping. So there were a lot of souvenirs to pack on the way home.

Overall, I think the skaters did really well out of the trip. They got to meet other skaters of a similar age and ability. They learned new techniques and exercises and I think the take home lesson was to keep working on those edges and improving the basic skating skills.

2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2017 New Zealand Ice Figure Skating Championships are to be held in Dunedin during the first week of the October school holidays – Thursday 5- Sunday 8 October. A provisional schedule is being developed and will be communicated in either the December or January newsletter.

JUNIOR GRAND PRIX TO BE HELD IN AUSTRALIA IN 2017

As noted in the last newsletter Australia will be hosting an ISU Junior Grand Prix in Brisbane in 2017. The dates have yet to be confirmed, but they are currently allotted the week of 21-27 August 2017.

UPCOMING NZIFSA SKATER AND COACH DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

We've got lots planned for 2017 and hopefully there's something in here for almost everyone.

April 2017 Development Camp with Manon Perron

A 5 day camp with Manon Perron will be held in Dunedin 24-28 April 2017. This camp will be for coaches who are working on their Level 1 and up, and skaters who are Juvenile level and up. For our Development Squad skaters we will again be offering additional

opportunities for training with Manon, over and above the opportunities offered to our other skaters.

Skaters will need to arrive on the Sunday 23rd April and can plan to leave after 3pm on the Friday afternoon. If you are planning to fly to and from Dunedin we would encourage you to start looking for specials on flights.

We are very aware that the majority of our Development Squad skaters are in Auckland, however, Manon has asked to do one longer camp rather than 2 camps, and to get the ice time she has requested, we can't accommodate this in Auckland during the school holidays.

It's going to be an amazing camp and to make this as workable as possible for parents, so they don't all have to take time off work and pay for travel and accommodation for themselves as well, we are planning to run this along the same lines as the camp in Queenstown in 2015 where skaters stay in hostel style accommodation with 4-5 parents looking after them. We will have more information for you about this very soon.

Pre-Elementary to Juvenile level Development Camp in Auckland, April 2017

A special camp is planned for our Pre-Elementary, Elementary and Juvenile skaters in Auckland, 21-22 April. Again we will have more information for you about this very soon.

Regional Development Camps in January

NZIFSA is also looking at providing some support for 2-3 regional camps to be held in January. This includes support for the NISSA camp to be held in Auckland (19-22 January), and a camp to be held in Christchurch (16-18 January) and potentially a camp in Dunedin (dates to be confirmed). Additional support will be provided for Development Squad skaters from outside Auckland to attend the NISSA camp in Auckland with Igor Tchiniaev, however, the development squad skaters can still choose to attend their regional development camp instead if that suits them better.

Synchronized Skating Development Camp – June 2017

A synchronised skating camp is planned for June in Auckland. Exact dates are still being confirmed, and we hope to have these for the next newsletter. This camp will be open to all synchronized skaters, but additional training opportunities will be offered, as part of this camp, to the Botany Blades Juvenile synchronized skating team in recognition of their selection to the Development Squad.

Coaching courses

At this stage NZIFSA are planning the following courses for coaches:

- Introduction to Coaching / KiwiSkate course – Auckland early February
- Introduction to Coaching / KiwiSkate course – Christchurch 11 February
- Level 1 coaching course 18-19 February, location to be confirmed

What we need is an indication from coaches and prospective coaches whether they are planning to do one of these coaching courses so that we can determine what the demand is for each of these courses. Please email our Coaching Director, Caitlyn Paul at coaches.director@nzifsa.org.nz by 15 December if you are interested in attending one of these courses.

OFFICIALS TRAINING FOR 2017

A singles and pairs workshop for judges and technical specialists is planned for May 2017 and a synchronized skating workshop for judges and technical specialists for 15 & 16 July 2017. Both workshops will be held in Christchurch, as this is logistically much easier than getting officials from one end of the country to the other.

Training sessions will also be held in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin for Data / Replay Operators, IJS Accountants and Calc Operators in April/May.

NZIFSA AGM CHRISTCHURCH 22 APRIL 2017

The 2017 AGM will be held in Christchurch April 22. Please put this in your diaries now. It is important we have representatives from each club at the AGM. We would also like to encourage people to think about putting their hand up for the positions that are up for election this year. We'll have more information about this in the January newsletter.

NZIFSA BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the NZIFSA meeting is Tuesday 6 December. If you have any items of correspondence that you would like the Board to consider, they will need to be sent to the General Secretary (secretary@nzifsa.org.nz) by Tuesday 29 November at the latest. Any correspondence received after that date will be tabled at the following meeting.

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