

Technology

Ice Skating Victoria Annual General Meeting Report

At all Victorian events, whether they are club run, or state run, Ice Skating Victoria (ISV) is responsible for providing the judges and officials and the means for them to enter their scores.

In the time since the 2017 Annual General Meeting, ISV has supplied the International Skating Union Judging System (IJS) to six club events, and three state events. Of these nine events, eight occurred in 2017 and one in 2018.

In 2016 ISV spent roughly \$18,600 upgrading the judging system to bring it inline with national and international requirements. These upgrades proved worthwhile in 2016, saving \$2,000 in hire fees for an interstate system. In 2017/2018, the system has continued to prove itself worthwhile, with the successful running of all nine events, five of which included video replay. Video replay allows the officials to better evaluate the skaters' performances.

Continual tweaks and changes are made to ISV's IJS every couple of competitions to improve the reliability. At the start of this year an additional netbook computer was included into the setup to add in a new announcer interface. Major upgrades to the scoreboard software were also implemented. These scoreboard changes will ensure the flickering issues that occurred on the big screen at OBGA in 2017, should not occur in 2018.

ISV's IJS is currently capable of supporting a panel of five judges plus a referee and a full technical panel. ISV's IJS also has the scoreboard and announcer interfaces. When the full setup is in use, it utilises:

- 3 laptop computers
- 2 netbook computers
- 6 desktop computers
- 6 Android tablets

In November 2017, ISV sent two committee members, Mark Storton and Andrew Taylor, to Brisbane to attend a workshop with a Swiss Timing employee from Germany. Swiss Timing/Swatch is the provider of the IJS software. This two day workshop was a useful upskilling exercise, and highlighted areas ISV can improve processes at events to ensure the computer system runs more efficiently.

ISV is committed to utilising technology to improving event quality and enhancing the experience for all competitors. Over the last 12 months this has included:

- Video replay for judges and officials

- Scoreboard utilisation at OBGA
- Live results uploaded to the website within a minute of them being displayed in the rink
- Facilitation of live streaming with integration into the judging system to allow live TES and competitor results to be included in the stream.

The next 12 months is shaping up to be big, with ISV's IJS scheduled to be in use at eight events including Victoria's first ISU international figure skating event, Oceania.

ISV is always looking for new people keen to get involved in judging system support roles. These include:

- **Calculation Operator/Accountant** - Responsible for selecting the current skater, timing programs and publishing the results
- **Data Entry** - Responsible for entering the elements that the Technical Panel calls
- **Replay Operator** - Responsible for identifying the start and end of each element so the Judges and Technical Panel can view the corresponding video clips when reviewing elements
- **Camera Operator** - Responsible for filming the skaters.

In these support roles you are sitting with the judges and will gain a better understanding of how skaters are judged.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 2018 Victorian events.

Andrew Taylor

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Councilor, Ice Skating Victoria / Victorian delegate to Ice Skating Australia