

## Ice Skating Victoria AGM President's report

Dear Skating Community,

I would like to welcome everyone to the 107th Annual General Meeting of Ice Skating Victoria (ISV) and thank you all for your participation this year. We come here to elect a council that will carry on the good work of the previous council and continue to be innovative in the representation of our broad cross section of members.

It has been a privilege to be President of a council that genuinely works very hard to create the best possible environment for our skaters. To a person we are trying to create a vibrant and exciting atmosphere that both challenges our skaters and pushes them to be their very best. Members of the Council who are responsible for portfolios have done an outstanding job in bringing out the very best from the time and resources available.

Our athletes have had an outstanding year in the 2019 season and it has been a delight to see them all doing so well. Our representation across all divisions has been solid and we are easily in the position that other states are casting a wary eye in our direction and wondering how we do it.

It is very encouraging to see our athletes working on the harder elements and then being able to perform them in competition. GOE scores are going up which indicates the quality of what our athletes do is improving. It is an ongoing process to be improving both the GOE scores and the levels for spins and footwork and our athletes and coaches have that well in hand. Congratulations must also go to our coaches who are developing their athletes and being receptive to feedback as well as keeping an appraising eye on the competition, both domestically and interstate.

Victoria played host to AFSC this year and it was a truly special event for ISV and the national skating community. The ISV council put in an enormous amount of work both prior to and during the event to ensure a memorable experience was had by all. We would also like to thank both the Victorian volunteers and those from interstate who made themselves available to assist. The feedback from our interstate community was overwhelmingly positive and encouraging and made the long hours worthwhile. We would also like to acknowledge the support of the management and staff of O'Brien Icehouse who's efforts and willingness to assist went a long way to creating a strong overall environment.

28th January, 2020

Our athletes competed very strongly at AFSC and were a credit to their state. We secured many podium places and division wins while also competing strongly through all the divisions. It was very nice to welcome home our athletes who train overseas and to see them do well. We wish all our athletes who are training and competing away this summer the best of luck and look forward to watching the results of your efforts.

With thanks to an equipment grant from ISA, Andrew Taylor was able to increase our IJS set up to facilitate seven judges and a referee and this was employed at the recent AFSC to great effect. We experienced one or two minor technical hitches that were resolved without the loss of any skating time. ISV would like to acknowledge the assistance from ISA in this matter.

ISV are very happy with the how our State Squad is performing and I would like to thank Phil Bisset for his co-ordination and our senior judges for their role in the feedback sessions. ISV will be looking to change the format of the squad for the 2020 season with the aim of maximising our resources and the time available.

My thanks go to our affiliated clubs, Melbourne Figure Skating Club, Oakleigh Figure Skating Club and Victorian Synchronized IceSkating Club and their volunteers for making this season's events a wonderful experience for our athletes and officials.

My thanks also go to all members of the 2019 committee who have contributed so well all year and who are so committed to making Victoria a very strong skating state. It truly has been a pleasure to have worked with you all and I thank those councillors who will not be seeking renomination for 2020. ISV would encourage new members to take the opportunity to stand on council as it provides a continuity of knowledge for our state and a chance to bring new ideas and thought processes on board.

I wish all our athletes and their support teams the very best for the new season and I look forward to them competing at a higher level in the 2020 season and know they will continue to strive for their goals and make Victoria proud.

Mark Storton  
President, ISV