

2 September 2020

Dear Members and the wider Victorian skating community,

It is with regret that I have to announce that the Victorian Figure Skating Championships and Southern Cross Trophy events have been cancelled for 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the cancellation of these events, the Council has decided that in 2020, Victoria will not send a team of athletes to the Australian Figure Skating Championships, in whatever form the event may take.

Both decisions have been made with the health and safety of our athletes top of mind. When Figure Skating returns in Victoria, the focus needs to be on safely easing back into peak performance over an extended period of time. If athletes rush back into peak training, there is a greater risk of injury, and this needs to be avoided at all costs.

These decisions have not been made lightly, but given the current restrictions in Victoria, and travel restrictions across the country, the Ice Skating Victoria Council feels it's the right thing to do for our athletes.

It's the view of Ice Skating Victoria that the Australian Figure Skating Championships scheduled to take place in Brisbane at the end of 2020 needs to be cancelled, or moved until early 2021. If the National Championships move, they should only be held once all Australian states have been able to resume training for at least three months. A National Championships that does not include all states is not a true National Championships.

Australian Figure Skaters need certainty, and as such, Ice Skating Victoria has requested that Ice Skating Australia make a prompt decision in relation to the Australian Figure Skating Championships.

Ice Skating Victoria is aware of some athletes currently training outside of Victoria. If these athletes have had sufficient time back on the ice, and are currently ranked in the top four in Victoria, as per the *ISV Rankings July 2020*, they can request to attend the Australian Figure Skating Championships. This can be done by contacting the Secretary at [secretary@iceskatingvictoria.org.au](mailto:secretary@iceskatingvictoria.org.au).

These decisions will impact the selection process for the 2021 Victorian State Squad. A review of the current policy is now underway with the aim to publish an updated version later this year. This update will take into account the difficult year everyone has had.



**ICE SKATING VICTORIA**  
INCORPORATED

ABN: 41 317 072 095  
Registration Number: A0012348Z  
PO Box 667 Carnegie VIC 3163  
[iceskatingvictoria.org.au](http://iceskatingvictoria.org.au)

We know this information may be upsetting for some members, but please rest assured that wheels are in motion for a range of other initiatives that will assist keep our members connected, supported and ice ready! Once Victorian athletes are back on the ice, Ice Skating Victoria will seek to hold a virtual event. This exciting new format will make it possible for events to take place before the venues are back at full capacity. Ice Skating Victoria also has a significant grant application currently in review that, if approved, will enable us to provide some much needed support to our skating community during these unprecedented times.

If you have any questions about the cancellation of the Victorian Figure Skating Championships, Southern Cross trophy, or the non-attendance at the Australian Figure Skating Championships, please feel free to get in contact with me on [andrew.taylor@iceskatingvictoria.org.au](mailto:andrew.taylor@iceskatingvictoria.org.au).

Kind regards,

**Andrew Taylor**  
President  
Ice Skating Victoria