

2017 – 2018 OFFICIALS CONVENORS REPORT

Last year I talked about the World Skate committee beginning to conduct Rollart seminars to countries out of Europe. The Artistic committee sent Tony Alexander to the 2016 America's Cup in Florida to participate in mock-judging using the Rollart system as well as been part of the official judging panel.

Following through with this, there was a seminar held by APSS, in Perth 2017, to which the Artistic committee sent Pam Peters. Jackie Innes attended as a HPCC

In January 2018, the Artistic committee sent Tony and Pam to an International seminar in Italy to continue their training. Two HPCC coaches, Kylie Shirley and Rachael Parkinson-Turner also attended this seminar. Pam Peters was successful in her exams to be a registered Technical Specialist for Rollart. It is very fortunate for NZ to have Pam with this commission.

Upon their return to NZ, Tony, Pam, Kylie and Rachael and Jackie held a seminar in Rotorua. This was our first in-depth discussion of Rollart with some practical session both for judges and coaches, to begin to understand the dynamics of Rollart. It is very exciting to be part of this development in NZ.

All NZ judges, at this stage have not been fully trained in Rollart assessment techniques. We have tentively introduced the basics of Rollart assessment, which places equal importance on the 'B' Mark, and this has resulted in a general lowering of the average mark over the last 18 months. What is termed the 'old way' of judging the judge assessed the performance as a package, and therefore a lot of compromise was used to come up with a final score. Rollart assigns a score to different parts of a performance and a final total is reached. There is no longer any compromise with attempted items.

If anyone viewed the Australian Nationals last week, you will have seen a huge difference in final marks. We have two Australian judges attending our Nationals, and along with Pam Peters who officiated at the Australian Nationals, you will notice the effect of the different approach Rollart is making.

It is just a different approach and will generally still achieve similar or the same placements.

Lyn Cole and Jim Beard are presenting an insight to the introduction of developments they have started in Australia as part of the transition to Rollart being started in 2019. This is scheduled 2:30 – 4:30pm on Friday and everyone is welcome to attend.

While in Perth, November 2017, Pam Peters sate her International exams and has receive a 'B' Commission in part. Due to the time constraints at Perth, she was not able to sit all the exams, and completion of these will occur later. Congratulations to Pam and welcome to the International ranks of judging.

At a local level, we have student judges working hard at competitions building up their experience. Hopefully this next year will see them completing workbooks and gain their next commission.

There have been new faces signaling from the calculating table and new marshalls being trained. Everyone's participations and help is appreciated.

Oceania 2017 was held in Brisbane. NZ had myself, Jane Reason, and Tony Alexander judging with Margaret Grant working as Assistant Referee. This was such a huge milestone for Margaret on a personal level and she was honoured to be representing NZ at an International competition held out of NZ.

Like many of you, I will miss Margaret with a passion, and her matter-of-fact approach to issues, and her love of skating, the skaters and the supporters of skating.

2017-18 Artistic Schedule changes – there have been a few over the last 12 months! This stemmed from me judging 2017 Australian Nationals, and realizing NZ was losing competitive ground and very quickly. This I mentioned in my 2017 report.

The Artistic Committee had to act promptly, and the logical step was to follow the lead Australis has taken in adopting European grades and requirements. This is not a change that could be done in parts or gradually. It was a huge task which I started, then handed over to HPCC to fully integrate. Changes of this magnitude always have challenges and I thank Rachael, Imelda, Kylie and Jacqui for their huge focus on this and their attention to detail and for Bev overseeing this project to its completion.

Rachael, on behalf of HPCC & Artistic Committee, is introducing a proposed adjustment to the medal test schedule. This meeting is 4-6pm on Thursday and hopefully if time permits afterward, there can be general discussion on artistic matters. The Artistic committee will do our best to answer questions and would like to hear of any ideas you have for consideration.

To conclude my report, I thank all the judges, marshalls, calculators and announcers for their work during the year. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes and your time and dedication is truly appreciated.

Leigh Hudson

Officials Convenor

NZFRS Artistic Committee