

Hamilton Roller Skating Club is in good health.

Our club owns a freehold Rink and a Banked Speed Track which is on leased Council land.

Last year the club was split into two entities under the Club Banner.

A Board of Trustees now ensures the financial viability of the rink and its maintenance, and the Club Committee, which is solely responsible for the sports/competitive side of the Club. Both the Trustees and the Sports Committee are co dependant.

The Trustees currently rely on the competitive/sports side of the club to provide volunteers to help them run the Public sessions that bring in the funds to keep the rink running, to replace hire skates and building maintenance.

This allows our competitive skaters to practice free of charge during any coaching time and at specific practice times for dance figures and freestyle. Our Coaches pay a levy to the Trust for the time they are using the facility, and this is built into coaching fees. Coaches pay this back into Trust account monthly

We have 4 Club Coaches and one who's home club is in Auckland. These coaches run both group coaching sessions and one to one lessons.

About 3 months before the Club's AGM Club President, Kathy Moddy stepped down as Club President after 30 or so years. Russelle Knaap was confirmed as the new President at the club AGM . Kathy remains on the Board of Trustees.

The Club Committee, with the blessing of the Trust, has run a series of theme nights to raise funds to go towards the expense of those going to Artistic and Speed Nationals. They were great fun, a great team building exercise and it helps our skaters with costs for what is becoming an increasingly expensive sport. We plan to continue these nights throughout the year. Our club works hard to keep costs down for both competitive and public skaters

This year the Speed Section ran the NZ Banked Track Nationals, hosted a National Training Squad for Artistic, and ran a Kiwi Skate Day.

Our rink is packed Mondays, Thurs and Sundays. These Public Sessions are up at least at least by 30% on last year. The commercial side is running to near capacity and is it is also hired out to other groups such as Derby and Floorball.

We have great interaction with the Community. There is gratitude from families, many of whom do not have the money to spend on other activities. Parents skate free and the maximum charge is \$12.00 for a family regardless of numbers. Council is always very helpful towards the Club because it is self- sufficient and not calling on ratepayer's money to subsidise its activities

Whilst public sessions are up, there is not much movement of kids moving into more advanced competitive skating levels. We have large numbers in learn to skate sessions with some moving on to group coaching and someone to one- to- one coaching, but apart from a handful, most don't have the commitment to advance their skating to a higher level. Most are recreational skaters...even some of those competing! They love the leotards and the make- up but it seems too many of today's kids are involved in too many other activities. We see kids have their lessons then take their skates

off and leave ...often to another activity and despite urging from coaches. Practice is forgotten concept for many apart from a solid core who work hard and our Masters skaters who are extremely committed and excited to be coming to Nationals.

This year we will have two skaters trying out for Oceania's - one Masters skater and one advanced Masters. The cost of skating Oceania's however has proved to be a disincentive for kids who otherwise may have worked towards this event.

Of note; The administration side of the club has been difficult during the last few months.

The HRSC was fortunate to have the same secretary for 37 years. WE ARE NOW ON OUR SECOND SECRETARY since her recent retirement. The work load is huge. Neither of the replacement secretaries appreciated the time involved. It's obviously worse when new to the role, have a demanding job and other outside interests. If we lose our current secretary, we are going to struggle to find anyone who will have the time available.

We wonder if other Clubs are also finding the Secretary's role becoming more and more demanding and feel it's time for both the Federation and the ARTS Committee to look at the volume of requests, and ways to streamlining entries and payments and numbers.

We also wonder if The ARTS Committee and the Federation, rather than requiring everything to come via the secretary, could be happy to receive information from either the Club secretary or a committee member. Clubs would be better able to share the growing load over a number of people.

We currently have a great committee with everyone willing to take on responsibilities for different tasks and we are looking forward to adding more activities to enhance Club spirits.

R Knaap

HRSC President