

## **RollArt NZ Report for the NZFRS Artistic Committee AGM**

**Monday 15 July 2019**

The RollArt NZ Steering Sub Committee was set up by the NZFRS Artistic Committee on 30 July 2018 to facilitate the adoption and implementation of the RollArt scoring system throughout New Zealand. World Skate has developed the scoring system with defined standards and assessment criteria and expect all federated clubs world wide to progressively transition towards implementing and using this international system.

The Artistic Committee appointed Tony Alexander, Raewyn Hailes, Pam Peters and Jenny Lupton to the RollArt Steering committee, with liaison support and guidance from Leigh Hudson and Di Gunson Officials Convenors. Leigh and Di; thank you for your support, expertise, laughs, patience and help as we have navigated our way throughout this past year. Tony, Raewyn and Pam; it's been great getting to know one another more, we couldn't have done this without you! I would like to extend my huge thanks, as you have given up a significant amount of your time (on top of full time work) to get us to where we are today; at the 2019 NZ Roller Sports Artistic Championships, with RollArt scoring being implemented with sufficient people to run the new system. Your expertise and passion for what you do is valued and the fun, highs and lows along the way have indeed been a journey, but one which is making NZ skating history.

Skate NZ have provided the necessary computers, hardware and equipment in which to conduct RollArt scoring at competitions. Without the investment and arrival of such, in April we wouldn't have been able to meet our timelines and apply RollArt at these NZ Championships. Skate NZ's support has contributed immensely to enabling our skaters' an opportunity to be able to successfully nominate for International Competitions and compete in the RollArt environment with confidence.

The RollArt NZ Steering Committee is pleased to report that it has achieved most of its goals outlined in its implementation plan. This included the following activities and competitions. The RollArt Intro Workshops in North Shore, Christchurch, New Plymouth and Upper Hutt. Support for the HPCC RollArt Coaches Seminars. Achievement of the first ever parallel mock RollArt judging in New Zealand at Laurie Hastie in Palmerston North. Attendance at the World Skate RollArt Seminar in Melbourne during March, where selected officials are progressively achieving their certification requirements

Northern Areas in April saw the achievement of the goal of live RollArt scoring for eligible grades in Rotorua. This was a significant milestone for skating in New Zealand; the lead-in time was tight and the opportunities to practice with the equipment were limited. A big 'thank you' must go to the event managers and officials who came onboard to learn the RollArt learning modules, attend the intro workshops and also do their own practice to prepare. A couple of weeks later it was time to do it all again at Central Areas and once again the system worked and live RollArt scoring for eligible grades was achieved. Southern Areas followed with a smaller scale application of RollArt applied. Attendance and support at the HPCC Coaches at the Development Squad and RollArt information session, over Queen's Birthday weekend in Upper Hutt. One week later, a reprieve was in sight with the cancellation of the Jim Taylor Combined East/West Central Regionals in Palmerston North and then it was back to Upper Hutt for their Open Day at the end of the month, where this club achieved the challenging goal of hosting an open day competition, applying RollArt scoring for all eligible grades.

Highlights so far have been the willingness, patience and perseverance of existing officials to learn and transfer their skills and transition. The openness of individuals in the skating community that have given RollArt a go and are coming onboard to develop and learn new roles.

The early success at Area Competitions in 'going live' in the use of the RollArt scoring system saw New Zealand 'punch well above its weight' as it joined other countries across the globe also progressively implementing the RollArt system. Another highlight was the opportunity the Upper Hutt club provided for trainee officials to officiate and practice the range of RollArt roles throughout the weekend. It was a valuable learning opportunity.

The transition of course hasn't been without its challenges. Imagine introducing a new system into an already well established system that works? That is essentially what is happening. This creates ongoing challenges and complexity as the skating community comes to grips with change and essentially this will continue for some time as the transition continues.

The tight timeline from the stand up of the steering committee to implementing RollArt at live competitions; were key risks, but the goodwill and collaborative effort of everyone involved made it work. There are still a lot of lessons to learn and refining still to do across all roles; but we are on our way. The up skilling and training required for RollArt roles requires a degree of data literacy and different skill set. This will take time to develop and varies from individual to individual. The administration at the front-end is a big task and requires lots of preparation and organising before the event.

The number of officials to support the range of new roles required to operate the new system is on the low side. There has never been a more important time in the life of NZ skating to grow the officials base, so that we avoid having to ask the same people all the time to support all the skating events throughout the calendar year. If we are not careful, this situation has the potential to burnout our technical experts and officials convenors as they lead the way to support RollArt implementation in New Zealand.

Another challenge for RollArt is at the local and area competition levels. Clubs may be challenged to apply RollArt initially as the number of officials needed to support and the potential cost may create viability issues, until such a time that capacity grows.

Some of the next steps for the steering committee are to develop assessments and resources to support RollArt certification, work with the Artistic Committee to confirm and implement a new Commissions Framework for Officials to transition from the white classification system to the RollArt judging system. And planning an officials training workshop for later on in the year to develop officials skills and grow capacity.

In conclusion, we are on our way, with more work to do as we progress. It will require further collaboration and effort to create opportunities by giving more people in the skating community the chance to give RollArt a go. RollArt scoring is not going to go away; World Skate have set the standard and the mission challenge is clear. Utilising the expertise and working with all groups within the skating community to build the community of interest overtime will contribute to establishing an enduring system here in New Zealand.

Jenny Lupton  
RollArt NZ Manager