

ARTISTIC ROLLER SPORTS COMMITTEE



ARTISTIC ANNOUNCERS HANDBOOK

Welcome

Welcome to the role of Announcer for the sport of Artistic Skating. Announcers play a vital part in the smooth running of artistic competitions.

A good announcer is energetic in their work, has current information and knows their role. They speak clearly and slowly.

Announcers should be familiar with the accepted announcing protocols. Examples of these are outlined in Appendix 1.

Continuity during a competition is important. Announcers should strive to keep the audience updated as to programming during the day.

Quiet periods [between events or when calculations are being made] should be avoided. Background music should be played during these episodes.

Clarity is important. Event changes, scratching and skating orders should be repeated to ensure they are heard and understood by the audience

Dress Code

Announcers should dress for the day. During the day less formal attire is acceptable and in the evening formal attire is required.

Formal attire includes:

- Ladies - Navy/black and white with a touch of red
- Men – black trousers and a white shirt

Arrival at a Competition

When arriving at a competition, there are several things you need to do:

- Check in with the Referee and/or Chief Announcer
- Find the announcers table
- Check out the sound system; ensure you know how it operates
- A sound check; set microphone and music levels
- Ensure you have the following documentation;
 - Competition programme
 - Referee's sheet or equivalent [contains the skating order and figures/dances
 - A judges list
- Announcers should have a copy of the Announcers Handbook
- Ensure you are aware of Health and Safety rules and Evacuation Procedures

Sound systems are different in each venue; some may echo or muffle our voices. To overcome this and ensure clarity announcers should:

- Speak slowly and deliberately
- Raise the pitch of their voice

Positioning of Announcers Table

- Rollart - where possible the announcer to sit with the Rollart panel (for ease of communication)
- White System – the announcer should sit opposite the white panel so they can see the marks being held up by the judges. However, as we develop the Rollart System more events will be judged under this system. This may mean that announcers have to leave their station and move onto the floor to read and announce results.

Check music:

- Dance music for solo dance events [Dance CD's]
- Skaters music
- Presentation fanfares
- Background music

Skaters music

For Oceania, National and Area [where possible] skaters music will be compiled by the Chief Announcer. This will be in Windows Explorer on a laptop.

At local and club events, music may be on CD's or USB sticks that can be played on local equipment.

Background music

For Oceania, National and Area [where possible] background music will be provided by the Chief Announcer.

At local events the announcer is responsible for the provision of background music, either by CD or computer based programmes.

Background music should be played during breaks in the programme, between events etc.

Relationships

The duty announcer has relationships with:

- The Championship Manager
- The Event Referee
- Marshalls
- Calculators/Technical Controller

The event Referee is in control of each event and the Event Officials [Judges, Technical Panel, Calculators and Marshalls] are required to follow their instructions.

On the day

Prior to each event:

- Ensure you have the skating order, including scratchings
- Ensure you have skaters music sorted into programme order
- Check for pronunciation of names you may have difficulty announcing
- Listen for any instructions from the Referee
- Ensure you are familiar with the criteria for each warm up [warm up times, structure of the warm ups, 1 minute call and 1 minute rest period between the end of the warm up and the beginning of the event]
- At the beginning of each session or when appropriate, announce the Health and Safety Procedures in the event of Fire, Earthquake or Evacuation

At the beginning of each event:

- Introduce the event
- Introduce the Referee, Technical Expert and Judging Panel
- Announce any scratching
- Introduce first item [figure or dance as appropriate]
- Call the first skater onto the floor

During the event:

- When announcing skaters onto the floor, emphasise the skaters
- Vary the way you announce skaters onto the floor so the event does not become monotonous
- Monitor the volume levels; level should not exceed 90db on a sound meter
- Read out the marks/results [see Appendices]. Ensure marks/results are read out exactly as they are displayed on the Rollart Monitor.

- Once the event has started, no announcements not relevant to the event should be made, except in emergency

At the completion of the Event:

- Thank skaters
- Thank Officials
- Announce results [once signed result sheets are received]
- Introduce the next event

During the day:

- Acknowledge event sponsors
- Thank visiting officials
- Read any notices handed in – these need to be signed by a Championship Manager
- Promote food stalls and equipment stands

Judging Systems

There are two judging systems in use;

- White System
- Rollart

White System

The White System is a manual judging process used for the following disciplines/grades:

- All figure events
- All group events
- Non national grade Freeskating events
- Non national grade Dance/Freedance events

Examples of announcing criteria for the White System are in Appendix 2.

Rollart System

Rollart is a newer, electronic system used for the following disciplines/grades:

- All international grade and other selected Freeskating events
- All international grade and other selected Dance [Solo, Couples, Style and Freedance]

Examples of announcing criteria for Rollart are in Appendix 3.

Appendix 1 – Announcing Protocols

Accepted Announcing Protocols

Listed below are the accepted announcing protocols. These may be adopted for local competitions but the general message should be maintained.

Welcome:

Good morning everybody, welcome to <the 2020 Artistic Skating Championships>. It's great to see you all here and we hope you enjoy the skating <any local stuff>.

Some announcements:

Health and Safety: announce the evacuation processes [these should be from the stadium]

Cellphones: please turn the ring tone down so as not to disturb skaters

Photographs: you are welcome to take photos but no use of the flash function please – this could disturb skaters on the floor.

Thank the agencies that have supported the event; Funding Trusts, Programme advertisers and stall holders.

Introduction of Events:

The next event is Senior Ladies Figures. The skaters in the event are with the Marshall/on the floor for their warm up for the first figure. We'll be under way once the warm up is complete. The judges for this event are; Judge 1, Judge 2, Judge 3 etc and the Referee is < >.

Please welcome our first skater, from <club>, <number>, <name>

Thank you <skaters name>. When the marks are ready; Marks for <skater> - <read marks>. Thank you.

Let's welcome to the floor our next skater, from <club>, <number>, <skaters name>

etc

At the end of the event;

That completes Senior Ladies figures, thank you skaters and officials.

Our next event is < > etc

Presentations:

Place getters are requested to report to the Marshalling Area for presentations.

Announcing:

We are underway with Presentations.

Would skaters for presentation please report to the Marshalling Area [this may take some time]

Presentations for this session are being made by <name and role>

Our first presentation is for Senior Ladies Figures.

In First Place <and National Senior Ladies Figure Champion for 2020> is <name> from <club>

In second place is <name> from <club>

In third place is <name> from <club>

Once the medal and trophy have been presented, the presentation fanfare is played.

Announcers need to ensure that presentation announcements are nice and loud and with a great sense of excitement.

White System Announcing Protocols

Under the White System, marks are displayed by Judges. The displaying of the marks is controlled by the referee.

Figures

Figures are displayed by judges after each skater has completed each figure/loop.

Figures	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Figure Marks	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				

Freeskating

Freeskating is marked with two marks; Technical Merit [A mark] and Artistic Impression [B mark].

Freeskating	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Technical Merit	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Technical Merit; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				
Artistic Impression	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Artistic Impression; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				

Dance - Compulsory

Solo dance can be danced in flights [skaters follow the previous skater without marks being displayed] or individually where the marks are displayed after each skater has completed their dance.

Solo Dance	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Dance Marks	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX <number and name> for the Glide Waltz, six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				

Freedance

Freedance is marked with two marks; Technical Merit [A mark] and Artistic Impression [B mark].

Freeskating	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Technical Merit	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Technical Merit; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				
Artistic Impression	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Artistic Impression; six one, five nine, six two, six one five eight.				

Large groups, Small groups, Junior Groups, Quartets, Junior Quartets and Youth Quartets

Groups and Quartets are marked with two marks. The first mark for Program Contents (Mark A) and the second mark for Presentation (Mark B).

Freeskating	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Programme Contents	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Programme Content; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				
Presentation	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Presentation; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				

Club Show Skate

Club Show Skate are marked with two marks. The first mark for Creativity (Mark A) and the second mark for Entertainment (Mark B).

Freeskating	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Judge 4	Judge 5
Creativity	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Creativity; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				
Entertainment	6 1	5 9	6 2	6 1	5 8
Announcer says	Marks for XXX for Entertainment; six one, five nine, six two, six one, five eight.				

Appendix 3 – Rollart Announcing Protocols

Rollart Announcing Protocols

Results for Rollart events are displayed on a monitor at the announcers table. Results are announced as follows:

Freeskating

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Segment Score	Total Score	Current Placing
Freeskating; Single events	✓	✓			✓	✓
	16.34	10.31			26.65	2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements sixteen point three four, Programme Components ten point three one, Total Score twenty six point six five.					

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Score for Short Programme	Total Score	Current Placing
Freeskating; Short Programmes	✓	✓		✓		✓
	16.34	10.31		26.65		2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements sixteen point three four, Programme Components ten point three one, Score for Short Programme twenty six point six five.					

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Score for Long Programme	Total Score	Current Placing
Freeskating; Long Programmes	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	14.00	10.10		24.10	50.75	2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements fourteen point zero zero, Programme Components ten point one zero, Score for Long Programme twenty four point one zero, Total Score fifty point seven five					

Compulsory Dance

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	[First Dance] Canasta Tango	Total Score	Current Placing
Solo and Couples Dance	✓	✓		✓		✓
1 st dance	16.34	10.31		26.65		2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements sixteen point three four, Programme Components ten point three one, Score for Canasta Tango twenty six point six five.					

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	[Second Dance] Denver Shuffle	Total Score	Current Placing
Solo and Couples Dance;	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 nd dance	8.00	4.50	1.00	11.50	38.10	2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements eight point zero zero, Programme Components four point five zero, Deduction one point zero zero, Score for Denver Shuffle eleven point five zero, Total Score thirty eight point one zero.					

Freedance [National Grades]

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Freedance	Total Score	Current Placing
Solo and Couples Freedance	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	8.00	4.50	1.00	11.50		2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements eight point zero zero, Programme Components four point five zero, Deduction one point zero zero, Score for Freedance eleven point five zero.					

Style Dance – National Grades

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Style dance	Total Score	Current Placing
Solo and Couples Style Dance	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	8.00	4.50	1.00	11.05		2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements eight point zero zero, Programme Components four point five zero, Deduction one point zero zero, Score for Style Dance eleven point zero zero.					

Style Dance – International Grades

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Score for Style Dance	Total Score	Current Placing
Style Dance;	✓	✓		✓		✓
	16.3	10.3		26.6		2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements 16.3, Programme Components 10.3, Score for Style Dance 26.6.					

Freedance – International Grades

	Technical Elements	Programme Components	Deductions	Score for Freedance	Total Score	Current Placing
Freedance;	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
	14.0	10.0		24.0	50.6	2
Announcer would say:	Results for XXX; Technical Elements 14.0, Programme Components 10.0, Score for Freedance 24.0, Total Score 50.6.					