

ANNUAL REPORT

INCLUSIVE SKATING SCIO

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2017

SUPPLEMENT TO THE OSCR REPORT





Statement by Margarita Sweeney-Baird (Charity Trustee and Chair of IS)

This is the Sixth Annual Report of the Inclusive Skating Charity (IS), which is registered as an SCIO in Scotland and regulated by the OSCR.

This sixth year of operation has again been marked by notable success for Inclusive Skating with the international club event and British Inclusive Skating Championships taking place in Braehead, Glasgow in April 2017. The inclusive skating system of competition for the inclusion of skaters with any form of disability has therefore moved to an established event and has a suitable venue that is capable of sustaining the development of the event from an international level event to eventually a World Championship event.

Inclusive Skating once again owes a huge debt of gratitude to the many volunteers, who have assisted in this development. They have given generously of their time and professional skills and have often not even claimed expenses. Thank you one and all.

Inclusive Skating Event
19/12/2016 - 23/12/2016
North Toronto Memorial Ice Rink

In December, 2016, during the World Figure Championships, an Inclusive Skating competition took place for the first time in Canada. Several skaters from the UK took part in the Inclusive Skating part of an event. Several skaters also participated in the Figure tests which was a wonderful celebration of 'old school' figures.

Judges for Inclusive Skating Events included the former World Champion Don Jackson and Barbara Wagner, Canada (Olympic Pair Champion) and the truly inspirational Janet Lynn.

Inclusive Skating was represented on the judging panel by Margarita Sweeney-Baird as Technical Delegate, and Stuart Bell, England (Former World Junior Champion Competitor).

Juliana Sweeney-Baird, Cameron Sargent and Callum Titmus represented Inclusive Skating in a variety of categories including Free Skating, Compulsory Elements and Dance.

Inclusive Skating Glasgow 2017
April 11th to 15th 2017
Braehead Curling Rink, Glasgow

The Glasgow 2017 event, skaters was once again a great success at a technical and emotional level and many spectators were overwhelmed to see the joy of achievement by these skaters. The skaters were fantastic and the spirit of participation and support for fellow competitors was a joy to behold.

The consensus judging system was used. This saved a huge amount of money in officials' expenses. The system will now be computerized for future events to ensure that any mathematical errors are avoided and to speed up the results system.

New events at this year's competition included free dance, duets, trios and synchro groups and synchro teams. These were hugely popular and are likely to result in a significant increase in numbers participating in future events.

This year's event also incorporated the first Inclusive Skating for Genes Championships. This competition was the first for skaters with genetic disorders as a group. To calculate the championships result, a separate result utilising the scores from the Inclusive Skating level competitions was prepared. The IS for Genes Championships result only include those skaters with genetic conditions. The event was partly sponsored by "Genetic Disorders UK". The event also featured on STV2. The program recognised the importance of inclusive sporting activities for those with genetic conditions.

Further, all skaters were included in the British Inclusive Skating championships results, which is based on their overall ranking within each age group. This was another separate result.

Inclusive Skating Event September 2017 Vail, Colorado, USA

In September, 2017, during the World Figure Championships, an Inclusive Skating competition took place for the first time in the USA. Several skaters from the UK and Scotland took part in Figure events once again. There was once again a wonderful celebration of 'old school' figures but this time there was a difference. Figures were included in the competition section for Inclusive Skaters. The system for judging Inclusive Skaters participating in compulsory figures in competition was successfully piloted. Following this success future events will now include Figures and will be expanded to include all compulsory figures.

Judges for the Inclusive Skating Events were truly inspirational. We had the honour of having the great Dorothy Hamill, the 1976 Olympic Champion and Barbara Wagner, Canada (Olympic Champions) judge the event alongside a true all-time great skater Janet Lynn.

Juliana Sweeney-Baird, Callum Titmus, Hannah Lee, Jenny Lee and Megan MacFarlane represented IS in a variety of categories including Free Skating, Compulsory Figures and Free Dance.

Inclusive Skaters International Events

During 2017, several IS skaters took part in additional events organised by Special Olympics and others.

Inclusive Skating International

Reykjavik Ice Rink, November 4th to 6th 2016

In September 2016, Inclusive Skating were invited to take part in The Icecup Competition in Reykjavik. Several skaters took part and traveled to Iceland for the event.

Finland, Santa Claus International Competition,

Varala-timi Club, Tampere, December 2016

The Santa Claus competition was held in Tampere and several Inclusive Skaters travelled to the event which was a Special Olympics event. They all skated magnificently and each came away with trophies and made a very good account of themselves.

Special Olympics World Winter Games at Graz

10 British skaters took part in the Special Olympics World Winter Games at Graz in Austria in March 2017.

2017 World Rankings

During the 2016 to 2017 season, the IS World Rankings were released for the first time. These were based on the individual competition categories. Skaters were ranked according to a time corrected highest mark. All the highest marks were reviewed for all skaters. So, the rankings include results in all Inclusive Skating events since 2012.



Fundraising

Fundraising through the Virgin Money London Marathon 2017 and Jeans for Genes was successful. Fundraising is an increasing focus of Inclusive Skating activities.

Conclusion

We look forward to the further development of Inclusive Skating independently and in partnership with organisations.

More future events are under active development regionally, nationally and internationally and ice skaters should consult the inclusive Skating website for further information on future events.

We have been really busy and the skaters have achieved so much. It is at times like this when writing an Annual Report you reflect on how much has been done in so little time. We can only stand back in wonder and awe! Well done everyone!



*Margaret
Shreeve - Lewis*