



The Ice Skating Association  
of Queensland Inc.

# NEWS OFF

## THE EDGE



**Queensland  
Government**  
Getting more people  
active through sport  
and recreation

A news bulletin from The Ice Skating Association of Queensland Inc. to members and friends.

Volume 39 June 2004

### President's Message

It was welcome back to Iceworld, Acacia Ridge when the Queensland Figure Skating Championships were conducted there last week. As far as I can remember, the last time we held the Queensland Championships at Acacia Ridge was in 1995, nearly 10 years ago!

Once again, due to a lot of hard work done by many willing workers, the event ran very smoothly and we saw some wonderful performances from our competitive athletes and teams. I would like to extend a huge thank-you to all the officials and judges who gave their time so freely to ensure a successful event. A big thank-you also to the Iceworld management and staff who made sure the ice rink and facilities were available throughout.

An added bonus during the Championships was a function held to officially open a new Art and Skating Museum at Iceworld. We are very grateful to the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy Mr Stephen Robertson for performing the opening. The museum is a very fitting repository for many ice skating artifacts and pictures tracing the history of figure skating in Queensland. This function also formed part of the celebrations for the Centenary of Figure Skating in Australia which had its beginnings in Adelaide in 1904.

After the championships, the Association announced its team to represent Queensland at the Australian Figure Skating Championships to be held in Sydney in August. Congratulations to all the team members, I'm sure you will represent us well. We are very proud of you all.

Good luck and good skating!

*Peter Rankin*



*Mr Peter Rankin and Mr Donald McKnight with Minister for Natural resources, Mines and Energy Mr Stephen Robertson at the opening of the ISAQ Museum*

June, 2004

### 2004 Australian Figure Skating National Championships

#### QUEENSLAND STATE TEAM

##### Primary Ladies

Morgan Innes  
Kayla Doig  
Genevieve Sinon(R)  
Alicia May (R)

##### Intermediate Ladies

Holly Stewart  
Anita Axam  
Georgina Butler  
Melynda Schloss (R)  
April Hering (R)

##### Novice Men

Dominic Di Tommaso  
Mitchell McKenna

##### Junior Ladies

Phoebe Di Tommaso  
Olivia Van Asperen  
Sarah Wrigley  
Senior Men  
Sean Carlow

##### Adult Synchronized

Edge to Edge

##### Junior Synchronized

Synergy  
Iceskateers Elite

##### Primary Men

Andrew Dodds  
Brendan Schloss  
Jordan Dodds

##### Intermediate Men

Matthew Dodds

##### Novice Ladies

Tina Wang  
Rebecca Hering  
Ashleigh Louda  
Elle Crouch (R)

##### Junior Men

Robert McNamara  
Mitchell Chapman  
David Harvie  
Dean Timmins (R)  
Benjamin Hadfield (R)

##### Senior Ladies

Vashti Lonsdale  
Olivia Van Asperen  
Krysia Child

##### Novice Synchronized

Iceskateers

##### Senior Synchronized

Ice Viva

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### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Zealand National Championships for 2004 will be held at the Queenstown Ice Arena & Fun Centre, situated in the Queenstown Gardens commencing Monday 20th September to Thursday 23rd September.

Queenstown is the premier ski and adrenalin capital of New Zealand with plenty of activities should skaters and their families wish to continue their holiday after the Championships. Accommodation is plentiful but would need to be booked ASAP as would airfares.

Any skater wishing to attend must obtain permission from the ISA through their respective state association. The announcement is available either from the ISAQ or the NZISA Website [www.nzisa.org](http://www.nzisa.org).

Judges are also welcome at their own expense but must also obtain permission from the ISA.

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### Dairy Dates

**August -** Thurs 5th 6p.m. Tests - Acacia Ridge  
Friday 13th 6p.m. Tests - Gold Coast

**September -** Sat 10th a.m. Tests - Boondall  
Tues. 7th p.m. Tests - Logan  
Sun. 12th 9-11am Aussie Skate Comp  
Sat 18th 8.10am Crosslands Bannister A.R.

*News Off The Edge - 1*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### PUBLICITY REPORT

Our Queensland Figure skaters continue to receive good results with subsequent publicity. Congratulations to all our Hollins Trophy Competitors. We wish you all the best for the Queensland State Championships and subsequent representation at Nationals in Sydney.

#### TELEVISION

Ch 9's Hot Source Program which filmed interviews at the 2003 Nationals with Australian Junior Champion, Sean Carlow, Australian Senior Synchronized Champions, "Synergy" and Australian Senior Ladies Champion, Miriam Manzano, have now started to be aired. These were very well produced with additional broadcast quality competition footage provided by the Video recording company which was in attendance at Nationals. Ch 10's Totally Wild's story with Australian Men's Silver Medalist, Daniel Harries has also gone to air

#### LOGAN

Theatre on Ice received a good plug on ABC Radio with a Breakfast Program interview with Logan Coach, Sharon Mills conducted by journalist, Paul Boddington. The Quest community newspaper Albert and Logan also did a huge coverage of this new discipline in their entertainment section – Vibe. Logan skater, Sarah Wrigley, in a centenary themed costume and with a backdrop of the rest of the team, took up nearly the whole page

#### THEATRE ON ICE UPDATE

Subsequent to the Queensland request and approval for TOI to be held as a competitive event in Australia at the recent Ice Skating Australia AGM, Queensland Judge, Jan Gardner was invited to judge at the 2004 International Theatre on Ice Competition in the US. Jan is also on a technical and judging information gathering mission. The US Judging Chair, Ann Cammett also attended the event as a Judge and to investigate ways to formally train US Judges in this discipline. We thank Jan for her enthusiasm and support to bring TOI to OZ for interested skaters and coaches.

#### INAUGURAL TOI COMPETITION

The Iceworld Figure Skating Club Committee has now approved the inaugural TOI competitive event for next January's Summer Trophy – in the Artistic Le Patinage event of the competition. Please look for it in the upcoming announcement.

#### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

This new discipline has been welcomed by both the Queensland Sport and Recreation Department and the Australian Sports Commission as an innovative approach to encourage young people to take up a sporting activity. This is in line with the Policy for funding from both departments that sporting bodies encourage participation in sport for the health and social benefits it provides over a lifetime.

#### MUSEUM AND PHOTO GALLERY VIP OPENING – TOI EXHIBITION

At the VIP Opening of the Museum and Photo Gallery by the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, Stephen Robertson MP during the State Championships, the Acacia Ridge TOI Team "Ice Stars" and the Logan Club TOI Team will perform to a Centenary Theme. We thank all

the skaters, their Coaches and families for all the hard work put in to present this Exhibition. These 2 teams and their supporters have been instrumental in TOI development by daring to brave new horizons for our sport

#### TOWNSVILLE

A Townsville TOI Team, with Coach Cassie McConnell is planning to compete at Summer Trophy. Cassie is currently overseas investigating both TOI and the Ice Shows which are famous in the Northern Hemisphere of Europe, England, Canada and the US. We look forward to all these talented Coaches and skaters bringing to us another dimension in the sport of figure skating and hope that this new discipline with its emphasis on Theatre and Entertainment will bring lots of pleasure to future audiences and participants

#### INVITATION FOR SYNCHRONIZED TEAMS

The US would also like to send some Teams to Australia to compete as soon as TOI is up and running and have meanwhile extended an invitation for Australian Synchronized Teams to compete in Boston this December. Over 80 teams are expected to attend this event and Teams and Judges will be offered the opportunity to be billeted with local families. Please forward expressions of interest to ISAQ Administration

#### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

This new discipline has been welcomed by both the Queensland Sport and Recreation Department and the Australian Sports Commission as an innovative approach to encourage young people to take up a sporting activity.

#### SPONSORS FOR QLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

I would like to thank Mr Rex Grudnoff of Capezio Skatewear, Mike Santer from Oz Skater (Australia's National skating magazine) and Graham Perlin from Fasta Pasta for their involvement with this event. These Companies contacts are on the Association website – [www.isaq.org.au](http://www.isaq.org.au). Please look them up and support them where possible.

I now look forward to some great results and publicity for the Queensland Team at Nationals in Sydney in August.

Yours in skating – *Chris Michie*

### ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The first workshop for the year was held on 16 May from 9.00am – 1.00pm with 21 figure skaters and 30 synchronised skaters taking part. Sports Psychology, Dance, Drama and Acrobatics were the highlighted topics of the workshops that were held at Acacia Ridge Ice Rink.

With Nationals coming just around the corner, plans are underway this year to organise a state camp which will be held on 17-18 July at the Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre. Topics that we are looking to include are: Dance, Trampolining/rotations, Drama, Sport psychology, Pilates and the Media.

We are also planning to hold some Annie's edge sessions and another one or two workshops later in the year.

All the best of luck to skaters at States and Nationals

*Melina Simjanovic* Athlete Development Convenor

## **COACHES & JUDGES MEETING**

A Judges/Coaches meeting was held last Saturday 3rd July during the Qld Championships. Attendance was good with most of our Coaches and Judges wishing to add input on several subjects relating to test levels, and information from Susan Lynch regarding the new ISU Code of Points System for International Competitions. Some very good suggestions came from this meeting. One for consideration is the ongoing training of all Judges for Tests etc. This is to enable them to encourage a higher level of skating so as to improve Qld results on the Competition circuit. These sessions will take place shortly when test sessions are confirmed.

I'd like to congratulate our State Team attending the Nationals on their achievements at our Queensland Championships. **Ann Short Judging Convenor.**

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## **CLUB NEWS**

### **ICELANDGOLDCOASTFIGURESKATING CLUB**

Greetings again from the Gold Coast Club.

Our skaters are all working very hard preparing for another round of competition in the Queensland States and ultimately the Nationals coming up in the next few months. A number of our skaters have just returned from an enjoyable time competing at The Hollins Competition in Sydney. As a club we have been very actively fund raising to provide funds to give more opportunities to all our skaters. This also provides a great opportunity for all the parents and supporters to bond together (around the barbie), as well as to promote the sport to the general community.

We would like to wish all our skaters all the very best for their up-coming competitions and hope that their skating will reflect their hard work, dedication and love for the sport.

**Glenda Hadfield Club PR.**

### **QUEENSLANDSYNCHRONIZEDICESKATING CLUB INC.**

As the Queensland Championships draws nearer and Nationals are just around the corner both our teams are in full training now.

At the recent Synchronized Club Championships our new Junior team Iceskateers Elite performed strongly for their first performance and won the Junior division. The Novice team Iceskateers are also on track for another successful year. We thank the judges for their invaluable feedback and have taken their suggestions on board.

Our Iicles team is growing strongly and will be entering the Aussie Skate competition at Boondall on the 10<sup>th</sup> July so all our skaters are practicing hard. Dhana Schofield is doing an excellent job assisting Hayley Marcovich with this team.

Our Icicle members are also participating in the new skating discipline Thearte On Ice as the Ice Stars. The theme will coincide with the celebration of 100 years of Ice Skating in Australia, costumes are being made and props organized. They will perform at the Queensland Championships on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. We thank Hayley Marcovich and Dhana Schofield for giving their time and dedication to make this performance successful.

We wish all our skaters who are performing at the Queensland Championships in both figure and synchronized the best of luck.

Best wishes to everyone at Queensland & Nationals.

**Lynda Schloss QSIC President**

*June, 2004*

## **ICEWORLD FIGURE SKATING CLUB**

The Queensland Championships are over and we now all press on (well sk8 on) towards Nationals.

This year has been a very busy year for all Ice Skating Clubs, with such a short training year to have our athletes ready for the Nationals in August..

This season our Club Championships were hosted across a Monday and Thursday for 35 skaters. Our youngest members skating their skate school divisions through to Senior. Due to the number of entries and limited ice time available, they were only able to skate their Freeski (long) Programs. Presentations were held on the Thursday evening following the skating, and along with our Trophies, we announced our Club Captain, Krysia Child. We also welcomed a new award for "Artistic Excellence" for Primary and above, the - Barnes Family Trophy - This now offers upper divisions and lower divisions an Artistic Trophy.

The unfortunate circumstances of only having the Freeski program was for those skaters who were not entered in the Towne Family Trophy (short program) at Boondall, for some had not had the opportunity to skate their new program in from of the Judges before the State Championships. On looking at our most recent results at Queensland however, this did not seem to show too many concerns, and as a Club we feel very proud of our team.

**Jai Di Tommaso**

### **BOONDALL FIGUREICESKATING CLUB**

**June 2004**

All Boondall skaters are hard at work. The club championships, held on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May, provided a good opportunity to showcase some new programs and costumes. It was a big week for some of our skaters as some had been involved with the coaching seminar at Acacia Ridge beforehand.

The Queen's Birthday long weekend is traditionally the beginning of the ski season in Australia, and also for Hollins Trophy in Sydney. Ten of the club's skaters headed south to fly the banner for Boondall. Four of our skaters placed on the podium: The Queen's Birthday long weekend is traditionally the beginning of the ski season in Australia, and also for Hollins Trophy in Sydney. Ten of the club's skaters headed south to fly the banner for Boondall. Four of our skaters placed on the podium: Andrew Dodds (2) in Primary Men, Matthew Dodds (3) in Intermediate Men, Rebecca Hering (2) in Novice Ladies and Vashti Lonsdale (2) in Senior Ladies. Congratulations to all skaters. The experience of larger competition is invaluable, whether we win a medal or not. Congratulations to all skaters. The experience of larger competition is invaluable, whether we win a medal or not.

Boondall has been getting some new members coming in from Skate School. We look forward to them developing their skating and, hopefully, going on through to State's and Nationals in the future. Welcome.

Our skater showcase this newsletter is Vashti Lonsdale. Vashti skates in the Senior Ladies division. Originally skating at Acacia Ridge, Vashti has been training at Boondall for a few years now. Having some international competition experience under her belt she is keen to compete overseas again and would like to

*News Off The Edge - 3*

compete at the Four Continents Competition in Korea. I first remember watching Vashti skate almost ten years ago and it has been marvellous to see the progression of a skater through the ranks of competition and level testing. At Hollins Trophy she placed second in the Senior Ladies division. An excellent example of what we can achieve if we follow our dreams. Good luck Vashti



.The Queensland Championships are now over. Congratulations to all who competed and the best of luck to those off to Nationals.

Happy Skating,

**Kate Christopher** *Publicity Officer*

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#### *Food For Thought*

Ice skaters in this country are both blessed and cursed. Why? Blessed because we are able to enjoy the sport we love, usually in very good surroundings with like-minded people. Cursed because we are **ice** skaters in a land that can be ravaged by drought more often than not. It is not just luck that makes our sport as much a coastal pursuit as is surfing, for instance. Some years ago, when working on a Saturday night general session, a group came skating. We often get busloads of school children, sometimes with family, usually with their teachers and chaperones. On this occasion mum, dad and grand-dad came down to the big smoke from central Queensland. At the time that area of the state had been draught-declared for some time.

I chatted with grand-dad, a country cocky right down to his Jacky Howe singlet, at the barrier as he was watching the kids enjoying themselves. He had enjoyed coming to Brisbane, but with tears welling in his eyes he turned to me and said that he hadn't seen this much water in one spot for so long.

As much as I'd like to see ice skating spread out to further areas of Queensland and others enjoy our marvellous sport as much as we do, we live in a harsh, dry land. Spare a thought for those in drought declared areas who, at times, don't even have the luxury of a local swimming pool because there isn't an adequate water supply. Remember, the water you save today could be the ice you skate on tomorrow!

*Kate Christopher  
Iceworld, Boondall  
and skater*

## **COACH'S REPORT**

With the close of the second quarter of the year our competition season seems to be really rocketing to its conclusion and with that best wishes go to all those competitors for Queensland Championships and those who are fortunate to be representing Queensland at Nationals in Sydney.

Also of note a Seminar was again held at Acacia Ridge in May with the internationally renowned Russian Coach, Victor Kudryavtsev and I would have to say was a great success with all concerned. Attendance was extremely consistent by coaches and thanks would have to go the brave demonstrators who really worked extremely hard all week during the Seminar. Thanks would also have to go Iceworld management and staff who were responsible for making this possible.

Of special note was visiting coach Ekaterina Borodatova from Perth who had the job of interpreter which I have to say was carried out throughout the week effortlessly. Our thanks to you also Ekaterina.

### **MAJELLABRIODY**

I wish to extend to the family and friends of Majella my sincere sympathy on her passing away this week. Majella has been involved in skating a good many years, I first met her at Acacia Ridge in the 1980's where she was initially just a beginner who progressed through the levels to participate in one of our most prestigious synchronized teams to become a national champion. Later she participated for a short time as a coach at Logan. I know she has had a long battle with illness and I am sure I speak for all who came in contact with her that she will be missed

**Loryn Sorensen**

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# *Pacer*

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## **The Establishment of Artificial Ice-rinks**

**DURING** the nineties a new element gave a great impetus to the development of every kind of skating, establishing itself in the form of artificial ice palaces.

Experiments to produce real ice by artificial means received encouragement in the seventies when skating in an artistic form began to be understood. In comparison to speed and touring, a very small space was needed. To acquire skill, much practice was required, and climatic conditions in a country like England where skating was developing fast, were far from ideal. In America, at approximately the same time, enterprising promoters were making projects and designing buildings for skating rinks, but they never got beyond the experimental stage.

The first artificial ice-rink in London was Mr John Gamgee's small room in a back street in Chelsea. Sometime earlier he had built a small ice floor of twenty-four feet long by sixteen feet wide, protected by a canvas-covered tent. But the first real rink, off King's Road, Chelsea, was in a permanent building with an ice floor forty feet long by twenty-four feet wide. This was in the winter of 1876. Mr John Gamgee's patented process of ref rig eration was used. There was a gallery for spectators where on occasions an orchestra played for the benefit of the skaters. A noted artist from Paris was brought over to decorate the walls with Swiss Alpine scenery. The rink was not open to the public, but noblemen and gentlemen subscribed.

This exclusive rink was much talked about and other promoters speculated on building rinks for popular entertainment. Rinks of a certain size were constructed at Manchester and Southport, the former closing down after about twelve months. Southport which opened two years later in 1879 struggled on for ten years before it was obliged to close through lack of support.

During this early stage excessive dampness and thick impenetrable mist pervaded these experimental ice-rinks and was the principal reason why their life was short. Skaters found them unhealthy places.

But in the nineties real improvements were made, and good ice in comfortable conditions was now possible.

The big capitals, London, Paris and New York, each had two rinks, and Brighton, Brussels, Munich, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Brooklyn one each.

All these ice palaces were at first much frequented, for they were something new in entertainment, and the general public invaded them when the craze began. But this raised a problem for the serious skater, for crowded rinks gave him little chance to practise his figures. This was the main reason why the Princes Skating Club in London came into being. It was a long hall in Knightsbridge with a sheet of ice 200 feet long and fifty feet wide, and exclusively for the use of members, the public not being admitted. Here at Princes, the *elite* of English skaters went through their paces .Apart from this idea of a private club where the enthusiastic support of serious skaters made the running of the hall a financial possibility, the public rinks ran the risk of having to shut their doors after a few years'

existence. The general public soon tired of skating round and round in a limited area, and so the rinks began to empty. The restricted figure skating enthusiasts were not enough to turn the rinks into paying concerns. Yet somehow they remained open, often aided by private financial support, and played an important role in popularizing skating in general. Ice-hockey matches were played, and the third World Championship for men was staged in London at the National Skating Palace, known as Hengler's, as early as 1898. These events took place under the protection of a roof, free from the uncertainties of the weather, which was a marked improvement on conditions for the skater.

Artificial rinks made skating possible in countries where it could never have been otherwise introduced owing to the general climatic conditions.

The first rink in Australia opened in 1904 in Adelaide, and a year later the Melbourne Glaciarum was built and officially opened in June 1906. It did not miss one season until its closure in the late 1950's. It was the cradle of skating in the southern hemisphere. A year later a rink was opened in Sydney and in 1909 another was built in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The same year the first open-air artificial ice-rink in the world was opened in Vienna by Edward Engelmann, an engineer and former European Skating Champion. This was an epochmaking date in skating for the success of the Engelmann rink set the fashion in Central Europe for this style of arena.

The artificial ice-rink was an important contribution to all branches of skating, for it spread it throughout the world.

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## **NEWS FROM THE U.S.**

### **U.S. Adult Nationals**

History abounds at the Ice Rink in Lake Placid N.Y. with the Olympic Games being there in 1932 and 1980. So it seemed natural that the U.S. Adult Championships would celebrate a milestone on this historic ice last April when the 10th U.S. Adult Championships were held in Lake Placid. Almost 700 adult figure skaters - some veterans of the competition and others competing for the first time gathered for the fun filled event that has brought people back year after year.

### **Michael Weiss Foundation Established**

The sport of figure skating has given a lot to Michael Weiss, and now he has found a way to give back to the sport with the Michael Weiss Foundation Skating Scholarship.

Three sholarships were awarded to young skaters, he stated "people who have a lot of potential should not be held back because of financial reasons".

The amounts totalled almost \$10,000.00  
Michael uses his own money to fund the Scholarships.

## The True Believers

Synergy contest their 5<sup>th</sup> World Synchronized Skating Championship *By Richard Hammond.*

Tomorrow, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, the 21 skaters of Team Australia depart for the 2004 World Synchronized Skating Championships in Zagreb, Croatia. Synergy, the Australian Senior Champions will represent Australia for the fifth consecutive year at the World Championships. But, it almost didn't happen.

Synergy returned from the 2003 World Synchronized Skating Championships in Ottawa, Canada thrilled with their improved 17<sup>th</sup> place and the lasting applause of a knowledgeable and appreciative crowd at their unique paired cartwheels, walkover somersaults and combination lifts which matched the best teams for innovation and athleticism.

The return to training in June for the domestic season was a quiet affair with the retirement of over half the team after the 2003 World Championships. It became apparent that developing the team for the coming season was going to be a "one step at a time" affair.

The skaters gave up nothing in their desire to succeed. They worked tirelessly to attract new team members. July, August, September and October came and went, the team grew but each step was a struggle. The arrival of the internationals helped keep the momentum but it was a hard. We came to know these surviving Synergy skaters from the 2003 team as the "True Believers". They had nurtured faithfully the idea that Synergy would survive, train well and make it to the Australian Championships.

On a warm Sunday night in November last year, it was announced that Synergy would again represent Australia at the World Synchronized Skating Championships in 2004. It was incomprehensible that such an inhospitable season had given Synergy such a result. Not just surviving but doing so with great flair. Synergy looked toward Zagreb.

Training resumed in January with a few retirements and before long training was in full swing. The attraction of the World Championships was a great incentive. Then the unexpected, on medical advice a team member was forced to reconsider continued training. The Synergy Synchronized Ice Skating Club had to then seek a decision from Ice Skating Australia on an eligibility rule for international representation. The club was uncertain how to read the rule. After much consideration it was found Synergy did not comply with the rule. The nomination to the 2004 World Synchronized Skating Championships was withdrawn.

The news was devastating. The team met later with team management and the club and still with the fight and determination that had become the trademark of the "True Believers" it was resolved to appeal the decision.

The appeal lodged, time passed and it seemed the chance to represent Australia again was slowly but surely slipping away. Two days before the competition entries were due in mid March the decision came down. The appeal had been won. Synergy was jubilant and ecstatic. It was, they said, a just reward for everything the season had thrown at them.

The organization kicked in. Travel agents, costume suppliers, parents and club administrators went into overdrive to make the deadlines. The team gathered in Brisbane within days and with some urgency managed two months of training and preparation in just a few weeks. It has been a tough and gruelling preparation to bring the team up to standard. It is not an experience for the feint of heart or the weak of will. It has been a job for the "True Believers"

- |                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 1. Sarah Bannerman    | Qld    |
| 2. Amber Briant       | Vic    |
| 3. Candice Ceglar     | NSW    |
| 4. Michelle Coetzee   | Qld    |
| 5. Kim Creech         | NSW    |
| 6. Stephanie Flack    | NSW    |
| 7. Kassi De Goey      | Qld    |
| 8. Natalee Grasso     | Qld    |
| 9. Alex Grimley       | NSW    |
| 10. Soraya Hammond    | Qld    |
| 11. Sophie Jordan     | Qld    |
| 12. Jo Lian-Lloyd     | Qld    |
| 13. Vashti Lonsdale   | Qld    |
| 14. Sarina Malloy     | Canada |
| 15. Emma Moloney      | Qld    |
| 16. Skyle Murphy      | Qld    |
| 17. Caryn Rupp        | Canada |
| 18. Skye Sergeant     | NSW    |
| 19. Anne Thoroughgood | Qld    |
| 20. Shelley Tregea    | Qld    |
| 21. Hayley Yan        | NSW.   |



**Team Australia - 2004 World Synchronized Championships, Zagreb, Croatia.**  
Coach: Kathy Hammond, Team Manager: :Liz Jordan, Team Leader: Jennifer Thoroughgood

**2004 International Theatre on Ice.**  
**Bourne Skating Club, Cape Cod, Mass.**  
**26<sup>th</sup> June 2004.**

## **Introduction**

In Europe, Ballet on Ice has been a competitive stream of Ice Skating for some years, there are several competitions held throughout the year in France and it is gaining popularity in other European countries also.

The United States has been conducting competitions for several years under the name of *Theatre on Ice* and the French Federation recently invited a U.S. National Synchronized Referee and Judge, Judy Edmunds to judge a competition in Toulouse France. Following talks there, it was arranged that the Bourne Club of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, would host the 9<sup>th</sup> *International Theatre on Ice Competition* and be sanctioned by the U.S. Figure Skating Association, who would send two of their Association representatives, Terri Levine – US Figure Skating Program Development Chair – *Theatre on Ice*, and Anne Cammett US Figure Skating Judges Chair, who as well as Judging, was there to look at ways of training US Judges for TOI Competitions.

I was contacted by Chris Michie and invited to represent Queensland as an observer to go and learn more about TOI and bring back technical information. Upon hearing that I was a Judge, Ron de Cais, the Event Referee and National Vice Chair for TOI, promptly invited me to be on the panel, which I accepted. Accommodation was kindly offered to me by Judy Edmunds the Assistant Referee who I had met here in Queensland several years earlier at the World Roller Skating Championships and met again later at Worlds in Vancouver.

## **Definition of TOI**

*Theatre on Ice* is a creation using all aspects of figure skating, incorporating a theme, emotion or story, enhanced by music. It is a PACKAGE that includes five dimensions: choreography, skating movements and the rapport between the skaters an/or subgroups of skaters, props or scenery, sound and theme. The quality of the TOI performance requires that the music, theme and choreography be consistent with one another and that they give the feeling of harmony and balance. Additionally no one aspect on the performance should be redundant. The goal is to transcend the literal and to create emotion.

The program has to be adapted to the specifics of figure skating: quality of gliding and edges, speed, ease, and amplitude of movements. It must also look for the proper treatment of groups, and for a good variety in the use of the different elements of skating. The quality of edge, speed, ease and flow of movement should enhance the performance and there should be a balanced incorporation of groups. There is no limit to the number of free skating, ice dancing, pair or synchronized skating elements used in the routine.

However judges will have to evaluate the congruity of all elements used to the chosen theme and music. Any

imbalance of any one element will be reflected in the marking. Likewise, any overuse of highlighting (soloing or spotlighting of a skater/skaters) that detracts from the overall concept will also be reflected in the marking.

## **The Competition**

Before the competition proper began, there was a choreographic exercise performed, which was part of the French Ballet-on-Ice Structure and forms the short program only used for the Senior Events. The U.S. competition consisted of a free program only for three levels, Novice, Junior and Senior. Closed marking was used for the Novice (7 teams) and open marking for the Junior (3 teams) and Senior (7 teams). France was represented by a Novice and a Senior Team. I officiated on the Novice and Senior Events

The programs performed were limited only by their coaches imagination in that there were a variety of themes and original ideas used ranging from the French Senior team that used the theme – from birth to death. Some of the US teams were very clever in their imaginative programs also, with themes such as Carousel Horses that come to life when the carnival is closed, to an unusual forest called – No place to Hide - a dark subject but very well done. Also the musicals, Jesus Christ Superstar and Cats were well interpreted. Two of the US teams performed American folk dances, such as a hoe-down and an Appalachian stomp. The French teams won both the Novice and Senior Events. The Novice team skated to a theme re dieting, where they progressively lost weight through a clever use of their costumes and the Senior team as mentioned above.

Some of the judges had had no previous experience with TOI and were quite apprehensive of judging this competition although on the whole were well experienced in their chosen discipline. As a spectator sport this has huge potential as there is none of the usual misunderstanding re the marking and the audience can appreciate and understand the Story telling part of the programs.

All programs are introduced by an announcer who explains the theme, then the teams are given 2 minutes to set their props and the timing starts after that. The time for each program is 6 minutes. During this time all members of the team must be on the ice and not leave till the conclusion of the program. The better teams had all members performing at the same time, be it either all the same choreography or separate movements. The use of a curtain is optional as to where it is placed either on the long or short axis and if TOI is part of a figure skating comp, the curtain is not used.

I had a wonderful time in Cape Cod and wish to thank the ISAQ for this opportunity of learning and judging such a new and exciting discipline.

**Jan Gardner**

# Competition Results

## NORTH QUEENSLAND GAMES

Artistic Competition. Results  
10th April 2004

### Division F

Jatson Lewis	1/2
Gemma Ritchie	2/2

### Division E

Erin Anderson	1/4
Danielle Thorman	2/4

David Bell	3/4
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Madison McGregor	4/4
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### Division D

Kate Whitten	1/4
Lara Dickson	2/4

Marie Christine Moon	3/4
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Giulia Lazzeroni	4/4
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### Division C

Melanie Schuck	1/2
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Emma Baker	2/2
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### Division B

Elle Crouch	1/4
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Kayla Doig	2/4
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Sarah Fraser - Tied	3/4
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Jessica Moron - Tied	3/4
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### Division A

Sacha McConnell	1/1
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## 2004 AUTUMN TROPHY

Canberra - April 2004  
Queensland Results

### Elementary Ladies

Katie Whitten	17/20
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### Pre-Primary Ladies

Emma Baker	5/6
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### Primary Ladies

Tammy Grant	3/10
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Kayla Doig	5/10
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Melyssa Cumming	10/10
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### Intermediate Ladies

Jessica Moxon	5/7
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## 2004 HOLLINS TROPHY

Canterbury NSW- June 11th-14th  
Queensland Results

### Preliminary Ladies 12yrs & over

Lauren Shaw	8/10
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### Elementary Ladies 11yrs & under

Marlene Chhon	9/13
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Katie Whitten	13/13
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### Pre-Primary Ladies

Rebecca Seymour	9/14
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Emma Baker	14/14
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### Primary Ladies

Morgan Innes	3/15
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Natalie Sullivan	9/15
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Shannon Victor	11/15
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## 2004 HOLLINS TROPHY

Canterbury NSW- June 11th-14th  
Queensland Results  
cont.

### Primary Men

Andrew Dodds	2/4
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Jordan Dodds	4/4
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### Intermediate Ladies

Anita Axam	13/25
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April Hering	15/25
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### Intermediate Men

Matthew Dodds	3/3
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### Novice Ladies

Rebecca Hering	2/9
----------------	-----

Elle Crouch	9/9
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### Novice Men

Dominic Di Tommaso	1/6
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### Junior Ladies

Phoebe Di Tommaso	3/13
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Olivia Van Asperen	5/13
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Sarah Wrigley	11/13
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### Junior Men

Mitchell Chapman	2/7
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David Harvie	6/7
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### Senior Men

Sean Carlow	1/2
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### Senior Ladies

Vashti Lonsdale	2/4
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## 2004 Queensland Figure Skating Championships

Acacia Ridge - June 30th - July 3rd

### Pre-Primary Ladies

Leisda Martin	1/12
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Anna Dekany	2/12
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Gloria Yan	3/12
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Hayley Van Der Zee	4/12
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Terryn Beradone	5/12
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Rebecca Seymour	6/12
-----------------	------

Brittney Jones	7/12
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Felicity McIvor	8/12
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Lakota Andersen	9/12
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Kathleen Bowles	10/12
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Emma Baker	11/12
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Natasha Hill	12/12
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### Primary Ladies

Morgan Innes	1/9
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Kayla Doig	2/9
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Tammy Grant	3/9
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Geneive Sinon	4/9
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Alicia May	5/9
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Shannon Victor	6/9
----------------	-----

Natalie Sullivan	7/9
------------------	-----

Jacklyn Barnes	8/9
----------------	-----

Melyssa Cumming	9/9
-----------------	-----

### Primary Men

Andrew Dodds	1/3
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Brendan Schloss	2/3
-----------------	-----

Jordan Dodds	3/3
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## 2004 Queensland Figure Skating Championships

### Intermediate Ladies

Holly Stewart	1/10
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Anita Axam	2/10
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Georgina Butler	3/10
-----------------	------

Melynda Schloss	4/10
-----------------	------

April Hering	5/10
--------------	------

Sarah Fraser	6/10
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Lucy-Kate Johnson	7/10
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Katrina Schloss	8/10
-----------------	------

Samantha Fircloth	9/10
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Jessica Moxon	10/10
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### Intermediate Men

Matthew Dodds	1/1
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### Novice Ladies

Tina Wang	1/6
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Rebecca Hering	2/6
----------------	-----

Ashleigh Louda	3/6
----------------	-----

Elle Crouch	4/6
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Kay Bartolo	5/6
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Tyneille Wyatt	6/6
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### Novice Men

Dominic Di Tommaso	1/2
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Mitchell McKenna	2/2
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### Junior Ladies

Emilia Ashan (Guest)	1/4
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Phoebe Di Tommaso	2/4
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Olivia Van Asperen	3/4
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Sarah Wrigley	4/4
---------------	-----

### Junior Men

Robert McNamara	1/7
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Mitchell Chapman	2/7
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David Harvie	3/7
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Dean Timmins	4/7
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Benjamin Hadfield	5/7
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Mathieu Wilson (Guest)	6/7
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Darren Schuck	7/7
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### Senior Ladies

Olivia Van Asperen	1/3
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Vashti Lonsdale	2/3
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Krysia Child	3/3
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### Senior Men

Sean Carlow	1/2
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Stuart Beckingham (Guest)	2/2
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### Adult Synchronized

Edge to Edge	1/1
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### Novice Synchronized

Iceskateers	1/1
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### Junior Synchronized

Synergy	1/2
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Iceskateers Elite	2/2
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### Senior Synchronized

Ice Viva	1/1
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