



Skate
AB | NT | NU

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Embracing
Our Community

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Another season has come and gone in the blink of an eye. This season's theme is "Embracing our Community" – and Skate AB | NT | NU did just that!

A community is a village or family that comes together based on common interests and our Section epitomizes this. We are a family that comes together because of our common bond of skating. We come from all walks of life, in all geographical areas of Alberta, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. We are athletes, parents, coaches, officials, and volunteers doing our best to move the sport we love forward to help our athletes achieve their personal goals and successes every season.

Keegan Messing continued to bring all of Canada together as a community with his outstanding representation on the World stage. His enthusiasm for the sport is infectious and from coast to coast, and even abroad, the Skating Community has embraced him and all he has done for the sport. Kaiya Ruiter started her Senior career this year and had our whole Section cheering for her and her silver medal finish at the 2023 Canadian Tire Skating Championships, followed by all of Canada embracing her as their own when she competed in her home arena at the World Junior Championships in Calgary.

Our skating family also came together in an exceptional show of community achievement by hosting three back-to-back events in Calgary with Novice Canadians, Canada Cup and of course the ISU World Juniors. We have received high praise in running these events from both Skate Canada and the ISU which exemplifies how well our Section Skating Community can come together. That success would not have been possible had it not been for the countless hours and effort of so many that pulled together to deliver the plethora of other Section and multisport events that also happened this season.

I look forward to next Season and all the opportunities for success for our Membership. From local assessment days, regional competitions, Section events and of course to again showcasing the amazing efforts of our community when we host the Canadian National Skating Championships in Calgary in January 2024.

As we close out the 2022-2023 Season, I want to again express my gratitude to everyone for making this another memorable season. I also want to give a special thank you to all of our Local Organizing Committees, Officials, Section Board and Committee members, and our Section Staff. You have worked tirelessly this year to keep us moving forward. The time and energy you put in behind the scenes does not go unnoticed and we are all extremely grateful for all you do.

I am confident The Skate AB | NT | NU Section will continue to shine on a local, National, and International stage and that we will continue to work together doing everything we are able to promote our sport and in "Embracing our Skating Community".

Sincerely,



Bobbi-Jo Martin
Chair, Skate AB | NT | NU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chair
Bobbi-Jo Martin



Director Coaching
Alison Bonney-Gregson



Director
Shawn Dyrkach



Director
Tammy Finnerty



Director
Rod Garossino



Director Regions
Jaci Zalesak



Director
Travis Hillier



Director
Mary Moran



Director
Kara Slemko



Director
Renee McIntosh

STAFF AND BOARD COMMITTEES

STAFF

Executive Director - Lisa Hardy
Technical Director - Holly Henderson
Events and Safe Sport Manager- Kelly Stanislawski
Program Development Coordinator - Lisa Bonderove

Coaching & Events Coordinator - Colleen Yavis
Member Services Coordinator - Jennifer Boone
Administrative Coordinator - Leona Boyle
Finance Coordinator - Korin Chen

BOARD COMMITTEES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chair – Alison Bonney-Gregson
Ex-Officio—Bobbi-Jo Martin
Shawn Dyrkach
Tammy Finnerty
Rod Garossino
Jennifer Keliher
Mary Moran
Jaci Zalesak
Staff – Lisa Hardy
Staff Resource – Kelly Stanislawski

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair – Shawn Dyrkach
Ex-Officio—Bobbi-Jo Martin
Alison Bonney-Gregson
Rod Garossino
Travis Hillier
Erin Matheson
Monique Moore
Jaci Zalesak
Staff – Lisa Hardy
Staff - Kelly Stanislawski
Staff Resource – Jennifer Boone

FINANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair – Tammy Finnerty
Ex-Officio—Bobbi-Jo Martin
Nicole Carreau
Laurie Goldbach
Travis Hillier
Renee McIntosh
Kara Slemko
Staff Resource – Lisa Hardy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REVIEW & ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE

Chair - Bobbi-Jo Martin
Alison Bonney-Gregson
Shawn Dyrkach
Rod Garossino
Travis Hillier

NOMINATING SUB-COMMITTEE

Chair – Jennifer Keliher
Monique Moore
Karli Wilson
Staff Resource - Kelly Stanislawski

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES

COACHING COMMITTEE

Lead – Lynne Koper

Calgary Region – Andrea St. Cyr

Central Region – Nicole Sabasch

Edmonton Region – Deborah Lyon

Northeast Region – Rebecca Zajic

Northwest Region – Patricia Forseille

NWT Region – Kami Harney

Peace Region – Brenda Lindquist

South Region – Vacant

Staff Resource – Colleen Yavis

REGIONS COMMITTEE

Lead – Jennifer Boone (Staff)

Calgary Region – Diana Peters

Central Region – Andrea Phagoo

Edmonton Region – Jasmin Gering

Northeast Region – Bonnie Smyl

Northwest Region – Karli Wilson

Nunavut Region—N/A

NWT Region – Jaime Harris

Peace Region – Wanda Langell

South Region – Terri Gedrasik

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Lead – Holly Henderson

Programs Lead – Lisa Bonderove

Katherine Co-Grant

Michelle Currie

Scott Davis

Lynne Dey

Jessica Gosse

Leslie Lawrence

Madison Moore

Jonathan Okrainetz

Additional Working Group Members

Pam Chislett

Krista Sellers

COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

Lead – Kelly Stanislawski (Staff)

Anne-Marie Behnke

Deidre Coburn

Deborah Lyon

Jonathon Okrainetz

Natasha Taylor

Karli Wilson

Staff – Holly Henderson

Staff Resource – Colleen Yavis

EVENT TECH & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

Lead – Kelly Stanislawski (Staff)

Shawn Dyrkach

Dora Fitz

Cathy Sahaluk

Linda Zhang

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

Co-Lead - Lynne Dey

Co-Lead - Robin Forsyth

Judy Burwash

Monica Desmarais

Sharon Dingle

Kara Fernandes

Amanda Jassman

Chelsey Shaffel

Staff Resource – Lisa Bonderove

Advisors

Krystyna Banas

Deirdre Coburn

Dallas Daniel

Renee Tatro

STRATEGIC PLAN



SKATE AB | NT | NU

VISION

Inspiring everyone to embrace
the joy of skating and pursuit of
personal achievements



SKATE AB | NT | NU

MISSION

Skate AB | NT | NU will support
and promote excellence in the
delivery of safe, inclusive, quality
skating programs, events and
developmental opportunities
for all levels of skating



Skate
AB | NT | NU

VALUES

Skate AB | NT | NU Section, and our members value:



SKATE AB | NT | NU

INCLUSION

We provide a safe sport
environment that is
welcoming and respectful
for everybody, and that
encourages equity and
diversity.



SKATE AB | NT | NU

EXCELLENCE

We foster each individual's ability
to achieve their skating potential
and personal goals. We strive to
make a difference (as individuals,
clubs, skating schools, and as an
organization), ensuring value in
everything we do for a positive,
fun, and fulfilling experience.



SKATE AB | NT | NU

INTEGRITY

We commit to professional,
respectful, accountable,
and ethical conduct;
ensuring fairness and
impartiality for all.



SKATE AB | NT | NU

COLLABORATION

We work collaboratively to build positive skater-focused relationships;
We value **coaches** as critical to sport development, central to the athletic experience;
We value **officials** and the impact they have in the development of the sport for the benefit of all;
We value **volunteers** for their support and service to the sport of skating and community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMITTEES

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE** provides governance leadership and the following responsibilities were completed this year: appointment of the Nominating Sub-Committee Chair and Members, development and review of policies, recommendations for amendments to Section bylaws, semi-annual review of Complaints and Membership Support data, review of the Board Evaluation process and procedure, and Board Orientation. Equity Diversity Inclusiveness (EDI) education was also provided to the Board Directors with a focus on the Sport for Life Truth E-Learning indigenous Culture Training – Truth and Reconciliation Edition this year. This Committee also advises the Executive Director in governance matters and provides support in human resource issues through the Executive Director Review and Advisory Sub-Committee.

The **NOMINATING SUB-COMMITTEE** is responsible to the Governance Committee. The purpose of the committee is to ensure that each year the Section has access to a diverse and qualified group of individuals for the Board and Committees to ensure the continued success and stability of the Section. This committee is responsible for overseeing the election processes for Board Director elections while also providing a supporting role to the eight Region Committees in their elections, ensuring each Region has access to qualified volunteers. During the 2022-2023 season the committee focused its efforts on the following: updating election policies and procedures, managing the intake process for discussion and recruitment of interested candidates, and ensuring Board or Committee Candidates receive thorough and timely communication.

The **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REVIEW AND ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE** is responsible to the Governance Committee. This Sub-Committee leads the process to determine annual objectives for the Executive Director and to conduct the mid-year and annual performance reviews of the Executive Director. This committee also provides oversight for the Section's Human Resources policies and processes and support to the Executive Director in human resources issues.

FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The **FINANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** is responsible for guiding the Board as it delivers on its fiduciary responsibilities to its members.

This season saw the committee continue to monitor the Section's Risk Register, incorporating input from all Board and Operating Committees. The committee also continued to monitor the Section's long term investments to ensure that the investments are managed in alignment with the Section's goals and objectives. Various finance related policies were reviewed and updated throughout the year. The committee worked with the Section Office to ensure meaningful, timely financial reporting was presented to the Board as well as assisted with grant and regulatory filings as required. As approved by the membership at the 2022 Section AGM, the Section moved forward with a review of our auditing services utilizing a Request For Proposal (RFP) process, resulting in a new firm Coyle & Co performing the audit for the 2022-2023 Section financial statements.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Section's **MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS COMMITTEE** recruits Section Board and non-Board Members with experience in Club Management, Coaching, Officiating, Volunteering and their purpose is to ensure Section members receive value from the Section. They also act as the connection between the members and Board of Directors by obtaining feedback from membership, identifying strategic opportunities for developing the membership while ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all. The Committee also ensures members are recognized for their contributions and achievements through the Section Awards and Section Hall of Fame programs.

The Key Initiatives for 2022-2023 were to:

- Redesign the Membership Survey to build an experience that is relevant to all stakeholders, regardless of level of interaction with the Section while securing reliable and quantifiable data
- Analyze and communicate Survey findings to Board and Operational Committee Leads to inform future initiatives
- Create a Volunteer Screening Policy and determine supporting procedures
- Review & Update the Dispute Resolution Policy and Procedure to align with changes made at Skate Canada
- Create a Club Application Appeal Process that aligns with the National Service Centre
- Oversee the Skate Canada Achievement Awards and the Skate AB|NT|NU Awards Program
- Oversee the Skate AB|NT|NU Hall of Fame Process and Nominations

Membership Survey

The 2022 Membership Survey was sent out in mid-February 2023 to allow for the survey to be open longer than in past years. As intended, the redevelopment of the Membership Survey resulted in a broader respondent base with the primary affiliation type being parent/guardian represented by 54.3% of respondents. This had a significant impact on the year over year trend analysis as 69% of respondents were familiar with the Section's support as opposed to prior years when familiarity with Section was much higher. Significant information was gathered in the survey regarding preference for communication. While email communication remains the highest preference (92.5%), continuing to build on additional information and resources on the Section Website in an opportunity that will remain a focus throughout the 2023-2024 season.

Skate AB|NT|NU Awards and Hall of Fame Programs

While the 2023 Awards Program and Hall of Fame were advertised during a very busy time of year, we received record responses. The Section received 211 nominations, the Section awarded 42 region awards and 13 Section Awards, including Bursaries, Scholarships and Endowment Fund awards totalling \$10,425. The Section Hall of Fame program continues to recognize the many impressive individuals who have made a long-lasting impact on the sport of figure skating in our Section. Inductee Categories include: Athlete, Official, Professional, and Builder. The 2023 Hall of Fame inductees and Section Award Recipients will be celebrated at the 2023 Skate AB|NT Awards Banquet. Past inductees can be found on the Section Website in the virtual Hall of Fame.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Membership Statistics

Both Skate Canada and Skate AB|NT|NU experienced record growth in the 2022-2023 season, with Section Registrants increasing by 21% Year over Year. Skate AB|NT|NU growth was consistent with the National Skate Canada registrants across most categories, most notably outpacing National growth significantly in PowerSkate which saw a 40% increase from the prior year. The largest increase in the number of registrants was in CanSkate programming with an additional 5,723 registrants or growth of 31% in the 2022-2023 Season. This growth was consistent across Canada with National year over year growth of 32%.

The Section also experienced significant increase in Star Pathway programming, which most significantly impacts Section events. With growth of 21%, or an additional 726 Skaters, the Section started a review of the current Competition Structure and Event Calendar and changes necessary to accommodate the growth of the grassroots figure skating program moving forward. This year we welcomed the first application and approval of an indigenous club in the Section with the formation of the Maskekosihk Skating Club, located on the Enoch Cree First Nation in the Edmonton Region. We also welcomed the approval of the Bentley Figure Skating Club in the Central Region this past season.

| Section Registrations | 2022-2023 | 2021-2022 | 2020-2021 | 2019-2020 | 2018-2019 | 2017-2018 | 2016-2017 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of Registered Clubs & Skating Schools | 155 | 156 | 152 | 161 | 159 | 160 | 160 |
| Number of Coaches | 757 | 674 | 673 | 727 | 735 | 701 | 630 |
| Number of Officials | 94 | 120 | 112 | 123 | 136 | 125 | 132 |
| Number of Synchronized Skating Teams | 28 | 24 | 8 | 30 | 33 | 30 | 31 |
| Number of Total Registrants | 29,526 | 24,467 | 12,501 | 24,025 | 25,278 | 24,409 | 23,996 |

| Program Affiliations* | 2022-2023 | 2021-2022 | 2020-2021 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CanSkate | 24,033 | 18,310 | 7,662 |
| PowerSkate | 2,078 | 1,489 | 1,279 |
| StarSkate | 4,123 | 3,397 | 3,443 |
| Podium Pathway | 413 | 484 | 629 |
| Program Assistants | 211 | 173 | 127 |
| Other (Board of Directors/ Officials) | 965 | 841 | 877 |

* Note: 2020-2021 Program Affiliations are based on April 1 - Feb 28 data while 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 are based on April 1 - Mar 31 data. Numbers also all include registrants who may be registered in more than one program

AWARDS

2023 SECTION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Brian Pockar
Athlete Inductee (Posthumous)



Margaret Birdsell (Crosland/Berezowski)
Official Inductee

2023 SECTION AWARD RECIPIENTS

AWARD

Kurt Browning Award
Brian Pockar Award
Jesse Smith Memorial Award
Winnie Silverthorne Award
Shantell Hale Award
Shantell Hale Award
Sue Cutmore Memorial Spirit Award
Sue Cutmore Memorial Spirit Award
Pre-Juvenile Women Award
Special Olympics Skater Achievement Award
Gateway Skating Club Post-Secondary Bursary
Coach Achievement Award
Barbara Graham Award
Pat Fischer Award
Creating The Edge for Life Award
Spirit & Passion of Skating Award
Elizabeth Swan Memorial Award
Synchronized Skating Leadership Award

RECIPIENT

Paulina Grant
Umberto Dory Daher
Logan Mierau
Keegan Messing
Victoria Yonemori
Lys O'Brimchak
Ciara Andrews
Amelia Meisner
Jaslyn Wong
Erin Leblanc
Grace Johnson
Cheryl Jobson
Annika Behnke & Kole Sauve
Travis Trang
Jacklyn Blades
Holly Bilinski
Tricia Feigel
Amy Schendel

2023 SKATE CANADA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

AWARD

Section Podium Pathway Athlete Award
Section Star Athlete Award
Section Volunteer Award
Section Volunteer Coach Award
Section Program Assistant Award
Section CanSkate Athlete Award
Section Official Award

RECIPIENT

Lia Cho
Sierra Na
Bonnie Smyl
Jayla Nokohoo
Victoria Yonemori
Lexie Keddy
Shawn Dyrkach

AWARDS

2023 MERIT AWARD WINNERS



The Alberta Figure Skating Foundation proudly supports the Merit Awards at the Sectional Championships and the StarSkate and Adult Championships each season. The Merit Awards recognize a skater or team who exemplifies an outstanding and memorable performance as selected by the Officials at each Championship.

Sectional Championships Merit Award Recipient



Grace Johnson, Senior Women Free Program

StarSkate and Adult Championships Merit Award Recipients



Olive Schmaltz, Gold Artistic Program



Amara Gouw, Star 5 Artistic Program

COACHING

The **COACHING COMMITTEE** would like to give a special thank you to the coaching community for the many volunteer hours and continued dedication to the development and well-being of their athletes this season.

The Coaching committee is proud to recognize the many coaches that supported their athletes in attending national and international events. The committee would like to extend congratulations to the coaches of the skaters who were medalists at the Canada Winter Games, Challenge and Nationals, as well our International competitors during the 2022-2023 season: Ralph Burghart, Ravi Walia, Scott Davis, Kim Slopak-Weeks and Tyler Myles, Terri Gallant, Sylvie Wandzura, Donna Hallatt, Melissa Butler and Tammi Chudak.

Congratulations to Katherine Co-Grant who was selected by Skate Canada to participate in the 2022-2024 National Mentorship Program. This exclusive opportunity takes place from November 2022—March 2024.

Coaching Initiatives:

- * Star 6-Gold Coach Assessor in Skills—52 Coaches in our Section can now assess Star 6-Gold Skills. 13 of those coaches have become Mentors to help other coaches who wish to receive the Star 6-Gold Coach Assessor in Skills designation.
- * Virtual Coach Apprenticeship Programs—Facilitated by Section Technical Specialists Devan Nychka, Robin Forsyth and Dallas Daniel, 10 coaches were selected for the Virtual Coach Apprenticeship offered this season. 1 session was offered for Regional and Provincial level coaches, with content specifically targeting those coaching levels. The Apprenticeships were created to supplement the coaches technical knowledge and gain insight on how a Technical Panel calls skater's elements.
- * National Coach Apprenticeship Program—15 coaches were selected to attend the National Coach Apprenticeship Program at the Novice Canadian Championships. Facilitated by Cynthia Ullmark. The apprenticeship covered topics such as Program Components, Long Term Development (LTD), the Rule of Two and included performance observations with special guests.
- * Aboriginal Coaching Module—5 Section coaches attended an Aboriginal Coaching educational opportunity held in partnership with the Indigenous Sport Council of Alberta. The module was designed to motivate, inspire and lead Indigenous people in sport, recreation and physical activity.
- * CanSkate Coach/Program Assistant Workshops—Facilitated by Leona Boyle and Tammy Greidanus
Okotoks—35 Participants Vegreville—12 Participants Slave Lake - 9 Participants

The Coaching Committee continues to work in partnership with the Coaching Association of Canada. The National Coaching Certification Program courses are aligned with Long Term Development.





AB|NT|NU

COACHING 2022-2023



Courses

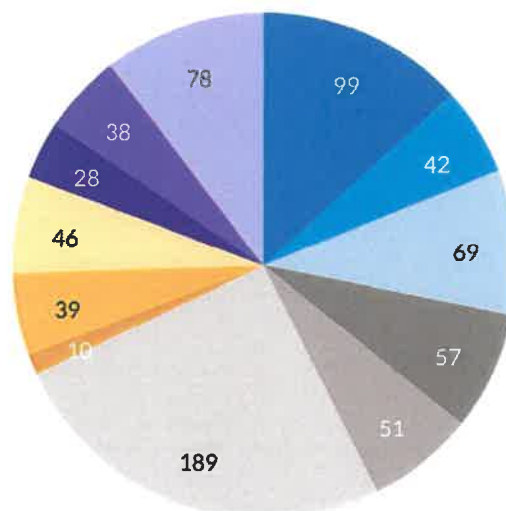
| | CANSKATE | CANPOWER | REGIONAL | PROVINCIAL | ATTP |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|------|
| | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS | 139 | 12 | 35 | 24 | 0 |

Certified Coaching Status

| CANSKATE | CANPOWER | REGIONAL | PROVINCIAL | NATIONAL |
|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
| 67 | 13 | 37 | 2 | 0 |

COACH CERTIFICATION

- In Training Club Coaches (13.27%)
- Trained Club Coaches (5.63%)
- Certified Club Coaches (9.25%)
- In Training Regional Coaches (7.64%)
- Trained Regional Coaches (6.84%)
- Certified Regional Coaches (25.34%)
- In Training Provincial Coaches (1.34%)
- Trained Provincial Coaches (5.23%)
- Certified Provincial Coaches (6.17%)
- In Training National Coaches (3.75%)
- Trained National Coaches (5.09%)
- Certified National Coaches (10.46%)



748

REGISTERED
COACHES

As the **OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (OC)** embarked on the first complete season that saw all Section events return to live skating and officiating, we were faced with a significant change to the Program Component structure for judges that was announced at the end of June with just over one month to prepare for our first event of the 2022-2023 season. Officials came together to review over 12 hours of video learnings from the ISU and Skate Canada as well as a dual in-person/virtual learning session conducted at Wild Rose that included members of the coaching community.

Skate Canada provided two in-person learning sessions that took place in October prior to the Sectional Championships that focused on the new 3 Program Component structure. These education sessions helped to prepare our officials to best serve athletes, coaches, and other stakeholders at our qualifying Championship event and other events of the season.

The total number of officials has been on a declining trend across Canada with a 22% drop in Skate AB | NT | NU from 2021-2022 (14% drop in BC/YK who we often share officials with, and a 9% overall drop across Canada). This trend combined with the overall increase of 7% in StarSkate & Podium Pathway registrants, and the hosting of additional Multisport, National and World events this past season made it more challenging to staff events in an environment that was already lacking in official's capacity. Through the extraordinary efforts of many officials and others working behind the scenes, what seemed like the impossible was achieved and skaters were able to participate in the events calendar as posted.

We are looking forward to a year of beginning to build capacity amongst officials in all areas and disciplines. We are excited to train new officials and facilitate growth of existing officials to new promotions through clinics, practical experience, and mentoring. This gradual and steady plan will deepen the pool of officials and allow for succession planning.

Recruitment

The OC continued with social media recruitment campaign, which this year helped attract new Data Specialists which are greatly needed to support our competition calendar. The system developed by Devan Nychka for Tech Panel training in the past was replicated for Data Specialists, Judge and Evaluator recruitment. This was a huge success with 8 new DS recruits ready to begin training by August 2022. As well, reaching out to skaters that are interested in officiating was a priority and proved successful by introducing them through DIO/VRO training at events and virtually throughout the season. We plan to continue these efforts into next season with multiple spring 2023 training clinics already in the works.

Promotions

24 officials achieved 27 promotions this season between April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023. Congratulations to all who dedicated time and effort into promotion goals!

Data Specialist Level II – *Fred Rapati*

Introductory Data Specialists – *Sherry Johnson, Christy Kidd, Natalie Lindsay, Marilyn McMillan, Hannah Tripp, Karli Wilson*

ISU Technical Controller; Synchro – *Jennifer Betts*

Challenge Technical Controller; Singles – *Lynne Dey*

Section Technical Specialist; Singles – *Antoinette Hempel-Bakker, Karin Sutton*

Section Technical Specialist; Synchro – *Dallas Daniel*

Base Level Technical Officials – *Joanne Giesinger, Cheryl Jobson*



Promotions

Canadian Judge; Singles – *Krystyna Banas*

Senior Judge; Synchro – *Amanda Jassman*

Senior Invitational Judge; Singles – *Christine Low*

Novice Judge; Pairs – *Leslie Lawrence*

Novice Judges; Synchro – *Kim Markvoort, Christine Low, Erin Ladouceur*

Qualified Star 6 to Gold Evaluator (Skills, Dance, Free Skate, Artistic) – *Cathy Thoms*

Challenge Referee; Dance – *Leslie Lawrence*

Sectional Referee; Singles – *Tara Alldred-Gundesen*

Invitational Referee; Singles – *Kara Fernandes, Chris Mostert, Cathy Thoms*

Officials Training and Support

The following learning and training opportunities were held:

- Section Level Technical Specialist and Technical Controller training held June 2022 led by Mark Scott and Devan Nychka.
- Referee Development Program held through summer 2022, led by Brenda Hart.
- Update Session overviewing all changes from the ISU and Skate Canada held in conjunction with Wild Rose in July 2022. Open to Officials and Coaches. Conducted by Devan Nychka, Lynne Dey and Karen Howard.
- Data Specialist Introductory sessions held in conjunction with Wild Rose and Fall Invitational competitions in July 2022 and September 2022 led by Sharon Dingle.
- Program Component Judge training sessions held in both Edmonton and Calgary and with a virtual component for remote judges conducted by Karen Howard in October 2022
- Skate Canada's Synchro Technical Official training seminar was held virtually in October 2022, conducted by Chelsey Schaffel and Jennifer Betts.
- Synchro Technical Update for Officials and Coaches held virtually in November 2022, conducted by Jennifer Betts and Andrew Bosco
- Synchro Program Components update for judges held virtually in November 2022, conducted by Jennifer Betts and Sabrina Wong.
- Base Level Technical Official training held in conjunction with the Edmonton StarSkate Invitational in December 2022, conducted by Devan Nychka and Dallas Daniel.
- Series of virtual follow-up sessions for participants of BLTO Training led by Devan Nychka and Dallas Daniel in January 2023
- Chelsey Schaffel and Jamie Kosonic participated in a Skate Canada virtual synchro officiating pilot.
- Deirdre Coburn attended the Officials Program held at the ISU Junior World Championships in Feb/March 2023
- Leslie Keen and Leslie Lawrence attended Pairs Learning Facilitator Training March 2023
- Leslie Lawrence attended Pairs Judge Training March 2023



Other Educational Activities that our Officials engaged in:

- Two days of classroom sessions for athletes at the Spring Development Camp in April 2022 conducted by Leslie Lawrence, Lynne Dey and Robin Forsyth
- Series of Coach education sessions conducted virtually (7 sessions total) conducted by Devan Nychka, Robin Forsyth, and Dallas Daniel
- Judy Burwash presented at a Skater Development seminar in BC in September 2022
- Chelsey Schaffel presented at Skate Saskatchewan Adult & Synchron Seminar in Tisdale, SK.
- Leslie Lawrence presented at the Coach Apprenticeship programs at both Novice Canadians in February 2023 and World Juniors in Calgary, March 2023
- Leslie Keen presented at the Officials Program at World Juniors, March 2023.

Competitions

The OC provided support to the 2023 Sectionals, StarSkate & Adult Championships planning teams, as well as other events during the year if required. The OC Scheduling & Assignments Working Group provided support to all other Star-based events and competitive invitationals.

Across the country, our officials officiated at these events:

Canadian Tire National Skating Championships – *Brenda Hart, Jennifer Betts, Chelsey Schaffel, Leslie Keen, Krystyna Banas, Jeff Lukasik, Jodi Abbott, Pam Chislett*

Novice Canadian Championships / Skate Canada Cup – *Krista Sellers, Leslie Keen, Chelsey Schaffel, Holly Mayer, Devan Nychka, Kara Fernandes, Dallas Daniel, Monica Desmarais, Leslie Lawrence, Marg Andriuk, Pam Chislett*

Jr/Sr Challenge – *Lynne Dey, Robin Forsyth, Jonathan Okrainetz, Chris Mostert, Leslie Lawrence, Krystyna Banas, Deirdre Coburn*

Pre-Novice/Novice Challenge – *Deirdre Coburn, Leslie Lawrence, Marg Andriuk*

Canada Winter Games – *Robin Forsyth*

Arctic Winter Games – *Nicole Rapati, David Chief, Pam Chislett, Kara Fernandes, Mary-Ann McDonald, Dori Mark*

Mountain Regionals Synchronized Skating Championships – *Krista Sellers, Chelsey Schaffel, Amanda Jassman*

Prairie Regionals Synchronized Skating Championships – *Chelsey Schaffel, Holly Mayer, Jamie Kosonic, Amanda Jassman*

Special Olympics Alberta Winter Games – *Samantha Miller, David Chief, Nicole Rapati, Judy Burwash, Marg Andriuk, Krista Sellers, Mary-Ann McDonald*

BC Victoria Day event – *Megan Ure, Robin Forsyth*

BC SummerSkate – *Dallas Daniel, Kara Fernandes, Monica Desmarais* (Officials' Exchange for Kara & Monica)

Vancouver Island Regionals – *Judy Burwash*

SaskSkate – *Brenda Hart, Robin Forsyth, Monica Desmarais*

Saskatchewan Sectional Championships – *Fred Rapati*

Living Skies Synchron Invitational Regina - *Chelsey Schaffel, Amanda Jassman, Dallas Daniel*

Manitoba Winter Skate – *Karin Sutton*

Skate Ontario Synchron Series #2 – *Jennifer Betts*

Georges-Éthier Quebec (Officials' Exchange) – *Dallas Daniel, Kara Fernandes*

Newfoundland WinterSkate – *Robin Forsyth*



OFFICIALS

As well, officials participated in several virtual events across the country in Data Specialist, Judge, and Tech Panel roles. We also acknowledge the collaborative efforts of many Sections across the country. We relied on the support of out-of-Section officials this year to staff many of our events in Data Specialist, Judge, and Tech Panel roles.

Internationally, the OC is proud to recognize the following individuals who officiated at premier events this season:

Jodi Abbott – JGP Ostrava (Czech Republic), ISU Grand Prix Skate Canada, World Team Trophy (Japan)

Jennifer Betts – Santa Claus Cup (Czech Republic), CS Leon Lurje Trophy (Sweden), French Cup (France)

Lynne Dey - JGP Riga Cup (Latvia), ISU Four Continents (Colorado Springs CO)

Leslie Keen – US Classic ISU Challenger (USA), Bratislava Challenger (Slovakia), Budapest Challenger (Hungary), Mezzaluna Cup (Italy), Pavel Memorial (Czech Republic), Andorra Open (Andorra), ISU Four Continents (Colorado Springs CO)

Jeff Lukasik – JGP Gdansk (Poland), World Junior Championships (Calgary)

Ravi Walia – JGP Ostrava (Czech Republic)

Skate Canada National Committee Involvement

Jodi Abbott – High Performance Development Committee, Officials Assignment & Promotion Committee

Jennifer Betts - Officials Assignment & Promotion Committee, Synchro Working Group

Lynne Dey & Robin Forsyth – Officials: Judges, Evaluators, Tech Panel Committee

Brenda Hart – Skate Canada Board of Directors (Director West), Recruitment & Development Committee (Chair), Sections Coordinating Committee, Membership Policy Committee

Leslie Lawrence – Program Development Committee (Chair), Skate Canada Sport Chairs Working Group

Chelsey Schaffel – Technical Coordinating Committee, Synchro Working Group

Ravi Walia – Skate Canada Board of Directors, External Relations Committee, High Performance Development Committee

Assessment Days

19 Section evaluators volunteered at assessment days this season, with 3 evaluators also participating in Virtual Assessments both within Section and across the country.

Officials Retirements

Thank you to the following officials for their years of dedication and service to the Section. These individuals were strong contributors to the sport for many years and will be missed at events.

Data Specialists - *Anita Kohnen (34 years), Vicki Moses (16 years)*

Judges - *Kelly Andres (20 years), Nic Larter (40 years), Adele Bonetti (53 years)*

Tech Official - *Sandra Nægeli (16 years)*

IN MEMORIAM



Bernard Ford

September 27, 1947 – April 6, 2023
Ice Skating Legend & Coach



Lawrie Bonney

July 30, 1938 – January 19, 2023
International Judge; Singles & Pairs

REGIONS

The **REGIONS COMMITTEE** kicked off the 2022-2023 Season in early June of 2022 with a strategy focused session, and an updated Calendar of Events as well as transitioned to a new Section Staff member as the committee lead.

The Regions Committee has five key responsibilities:

- Assist the Section office with collecting Club and Skating School Directory contact information
- Execution of the Annual Club and Skating School Health & Wellness Survey
- Coordinate Region Committee Meetings during the year
- Monitor and recommend changes to the Club and Skating School In Good Standing Policy
- Identifying opportunities and developing materials for training and resources to support Clubs and Skating School operations in the Section

The **Club and Skating School Health & Wellness Survey** was originally created and launched in 2021, to evaluate key indicators of Club and School stability coming out of the pandemic. The data collected provided valuable information into what resources or additional support from the Section would assist them in their operations, but also collected data that has been used in advocacy efforts or for monitoring trends in areas such as volunteer engagement, coaching capacity, and club/school programs being offered. As a result, it was decided to continue with the survey again, and based on the results collected the following Strategic Initiatives were undertaken by the Region Committee this year with new resources and tools starting to be available to clubs and skating schools in the upcoming new season:

- Club and School Templates, Tools & Governance Resources
- Volunteer Engagement
- Fundraising Opportunities
- CanSkate transitions to Star Programming

Safe Sport continues to become more prominent, along with much higher expectations being put onto organizations that are involved in any type of sports programming. It is expected that organizations ensure there is a safe, positive and inclusive environment for anyone who is participating whether that be an athlete, coach, official or volunteer. To ensure the Section is also doing our part, emphasis this year was put into ensuring that Club Board and Skating School Directors have completed the Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders course as we feel education is an important part of prevention of maltreatment and the promotion of safe sport.

PROMOTING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Our policies and procedures foster an environment where respect and trust can live on and off the ice. We support and encourage our skating community to explore their passion for the ice safely.



REGIONS

The **2022-2023 season** brought a return to full programming including: Assessment Days, Competitions, Seminars, Ice Shows and Carnivals, Star 1-3 and CanSkate element events.

This year our Section athletes proudly participated in 128 Club-based events including: 97 carnivals and ice shows and 18 CanSkate Element events and 13 Star 1-3 club events. Club-based events are up 36% over last season, surpassing Pre-COVID numbers, and almost matching the Section's record high Club Events on record.

Many of these activities are supported by the volunteers on the Local Region Committees and the Section Regions Committee. We encourage you to get involved in your Region and contribute to the many amazing initiatives Section athletes and volunteers experience.



CANSKATE@SCHOOL



In partnership with the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation Group, the City of Edmonton and Ever Active Schools, the Section again provided CanSkate lessons to inner-city schools. It was the first time on ice for the majority of skaters. The project has been inclusive to include full classes of Grades 1-3 children with behavioral and physical challenges. The project was extended to a group of Grade 6-9 students as well. The response from students and teachers alike has been overwhelmingly positive. The total number of students participating in the CanSkate@School program this season is 993 from 14 different schools! Ten enthusiastic Skate Canada coaches taught the students with Leona Boyle coordinating the program.



COMPETITIONS

The Competition Committee maintained a key focus on the organization and support of all competitions, and to provide consistency for the execution of all competitions. The Committee continues to prioritize our athletes and focus on competitions that can best deliver meaningful experience and competition to those athletes.

The 2023-2024 Event Calendar and competition structure were key priorities for the Committee this year as it was determined that our current structure and calendar were no longer sustainable. A full review was completed, focusing on the following key outcomes:

- Ensure the calendar is in alignment with the new Skate Canada Long Term Development (LTD) framework & updated Skate Canada competition calendar,
- Determine the best geographical placement of events
- Ensure our volunteer /officials capacity can support the competition calendar
- Ensure the restructured competition calendar supports the development of Skate AB | NT | NU registrants in both the Star and Podium Pathways



The Section was proud to deliver a full in-person event calendar for the first time since 2019. All events were successful thanks to the hard work of the dedicated Local Organizing Committees and support of the Section.

The Section was also extremely proud to have been selected to host the following National and International Events:

- 2023 Skate Canada Novice Canadian Championships (Calgary) February 18-20, 2023
- 2023 Skate Canada Cup (Calgary) February 21-22, 2023
- 2023 ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships (Calgary) February 27-March 5, 2023

The Leading Edge Series returned to normal after being modified in 2021-2022 due to Covid. 262 Podium Pathway skaters and 258 Star Pathway skaters participated in the 2022-2023 season.



Canadian National
Skating Championships
Championnats nationaux
canadiens de patinage

Jan. 8-14, 2024
Calgary, AB

WinSport Arena at Canada Olympic Park

[SkateCanada.ca](https://www.skatecanada.ca)



EVENT TECHNICIANS

The **EVENT TECHNICIAN AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE (ETEC)** brings together dedicated volunteers in the positions of Music Technicians, Announcers, Camera Operators, and V-mix Live Stream Operators.

With an extremely busy competition calendar for the 2022-2023 season, ETEC had a continued emphasis on recruitment and training and was also focused on reviewing the best practices which are implemented for each position, to ensure that communication is strong amongst the ETEC team to support one another during competitions.

ETEC recruited two Music Tech's, one Camera Operator and one Announcer this season. The goal is to recruit in each Region of the Section to provide support to competitions locally.

Successful live stream execution and scheduling of Announcers, V-mix Operators, Music Tech's and Camera Operators happened for the following events:

- Wild Rose Invitational – 21,026 views
- Fall Invitational – 11,936 views
- Sectional Championships – 8,839 views
- StarSkate & Adult Championships- 12,636 views
- Sunsational Invitational – 9,190 views

ETEC officials supported the following National and ISU International events:

Al Carver, Camera Operator: Arctic Winter Games

Shawn Dyrkach, Music Technician: Skate Canada Challenge, Pre-Novice/Novice, Novice Canadian Championships/Skate Canada Cup

Kris Ruiter, Announcer: Skate Canada Challenge, Junior/Senior

Sabrina Thievin, Announcer: Skate Canada Challenge, Pre-Novice/Novice, Novice Canadian Championships/Skate Canada Cup

Jeanne Welch, Announcer: Novice Canadian Championships/Skate Canada Cup, ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships (practice ice announcer)



ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

The 2022-2023 season was a very busy season for **ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT** as the sport embraced the new Skate Canada competition calendar. The calendar added layers of preparation as we adjusted to two Challenges, Synchronized skating having two National events and the continuation of Novices at their own Championship. In addition, Alberta- Wood Buffalo hosted the 2023 Arctic Winter Games, and we sent a team to the 2023 Canada Winter Games.

Athletes were monitored, assessed, and selected for a variety of opportunities. We enjoyed and are proud of the successes of all our athletes and celebrated the culmination of Keegan Messing's career winning his second Canadian title.

Synchronized Skating

- Support was provided to the coordinators, and financial assistance was provided to 16 participants of the One Team Mvmt Camp held in Calgary in July 2022.
- Development Camp was hosted in October 2022 with over 90 skaters and coaches attending. The lead facilitator was Marilyn Langlois from (World Champion) Les Supremes, with many other experts leading off-ice sessions for a full day of synchro development opportunities.
- Video Monitoring program was offered to all teams free of charge for a 2-month period from October to December 2022. 18 teams participated.
- In-person monitoring was provided to the Junior team prior to departure for the Canadian Championships in January 2023.
- Support was provided to Solstice Junior at the Canadian Tire National Skating Championships, as well as the 3 Section teams who participated in the Skate Canada Cup in February 2023.
- Solstice Junior team was invited to perform at the ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships opening ceremonies in Calgary February 2023.



AdultSkate

- AdultSkate workshops were held in April 2022 (Canmore – 27 registrants) and November 2022 (Leduc – 17 registrants) with Kaetlyn Osmond as the featured presenter.
- Support is ongoing for various activities including (but not limited to) communications for AdultSkate opportunities within our Section like the 'Theatre on Ice Workshops'.



Special Olympics

- 12 athletes competed at the Special Olympics Alberta Winter Games in February 2023 in Strathcona County.
- JC Coutts and William Cave represented Alberta at the Canada Winter Games in PEI in February 2023 where they each won a bronze medal. William also attended the staging day for Team AB in January in Edmonton.

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Inclusive Skating

Programming continued through the 2022-2023 season and \$10,000 in total support was provided to the following 12 clubs. We would like to congratulate them all for their inclusive and adaptive programming:

Ardrossan Strathcona FSC
Calalta FSC
Cochrane SC
Derrick SC
Extreme Edge SC
Fort Saskatchewan SC

Ice Edge SC
Innisfail SC
Nanton SC
Southern Alberta Skating Academy
St. Albert Skating Centre
Wild Rose FSC



Athlete Monitoring

Monitoring returned to prior years activities through the 2022-2023 season at events, through club visitations and via zoom. Our Section Officials make themselves available whenever possible to provide feedback to our Section skaters as they work towards their personal goals. Assistance from these Officials is very appreciated by the Section and all of the stakeholders involved. Monitoring at the Fall competition and following days was conducted by the Technical Director and guest official Sally Rehorick in preparation for Challenge, and Canada Winter Games.

Spring Development Camp

The Spring Development Camp was held April 23-24, 2023 at the Winsport Arena in Calgary after two years of the camp being cancelled due to the pandemic. Brian Orser and Tracy Wilson were the lead facilitators and were assisted by Scott Davis and Jeff Langdon. 140 skaters and coaches from the Section Select and Junior Development teams were in attendance. It was a busy weekend with many activities and a great learning opportunity for all participants.

Off-ice activities included a one-hour talk with Brian and Tracy for skaters and coaches; Parent Session with Dr. Matt Brown who addressed themes around the 'return to normalcy', and the associated emotions for both athletes and parents; Dance and Body Movement led by Diana Lefebvre and Carlotta Edwards; Ballroom Dance instruction led by Martin Lefebvre.

Section Officials Lynne Dey, Robin Forsyth and Leslie Lawrence led educational sessions pertaining to Component, GOE and Technical Scoring.



Athlete Funding

The Athlete Funding Program continues to support Section athletes who have competed in all disciplines at the Challenge, National and International Level, and the athlete funding program guidelines are reviewed annually and posted on the Section Website. 121 Athlete Funding Program awards were distributed during the 2022-2023 season.

Jump Scholarship Program

The Jump Scholarship Program awarded \$3,425 to 17 skaters for jumps accomplished as per the guidelines for the 2022-2023 season. The following age categories earned awards: U11, U14, U16, and U19.

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Multisport Games

Planning has begun for the **2024 Alberta Winter Games** scheduled for February 16-19, 2024, in Grande Prairie. The philosophy of the Games has been updated to align with the Canada Winter Games categories which only includes Pre-Novice. Unfortunately, this now eliminates the Novice Category from the Alberta Winter Games and eligible categories are focused on building towards a Pre-Novice level athlete.

The Section applied to have a Juvenile Male category included and we were not successful with our request. Representation across all Zones is required to have a category instituted, and the Male representation in our Section does not meet those requirements.

The **2023 Arctic Winter Games** were held January 29 - February 4, 2023, in the district of Wood Buffalo, Alberta. The Arctic Games are a unique sporting event designed for Northern athletes with traditional sports and Aboriginal sports combined. Thirty-three skaters from AB North and 17 skaters from NT competed for qualification in Edmonton December 3-5, 2022, followed by selected skaters from Team AB North and NT gathering for an information sharing day. Team AB North sent 8 figure skating athletes and Team NT sent 7 athletes.

The 2023 Games were considered a make up Games due to the 2022 Games being cancelled and planning has started for the regularly scheduled 2024 Arctic Winter Games March 10-16, 2024, in Mat-Su Valley, Alaska

Team AB North Coaches – Cheryl Jobson and Tania Miller – Sauve

Level 1

Ava Casey
Carly Elliott-Otto

Level 2

Kaiya MacDougall
Julina Kim

Level 3

Isabella Scheers
Kaley Boucher

Level 4

Kayla Welygan
Sadie Finnebraaten

Team NT Coaches – Jodi Brennan and Brenda Dalton

Level 1

Morgan Kramer
Niobe Clinton
Solenn Kioak

Level 2

Peyton Koe
Brooke Vallis
Kiera Clinton

Level 3

Lily Brennan



ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

The **2023 Canada Winter Games** were held in Prince Edward Island. Figure Skating competed in Week 2, February 27 – March 3, 2023. Sixteen AB skaters were selected to attend the Octoberfest Competition with their coaches in Barrie ON as a part of Team AB Canada Winter Games funding and pre-selection preparation. The skaters were selected based on their body of work in the summer competitions and the categories that we would be sending with our contingent to the Games. Throughout the competition season the athletes were assessed and their results tabulated. Selections were completed in December of 2022. Team AB sent a team of 12 figure skating athletes and Team NT 1 figure skating athlete.

TEAM NT - Team Coach – Jodi Brennan

Pre-Novice Women – Lily Brennan

TEAM ALBERTA—Team Coaches—Clyde Hammer, Michelle Currie and Olea Tabouchanas, Special O Coach, Venue Pass Ben Westenberger.

Pre-Novice Men

Travis Trang

Sean Lough

Pre-Novice Women

Lia Cho

Annika Behnke

Special O Female Level 2

Jacqueline Coutts

Pre-Novice Dance

Maia Balan & Andrew Song

Anjou Karino & Kurtis Che

Pre-Novice Pair

Stephanie Saccomanno & Parker Vaudrin

Special O Male Level 2

William Cave



Skate Canada NextGen

Kaiya Ruiter, Michelle Deng, Angelina Grant, Kaitlyn Ho & Daniel Yu, and Marianne Hubert & William Oddson were selected as 2022-2023 NextGen athletes.

Members were monitored in Edmonton and Calgary in May, by NextGen Director Andre Bourgeois and Manon Perron, and competed in Waterloo, ON followed by a NextGen Camp. A special mention to Marianne Hubert and William Oddson who were a new team and named to the NextGen Team following the results of their first competition together.

NextGen International Assignments:

Kaiya Ruiter – Challenger Austria – Silver

Marianne Hubert and William Oddson - Junior Grand Prix – Ostrava, Czech Republic – 10th

Marianne Hubert and William Oddson – Junior Grand Prix – Egna, Italy – 10th

Endowment Award Recipients

Barbara Graham International Award – Kaiya Ruiter

Sectional Legacy Scholarship – Matthew Newnham

Note: John Vipond Official's Scholarship not awarded this season.



ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

2022-2023 Junior Development Team

Criteria for Junior Development Team (JDT) selection was reviewed and updated October 2022. JDT members were selected following the 2023 Sectional Championship and the 2023 StarSkate Championship. The Team consists of 55 members representing Singles, Pairs and Dance.

Pre-Juvenile

Naomi Amman & Krishna Sharma
Renee Lee & Aaron Zhao
Cherie Yu & Sergei Usenka
McKenzie Elgie & Rohan McKnight
Norah Hillier & Zachary Hillier
Michelle Baher & Simon Knott
Dana Yu & Kody Ng
Jonathan Pham
Logan Mierau
Ella Lachkovic
Kate Morden
Nutsa Tchiboshvili
Jaslyn Wong
Eliaana Yap
McKenzie Elgie
Ivan Ng
Sergei Usenka
Hazel Schmaltz
Livia Goudreau

Juvenile

Keana Lough & Sean Lough
Umberto Dory-Daher
George Longay
Javinu Rodrigo
Ethan Pagano
Eden Feng
Uxia Gonzalez-Abraldes
Arlet Gonzalez-Abraldes
Luna Lu
Ashley Truong
Victoria Yonemori
Maxwell Yu
Kody Ng
Adeline Fairey
Sierra Meisner
Lys O'Brimchak
Reegan Power
Muping Yu

Pre-Novice

Simon Knott
Vienna Abelar
Tiffany Diep
Paige Domenico
Yitun Feng
Maya Gonzales
Isabella Hazelton
Emma Liew
Stella Mitchell
Sari Ogden
Mackenzie Rosenberger
Brooke Simonson
Danielle Ting
Esther Ting
Jessica Walsh
Rena Wang



2022-2023 Select and Challenge Team

51 skaters in 13 categories qualified for the Select Team based on their results from the 2022-2023 Sectional Championships in the Pre-Novice to Senior categories, in Singles, Pairs, and Dance. Junior/Senior categories competed at the 2023 Challenge in Winnipeg, MB from November 30 - December 3, 2022 with eleven entries qualifying for Nationals. Pre-Novice/Novice categories competed at the 2023 Challenge B in Regina, SK from 25-28, 2023 with seven entries moving on to Nationals.

Pre-Novice

Travis Trang
Sean Lough
Justin Cheung
Andrew Song
Annika Behnke

Kaydee Kallay
Tessa McKinnon
Maia Balan & Andrew Song
Anjou Karino & Kurtis Che
Lia Cho

Stephanie Saccomanno & Parker Vaudrin
Keana Lough & Sean Lough
Addison Wolsey & Jayden Johnson
Heather Nunn & Benjamin Vatcher
Anna Van Teeling & Cameron Muir

Novice

Cooper Feser
Kento Nakashima
Parker Heiderich
Kole Sauve

Hailey Diep
Kassidy Sinclair
Addison Wolsey
Uma Zagele

Annika Behnke & Kole Sauve
Natalia Custodio & Chris Hammer

Junior

Anson Chung
Christopher Hammer
Ethan Scott

Angelina Grant
Paulina Grant
Kayla Halliday

Kaitlyn Ho & Daniel Yu
Savanna Martel & Kobi Chant
Marianne Hubert & William Oddson

Senior

Keegan Messing (bye)
Matthew Newnham
Grace Johnson

Kaiya Ruiter
Alexandra Sarmiento-Diaz
Isabelle Law

Alyssa Robinson & Jacob Portz
Jessica-Lee Behiel & Jackson Behiel
Mikala Cutler & Mackenzie Mah

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

2023 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships

16 Junior/Senior Select Team members, and one synchro team attended Canadians in Oshawa, January 8-14, 2023. Keegan Messing won his second consecutive Canadian Championship and Kaiya Ruiter won a Silver Medal in Senior Women. Junior and Senior Synchronized skating made its debut at this championship, joining the singles, pairs, and dance disciplines.

Junior

Solstice

Anson Chung
Paulina Grant

Marianne Hubert & William Oddson (WD)
Savanna Martel & Kobi Chant
Kaitlyn Ho & Daniel Yu

Senior

Keegan Messing
Matthew Newnham

Grace Johnson
Kaiya Ruiter

Alyssa Robinson & Jacob Portz
Mikala Cutler & Mackenzie Mah



2023 Novice Canadians/Canada Cup

9 Novice Select Team members and 3 Synchro Teams attended the Novice Canadian Championships held in Calgary February 20-26, 2023, with Annika Behnke and Kole Sauve winning a Bronze medal in Novice Pair.

Novice

Cooper Feser
Parker Heiderich
Kento Nakashima

Uma Zagele
Natalia Custodio & Christopher Hammer

Novice Synchro

Solstice—Novice

Open Synchro

Solstice—Black Gold



2022-2023 Junior and Senior Grand Prix and International Assignments

Kaiya Ruiter – Challenger Austria – Silver
Matthew Newnham – Luxembourg Belgium – Bronze
Keegan Messing – Challenger Nebelhorn—Gold
Keegan Messing—Senior Grand Prix Skate Canada—4th

Keegan Messing—Senior Grand Prix Finland—8th
Keegan Messing – Four Continents—Silver
Keegan Messing—World Team Trophy—7th

2023 ISU Jr World Figure Skating Championships

Kaiya Ruiter represented Canada at the 2023 ISU Junior World Championship in Calgary - 10th place. She secured a second berth for Canada in 2024.

2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships

Keegan Messing represented Canada at the ISU Worlds in Osaka, Japan—7th place. His placing ensured Canada will have two berths in 2024.

MEDALISTS

2023 SKATE AB I NT I NU SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

| EVENT | GOLD  | SILVER  | BRONZE  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Senior Men | Matthew Newnham | Brian Chiem | |
| Senior Women | Kaiya Ruitter | Grace Johnson | Alexandra Sarmiento Diaz |
| Junior Men | Ethan Scott | Anson Chung | Colton Foreman |
| Junior Women | Angelina Grant | Paulina Grant | Kayla Halliday |
| Junior Dance | Kaitlyn Ho/Daniel Yu | Savanna Martel/Kobi Chant | |
| Novice Men | Kole Sauve | Cooper Feser | Kento Nakashima |
| Novice Women | Juliette Thievin | Kassidy Sinclair | Uma Zagele |
| Novice Pair | Annika Behnke/Kole Sauve | Natalia Custodio/Chris Hammer | |
| Pre-Novice Men | Travis Trang | Justin Cheung | Andrew Song |
| Pre-Novice Women | Lia Cho | Annika Behnke | Tessa MacKinnon |
| Pre-Novice Dance | Anjou Karino/Kurtis Che | Maia Balan/Andrew Song | Heather Nunn/Benjamin Vatcher |
| Pre-Novice Pair | Stephanie Saccomanno/ Parker Vaudrin | Keana Lough/Sean Lough | Addison Wolsey/Jayden Johnson |
| Juvenile Men U12 | Umberto Dory Daher | George Longay | Ethan Pagano |
| Juvenile Men U14 | Maxwell Yu | Kody Ng | Cameron Muir |
| Juvenile Women U12 | Victoria Yonemori | Uxia Gonzalez-Abraldes | Ashley Truong |
| Juvenile Women U14 | Lys O'Brimchak | Adeline Fairey | Reegan Power |
| Juvenile Pair | Michelle Baher/Simon Knott | Dana Yun/Kody Ng | Norah Hillier/Zachary Hillier |
| Pre-Juvenile Men U11 | Logan Mierau | Johnathan Pham | |
| Pre-Juvenile Men U13 | Sergei Usenka | Ivan Ng | |
| Pre-Juvenile Women U11 | Jaslyn Wong | Kate Morden | Nutsa Tchiboshvili |
| Pre-Juvenile Dance | Cherie Yu/Sergei Usenka | McKenzie Elgie/Rohan McKnight | Renee Lee/Aaron Zhao |

2023 MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SYNCHRONIZED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

| EVENT | TEAM | RANK |
|------------|------------|--------|
| Adult I | Black Gold | Gold |
| Adult 1 | Solstice | Bronze |
| Adult II | Black Gold | Gold |
| Juvenile | Black Gold | Gold |
| Juvenile | Solstice | Silver |
| Pre-Novice | Black Gold | Gold |
| Pre-Novice | Solstice | Bronze |
| Novice | Solstice | Silver |
| Open | Black Gold | Gold |
| Open | Solstice | Silver |
| Junior | Solstice | Silver |



MEDALISTS

2023 SKATE CANADA CHALLENGE

| EVENT | ATHLETE/S | RANK |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Senior Men | Matthew Newnham | Gold |
| Novice Pair | Annika Behnke/Kole Sauve | Bronze |
| Pre-Novice Men | Travis Trang | Silver |
| Pre-Novice Women | Lia Cho | Gold |

2023 NATIONAL SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

| EVENT | ATHLETE/S | RANK |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------|
| Senior Men | Keegan Messing | Gold |
| Senior Women | Kaiya Ruitter | Silver |
| Novice Pair | Annika Behnke/Kole Sauve | Bronze |

2023 CANADA WINTER GAMES

| EVENT | ATHLETE/S | RANK |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Pre-Novice Dance | Anjou Karino/Kurtis Che | Silver |
| Pre-Novice Dance | Maia Balan/Andrew Song | Bronze |
| Pre-Novice Men | Travis Trang | Bronze |
| Pre-Novice Women | Lia Cho | Silver |
| Special O Level 2 Female | JC Coutts | Bronze |
| Special O Level 2 Male | William Cave | Bronze |

2023 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

| EVENT | GOLD  | SILVER  | BRONZE  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| Level 1 SP Female | Ava Casey | Niobe Clinton | Brooke Vallis |
| Level 2 SP Female | Kaiya MacDougall | Peyton Koe | |
| Level 3 SP Female | Lily Brennan | Bella Scheers | |
| Level 4 SP Female | Kayla Welygan | Sadie Finnebraaten | |
| Level 1 FP Female | | Ava Casey | Carly Elliott-Otta |
| Level 2 FP Female | Peyton Koe | Juliana Kim | |
| Level 3 FP Female | Lily Brennan | Kaley Boucher | |
| Level 4 FP Female | Kayla Welygan | Sadie Finnebraaten | |
| Combined Level 1 Female | | Ava Casey | Carly Elliott-Otta |
| Combined Level 2 Female | Peyton Koe | Kaiya MacDougall | |
| Combined Level 3 Female | Lily Brennan | Kaley Boucher | Bella Scheers |
| Combined Level 4 Female | Kayla Welygan | Sadie Finnebraaten | |

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

Skate AB | NT | NU was host to the 2023 Novice Canadian Championships, 2023 Canada Cup and the 2023 ISU World Junior Championships. These three events took place in Calgary and the outpouring of support from volunteers in Calgary, around Alberta and from across Canada was outstanding. Thank you to the over 300 volunteers who supported these events.





AB | NT | NU

Skate AB | NT | NU recognizes its partners,
supporters and sponsors for their commitment to figure skating in the Section.



KONICA MINOLTA

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