



# Go Figure!

Welcome to the 2004 Ice Figure Skating Year and might I add that this is already becoming a very busy skating year.

### Address label

Some of our skaters have already been overseas to compete in International Competitions, whilst the rest of our skaters are preparing for the Autumn Champs scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> April 2004.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all our members a healthy and fun filled 2004 year.

*Dael Haynes, President - AIFSC*

### Committee:

**Dael Haynes** (*President*)  
Ph 272 3536  
E-mail [d.haynes@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.haynes@auckland.ac.nz)

**Chris Pulman** (*Vice-President*)  
Ph 834 6686

**Delwyn Watson** (*Secretary*)

**Nick Winspear** (*Treasurer*)

Keith Darvill  
Allen Kuo  
John Potgieter  
Michelle Potgieter  
Ray Pulman  
Bob Rout  
Val Rout  
Graeme Sullivan  
Lenore Thode  
Scott Thode

### Postal Address

AIFSC  
P O Box 15 540  
New Lynn  
AUCKLAND

### Web site

[www.aifsc.org.nz](http://www.aifsc.org.nz)

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Contributions to this newsletter are always welcome. Please send articles, items for sale etc to Delwyn Watson ([del.watson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:del.watson@xtra.co.nz)).

## Competition & Holiday Dates 2004

Summer Trophy.....	January 19 -23 .....	Brisbane, Australia
Four Continents.....	January 19 – 25 .....	Ontario, Canada
Anniversary Day.....	January 26	
Waitangi Day.....	February 6 <sup>th</sup>	
European Criterium .....	February 17 – 22 .....	Wein, Austria
Junior Worlds .....	March 1 – 7.....	The Hague, Netherlands
Slovene Cup .....	March 6 – 7.....	Bledisloe, Slovenia
Mladost.....	March 11 – 13.....	Zagreb, Croatia
European Criterium .....	March 11 – 14.....	Budapest, Hungary
Senior Worlds .....	March 22 – 28.....	Dortmund, Germany
European Criterium .....	April 3 – 9.....	Bolzano, Italy
Autumn Champs .....	April 4.....	Botany Downs, Auckland
School Holidays .....	April 8 - 26	
Easter .....	April 9-April 12	
Triglav Competition.....	April 14 – 18 .....	Jesenice, Slovenia
Afriskate.....	April 18 – 22 .....	Cape Town, South Africa
ANZAC Day .....	April 25	
Queens Birthday .....	June 7	
Hollins Trophy .....	June 11 – 14.....	Sydney, Australia
Ice Sport Southlands .....	June 26-27 .....	Gore, Southland
Queensland State Champs .....	June 30 – July 3 .....	Brisbane, Australia
School Holidays .....	July 2 – July 19	
Auckland Champs .....	July 10 - 11 .....	Botany Downs, Auckland
Otago/Southland Champs .....	July 16 – 18 .....	Queenstown, Southland
NSW State Champs .....	July 20 - 25 .....	Sydney, Australia
North Islands .....	TO BE BOOKED .....	Avondale/Botany, Auckland
South Islands .....	August 13 – 15.....	Gore, Southland
Australian Champs .....	August 21-28.....	Sydney, Australia
School Holidays .....	September 17 – October 4	
New Zealand Nationals.....	September 20 - 23 .....	Queenstown, Southland
Labour Day.....	October 25	

## Code of Conduct

As you will be aware Paradise Management now has a new system for ice payment. By now skaters who are using this new system will have signed a contract for the first 2 months. Along with the contract was a code of conduct. There is nothing new about these rules, as most have been around for sometime, however it has come to the notice of a lot of people that many of these rules are still being broken especially those concerning the figure skating sessions and we thought they deserved some mention in the newsletter.

As you will know rules are not there to take the fun out of skating but to make the environment a much safer place. Parents, your younger children will need to be reminded of these rules continually and be made to realise that they will be much safer if they put them into practice.

Note that spins should be practised in the middle of the rink and skaters should keep out of the areas that skaters practice their lutz jumps, as it is very difficult for these skaters to see someone behind them. If you are unsure of these areas please ask your coach and they will direct you to the best places to practice. No skater wants to be hit and if there is a collision, more than likely both will get hurt.

Although you may feel like it at times, other skaters do not get in your way on purpose. Nobody deliberately puts himself or herself in harms way! Even though it can be frustrating, try to be patient and remember that if you have to keep on skating around the rink waiting for a spot to jump, you are at least building up your stamina!

Please also note that there are 'skaters' and there are 'guests'. Guests include those who come with the skater to the rink and do not skate. They include parents. Management has asked that guests view the sessions from the grandstand or the cafeteria room (contract #11). Most parents don't realise how much danger they are putting their skater in by sitting or standing by the barrier calling out to their children skating. These skaters tend to skate backwards and forwards to their parents cutting across the line of traffic or keep stopping suddenly to see their parent's reactions and are oblivious to the danger they put themselves in or the other skaters who are trying to skate around them.

Some parents may feel that unless they are down by the barrier that their children will not work. If your child enjoys skating, he/she will want to be out skating. If they are standing around and wasting time, maybe some thought needs to be put into why they are doing this. Skaters who want to be there and who want to improve, will be spending the time practising.

Please also note that if a parent has a concern that they should talk to a coach or Ice Rink Management. At no time should a parent feel free to confront someone else's child.

## Figure Skating Session Conduct

- 1) ALWAYS GIVE WAY TO COACHES ON THE ICE.
- 2) THE PERSON SKATING HER/HIS PROGRAM HAS THE RIGHT OF WAY ALL THE TIME.  
Skaters need to learn whose music belongs to each skater and should try to keep out of their way, however skaters please be aware that even if your music is on, safety for everyone does still come first, and bad language is still not tolerated on the ice.
- 3) PROGRAM MUSIC IS TO BE PLACED IN LINE IN THE D.J. BOX WHEN YOU ARE READY TO SKATE YOUR PROGRAM, RESPECT OTHER TAPES IN LINE. NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE ORDER UNLESS AT THE COACH'S REQUEST.  
Please remember that in all fairness everyone needs an equal turn at having his or her music on. It is unfair for one skater to continually play their music over and over when others haven't yet had a turn.
- 4) SKATERS SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO INSTRUCTION OR ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE DURING THE SESSION.
- 5) SKATERS SHOULD SHOW CONSIDERATION FOR COACHES AND OTHER SKATERS INVOLVED IN LESSONS AND NOT INTERRUPT OTHERS LESSONS.  
Please remember that skaters are paying for their lessons and it is unfair for another skater to take up this time. Also parents please wait till after the session or arrange a time to talk to your coach to discuss your child's needs. This should not be done while they are coaching someone else.

## Safety

- 1) SKATERS MUST NOT ENGAGE IN PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS, ROUGHHOUSING, OR OTHER DISTRACTING OR DANGEROUS ACTIVITIES DURING A SESSION.  
If the need arises that you need to discuss something personal with your friends, you should step off the ice and make way for those skaters who are trying to work.
- 2) STANDING BY THE BOARDS FOR OTHER THAN BRIEF PERIODS OF TIME OR FOR SOCIALISING IS NOT PERMITTED  
Standing by the barriers can also cause problems especially for those skaters doing lutz jumps. Skaters doing lutz jumps find it very difficult to see skaters behind them. Usually just before they pick backwards they will glance behind them and when they see skaters standing by the barrier behind them, it does put them off, likewise for skaters trying to scoot past quickly.
- 3) SKATERS WHO FALL SHOULD GET UP RAPIDLY AND SHOULD NOT LIE ON THE ICE UNLESS THEY ARE SERIOUSLY INJURED.  
Skaters sitting on the ice are very hard to see especially by skaters trying to keep their eyes looking up. This rule is for your benefit.

# Auckland Ice Figure Skating Club Inc.

## Membership Application / Renewal

Please hand to a committee member or post to: AIFSC, PO Box 15540, New Lynn, Auckland

Name	
Address	
Home phone	Work phone
Mobile phone	Fax
Email	

### Membership Type

- Junior (under 14 years) \$25     
  Adult \$30     
  Family \$35     
  Senior Citizens \$5

Fill in the following for each member

Last name	First name	Date of Birth	Home Club

I am / we are willing to help with the running of the club     
  YES     
  NO

I acknowledge that the information given may be used in the normal operation of the club

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

For official use only

Receipt Number	Junior   Adult   Family   Senior Citizen	If Home Club TC Application forwarded <input type="radio"/>
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## Afriskate May 2003

by Caitlin Haynes



I was very excited to be going back to a competition in the country I was born in. I had not competed against SA skaters for 6 years, and had not visited Cape Town for 10 years. I was also nervous as we were attending this competition without our coaches and did not know what to expect.

Morgan and I flew Auckland to Sydney and had a two-hour wait in the Sydney airport. Whilst I tried to sleep, Morgan spent her time doing push ups in the airport. We boarded the flight for Johannesburg, which was a ten-hour flight. Unfortunately for us our flight was two hours late in taking off so we arrived very late. We were very late in arriving (originally we only had 1 ¾ hours between these flights) and had to run from the one building, down the road to the internal terminal to catch the link to Cape Town which was a further two hour flight. Of course we were the last to board the plane and then we were finally off to Cape Town – very tired but excited people.

We arrived in Cape Town and were met by the President of SAFSA and his wife and Pat Norton SAFSA's secretary. They took us to our hotel and it was like a mini Las Vegas. The ice rink is in a casino complex with two hotels surround it, water and lots of lights.

We had no practices the first two days as South Africa was holding an inter-provincial competition but on the Monday the hard work started. In my grade, Novice Ladies, there were six skaters, two from Germany, 3 from South Africa and myself representing New Zealand. I had drawn last for short programme and when I eventually competed it was after five clean programmes all with double Lutz combinations. I was placed 6th in short and did a programme that was acceptable to me, landing all my jumps but not a Lutz combination. My combination was double salcow/double loop. Of course this meant that I was first out for the long programme – this made me very nervous. I did not skate as well as I would have liked, or as well as I had been practising. It was a very hard section with all the competitors having double axels, and at least one triple some had two triples in their long programme and this was Novice Ladies.

Morgan only had to do one programme as she competed in Ladies Under 12 years. She skated well and finished second in her section. She went on to skate in the gala evening and this was a real eye opener. The theme was African and you just had to be there to see it. They had man made life-size animals on the ice, dancers and other African cultural scenes.

The skating throughout the competition was of a very high standard with the under 10 winning lady (8 years old) landing a double axel. Under 12 winning lady (10 years old) landing a double axel and attempting three triples in her programme. There were also those who were not so strong but skated good solid programmes.

All in all it was a wonderful experience and made me realise that there is still a lot of hard work to be done. I wish to thank the NZISA for giving me the opportunity and AIFSC for assisting me with this trip.

## Australian Nationals 2003

by Allie Rout



The Australian Nationals 2003 were held in December 2003 in Brisbane at the Boondall Rink. Three Auckland Club members were part of the NZ team that competed there. They were Tristan Thode in Senior Men's level, Joel Watson in Junior Men's level and me, Allie Rout in Novice Ladies.

We stayed at the motel called Comfort Inn close to the rink. It was really nice there, they had a swimming pool! They also had a café, so the night we arrived I was allowed room service wedges!! Since we were last there, they have a new conference room, we were lucky to get the old conference room as our room this time. IT was big and nice and cold with good air-conditioners, but when it got really hot they started to drip water! We had a TV in our bedroom as well.

The Boondall Rink was rather nice too, the ice was quite hard so you went fast. That was a big help when I did my programmes.

How did we do? You are probably wondering by now. Starting with me, I came 3rd in the short programme which was much better than I had expected, then I came 6th in the long programme and got 6th overall ...all this was being filmed by the NZ film crew that went with me as part of a documentary they had been recording. At times it was a bit hard being constantly watched but I managed and was pleased to do better than last year's Novice Ladies in Australia, as that had been my goal.

Big congrats to Joel who came 1st in Junior Men. Well done to Tristan who skated a very nice short programme.

Tristan and Joel stayed and went to the banquet, unfortunately for me school called, so I only stayed another day to go to Wet'n'Wild and then went home.

Congratulations to all skaters, WELL DONE!

## Four Continents and Junior World Championships 2003

by Tristan Thode



Slava and I set off for the Four Continents Figure Skating Championships on 7 February. After a ten hour flight to Kuala Lumpur we stayed there for a night. Unfortunately the driver missed our hotel, which was on the way to the city and delivered us there later after he had taken a mini tour around the city dropping other people off. We missed a few extra hours of sleep but it was worth it to see

the inner city, which was really busy for eleven at night. The towers there were so huge - they are supposed to be the tallest buildings in the world. In the morning we took another flight that was six hours long to Beijing. When we got there we settled in to our hotel called the New Century Hotel and registered. At the registration we met up with Rosemarie Nye and Imelda-Rose Hegerty, who were just leaving to visit the markets.

The hotel was across the road from the main arena and the practice rink and the next day I started training. In my practice group, as well as the New Zealanders were the Canadians who were pretty good. Later that day Ricky Cockerill arrived who I was to share a room with. We had just training on the following days until Thursday, which was when our short program was. There were twenty-one participants in the men's grade. In the short program I skated reasonably well. I fell on my first combination jump, which was meant to be triple salchow double toe loop. I completed my remaining two jumps, double axel and triple toe loop after steps. After the short program I was in seventeenth place, which I was content with.

However my free program was another story. I felt on the day that I could have done a lot better which was why I was disappointed. I dropped two places to nineteenth place and the two that I dropped below did the same amount of technical difficulty but I think their in between skating was stronger than mine which is why they were placed ahead of me.

The competition was of higher quality than 2002 and the top three males were so awesome. Takeshi Honda did three quads in his free program and the two Chinese guys, Chengjiang Li and Min Zhang each did two quads in their free programs. The number of skaters who were doing quads or attempting them was much greater than last year, which is good.

Besides the skating we went to the market places where you could buy practically anything but at an insanely cheap price. Some things you could bargain for to get them to maybe one tenth of the price they would be back in New Zealand. It was also good to visit Tianamin Square and the Great Wall of China, although at the wall the wind was bitterly cold to the point where it burned.

On the next Monday we set off for Junior Worlds by first taking a ten-hour flight to Amsterdam, then a two-hour flight to Prague, and then another flight to Ostrava, which was forty-five minutes. For three days Slava and I stayed at the hotel next to the practice rink and trained there until Thursday when we moved to the official hotel. Ostrava was very dim and there was snow everywhere. Ostrava is an industrial town and so it was very polluted and I heard the cancer rate was very high.

In my practice group there was skaters from lots of different countries including Slovenia, South Africa, Russia, Spain, Finland and Sweden. A couple of days before I was to skate I started to get sick which was a real pain because I really wanted to do my best. I took antibiotics and strepsils to prevent it getting worse and that did help a little bit. I felt really weak that day but I tried to do it. I think my in between skating was stronger in this performance which is one thing I wanted to improve from my free program at Four Continents and I did. I finished twenty-first in my qualifying and therefore I didn't qualify for the short program. If I skated my best I think I could have been about three places higher but that wouldn't have been high enough to qualify.

For the rest of the week that I was there I spent most of it watching the competition. In the men's grade the top six all did triple axels in their programs as well as some others who were further down. The Russian who won, Alexander Shubin did a quad toe loop in his program but I liked the skating style of the second placed American skater, Evan Lysacek, better than Shubin. In the female grade I think the top twenty girls could do triple lutz and I thought that this was quite a strong grade. The Japanese girls were all very good. Yukina Ota came first and she skated a very artistic program. The other two Japanese girls came second and fourth. They were less artistic than the girl who won but one could do triple axel cheated and the one who came second, Miki Ando could do quad salchow clean but she did it cheated in her program. The girl who came third was from Italy and she was very good and would have won if she had skated better in the free. She could do triple triple combinations very easily. The exhibition at Junior Worlds was really good as many of the skaters had made up cool programs to do and it had a festival feeling about it. They also had some fireworks at the end inside the rink and when they went off we were sitting about five metres away. It sure gave the crowd a big scare. I went on one tourist venture to a wooden village, which was an interesting change to the dismal factories and building surrounding the rink. The main arena itself was quite interesting as it had unusual architecture. I think it looked like a huge spaceship. The day after the exhibition we departed and just a short thirty-six hours later we arrived back in New Zealand.

*Tristan's report on his recent trip to the 2004 Four Continents Championship in Canada will follow in the next newsletter.*



**Name:** Christine Winspear

**Grade:** Juvenile Ladies (*hoping to pass the test to Pre-primary Ladies*)

**Date of Birth:** 21 October 1991

**Place of Birth:** Auckland, New Zealand

**Profession:** Student, Year 8, Michael Park School

**Home Club:** AIFSC

**Main Training Rink:** Paradise Ice Arena, Avondale

**Year Started Skating:** 2000

**Coach:** Rosanna Armstrong

**Choreographer:** None

**Previous Coach:** None

**Hobbies:** Jazz (Dance), Swimming

**Main Achievements to date:**

Landing her axel, 2nd at NZ Nationals 2003

## AIFSC Subscriptions

Just a reminder that club membership subscriptions are now due.

## AIFSC Tracksuits.

If anyone is interested in purchasing an Auckland Club Jacket, could you please contact Delwyn Watson (del.watson@xtra.co.nz), before March 20th so that we can do a bulk order in order to get a discount. Please note that Auckland Home Club Skaters will need a Club jacket if you are planning on skating at Nationals in Queenstown this year.

## For Sale

**Figure Skates:** Graf Galaxy Extra Light: Ladies size 7 medium (Good condition ~ only worn for 9 months):  
\$450.00 Ph: 828 4742

## Tests Passed

Congratulations to the following Auckland Club Members who passed tests recently:-

### Gold Free:

.....Joel Watson

### Inter-Gold Stroking:

.....Caitlin Haynes, Vicky Kuo

### Inter-Gold Free:

.....Caitlin Haynes, Dee Pulman

### Inter-Bronze Free

.....Yuko Tanaka

### Elementary Free:

.....Doris Kuo, Lisa Kuo and Jimmy Kuo

### Elementary Stroking

.....Doris Kuo, Lisa Kuo and Jimmy Kuo

## Happy Birthday!

### January

3rd	Caitlin O'Connor
6th	Thomas Niu
7th	Beatrix Kirkman
22nd	Tao Yuan Lin

### February

4th	Joanna Cornwall
6th	Michelle Frost
7th	Dee Pulman
8th	Lisa Kuo
11th	Katie Brown
11th	Simon Thode
16th	Julianna Niu
17th	Aimee Prendergast
22nd	Christina Liang
24th	Caitlin Haynes

### March

3rd	Aurelie Copin
5th	Joel Watson
11th	Ara Marinkovich
19th	Emma Hudson
27th	Philbert Tong
31st	Sarah Dryburgh

### April

6th	Hannah McAvoy
10th	Rebecca Liu
13th	Teresa Graham
19th	Graeme Sullivan
25th	Cathy Wang
25th	Jahne Potgieter