

ISA COACHING OD REPORT ISA AGM 2020

This year I have have had the opportunity to work with Angelique on the ice dance tests, Kim Wilson regarding Aussie Skate and Debbie Noyes during the difficult COVID-19 period. To be able to share thoughts and opinions from a coaching perspective has been a very positive and rewarding experience.

My current position as APSA President has been a great help in my position on ISA in regards to being able to reach out to the broader coaching community for their opinions. Many coaches have commented on the difference in communication and I believe this is a very positive step forward for both ISA and the coaching community..

AUSSIE SKATE™

Debbie Noyes reached out asking for coaches feedback regarding the current Aussie Skate™ structure. Responses were varied with some coaches feeling it lacked some important development steps whilst others expressed that it is a sound foundation.

I have had a further meeting with Kim to discuss possible improvements that were put forward.

One area that was raised from coaches was the marketing of Aussie Skate and ways that it can be improved to gain more interest.

I am looking forward to continuing to work with Kim and Debbie in this area. Aussie Skate™ is an important component of the sport. Most sports have a National Development Program and these programs play an integral part of sport growth and development.

ICE DANCE

Ice dance tests have always been an area of discussion within the ice dance community. Angelique has put a significant amount of time and effort into this during the past year of which I would like to express my thanks. Angelique has always listened to the coaching community in this area. There were some concerns raised over the recent test structure due to changes in the ISU ice dance requirements at the lower levels which affect the competitive dance structure. Like most disciplines the ISU is continuously making rule changes and we have discussed options to ensure the dance test falls into line with this.

In regards to the non-competitive test stream, due to the vast differences amongst the skating communities across the various states and their development of ice dance a further proposal was submitted to Angelique and Debbie for consideration. This has been sent out to ice dance coaches across a few States and their feedback is currently being collated for Debbie and Angeliques consideration for presentation to the board.

COACHING

Concerns raised at last years AGM regarding coach education, accreditation and standards are currently being addressed. After the AGM I met with coaches from across

the country during various events, including Hollins and asked for their opinions and ideas. During this initial period feedback from Liz Cain and Hayley Markovich was of great assistance and I would like to thank them both. I would also like to thank the many coaches who stepped forward to offer assistance.

I also researched accreditation in the U.K, America and Canada. Whilst Russia does not have an accreditation system, mentoring is an important part of coach development as many coaches begin to commence their coaching careers in a team coaching environment under the guidance of elite level coaches.

Further to this I looked into other Sports in Australia that have had success with athlete development to see what direction they had taken in coaching accreditation that has assisted in this area. I also believed it was important to look at other industries that require their members to maintain some form of continuing education or accreditation.

A document outlining concerns raised along with recommendations for consideration was presented to the then APSA President. At the time it was not addressed however, since then the information has been re-presented to APSA and as a result a new accreditation system which includes both education and performance recognition, changes to up date points requirements for re-accreditation, further education and education more relevant to each level of accreditation. I believe this is a very positive step forward and one that has been long overdue.

Concerns raised by the Members of ISA in regards to coaches coaching disciplines they have little knowledge in is also being addressed with recommendations that level 1 coaches will no longer be accredited for ALL disciplines without completing the required mentoring hours for each discipline seeking accreditation in.

It was also advised that coaches who were not fully accredited were attending inter-club events as a coach internationally. Recommendations to ensure that this does not continue will be proposed for consideration of the Board along with coach accreditation requirements for competitions in the future.

I would like to thank ISA for giving me the opportunity of being the Operational Director for Coaching. It's crossover into other positions that I now hold has given me the opportunity to listen to and address the concerns raised by ISA in regards to coaching more effectively. It has also given the coaching community an opportunity to present their ideas and concerns to ISA. Other Operational Directors and Board Members have also opened the lines of communication to the coaches and this has been accepted as a very positive change.

I look forward to continuing to work with ISA and other Operational Directions as our sport continues to grow and develop.