



Message from the Chair—Glenda Poirier

Another season is well underway for all COS Officials. For all our new officials—Welcome!

The past summer and fall, we had the privilege to attend and officiate at some wonderful events—Summer Skate and Octoberfest! ACI was held again during Octoberfest and we saw some great skating. The hospitality at these events was fantastic! As I write this, our officials are off at Sectionals. This year we had a few changes to Sectionals...Pre-Juvenile events will not be held at Sectionals but were added to KIS this season...Dance and Pair events will combine skaters from three of the four Ontario sections. The four Ontario Judges' chairs met in May at the ACGM and came up with an idea that was presented to each of the four sections. We wanted to bring the four sections Dance and Pairs events into one Sectionals' - a benefit to both skaters and officials. Three out of the four sections are participating in this for the first time in Oakville at the COS Sectionals. We will have Northern and Eastern Sections with us for the dance and pairs events. We hope to build on this in the future.

Now it will soon be area competition season—starting in December. This season we will continue with the STAR 1 to 5 Pilot events for free skate. We have removed the Jr. Bronze Free Skate event as these skaters are really STAR 5 qualified. We have trained a few new officials and they will be joining us very soon. The area competition schedules are being handled by the COS offices staff and we will be trying to keep it very similar to last year. If you have any questions, reach out and we can try to assist you. We can always use people as Tech Reps, so if you or anyone you know has Event Management skills, let's put them to work!

Our test days are running smoothly and the co-ordination of calendars for these is being handled by Patrick Way in the COS office. It's hard to make sure that all the test days do not run on the same day and, as we all know, there just isn't enough evaluators to go around. Thanks Patrick!

There is a lot of chatter rink side about whether or not the four Ontario sections will be rolled into one big section under the Skate Ontario name. A working committee has been put in place to review and come up with what is best for all the stakeholders. At this point in time, no decision has been made, so stay tuned for more on this subject as it develops.

Stay up-to-date on what's going on at <http://www.cosofficials.yolasite.com/> and join our Facebook group called **Skate Canada COS Officials**.

And to keep you informed, this will be my last season as your Judge/Evaluator and COS Officials Chair. I've enjoyed the last four years, but it is time now for a change. Laura McLellan will be taking over as the Judge/Evaluator Chair next season and we are working together this year to make the transition as smooth as possible. I will remain active in the role as Past Chair next season on the Judge/Evaluator committee. The board will appoint a new Officials chair in May 2016. I wanted to just say 'thanks' to all of you and my committee's for making it a challenging and fun time, with lots of changes!

So on that note, Have a great season at the Rink! And Happy Holidays to you and your families.



The COS Judges Committee would like to take this opportunity to extend to you and your families the warmest greetings of the Christmas Season and all the best for the coming year.



Data Input and Video Replay Operators—Integral Members of the Technical Panel

By Chris Stokes

When Skate Canada adopted the Cumulative Points Calculation system, duties of each member of the technical panel team were clearly spelled out. Each member of the team has a specific role within the panel to allow for things to run smoothly. And for the technical panel to run smoothly, each person needs to remember that they are part of a team.

We all know who the Technical Controller, the Technical Specialist and the Assistant Technical specialist are on a panel and we know what job they do. The people who don't get as much recognition as they should, are the Data Input Operator (DIO) and the Video Replay Operator (VRO). The efficiency of any technical panel can be made or broken by the DIO and VRO.

As the Technical Specialist calls each element, the DIO is responsible for inputting the element and level of difficulty of the element as called so that it can be sent out to the judges' monitors for them to assign a GOE. The VRO is responsible for tagging each element during the program so that if a review is called by the panel, the VRO can easily access the element to be reviewed. While DIOs and VROs are not required to sign the Skate Canada's Official's Code of Ethics Confirmation Form, it is important that these individuals be informed of the expectations on anyone sitting on a judging panel regarding; respecting the confidential nature of the discussions held and; maintaining the integrity of the sport.

There are certain competencies required for a DIO and VRO:

1. Technical Knowledge—familiar with the various types of elements and the technical terminology associated with the event.
2. Teamwork—must be able to work as part of a team and take direction from the Technical Controller. Each must also be able to work well under pressure.
3. Panel Process—must have a good understanding of panel process and the role that each member plays.
4. Professional—as a member of the official panel, respect and confidentiality must be maintained at all times.

Skate Canada Central Ontario is continuously looking for volunteers and if being a member of a technical panel is something that interests you, DIO and VRO are a great way of being introduced to how a technical panel operates. It is a wonderful way to learn and improve your knowledge of CPC and the scoring system.

COS provides training for the DIO and VRO position so if you are interested contact the Technical Officials Chair, Deanna Tomietto via the COS office for more information.

Congratulations to the following Officials on their recent Promotions:

Alvin Chau	- Technical Specialist—Singles
Frances Baldesarra	- Juvenile Singles
Shaylene Finch	- Juvenile Singles
Kaelynn Frankish	- Novice Singes
Georgia Godinpath	- Primary Singles
Stacey Greenberg	- Sr. Bronze Dance, Free Skate, Skills, Juvenile Singles
Limin Jao	- Technical Controller—Singles
Glenda Poirier	- Technical Controller—Singles
Kathy Robinson	- Primary and Juvenile Dance
Jodi Rumack	- Juvenile Singles

**SKATE CANADA—
CENTRAL ONTARIO**
111 Snidercroft Road, Unit A
Concord, ON L4K 2I8

Phone: (905) 760-9100
Fax: (905) 760-9104
www.skatecanada-centralontario.com



Supplementary STARSkate Events Also Known as the Non-Free Skate Events...

Skate Canada has published standards for the 'out of the ordinary' events we find at area competitions. These events include the Interpretive, Showcase, Element (both individual and team), Creative Skills and Solo Pattern Dance. The document *Supplementary STARSkate Events—Program Requirements & CPC Event Procedures* can be found on the Skate Canada Info Centre Site. Are you familiar with these events...

Creative Improv:

A program designed by the skater with little preparation time and no coaching—all skaters skate to the same music that is only heard at the time of the event. The skaters will hear the music twice before they take the ice, then it will be played for them during the warm up. The next time they hear the music will be when they are called to the ice to skate. It will test the skaters ability to 'quickly interpret a given piece of music and entertain an audience'.

There are four levels to this event with levels 1 and 2 judged to Standard and 3 and 4 CPC judged.

Element Events:

Skaters perform individual jumps and spins without the pressure of doing them within a musical program. There are nine levels, STAR 2 to 5, Senior Bronze to Open and two types Individual and Team. All events are judged to Standard.

Showcase:

A program designed by the skater and/or coach with the focus on the skater's ability to *entertain* an audience. These programs entertain through the theatrics or artistic ability where costumes and props can enhance the story (note there are restrictions on the props that can be used).

There are four levels, 1 through 4, with levels 1 and 2 judged to standard and 3 and 4 CPC judged. There are also three types of showcases; Individual—1 skater; Group—2 to 6 skaters; Production—7 or more skaters.

Creative Skating Skills:

Skaters will perform a variety of steps, turns and field moves that are set to music. The emphasis is on the quality and execution of these elements. There are three step sequences at each level—Straight Line, Circular and Serpentine with selected elements included at each level. Vocal music is allowed.

The three levels are Bronze, Silver and Gold with a program length maximum of 2 minutes. All events are CPC judged.

Interpretive:

A program designed by the skater and/or coach with the focus on the skater's ability to *interpret/create a clear mood/theme and/or story* through their skating movements. Skaters movements must enhance the interpretation rather than being technically difficult. Costumes should be simple and not theatrical—NO props allowed!

There are five levels—Pre-Introductory and Introductory judged to standard. Bronze, Silver and Gold CPC judged.

Solo Pattern Dance:

Allows a skater to perform pattern dances individually on the ice. Each event will consist of two pattern dances that are drawn each season. Number of sequences will match the number required for evaluated dances.

There are seven levels for this event STAR 3, Junior Bronze, Senior Bronze, Junior Silver, Senior Silver, Gold and Diamond (all levels are based on the candidates level in the dance test stream). All events are COC judged.

In June and July of 2015, officials attended Juvenile Dance and Pair Clinics. All obtained the Primary Level of the clinic discipline and are now busy working on obtaining their Juvenile Promotion. Congratulations and good luck to:

Dance: Vitaly Birbraer, Stacey Greenberg, Juli Griffin, Jeff Morden and Lydia Schultz

Pairs: Amy Doucette, Lauren Bathurst, Breanne Frankish, Kaelynn Frankish, Stacey Greenberg, Jacob McArthur, Jeff Morden, Kathy Robinson and Cathie Tonkin