



Rinkside Chatter

December 2013

Official's News—Glenda Power, 2013-14 Judges/Evaluator Chair

Times are changing and so is our judging system for low level competitions effective next season!

Yes it's true, the 6.0, OBO judging system will be obsolete effective July 2014.

Skate Canada COS will be moving to a 'Skate the Standard' scoring system. This style of judging is already used in a lot of other sports/talent events within Canada—Dance and Singing Competitions to name two. Each skater will be scored to a standard—Merit, Bronze, Silver or Gold. Everyone goes away with something! This will be a very positive experience for all skaters.

These new events will replace the Introductory to Jr. Bronze categories currently in STARSSkate and will go under the names *Star 1*, *Star 2*, *Star 3*, *Star 4* and *Star 5*. The pilot program was carried out in British Columbia this past season to great success.

You can read more about this new program and get access to the pre-event technical package at the link:

http://www.skatinginbc.com/sites/default/files/technical-updates/13-14starskate_technical_package_sept13.pdf

What this means is that if you currently are a primary judge, we will need you to recertify. You are a valuable asset to our organization and we need each and every one of you!

We are looking at the following dates for recertification—Please mark your calendars!:

February 8, 2014—COS Office—Pre-Training in CPC STARSSkate up to Juvenile training.

September 13, 2014—Volunteer Conference in Alliston Ontario—Star 1-5 Officials Training (we hope to have a speaker in from British Columbia to train us all).

Now, if you are interested in the pre-training and upgrading your skills, you could be a Juvenile Judge before the new system comes into effect. To accomplish this follow this outline:

1. Attend February 8, 2014 Pre-Training
2. Judge Jr. Bronze to Jr. Silver and Trial judge Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile at the COS STARSSkate Championships in Brampton—February 13-14, 2014
3. Judge Jr. Bronze to Gold at March Mania in Innisfil—March 7-9, 2014
4. Trial judge Pre-Juvenile and Juvenile at Scarborough Skate—April 2014
5. Submit a minimum of two trial judge reports that are rated Satisfactory or better to apply for the Juvenile Singles Promotion

Let's work together and upgrade your skills, so you can stay involved in the sport you all love!

Skate Canada COS has a great team and we need you to stay involved providing, our skaters with your expertise.

Skate Canada—Central Ontario

111 Snidercroft Road
Unit A
Concord, ON L4K 2J8
Phone: 905-760-9100
Fax: 905-760-9104
www.skatecanada-centralontario.com

New Official's Badges

COS Badges have been redesigned! Some of you might have seen these stream lined badges at recent competitions—Octoberfest, Sectionals to name a few. To get your own new badge just send a picture of yourself to the COS Office care of _____. Your new badge will be created and available for pick up at the registration desk of the next scheduled area or centralized competition.

Official's Development

COS provided an opportunity for judges to travel out of Section to enhance their skills the past six months:

- Four judges went to Lake Placid in the summer for dance development
- Two judges went to Ottawa, also in the summer, for singles/dance development
- Two judges went to Saskatchewan in the fall for singles development.
- Three judges went to Skate Canada in New Brunswick in the fall to participate in a Trail Judge Program.
- One judge will be going to Regina to participate in the officials Singles Challenge Trial Judging Program in December

COS provided training clinics in both the evaluating and competitive stream the past six months:

- Eighteen attended a Preliminary to Sr. Bronze evaluating clinic on June 1, 2013
- Thirteen attended a Jr. Silver to Gold evaluating clinic on June 2, 2013
- Two attended a Senior Singles training clinic in September
- Four attended a Primary Singles and Dance training clinic in November

Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedules to enhance and develop your evaluating and/or judging skills!

Congratulations to the following officials on their recent promotions!

Technical Panel:

Beth Begin—Base Level Technical Official

Scott Chalmers—Section-Level Singles Technical Controller

Alvin Chau—Section-Level Dance Technical Specialist and Base Level Technical Official

Erin Chellew—Section-Level Singles Technical Specialist and Controller

Robert Hatfield—Base Level Technical Official

Shari Mann—Base Level Technical Official

David Matueszwska—Base Level Technical Official

Laura McLellan—Base Level Technical Official

Wallis Rudnick—Section-Level Synchro Technical Controller

Chris Stokes—Section-Level Synchro Technical Controller

Base Level Technical Officials clinic
is planned for February 2014—Refer
to COS website for exact dates.

Evaluator and Judge Promotions:

Emily Gilles—Juvenile Singles

Flora Krasnoshtein—Diamond Dance

Juli Griffin—Primary Judge

Chelsea Lecce—Primary Judge

Christopher Perrotta—Primary Judge

Other:

Beth Begin—Clinic Leader

Judy Cotter—Clinic Leader

Novice Synchro Judging Clinic

COS Office—January 4-5, 2014

A great opportunity to learn about synchronized skating! This clinic is just before Winterfest which will give you a chance to trial judge events while things are still fresh in your mind! For more information please contact COS Office or Laura McLellan.

Contemporary Music for Pattern Dances

Skate Canada has introduced a 'new and exciting' development to pattern ice dances. In conjunction with vocal music now being allowed within the competitive dance events, contemporary music with vocals have now been selected to correspond with all the pattern dances from Dutch Waltz to the Yankee Polka. It is hoped that by switching the music up from the more classical ball room music that has existed for years (Skate Canada Series 8 or ISU) will keep skaters interested in dance throughout their skating career. In addition the more contemporary music might lead to a skater developing more performance ability as well as providing a familiarity with different varieties of music allowing a more fluid transition to competitive dance if desired.

With this change comes lots of questions. Some of the logistics of this new program:

- Songs selected have been pre-screened to fit the range of beats per minute, tempo and feel for each dance
- Use of the music is optional. Skate Canada Series 8 or ISU music is still permitted
- A yearly review will be carried out by Skate Canada of the dance list, adding music where appropriate
- Only the song by the artist indicated on the play list can be used—remixes or covers by other artists cannot be used
- On test days, the skater can try the test to the Contemporary, Skate Canada Series 8 or ISU music, however the skater must indicate the selection of music they wish to skate to when they submit their test envelope
- Test day warm-up periods, Skate Canada Series 8 music or ISU music, should be played not the contemporary song, unless all skaters on the warm-up are skating to the same contemporary song

Before heading out to a test day, some preparation work is required on the evaluators side as well as some expectations should be found when you get to the rink.

- Become familiar with the nuances of this change by consulting the official information sheet found on the Skate Canada website at *Members Only* under *Technical & Programs/STARSkate/Contemporary Music for Pattern Dances*
- Review the contemporary music assigned to each dance (a selection of dances have been noted in the chart below—for a complete list, please see the Skate Canada website noted above)
- Listen to and watch video clips of the dances also available for viewing on the Skate Canada Website above
- The test chair is to inform the evaluator, before they get to the rink, if any of the contemporary dance music is to be used on the test day
- Keep an open mind when listening to the contemporary pieces as they might not reflect what you think the style of the dance is or is what you might like to listen to!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either Glenda Power or Patrick Way at the COS Office.

<i>Dance</i>	<i>Contemporary Song</i>	<i>Dance</i>	<i>Contemporary Song</i>
Dutch Waltz	You and Me—Lifehouse	American Waltz	Fallin—Alicia Keys
Canasta Tango	Rolling in the Deep—Adele	Paso Doble	Loca—Shakira
Swing Dance	Single Ladies—Beyoncee	Blues	Miss Independent—Kelly Clarkson
Willow Waltz	I'll Be—Edwin McCain	Quickstep	Happy Feet—High Heels Mix
Ten Fox	Quit Playing Games—Backstreet Boys	Westminster Waltz	Keep Holding On—Avril Lavigne
European Waltz	Kiss from a Rose—Seal	Golden Waltz	What's New Pussycat—Tom Jones
Keats Foxtrot	Never See Your Face Again—Maroon 5	Yankee Polka	Wind it Up—Gwen Stefani

