

ICE NEWS



With the end of 2015 fast approaching, it is time to reflect and also look ahead to the 2016 skating year.

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2015/6 SAFSA-WP COMMITTEE

A new WP committee is in place after the AGM:

Chairman : Dawn v.d. Riet
 Vice: Nazeem Abrahams
 Secretary: Suzette Samuels
 Treasurer: Colleen Servais
 Members: Shern Allely
 Ashley Arendse
 Penelope Engel-Hills
 Tracy Hill
 Gavin Howes
 Ricardo Jacobs

WP Sports Awards:

The annual WP Department of Sport Awards took place on 2nd December at the Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset West.

We are delighted to announce that Michaela du Toit was chosen as the WP Junior Sportswoman of the Year, and Dawn van der Riet (WP Chairman) was awarded one of the Life-time Achiever Awards.

We are very proud to have this recognition for Figure Skating from this higher body.

Michaela will now proceed into the finals for the Western Cape award which will be announced early next year.

Competitions:

Our local competitions, WP Championships, as well as the 3 Inter-provincials for 2015, are all behind us now with the SA NATIONALS 2015 having taken place in May here in Cape Town. All results can be found on www.SAFSA.org.za

WP Colours Award Ceremony:

This event was held at the Sports Science Institute on 19th April 2015, and skaters were awarded their WP colours for representing WP at the upcoming SA Nationals.

This was combined with motivational guest speakers and was a most informative event.

Nationals 2015:

Once again WP reigned supreme and was awarded the overall Ster Trophy.

We are very proud of our WP Team and their achievements. Congratulations to you all!

Brian Orser Seminar:

Brian Orser—coach of current World Champion Javier Fernandez, and reigning Olympic Champion, Yuzuru Hanyu, was in Cape Town for the SA Nationals with Michaela du Toit and our coaches and select skaters were treated to a two day coaching seminar given by Brian.



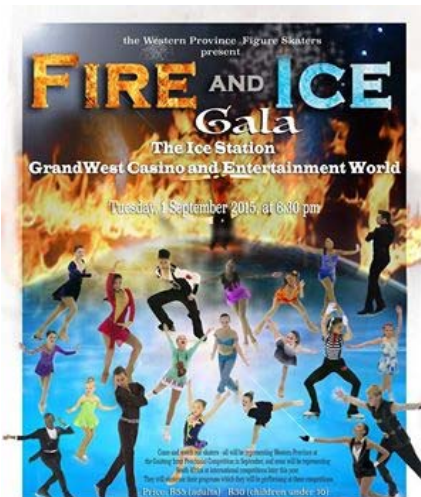
WP Year planner 2016:

Competitions:

4-6 March 2016: KZN Inter Provincial
 16-17 April 2016: WP Championships + Interclub Grades
 22-24 May 2016: SA Nationals Durban
 2-4 Sept 2016: Gauteng Inter Provincial
 14-16 Oct 2016: Cape Inter Provincial
 TBA WP Club championships

Medal tests up to Nationals 2016:

February 2nd 2016
 March 15th 2016
 April 19th 2016 (qualifier)



WP on Ice:

Fire & Ice, an evening of exhibition skating in preparation for the Gauteng Interprovincial took place on 1st September, and was enjoyed by all and raised much needed funds for their travel expenses to this competition.

Synchronized Skating:

The WP squad of Synchronized skaters is administered by the WP Synchro committee under the chairmanship of Penelope Engel-Hills.

The ongoing problem of filling the Senior team remains, and this team was provisionally selected to represent South Africa at the Synchronized World Championships to be held in April 2016, should all members qualify and the minimum number of 16 skaters be attained.*

Team Rainbow has declined their selection to the World Challenge Cup for 2016

International Competitions:

JGP USA: Kathryn Winstanley

JGP Poland: Michaela du Toit
Matthew Samuels

JGP: Spain Michaela du Toit
Ancio van Tonder

Selections for the rest of the season:

Junior Worlds: Michaela du Toit
Matthew Samuels *

Senior Worlds: Michaela du Toit *

4 Continents Michaela du Toit

Skate Helena: Abigail Samuels
Matthew Samuels
Kathryn Winstanley
Marion Papka

Tyroll Cup: Courtney Kuhn

Adults: Obertsdorf Christopher Barnett

*Subject to qualifying scores attained

Sadly the Development competition which was to be held in Cape Town during December 2015, was cancelled by the ISU.

Clubs:

Black Panthers and Junior Blades continue with the good work of developing our figure skaters from base level.

The Sunday Nite Club, the recreational arm, has taken Adult skaters under their wing, and continues to encourage this sector of our sport.

All clubs had very successful end of year events at the end of November, which displayed the work done over the past year, when all their skaters participated in a group number on the ice at the respective Christmas parties.

The Sunday Nite club hosted their annual charity Gala which was well attended and a good amount of money raised for the chosen charity in conjunction with GrandWest.

Stepping Stones:

A WP development project was initiated in August 2015, the objective being to bridge the gap in the skaters' transition from club skater to the competitive stream.

An initial 10 skaters were chosen from Black Panther and Junior Blades clubs, and are sponsored for a half hour on ice, and half hour off ice lesson with professional coaches each Wednesday for a period of 6 months.

Warm up exercises are performed prior to getting on the ice, and lectures on the various aspects of figure skating are conducted.

This project is already proving to be successful and will continue with a fresh intake in the new year, with Ricardo Jacobs at the helm.

Ice Etiquette:

All skaters and coaches on the ice during patch time are required to display consideration to each other during practice.

All pupils having lessons, and those playing their music, must be given priority.

The younger skaters must respect the older ones and visa versa.

Ice Rink Rules:

Please observe the rules laid down by the ice rink, especially in respect of not using the back passages to access the rink. This is a Casino rule and must be obeyed. The rink will shortly be installing a linkscan system on one of the front doors, and you will be able to use your disc to enter that way should the doors be locked in future.

WP Team:

A meeting will be held in the new year, to re-iterate WP rules & dress code for our competitive skaters. All will be expected to attend. Further details to follow.

Ice shows:

The Junior Blades club is running a fundraising event for the Ice Show [Swan Lake on Ice](#), at the Artscape in January 2016, and tickets are available from them at a hugely reduced rate.

Please support this initiative as all our skaters will benefit from these proceeds.

The Ice rink will be presenting a demonstration [mini rink Christmas Show](#) during the school holidays, for the two weeks leading up to Christmas at 18:30 nightly, using our SAFSA skaters and will be choreographed by Oula and Vage.

[Disney on ice](#) will be back at the GrandWest Arena during the winter school holidays 2016.

We hope most of our skaters will be able to take a break, and have a good rest before the new year's skating commences in January.

Have a lovely Christmas and we hope to see you all in January 2016 for the new skating season

[Happy skating.](#)

[WP Committee.](#)