

## ISQ Council Annual Report 2022

It is very pleasing to see the ice skating community in Queensland finally getting back to a level of normality with the highlight of the sporting year being able to finally host the Australian Figure Skating Championships at Boondall after it being cancelled for the previous two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Council extends its sincere thanks to all the members that volunteered to assist with the conduct of the 2022 Australian Figure Skating Championships; there is no doubt that the event was an outstanding success. I personally was amazed with the number of compliments received from interstate skaters, officials and visitors for our volunteers and staff on the way that they were always cheerful and helpful and that they made their experience at the championships something memorable for them. We are also thankful to those who volunteered at our other events during the year.

The Council would like to congratulate those Queensland athletes that were able to represent their clubs and Queensland at competitions in the past year at events locally, interstate and internationally. We understand the hard work that it takes and value your efforts in doing this.

During the year Council continued to look at improvements to both rinks to make the experience of attending our rinks a more enjoyable experience. We installed a large-scale solar system in Boondall to assist in reducing the electricity costs. While this is a long term process, we will see the benefits for many years to come. The sound systems in both rinks were upgraded which will benefit both our skaters with better music quality for practice and competitions; it is also a benefit for our general session skaters with improved sound quality.

The annual financial report will assist in giving members a better understanding of the financial result for the 2022 year for Ice Skating Queensland which resulted in a very strong turnaround from the previous year. While Ice Skating Queensland is a not-for-profit organisation it is very important that we generate surplus funds to be able to continue to improve the rinks and to be able to offer support to the sport.

The learn to skate classes in both rinks continue to have very strong numbers across the levels. We do still however not have the level of conversion to the competitive stream of our sport that we would like to have, and this is something that we are constantly looking at to improve. We are also looking at the retention rate of our competitive skaters to make sure that we have strong quality skaters in all divisions.

During 2022, our CEO Keith Fullerton resigned after several years of commuting from the Sunshine Coast to Brisbane, to take up a position close to home to be able to spend more time with his young family. We were fortunate to be able to secure a new CEO, Annabel Kehoe, in early December who came to us with a very strong background in sports management.

Annabel has had a very busy start with us and has undertaken a very important piece of work for Ice Skating Queensland in developing the ISQ 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, that we will have a presentation on at the conclusion of the 2023 AGM. There has been wide ranging consultation undertaken during the formulation of the Strategic Plan and we thank those who took part in this.

This year will see us to continue our focus on athlete and sports development. The Athlete Development Committee will continue to develop opportunities for our skaters to improve with opportunities to participate in a range of seminars / camps to assist with their development. Once again, the Council encourages all coaches and athletes to take advantage of these opportunities so that Queensland athletes are at the peak of our sport regardless of the discipline. We will continue to leverage our physical presence, through Iceworld, to help grow the sport in Queensland, in line with our Strategic Plan.

We also need to continue to grow our judges and officials within the sport and we encourage anyone that may have an intertest in these areas to reach out and we are happy to provide guidance on how to achieve your goals in these areas.

In closing I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors, Rink Management, the ISQ Administration Officer, the Judges and Officials Committee, the Athlete Development Committee, the Iceworld rink staff, the ISQ Members and all our volunteers for their incredible work over the past year.

Best wishes and success for the future.

Peter Marcovich

President, Ice Skating Queensland

