

Morley Panthers Roller Skating Club

Artistic Representative's Report

2017 Annual General Meeting

This has been a challenging year for the club, with many events happening, increasing competition (not a bad thing in the overall scheme of things) and serious time pressures on members, parents, committee and coaches.

Maricarmen Sanjuan Figures Seminar

This seminar, presented by visiting coach Maricarmen Sanjuan over 28-30 October, did not receive strong support from club members, but those who attended were well pleased with it.

Hugo Chapouto Dance Seminar

Hugo is a favourite with all Australian skaters. His seminar, run over 17-18 November, was a big success, with both skaters and coaches having a lot to take away and work on.

New Rollerdrome Floor

The Rollerdrome floor was resurfaced using a polished concrete finish, commencing late January. While the new surface is good, it has been found that the figure tapes do not adhere strongly to the floor, resulting in continual damage to the circles. The taped circles are now being progressively replaced, using painted lines.

Christmas Showskate and Club Registration Night

The Club Registration and Awards Night was held on Saturday December 7. The showskate format used involved a number of separate items, and all were of a great standard. This night also presented an opportunity to present our artistic awards for 2016. For the record, the Artistic awards were:

- Rising Star - Lainey Holmes
- Encouragement - Jessica Barrett
- Most Improved - Emily Brussel
- Most Outstanding - Barry and Haley Andrews
- Most Consistent - Kathryn Loader
- Sportsmanship - Tia Walker.
- President's - Rebecca Allen
- Margaret Hutchinson - Peter Rye
- Volunteer - Paul Loader

Leagues

As usual, four league competitions were held during the year. Morley skaters made good use of them, to develop their competition and performance skills.

Proficiency Tests

The club conducted a round of proficiency tests in February. The demand was high due to the request from Skate WA to have all skaters intending to go to Nationals proficient before States. While a formal record was not presented, most skaters appear to have passed well.

State Championships

This was a big and tiring event for all participants. While the early start on the Saturday was unavoidable, it did contribute to the level of fatigue felt by all on Sunday evening.

The competition was a great success for the club, winning the overall club trophy (again). It was also a great success for Charli Nuttall, with her being presented the under-14s figures and dance trophies, as well as sharing the best artistic performance award (Tony Millett trophy) with Calista Aliphon. The other club member taking away a trophy was Amadee Bond, being the figures trophy for her age group.

I would also like to record my thanks to Sasha Nuttall for her efforts in organising the officials' lunch on Sunday, as well as the parents who helped by manning the marshalling desks.

National Championships

The club's record at the Nationals this year did not match previous years. All our skaters performed well, but with the loss of a few top skaters and strong competition from other states, we came home without any gold medals.

Novice Championships

Due to the dominance of A-grade skaters in our membership, the club often does not have a strong showing in this competition. But our novice grade skaters did well, winning more medals than any other club, and with Jessica Barrett winning the both the consistency and encouragement trophies, and Hannah Anderson also being a nominee for the encouragement trophy. It was a great effort by all who competed.

Trainee Coaches

It is pleasing to see Tia Walker in formal training as a coach, and also (perhaps with her example) a few others considering working on a commission. In particular, Phoebe Nuttall has shown great promise with her help in Saturday star classes. We must encourage all our skaters to support the club, and having new coaches coming through is particularly important.

Development Class

Another pleasing development has been the rebirth of the Development Class, now on Saturday afternoons (where it used to be, in its first guise as Junior Club). The class appears to be running well, with a mix of skaters of all levels participating. Many thanks to Jazmin Hanson and Kylie Webb for their efforts in running it.

New Grades

As a final point, it is worth recording the change of grades which comes in for the 2018 skating year. Our previous A-grades have now been split, with strictly age-banded International grades closely matching those in Europe, and non-age-banded National grades. The changes look promising from several perspectives.

Peter Rye
Artistic Representative, 2017