

ANNUAL REPORT

IMPAIRED SKATING SCIO

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012



IMPAIRED  
**SKATING**



**Statement by Margarita Sweeney-Baird (Charity Trustee and Chair of IS)**

**This is the First Annual Report of the Impaired Skating Charity (IS), which is registered as an SCIO in Scotland and regulated by the OSCR.**

**This first year of operation has been marked by notable success for IS with the first international club event for skaters with impairment taking place in Dumfries on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. At this event IS applied the international judging system adaptation to new elements created for these skaters and used the IS Classification system for the first time.**

**25 skaters from 4 countries (Canada, Russia, Britain and Ireland) participated and some of the worlds leading judges, referees officials and event organizers came together to officiate. We owe a hug debt of gratitude to these officials and their expertise which resulted in robust results and has also contributed to the further development of the IS competition system for the future.**

**The event was a huge success at a technical and emotional level and many spectators were overwhelmed to see the joy of achievement by these skaters. The skaters were fantastic and the spirit of participation and support for fellow competitors was a joy to behold.**

**The Dumfries 2012 event was permitted by NISA and Special Olympics GB and incorporated the first Special Olympics GB National Championships and the unique Special Olympic ethos was evident throughout. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Special**

Olympics GB for their support for the event and we look forward to the further development of Special Olympics in 2013 where we will be expanding into speed skating and will seek to increase the regional event and development structure in the UK.

We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Classifiers, who developed the Classification system, applied it at the Dumfries Event and then worked on it throughout the summer and during the Classifiers Conference in July 2012. This team includes leading medical personnel in Canada and the UK and they have given their valuable time and expertise freely and generously. May I take this opportunity to thank the classifiers on behalf of all the skaters at Dumfries in 2012 and for the future skaters who will now be able to benefit from the IS classification system. Through their innovative thinking they have created a system of classification that will allow skaters to be included in ice skating events at all levels and even where there are few IS competitors and this system therefore marks a huge step forward for inclusion of skaters with impairment in the sports of figure skating and speed skating. It also creates a system that could be used in other sports too.

This Annual Report fulfils one of the legal requirements of the Charity to report on the activities of the Charity. It will also be sent to the National Ice Skating Association of the UK (NISA) as the Impaired Skating SCIO is an affiliated association of NISA and has benefited from a donation of £10,000 from the NISA Charitable Trust.

This donation has contributed greatly to the fulfillment of many of the activities that have been undertaken by the IS Charity in it's first year of operation and we would like to note our thanks and appreciation to NISA and the NISA Charitable Trust for their valued support.

Looking forward to next year the Announcement and Entry Forms for Dumfries 2013 were issued in September and we are now receiving entries from new countries, such as the USA and Iceland. We are hoping to welcome 200 skaters to Dumfries in 2013 for the international club competition, which will again be held under International Ice Skating Union (ISU) rules and are seeking participation from as many countries as possible. The event has been permitted by NISA and Special Olympics GB and will again incorporate the Special Olympics GB National Championships.