

ANNUAL REPORT

INCLUSIVE SKATING SCIO

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018

SUPPLEMENT TO THE OSCR REPORT





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

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

This seventh year of operation has again been marked by notable success for Inclusive Skating.

Inclusive Skating once again owes a huge debt of gratitude to the many volunteers, who have assisted in this development. They have given generously of their time and professional skills and have often not even claimed expenses. Thank you one and all.

## **Inclusive Skating Glasgow 2018 April 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7th British Inclusive Skating Championships 2018 Braehead Curling Rink, Glasgow**

The Glasgow 2018 event, skaters was once again a great 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 consensus judging system was used. This saved a huge amount of money in officials' expenses. The system has now been computerized to ensure that any mathematical errors are avoided and to speed up the results system.

New events at this year's competition included compulsory figures. These were hugely popular and are likely to result in a significant increase in numbers participating in future events.

Further, all skaters were included in the British Inclusive Skating championships results, which is based on their overall ranking within each age group. This was another separate result.

The inclusive skating system of competition for the inclusion of skaters with any form of disability has therefore moved to an established event and has a suitable venue that is capable of sustaining the development of the event from an international level event to eventually a World Championship event.

**Inclusive Skating for Genes Championships  
2018  
September 2018  
Lammas, Nottingham, England**

In September, 2018 Inclusive Skating held the first independent Inclusive skating for Genes Event at Lammas, Nottingham, England. This was a great success and the dates are in the diary for 2019. Tim Smethurst took lots of photos that have been used in the new Inclusive Skating website and membership platform. Jamie Geere and the Everyone Active team were absolutely tremendous and did a huge amount of work to make the day a huge success.

**Inclusive Skating Event  
September 2018  
Vail, Colorado, USA**

In September, 2018, during the World Figure Championships, an Inclusive Skating competition took place for the first time in the USA. Several skaters from the UK and Scotland took part in Figure events once again. There was once again a wonderful celebration of 'old school' figures but this time there was a difference. Figures were included in the competition section for Inclusive Skaters. The system for judging Inclusive Skaters participating in compulsory figures in competition was successfully piloted. Following this success future events now include Figures and have been expanded to include all compulsory figures.

Judges for the Inclusive Skating Events were truly inspirational. We had the honour of having the great Dorothy Hamill, the 1976 Olympic Champion and Barbara Wagner, Canada (Olympic Champions) judge the event alongside a true all-time great skater Janet Lynn.

Juliana Sweeney-Baird, Callum Titmus, Hannah Lee, Jenny Lee and Megan MacFarlane represented IS in a variety of categories including Free Skating, Compulsory Figures and Free Dance.

## **Inclusive Skating World Recognition**

During July 2018, Inclusive Skating and the innovative format was recognized by the ISU. This means that Inclusive Skating events can go on the ISU World Calendar of Skating events and that the Inclusive Skating Rules apply to our events. ISU Rules do not apply to Inclusive Skating events. Importantly eligible skaters and officials may now participate in Inclusive Skating events. This recognition marks a significant milestone in the development of Inclusive Skating and is a significant achievement.

## **2018 World Rankings**

During the 2018 season, the IS World Rankings were released. This time by popular demand. The skaters really look forward to them. These were based on the individual competition categories. Skaters were ranked according to a time corrected highest mark. All the highest marks were reviewed for all skaters. So, the rankings include results in all Inclusive Skating events since 2012. Importantly the data in the rankings also provides the whole person impairment percentage for the calculation of results.

## **Fundraising**

Fundraising is an increasing focus of Inclusive Skating activities. A flyer was prepared to give potential funders some information about Inclusive Skating and our activities.

Inclusive Skating was successful in a number of funding awards. The Comic Relief Core Strengths – which is funding the new website and membership platform  
Express Grants, Foundation Scotland  
Lottery Funding - Dec 2018 Funding for Braehead Club

A considerable amount of effort was successfully put into the Kiltwalk to provide the matched funding required for the Comic Relief and Express Grants for Foundation Scotland. Consequently, Inclusive Skating now has a new website and membership and event platform that became operational on December 2018.

## **Additional Achievements**

Inclusive Skating became a member of a number of organisations, including, the SCVO, The Alliance and The Sport and Recreation Alliance. This resulted in a number of nominations. Margarita Sweeney-Baird was nominated and a finalist in the Terrific Trustee Category at the SCVO awards.

## **Additional Activities**

As if that wasn't enough Inclusive Skating representatives also attended a range of webinars on club welfare, safeguarding training, First Aid, GDPR and governance. The Technical Handbook was updated and given an index. The results system was computerised and can operate completely independent of the ISU results system. A computer was purchased for this purpose. A sound and music system was also purchased to ensure that Inclusive Skating Events can take place at any rink even if there is no music system available for use.

The Inclusive Skating logos are now protected by copyright as registered Trademarks.

The website and membership and event platform were prepared throughout 2017 to 2018 and became operational in December 2018.

## **Conclusion**

We look forward to the further development of Inclusive Skating independently and in collaboration with our partner organisations.

More future events are under active development regionally, nationally and internationally and ice skaters should consult the Inclusive Skating website for further information on future events.

We have been really busy and the skaters have achieved so much. It is at times like this when writing an Annual Report you reflect on how much has been done in so little time. We can only stand back in wonder and awe! From a small charity founded in 2011 to world recognition in 2018! Well done everyone!





Margarita  
Shreevey - Laird