



**ANNUAL REPORT INCLUSIVE SKATING
SCIO TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023**



Foreword

Welcome to the Twelfth Annual Report of Inclusive Skating (IS) which is a charity registered in Scotland as a SCIO with the regulatory body OSCR.

The twelfth year of Inclusive Skating's operation has been especially significant when we consider the development of our community. In each of our endeavours- whether it is Skating, Volunteering or Coaching- the community has strived for excellence and achieved countless successes.

We have had a wonderful year of skating at our first live event since the pandemic and our two summer camps, as well as fulfilling our ambition from the previous year to begin providing training and coaching support to volunteers and coaches.

Inclusive Skating once again owes a huge debt of gratitude to the many volunteers, who have generously contributed their time and professional skills to our activities.

On behalf of the Board thank you one and all.

Margarita Sweeney-Baird BEM

Founder and chair

Events



World Inclusive Skating Championship, Hamilton Scotland, April 2023

We were overjoyed to welcome a larger pool of international competitors at this event with our first participants from Latvia and an Australian skater and her mum on their first trip to Scotland. We also welcomed Jamaican Skaters, American skaters to the Hybrid/Virtual competition. Guests from the Special Olympics GB team attended this event to meet some of the Inclusive Skaters as the Inclusive Skating Championships were the selection event for the National Games. It was announced subsequently that 10 of the skaters had qualified for the Special Olympics National Winter Games 2024 in Folgaria

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Gregor Stewart and his family for attending the closing ceremony of the competition to award the competitors with their medals.



World Inclusive Skating Virtual Championships 2022

The Virtual World Championships was held successfully in 3rd-4th December 2022. Virtual Worlds was held in collaboration with the first World Ice Skating on the 4th of December, an exciting way to commence the beginning of our institutional partnership with the ISU! Following the success of the collaboration between the ISU and Inclusive Skating in 2022 the World Inclusive Skating Virtual Championships 2023 will again coincide with World Ice Skating Day! Proceeding the competition, we held the virtual presentation party in February. Torvill and Dean helped to make it even more special by showing their continued support of our athletes as Inclusive Skating ambassadors and even attended the virtual party to share our celebrations.

Ayr Camp

We were lucky to obtain some funding for the Scottish participants of the spring cohort of Coaching Courses to increase access and attainment of the awards. Many of the coaches enjoyed a busy week of training with the wider Inclusive Skating Community at our Ayr Camp in June.



Sweden Camp

In the middle of summer some of the Inclusive Skating Community travelled to Östersund in Sweden to take part in the International Inclusive Skating Summer Camp organised by our friends and partners within IF Castor. The Inclusive Skating team and skaters had such a wonderful experience training at this camp and were ecstatic when we learned that IF Castor has agreed to host and organise the World Inclusive Paralympic Skating Championships from 2024-2030!

Behind the Scenes

Trustees

This year our trustee Jean McGregor stepped down from her role. Jean was our first trustee from New South Wales in Australia and is also an experienced Inclusive Skating coach who has coached many competitors at Inclusive Skating events. We hope that Jean continues to be a valuable member of our community. Huge thank you Jean for your contributions to Inclusive Skating!

On 17th April 2023 we welcomed Charlotta Mellegard and Bradley Oliver to the board. We were delighted to welcome them both to the board and are grateful for their contributions to Inclusive Skating.

Staff

The charity was fortunate to receive funding through the Graduate Career Advantage Scheme to fund the positions of two members of staff, Alec Angus and Bethan Preece for six months. We have had a positive experience with Alec and Beth, both of which have agreed to remain members of the Inclusive Skating Community. Alec has created a wonderful series of videos for the People's Project National Lottery Community Fund which can be found on the Inclusive Skating Youtube channel and will continue to do videography for the charity on a sessional basis. Beth will continue to work as our Development and Events Officer on a sessional basis working closely with the community as and when they require support.

Safety and Safeguarding

In September the Inclusive Skating Team updated the charity's safety guidelines for Inclusive Skating events and activities.

The updated Health, Safety and Safeguarding Policy can be found through this link: [safety-policy-031023232135.pdf](https://www.inclusiveskating.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/safety-policy-031023232135.pdf)

Funding and Donors Support

We are delighted to have been successful in attracting funding during the year and we would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the following funders and Donors:

- Bracknell Ice Club- £1673
- Nottingham Trent Ice Skating Society- £68.08
- Plymouth Ice Skating Club-£186.33
- ISU, World Ice Skating Day -3,000 swiss francs
- Frieda Keane- re gifted Ice Skates
- Gemma Brumfitt- £220 for the charity. Gemma fundraised through her Facebook birthday fundraiser.
- Charlotta Mellegard- £145.12 (Ongoing at time of report). Charlottais husband has fundraised for the charity through an Instagram birthday fundraiser.
- GCAS, who partially funded the roles of our two interns for 6 months.

We would especially like to thank those who have donated to the charity due to their rink closing and/or figure skating club dissolving. 2023 has been a challenging year for the Ice-Skating Community in the UK, who are facing increasing barriers to participating in the sport we all love with the closure of several facilities.

Thank you for supporting Inclusive Skating in your time of disappointment, your kindness and generosity will not be forgotten.

Hybrid/ Virtual Calendar of Activities

This year Inclusive Skating became an approved Centre for the SQA, and the Coach Education Courses was granted SQA Certification and Quality Assurance. This generated substantial popularity for our busy virtual calendar of activities.

Coaching

One of our main goals from 2022 was to increase the number of trained volunteers and coaches who could deliver Inclusive Skating sessions. We have successfully initiated the procedures to do so and have implemented a program of Coach and Volunteer Courses which should fill gaps in our ability to deliver activities to the community. Furthermore, this year we were proud to announce the register of Coaches and Judges which we predict will grow in the year of 2024.

Some insights from the register

Coaches

- There are two coaches who have attained both the Master Coaching Award and Senior Coaching Award.

Assistant Coach

- There is one successful candidate who has attained the Inclusive Skating Assistant Coaching Qualification.

Leaders

- There are 10 Leaders who have participated in the Leader Course Sessions.

Judges

- There are 2 qualified officials who have qualified by taking the Judging skills course.

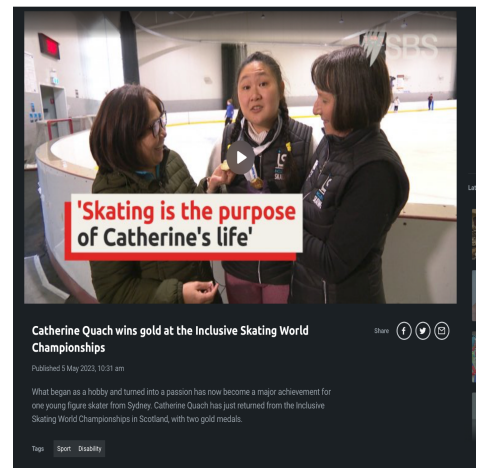
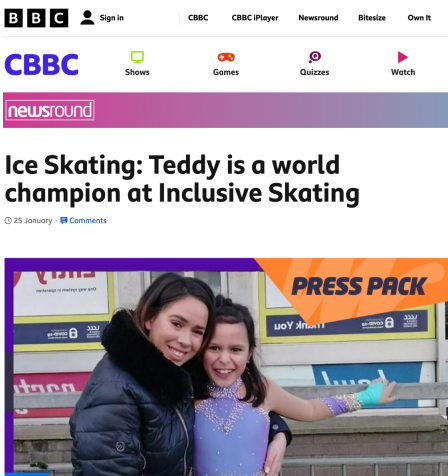
Accredited Inclusive Skating Safety Advisors

- There are now 104 Safety Advisors who have completed the Accredited Safety Advisor Course.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

At the beginning of summer Claire, who is one the members of our Inclusive Ice-Skating Centre of Excellence at the Time Capsule, became the first Inclusive Skater to achieve a Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award with Inclusive Skating as the activity provider. We were overjoyed to hear that Claire was able to celebrate her wonderful achievement at Buckingham Palace with her family and highly anticipate that many more of our community will follow her lead and soon achieve their own gold award.

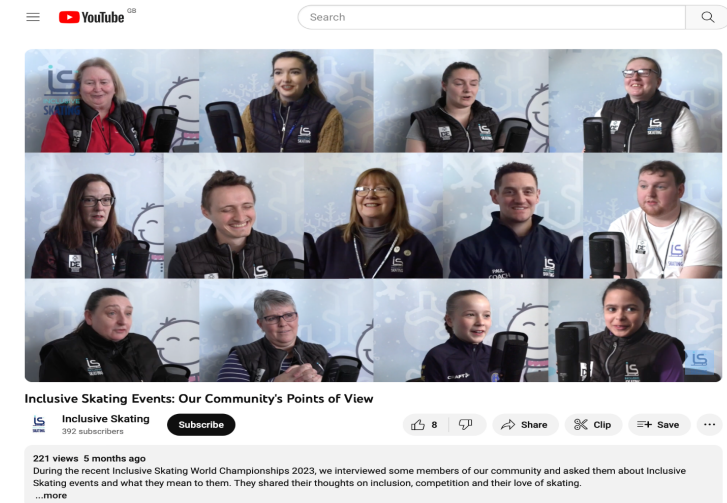
Publicity



Inclusive Skaters

The Inclusive Skating team are always pleased to see our athletes receive due praise for their wonderful performance and commitment to training. When members of the Inclusive Skating Community are given the opportunity to share their stories and ice skating journey with the general public, they always rise to the occasion and doubtlessly inspire others to attain their own achievements. Well done Aya, Teddy and Catherine for spreading the joy of skating with the world!

Social Media



This year the Inclusive Skating Team has been working diligently to maintain a strong social media presence across our channels.

Insights

YouTube

- 392 Subscribers
- 2,012 Videos
- 148,037 Views

Instagram

- 1,127 Followers
- 676 Posts

Twitter

- 810 Followers
- 2989 Posts

Facebook

- 2.1K followers
- 7 reviews

Crowdfunding

Why are we Crowdfunding?



In previous years the Inclusive Skating Team has dipped our toes into online crowdfunding. We are currently making larger strides towards using crowdfunding platforms more efficiently to fundraise for our events and activities.

If you are interested in learning more about our crowdfunding pages, please follow the links listed below.

Inclusive Skating's Go Fund Me Page: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/fundraising-for-coaching-sessions>

&

Inclusive Skating's Local Giving Page: <https://localgiving.org/charity/inclusive-skating/>

Looking Forward

Moving forward Inclusive Skating aims to continue to provide events and opportunities to our community. There is again growing interest internationally for the development of Inclusive Skating and we will continue to develop programs that deliver virtual activities and systems for other associations to collaborate with Inclusive Skating.

In the year to come we highly anticipate another bustling year of activities as we now have spring, summer and winter events to mark on our 2024 calendars. We hope that the Inclusive Skating community share our excitement in the run up to the first Inclusive Paralympic Skating Championships with IF Castor in Ostersund and the World Inclusive Skating Championship 2024 being held in London at Lea Valley between 8th and 12th April 2024.

We would like to welcome new volunteers and trustees to join our team. No matter your background, skills, interests, and expertise, we strongly encourage anyone who is interested in volunteering with us to put themselves forward. There are a variety of location and/or remote activities that you can do to help out !

Please contact contact@inclusiveskating.org if you wish to get involved,

Inclusive skating feels immense admiration for our community who puts their all into all that they set out to achieve and expect that you all will continue to exceed our expectations in the year to come.

Stay Safe and Good Skating!