

**INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION – FOUR YEAR PLAN 2014/15 – 2015/16**

***Project/Function/Area of activity:***

**Officials Education and Assessment**

***Committee/Commission:***

**Ice Dance Technical Committee (IDTC)**

***Statement of specific results & benefits to be obtained:***

- Improve the level of knowledge and experience of ISU, International and National Referees and Judges, in particular strive for the improvement in the following areas:
  - Good understanding of Pattern Dances
  - Good understanding of current Rules and requirements for Short Dance, Free Dance
  - Training in the use of proper marks and adjustments for Required Elements in Short and Free Dances
  - Training in the proper marking of Program Components
  - Training in proper application of the deductions
  - Improved Music & Dance Rhythms education
  - Training in duties of refereeing including implementation of current rules, ability to moderate pre-event meetings and round table discussions, completion of referees reports
  - Assistance in communication skills including Media interview responses skills (for Referees).
- Improve the level of knowledge and experience of ISU, International and National Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists in the following areas:
  - Properly identify all Required Elements and their Levels of Difficulty
  - Properly identify Illegal Elements/Movements, falls etc.
- Recruitment and Training of new Judges in Member countries where more are required.
- Improve Technical Rules related to judging/refereeing when necessary to improve the Sport of Ice Dance.
- Monitor development of Ice Dance and propose changes and amendments to the existing Rules.
- Standardized application of Ice Dance Rules and requirements worldwide.

**Recommended activities to obtain benefits:**

2014/15    2015/16    2016/17    2017/18

Recommended activities to obtain benefits:	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
1. Improvement and expansion of the Officials education programs:				
1.1 Continuation by the IDTC of annual ISU Judges and Referees seminars.	X	X	X	X
1.2 Continuation by the IDTC of education of Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists.	X	X	X	X
1.3 Organization by the IDTC of specialized seminars and conferences such as the Seminars to develop Ice dance judges for new/developing Members.	X	X	X	X
1.4 Production/updating and making available by the IDTC the necessary educational materials, i.e.:				
• Updated training materials for Short Dance	X	X	X	X
• Updated training materials for Free Dance	X	X	X	X
• update ISU Ice Dance Handbook for Technical Panels	X	X	X	X
• update ISU Ice Dance Handbook for Referees and Judges	X	X	X	X
• new DVD materials	X	X	X	X
• update existing DVD material.	X	X	X	X
1.5 Production of materials with Power Point presentations of technical requirements for the current season with purpose to use it at all Seminars/Courses (will be updated for every season).				
2. Continuation of the participation and, when needed, the organization by the IDTC of Referee's and Technical Controllers/Specialists Seminars including education and training new Moderators.	X	X	X	X
3. Formulation and distribution by the IDTC of seminar materials for National seminar in ISU Members countries.	X	X	X	X
4. Updating the ISU Website with new information regarding all technical requirements and rules for the current season including maintaining an updated Questions and Answers document online.	X	X	X	X
5. Improvement of the quality and content of the Initial Judges Meeting by creating and distributing materials for use in these Seminars	X	X	X	X
6. Officials Assessment:				
6.1 Maintenance by the IDTC in cooperation with the ISU Secretariat of an Officials Database (Activity Book) in order to trace the Officials' activity and performances. Assessment and performance evaluation of the Officials by the IDTC, issuing when necessary recommendations for Performance Assessments and for corresponding promotions, demotions or status-quo of the Officials.	X	X	X	X

**Recommended activities to obtain benefits:**

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
6.2 Continuation and improvement by the IDTC of the yearly Judges Examination for prospective ISU Judges.	X	X	X	X
6.3 Continuation by the IDTC of the Judges Seminar and Examination for the first appointed International Judges.	X	X	X	X
6.4 Continuation by the IDTC of the Referees seminar and Examination for the first appointed International Referees or ISU Referees.	X	X	X	X
6.5 Monitoring and updating, when necessary, regulations for judging Novice International Dance Events.	X	X	X	X
7. Continuation of technical dialogue between the IDTC and Judges, Referees, Technical Controllers/Specialists, Coaches, Skaters and other Office Holders regarding innovations and/or improvements for the betterment of the sport of Ice Dance by conducting meetings at all ISU Championships.	X	X	X	X
8. Identification by the IDTC of critical areas for proper judging and refereeing and proposing of the necessary Rule changes to Congress or issue the necessary clarifications through ISU Communications.	X	X	X	X

## **Status Report to the 2016 ISU Congress on the Four Year Plan 2014/15-2017/18**

**Committee/Commission:** Ice Dance Technical Committee (IDTC)

**Project/Function/Area of activity:** Officials Education and Assessment

During the period of time since the last ISU Congress 2014 in Dublin, the IDTC has performed the activities as planned in order to achieve the specific results & benefits stated in the 2014-2018 Four-Year Plan. At the same time the following areas required and will require specific attention:

### **1. Improvement and expansion of the Officials education programs.**

#### **1.1. Ice Dance Referees and Judges Seminars for re-certification**

In accordance with the Officials education program, Ice Dance Referees and Judges took part in the following ISU Sponsored and Recognized Seminars, which were held or are still planned in the two seasons 2014-2015 and 2015-2016

1. Glasgow, GBR - August 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (29 participants from 7 ISU Members)
2. Kiev, UKR - May 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (22 judges from 4 ISU Members)
3. Novogorsk, RUS - June 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (23 Judges from 9 ISU Members)
4. Toronto, CAN - June 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 (16 participants from 5 ISU Members)
5. Gdansk, POL - May 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 ()

To be held in 2016

6. Seoul, KOR - Jun 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>nd</sup>, 2016
7. Dortmund, GER - July 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016
8. Melbourne, AUS - November 30<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup>

The Seminars in Melbourne (AUS) will be organized in conjunction with Junior and Senior events.

The screen judging was used as a practical part at all other Seminars.

#### **1.2. ISU Ice Dance Seminar and ISU Examination for first appointment of International Judges and International and ISU Referees**

Since July 2013 the Judges nominated by the Members for the first appointment of the International Judges or Referees, as well as the first appointment of ISU Referees must attend special ISU Seminar and pass ISU Examinations.

This kind of ISU Seminar was held in Frankfurt on July 12th – 19th, 2015.

#### **1.3. Seminar for Ice Dance International Technical Controllers and/or Technical Specialists for re-certification**

The Global Seminars for the Technical Specialists and Technical Controllers for re-certification were held in Frankfurt in July of 2014, 2015 and are planned on July 10 to 13, 2016.

#### **1.4. Seminar and Examination for new Ice Dance International Technical Controllers and/or Technical Specialists and for promotion to ISU Ice Dance International Technical Controllers and/or Technical Specialists**

The Global Seminars for new Technical Specialists and Technical Controllers and for promotion to the ISU status were held in Frankfurt in July of 2014, and are planned on July 10 to 16, 2016.

All the Officials Seminars were moderated by Technical Committee Members together with other experts and Officials.

## **2. Continuation and improvement by the IDTC of the Judges Examination for status of International and ISU Judges and Referees**

The annual Ice Dance Judges Examinations for promotion to ISU Judge were held in September 2014 and 2015 in Oberstdorf (Germany) on the occasion of the Nebelhorn Trophy International Competition. The content of examinations was revised each year so that both of Exams (written and practical) reflected changes and updates within the ISU Judging System and Ice Dance rules and technical requirements. More emphasis has been placed on the ability of the candidates to communicate effectively in English. Based on the results of the Examinations 2 Judges in 2014 (CAN, ESP) and 5 Judges in 2015 (from AUT-1, FIN-1, Ned-1, TUR-1) were promoted to the class of ISU Judges. 2 Judges (TUR) in 2014 and 3 Judges (ISR-1, ITA-1, KOR-1) in 2015 did not pass the Examination.

The ISU Seminar and ISU Examinations for first appointment of International Judges are included in the Frankfurt Seminar every second year since 2013. The second Examination was held in July 2015 and 12 Judges passed the Examination (BUL – 1, CAN - 1, EST -1, FRA - 2 , GER – 1, ISR-1,ITA-1, RUS-3, UKR-1).

A separate Seminar and ISU Examination for first appointment of International and ISU Referees was organized during the same Frankfurt Seminar. 2 judges passed the Examination for International Referee (CHN- 1,RUS– 1) and 3 judges passed the Examination and were promoted to the class of ISU Referees (CAN, ITA, USA).

At all ISU Championships, as well as the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final in the seasons 2014/15 and 2015/16, the officiating Technical Controllers and Technical Specialists received on-site 2-2,5 hours seminar that is considered as an equivalent of an ISU recognized seminar for those functions. The Seminar was organized by the Sports Directorate and the Technical Committee and helped in preparation for the evaluation of elements. At the end of each event at Championships the Technical Panel review the decisions made during the competition and prepare proposals for the Committee.

Initial Judges Meetings and Round Table Discussions were held at all competitions. The IDTC prepared the Power Point Presentation for the Referees to obtain the same quality of the Initial Judges Meeting and to prevent different interpretation of the Rules and Requirements.

At 2015 and 2016 ISU Figure Skating Championships (ISU European Figure Skating Championships, ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championship, ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships, ISU World Figure Skating Championships) the Initial Judges Meetings Ice Dance were conducted prior to the event by a member of the Ice Dance Technical Committee. Each of those Initial Judges Meetings and the respective Round Table Discussions formed together an ISU Seminar for re-appointment of ISU Judges .

## **3. Improvement of the level of knowledge and experience of ISU, International and National Referees and Judges through improved training.**

There has been an increased effort in the Seasons 2014/15 and 2015/16 to improve and raise the quality of the Ice Dance Officials' Seminars. The Seminars have been modularized and learning objectives developed for each module. Many examples and interactive activities are included in the training, in addition to the standardized Power Point presentations that are used at all Seminars including the Initial and Pre-event Judges Meetings conducted at the major ISU Events. The Technical part was conducted by two Technical moderators (at least one was a Member of the IDTC)

The Component section of the Seminar was conducted by a “Component expert” to add depth of experience and variety.

Three Handbooks for use by Officials have been published on the ISU Website and are updated when necessary for each season;

1. for Technical Panel
2. for Referees and Judges
3. for Pattern Dances
  - Each section of a Handbook includes:
    - Information from Rules and Communications
    - Clarifications in the form of Q&A
  - For each Handbook, subsequent Q&A are:
    - Published as a separate document,
    - Updated in the respective Handbook.

The educational DVDs with explanation of Key Points for Junior and Senior Patter Dance Elements were prepared by IDTC to help the Technical Panels in evaluation of levels (in 2015, 2016).

On behalf of the ISU Ice Dance Technical Committee Halina Gordon-Poltorak, Chair

May 2016