

INTERNATIONAL SKATING UNION – FOUR YEAR PLAN 2014/15 – 2017/18

Project/Function/Area of activity: **Coaches/ Skaters / Teams Education & Monitoring of Technical Rules**

Committee/Commission: **Synchronized Skating Technical Committee (SySTC)**

Statement of specific results & benefits to be obtained:

- Continued education of Synchronized Skating Coaches/Skaters/Teams keeping them up to date with current Rules, procedures and technical / scientific / medical development of the sport and making them aware of potential problems and offering suggestions for resolution.
- Continued development of Synchronized Skating for new and less experienced teams.
- Maintenance of clear and up-to-date Competition Rules and procedures in line with the development of the sport in a close collaboration with the appointed Coach to the TC

Recommended activities to obtain benefits:

| | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. Planning, organizing and holding of Coaches Seminars, Regional Coaches Clinics, Coaches-Moderators Seminars and workshops by the SySTC and other Coaches to be identified. | X | X | X | X |
| 2. Preparation, production and periodic revision of educational materials such as videos, handbooks, guidelines, seminar modules etc. for all levels of Coaches and Skaters/Teams, by the SySTC and other Coaches to be identified. | X | X | X | X |
| 3. To develop training programs for new Members and existing low level Synchronized Skaters. The programs are aimed at increasing skating skill and advance the technique of the Synchronized Skating elements as well as to organize seminars, development camps by the group of the Coaches Moderators/Mentors for the countries with a low level of the Synchronized Skating. | X | X | X | X |
| 4. Periodic event attendance and meetings including workshops between the SySTC, other Coaches, Skaters/Teams, the ISU Development Commission, the S&PTC and IDTC, Media, Video Producers, Medical Advisors, other ISU Office Holders, Officials and Member representatives to evaluate the technical development of the sport including its competition formats, ISU Event qualification procedures, equipment and scientific developments and the corresponding consequences on the Rules and procedures. | X | X | X | X |
| 5. Biennial review and revision of the Technical Rules and procedures, and at the same time preparation and submission of corresponding proposals to the ISU Congress, by the SySTC. Editing of SyS Special Regulations and Technical Rules based on Congress decisions. | | X | | X |

Recommended activities to obtain benefits:

| | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6. Periodic preparation and submission of reports to the ISU Council and Sport Director giving the SySTC's survey of the development of the sport and making proposals concerning the technical development including its International Competitions/ISU Events. In particular but not limited to, the close monitoring by the SySTC of the development of the World SyS Championships and ISU Junior World Synchronized Skating Championship (& JWCC). | X | X | X | X |
| 7. Preparation of ISU Communications by the SySTC for clarifications of Rules and procedures. | X | X | X | X |
| 8. Preparation, with updates as required, of a SyS Technical Handbook for posting on the ISU website. | X | X | X | X |
| 9. Universiade/Olympic project to prepare a strategy for the development of Synchronized Skating as an Olympic Sport by the SySTC (to establish standards/requirements/team composition for SyS as an Olympic Sport). | X | X | X | X |

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

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| Committee/Commission: | Synchronized Skating Technical Committee (SyS TC) |
| Project/Function/Area of activity: | Coaches/Skaters education & monitoring of Technical Rules Officials Education |

The SySTC has carried out and performed all planned activities and achieved the goals that were specified in the Four Year Plan.

IMPROVEMENT AND EXPANSION OF THE OFFICIALS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

The SyS Technical Committee has engaged in an on-going review of the way in which the ISU delivered education to our officials and coaches with a view to targeting more closely the needs of different groups of Coaches and Officials. In pursuit of this goal, the structure of SyS Coaches, Judges, Referees, Specialists and Controllers education seminars was further updated.

The seminar and training camp for Championship event officials to fully prepare the judging and technical panels for the execution of their duties at the World Synchronized Skating Championships, the Junior World Synchronized Skating Championships and the Junior World Challenge Cup has been moved to a bi-annual basis. The seminar continues to be considered to be a highly effective and interesting approach to delivering practical on-ice training combined with classroom based information delivery on regulations and program evaluation. The Autumn Global Coaches seminar has been discontinued in line with the other figure skating discipline. This has been replaced with a newly formatted comprehensive development seminar for Junior level skaters and their coaches. This has been done in conjunction with the ISU Development Program. The skaters and coaches have already been able to start participating in events at international level – a testament to the success of the program.

The SyS TC were delighted to be able to participate in the regular Frankfurt seminar and this was, as ever, perfectly organised and very successful in delivering the seminar and exam workload. This has been further extended to offer National level technical education to support those ISU members who are newer to the Synchronized Skating discipline.

The education and evaluation of new judges, referees and technical controllers has been incorporated successfully into the annual Frankfurt seminar.

Regular judges and referee update seminars were hosted by member federations in France and Switzerland.

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

1. The SyS TC has been working to bring new countries into the international competitive circuit and we saw Iceland send teams to international competition with Latvia and Turkey

competing at world events. It was also pleasing to see China entering international events at Novice and Junior level for the first time.

2. The SyS TC produced a new promotional DVD's for the use of ISU members to help with the promotion of the discipline. This was distributed to all member federations for use at their own events to give an introduction to our discipline.
3. The Synchronized Skating competition calendar continues to growing with a new international event being hosted in Finland to help extend the Synchronized Skating season. The SYS TC continues to provide support and advice for countries looking to host new events. The objective of spreading the dates of events is gradually coming to fruition with new events now taking place from October.
4. The Junior World Synchronized Skating Championships have proved a great success thanks to the excellent organisation and support given by the host countries. Participation continues to grow and the technical standard continues to impress.
5. The SyS TC have issued guidelines for Referees in a new handbook as well as providing a comprehensive guide for our technical specialists and controllers for calling elements.
6. The SyS TC were delighted the Synchronized Skating was included in the Grand Prix Final in Barcelona. It is hoped that this will be the beginning of an on-going participation in the Grand Prix series of events.
7. The SyS TC have undertaken a radical review of the rules and regulations involving our senior coaches for the SyS discipline and senior representatives from major TV companies. Further recommendations for significant changes in program construction and evaluation have resulted from this consultation process. This will afford more creative freedom to the team coaches that we believe will result in further development of the discipline and more varied and interesting programs for the public and media.
8. The SyS TC were delighted with the overwhelming success of the innovative Shanghai Trophy event that was run in conjunction with our Short Track Speed Skating colleagues. This was so well received that the second edition has already been announced. This is a testament to how innovative approaches can help move our sport forward for the benefit of all disciplines.
9. The SyS TC were delighted to be able to work in co-operation with the ISU Development Co-ordinator to support a number of events targeted at grass roots competitive development. We look forward to continued successful co-operation with the Development Commission.
10. The SyS TC will continue to work tirelessly towards inclusion of the discipline in the Olympic Winter Games program.

May 2016