

**SK8SCOTLAND AGM MINUTES**  
**Ice Skate UK (Scotland) Ltd**  
**MURRAYFIELD ICE RINK**  
**SUNDAY 17 JUNE 2007 AT 12:30pm**

**Outgoing Board:**

Bryan Morrice Chairman  
 Noel Grimshaw  
 Alice Fell  
 Archie Marshall  
 Judy Clinton

**In attendance:**

Alan McIver  
 Lorelle Mackie  
 Irene Stoddart  
 John Stoddart  
 Michelle Logie

**Apologies:**

Graeme Summers  
 John McLaren

	<p><b>Chairman's Welcome</b></p> <p>The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present.</p>	
	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from out going board members Graeme Summers and Maggie Worsfold. Apologies were also received from nominated candidate John McLaren.</p>	
	<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman's Report attached to the minutes</li> <li>• The Chairman confirmed that NISA members and Sc8scotland members are one in the same and that this would be communicated to the memership.</li> <li>• Congratulations were offered to Joan Slater recently honoured with an MBE.</li> </ul>	BM
	<p><b>Approval of Accounts</b></p> <p>The accounts were proposed by Noel Grimshaw and seconded by Judy Clinton and all present were in favour.</p>	
	<p><b>Appointment of Company Auditors</b></p> <p>The re-appointment of Greenhalgh and Co as Sk8scotland auditors were proposed by Alice Fell and seconded by Judy Clinton</p>	

	<p><b>Dissolution of current board and appointment of new board</b></p> <p>Bryan Morrice acting as company secretary announced the uncontested board portfolios as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Archie Marshall – Speed Director (Scotland)</li> <li>• Noel Grimshaw – Dance Director (Scotland)</li> <li>• Alice Fell – Figure Director (Scotland)</li> <li>• Judy Clinton – Synchronized Director (Scotland)</li> <li>• Bryan Morrice – Finance &amp; Organisation Director (Scotland)</li> <li>• Michelle Logie – Special Projects Director (Scotland)</li> </ul> <p>There were two nominations for the position of Club Development Director. The sealed envelope from the auditors was opened and the result was as follows:</p> <p>54 votes          3 late          51 counted</p> <p>John McLaren          8  Graeme Summers      43</p> <p>Graeme Summers was declared as elected Club Development Director (Scotland)</p>	
	<p><b>Any other Business</b></p> <p>The following points were raised by members attending and the board agreed to give them full consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication to Sk8scotland members that NISA members in Scotland are automatically members of Sk8scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Adult event</li> <li>• Adult Seminars</li> <li>• A regional squad</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>The meeting was closed</b></p>	

## Chairman's Address - Sk8scotland AGM 2007

Today is an important occasion in the continuing development of Sk8scotland, as the new Board of directors is elected to serve over the coming three years. Since its incorporation in 2004, today sees the commencement of the second Board.

I would like at this stage to reflect for a moment on the role and responsibilities of Sk8scotland within the UK framework governing ice-skating in Britain. As many members will be aware, under ISU and British Olympic Association rules, British skaters are only recognised as GB, and it is the National Ice Skating Association of UK which is the sole recognised member of the ISU. As such, NISA is responsible for all rules and regulations concerning the sport throughout the entire UK, and for the creation and development of national programmes. Within the UK, the Home country associations, including Sk8scotland, have a responsibility to deliver these programmes within their territories.

Whilst we do not have a mandate to alter or modify these programmes, Sk8scotland, along with Wales and Northern Ireland associations, have a responsibility to ensure that UK programmes are "deliverable" in Scotland, and to recommend adaptation where Scottish skaters might be disadvantaged.

In Scotland for example, summer closures, Curling and unusual or non-standard rink dimensions can create difficulties that are not encountered in the rest of the UK.

One mechanism for this lies in the annual Home Countries Consultative Forum meeting, which this year was held in Manchester.

One of the weaknesses within Scottish skating over the past couple of decades has been a lack of diversity in terms of the disciplines. There has been emphasis on figure skating to the relative exclusion of all other disciplines – ice dance, synchronized, short track, adult and recreational.

One of the key priorities of the Sk8scotland Board during the past three years was in fact the creation of a development plan to try and address this, to create opportunities, programmes and events designed to stimulate both demand and participation at club and rink level.

**Ice dance** has been growing steadily in Scotland in recent years thanks in large part to the efforts of Noel Grimshaw and his sterling work with the Solo Dance Championships. As well as introducing a qualifying event in Scotland (at Dumfries), Scottish solo dance skaters have been steadily growing in numbers and in success. The Scottish Solo Dance Championships, held within the Sk8scotland Open Championships in Dumfries in October, has also been tremendously successful, and attracts increasing numbers each year. We must also not forget the achievements of our own Sinead & John Kerr, who have been great ambassadors for Scotland, and we look forward to their continuing success.

**Synchronized skating** has also been a growing success, and the development of this discipline in Scotland has been excellent over the past few years. The credit for this must go to Judy Clinton, who was last year elected to the NISA Board with responsibility for Synchro throughout the UK. It was particularly pleasing to see no fewer than 8 Scottish Synchro teams, out of a total of 22, competing in the British RJS Synchro Championships in Sheffield earlier this year. And it is particularly pleasing to report that the Scottish teams returned with 5 medals!

If ice dance and synchro have been developing well, there can be no doubt that **Short Track Speed Skating** has also been a massive success, thanks entirely to Sk8scotland Board director Archie Marshall. Archie is a modest chap, but his lifetime achievements in the sport, and his work especially with our Scottish skaters is hugely

impressive. One of the first things he pioneered within Sk8scotland was the creation of a Junior Development squad, which I am pleased to say will be continuing next year, with a series of training camps scheduled for this summer.

It is was therefore enormously gratifying to see the fruits of his efforts at the recent British Championships in Nottingham, with our contingent of 22 Scottish speed skaters taking 4 gold medal titles, 5 other medals, 8 Scottish records and no fewer than 16 Personal Bests. A special word must be made about 16 year old Elise Christie who began her speed skating career at Centrum under the watchful eye of Archie Marshall. Elise is still eligible to skate as a Junior, yet earlier this year she represented Britain in Senior Worlds and Europeans, with remarkable results. She is now training with the GB Squad in Nottingham, and is definitely one to watch as we go to the 2010 Olympics.

There will also be a great boost to Scottish skating next year when Dundee Ice Arena will be host to the British Short Track Championships.

We must not of course forget Figure skating, and Sk8scotland director Alice Fell has been very active, both with her role in introducing the new Field Moves tests throughout the UK, and also in organising the first Sk8scotland Figure Development Camp to be held at Murrayfield next month.

Perhaps the single most important development in Scotland has been the success over the past 7 years, of the **Sk8scotland Scottish Championships**. First held in 2001, when it attracted just over 200 entries, it has now grown into the biggest and most popular event in the UK, and the only one to incorporate all skating disciplines. In 2006, the event had over 650 entries and is now so large that it extends over a full seven days.

I thought I would give you a few statistics to underline the significance of these Championships.

The total costs of running the Championships since 2001 are approximately £115,000.

We have received £59,000 in grant funding from Dumfries & Galloway Council.

The Championships are estimated to have generated over £1.2 million into the local economy since 2001.

Looking to the future, our priorities will be to continue development in all of these areas, including working with NISA and the NISA Performance group towards a more regionalised development structure, offering greater opportunity for our skaters.

**Bryan Morrice (Chairman)**