



South African Figure Skating  
Association - Gauteng North  
P.O. Box 1432  
Montana Park  
0159

Cell: 083 609 1213

E-mail address:  
[skating@gnfigureskating.co.za](mailto:skating@gnfigureskating.co.za)

[www.gnfigureskating.co.za](http://www.gnfigureskating.co.za)

# SOUTH AFRICAN FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION

FUND RAISING No: 022 – 976 - NPO

## GAUTENG NORTH PROVINCE

19 January 2010

**For attention:** All members, parents and coaches

**RE: – MESSAGE NO. 6 FROM THE COMMITTEE**

### 1. Introduction

This communication is the sixth formal communication and has as its purpose the communication to all members, coaches and parents of:

- The calendar for 2010;
- Protocol with test dates;
- International participation of our skaters;
- Recent developments affecting sporting federations relevant to our sport and Province;
- Focus areas for 2010
- Membership fees with effect from 1 April 2010; and
- The resignation of the chairperson of the Province.

### 2. Calendar for 2009

An e-mail was sent to you early in January setting out the calendar of figure skating events for 2010. This calendar is also available on the website. Moreover, please find attached a more illustrative version for your use.

Any changes to the calendar will be communicated as they transpire.

### 3. Protocol with tests

We will be working together with Central Gauteng on scheduled test dates. You will notice that certain tests are arranged at Northgate or Festival with others arranged at the Kolonnade. This is to ensure that we do not compete with each other for the time of the judges but rather to arrange tests in a mutually beneficial manner for skaters from both Provinces.

Before the tests take place, the following rules will apply:

- GN and CG will work together to secure a minimum of 10 tests at each test date – judges are extremely reluctant to conduct tests with a lesser number of tests to be undertaken; and
- Participation at a test must be confirmed at least 21 calendar days before the date of the test with the Test Secretary, Teresa Potgieter, to ensure that the minimum of 10 tests are arranged to secure the attendance of the judges.

**Member of:**

International Skating Union  
SA Sports Confederation and Olympic  
Committee (SASCOC)  
Sports Council – Gauteng North

The rules are also to enable the judges to plan their personal lives in advance.

#### **4. International participation of our skaters**

Victoria Sailer, Alicia Gerber and Amber Britz competed at the Santa Claus Cup in Budapest, Hungary in December 2009. They all performed well in the competition, were exemplary ambassadors for our Province and our country, and gained valuable life and figure skating experience in the process. Well done girls; you have done us all proud.

Jaydean Brits, a familiar face at the Kolonnade ice rink even though affiliated to Central Gauteng, competed at the Nestle Cup in Poland early in January. Her selection to represent her country was just reward for her consistent results and significant progress during 2009.

We are delighted to announce that SASCOC has, in response to an invitation by the South Korean Province of Gangwon, approved the nomination of Victoria Sailer to attend the 10 day "Dreams Program" winter sport training camp later this month. We now eagerly await final confirmation from the Korean organisers before she embarks on this wonderful opportunity.

Our well wishes go out to Lejeanne Marais (Four Continents) and Nadia Geldenhuys (Junior Worlds) who will be competing in February and March respectively. The two of them may well be seasoned veterans at skating in overseas competitions yet the competitors they will face will be the best the world has on offer in the senior and junior ladies' sections; a truly daunting prospect.

#### **5. Recent developments affecting Provincial sports federations**

Many of you would have followed the press articles and debates the last couple of days pertaining to the Tshwane Sports Council (TSC), the use of the GN emblem by GN sporting federations, etc.

Members of our committee have attended the relevant meetings of both the TSC and the Dept. of Sport and have attempted to position our Province in such a manner as would be most beneficial to ensure recognition, affiliation where required, and also eligibility for funding. We have attempted to stay clear of the emotional debates where the inevitable has been merely postponed by all the current uproar whether justified or not.

In a nutshell, the following is relevant for information:

- GNFSA is affiliated to SAFSA who in turn are members of SASCOC and the ISU;
- GNFSA is also affiliated to the Gauteng North Sports Council (GNSC);
- **The GNSC will in all probability be replaced by the TSC;**
- **The TSC will in all probability be affiliated to the Gauteng Sports Council (GSC);**
- **The GSC will in all probability seek affiliation with SASCOC.**

The last three bullets have been shown in red print as they are currently uncertain and are at the heart of the debates together with the emotions coupled with the motion to consider changing the GN emblem ("the Barberton Daisy") for all GN sporting federations.

If the points indicated in red print do eventuate, affiliation with the TSC and therefore the GSC will be required before an application can be made for funding to the Dept of Sport. If our understanding is correct, such affiliations are also required if we as a Province wish to approach the Lotto for funding separate from SAFSA's applications to the Lotto.

We will continue to attend these meetings and position the Province for the benefit of our skaters without becoming embroiled in the emotional considerations.

We will keep you informed as events transpire.

## 6. Focus areas for 2010

Even though we as committee believe that some significant achievements have taken place already, there are a number of issues that the committee will need to address or complete in 2010. These issues will be thoroughly debated in January and February 2010 and then communicated to all for comment and consultation where required.

## 7. Affiliation and club fees for 2010/2011

After deliberation of the budget for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011, the committee resolved to amend the affiliation and club fees that will apply from 1 April 2010, as follows:

### 7.1 Affiliation fees

Affiliation fees are fees payable at renewal of membership and are a once-off fee for the year to secure membership of GNFSA and affiliation to SAFSA. The affiliation fee payable has not been amended and is as follows:

- Normal members (including parents) – R100
- Honorary members – Rnil
- Long standing (previously Life) members – Rnil

### 7.2 Club fees

Club fees are only payable by skaters and have been amended in accordance with a defined classification as follows:

- Skaters at National level (other than Long standing skaters) – R100 per month or R1000 for the year if paid by 1 April 2010
- Skaters at Non- National level (have passed level 1 and are eligible for Non- National participation – R50 per month or R500 for the year if paid by 1 April 2010
- Social club skaters – R20 per month or R200 for the year if paid by 1 April 2010
- Long standing skaters (skaters who are honorary or long standing (life) members) – R50 per month or R500 for the year if paid by 1 April 2010

It is possible for a skater's membership status to change during the year which change will result in an amendment to the fees payable.

*The practice of paying amounts to skaters to compete at National and International level (approximately R24000 per year) will continue **only** to the extent that a specific sponsorship for such payments is secured. The committee will endeavour to procure a sponsor and has therefore excluded these payments from the determination of the club fee necessary to keep the Province in a financially healthy state.*

## 8. Resignation of the chairperson of GNFSA

It is with regret that I have to inform all of my unplanned yet very necessary resignation as chairperson with immediate effect. SAFSA will be informed accordingly to ensure that all protocols are duly adhered to.

Significant changes in my professional and personal life now make it very difficult for me to attend to any matters of the Province and figure skating in general. My deepest regret is that such changes have invariably also resulted in the termination of Shannon's participation in the sport. I remain indebted to all of you firstly for your initial confidence in approving my appointment and also for all the support subsequent thereto.

I resign with no regrets but many fond memories and many friends. I have learnt a tremendous amount during my short tenure as chairperson and will pop in whenever possible to see the progress of the skaters, all of whom I cherish immensely.

The committee will continue under the very capable leadership of the current deputy chairperson Christo Viljoen. Members will have an opportunity to elect a new committee in May 2010 and I wish to take this opportunity to encourage all members to make themselves available to contribute and ensure that the skaters have a sport they can continue to participate in.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee members if you have any enquiries.

Kind regards.

**Rian Strydom**

On behalf of the committee.

(Original signed)

