



SKATECANADA
BC COAST REGION

BC COAST REGION
AGM 2019-2020
REPORTS

BC COAST CHAIR REPORT 2019 - 2020 – BC COAST REGION AGM

This report covers the period from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, but in reality also covers the period from March 31 until now.

This is the end of my first term as Chair of the BC Coast Region. It has been very satisfying serving the clubs in our region. BC Coast clubs include Powell River through the Sunshine Coast, Sea to Sky, Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley all the way to Hope and Lillooet, and of course Arctic Edge club in Whitehorse Yukon. In total we have 36 or 37 clubs in the BC Coast Region.

We serve our clubs, skaters, parents and volunteers in many ways. With help from local clubs, who bid to organize competitions, we produce two notable competitions, Jingle Blades, and BC Coast Regionals (Winterskate). We also partner with the BC Section to host Victoria Day Super-series, Autumn Leaves in alternate years, and well as several synchro competitions, notably BC/YK Open Synchro and Adult competition. You will also find the BC Coast Region volunteers at Summerskate. We have developed a high degree of expertise at planning and putting on competitions.

You will hear all about our 2019-2020 competitions during the competitions committee report. These serve as a healthy fundraising revenue to partner clubs and to the BC Coast Region. The (net) revenue we generate from competitions and other events goes back into several other activities, namely Skater Development, Club Governance support, Continuing education, and acquiring certain assets critical for supporting competitions such as music, data, and judging equipment.

We produced a “Know Your Sport” event in September for our clubs and their board members, it was held at BCIT in a beautiful set of classrooms, it was incredibly well attended and the topics discussed were of keen interest to all who attended. We even had a special session on nutrition and mental toughness for skaters. We invited Monica Lockie from Skate Canada as our keynote speaker. Her energy and keenness is very ‘admirable’ (I would say infectious, but you know...).

In terms of skater development, over the holidays 2019/2020 our customary events included a Singles seminar. We worked with our coaching advisory team to staff the event. Also we put on a 10 week Synchro skills session at Trout Lake arena. We want to thank the Grandview skating club for subleasing the ice to us, and to Colleen Laferriere for her most excellent coaching efforts despite her very busy schedule, and we will continue to look for Synchro development activities in future years. Lastly, we organized and fielded a team to support the BC Winter Games in Fort St John. All in all our investment in Skater development was more targeted and quite successful this past year.

We support clubs is through governance support/advice, guidance, and dispute resolution. We have 5 club presidents (past or existing) on our BC Coast Region board. Collectively this represents many years of experience managing clubs. Whether it is a Club in crisis or just asking a couple of simple questions, we are here for you. We have been quite busy this past 18 months.

Of course, as you all know, all our operations as a sport stopped or were put into suspended mode in March 2020, as the world made arrangements to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes all organizing operations from Skate Canada head office through the Section, to the Region and all clubs. As such, our ability to plan for our AGM regularly held in April was postponed until now. Of course the physical Section or Skate Canada AGMs were both cancelled, but both organizations produced very good online AGMS.

So we have been in suspended state since March until September. We had to cancel and refund a very large test day we had planned for March 15, 2020. We had to cancel our 2020 Know your Sport Day. Clubs and events are starting to get underway in the past two months, and we will have to see what the remainder of Fall and Winter 2020 brings us.

I want to thank our excellent team, our Board Members - Siobhan, Alex, Lyse, Kari, Yee-sin, Jenny, Shannon, Ethan, and past president Lori. We have had a very successful year, even if the first half of 2020-2021 year was mostly suspended. It has been a pleasure to see us get so much done. Also, thanks so much to our committee chairs (Denise, Syd, Vanessa), and to our coaching advisory team.

I want to say thank you so very much for the time given to us by our outgoing board members, Yee-sin Law, Ethan Swinburnson, and Shannon Downing. I know each of you provided the BC Coast Region some incredible value, and we all know that you will continue to do so in new or different roles in skating.

Now we will have some new board members to add to our team, it is such a good thing to see continuity in our region.

I will look forward to running for another term the 2020/21 season and the ability to continue to collaborate with the hard-working and enthusiastic volunteers throughout our Region. We have much to achieve for our sport of figure skating in the BC Coast Region!

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Gordon
Chair

2019-2020 COMPETITION REPORT

Director Alex Clarke – Chair Competition Committee

This season I continued to chair the Competition Committee which consisted of Directors Ethan Swinburnson, Yee Sin Law and Kari Adams. The committee is also comprised of our administrator, Lori Oxland and volunteers, Victor Chengtan and Vivian Lee. The committee works to deliver competitions within the BC Coast Region which include Jingle Blades, Winterskate and Gold Nugget. In addition to running these competitions, the BC Coast Region is also the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), alternate years, for BCYK Synchronized/Adult Skating Competition.

2019 was a very successful year for competitions in the BC Coast Region. Both Jingle Blades and WinterSakte exceeded the expected registrations, setting new record numbers. Our committee worked hard with the respective LOC's to secure facilities and develop schedules. I would like to thank the clubs and their volunteers who hosted these competitions this season. Without the commitment and participation of the clubs and their dedicated volunteers, these events would not be possible.

Abbotsford Skating Club, thank you for hosting Jingle Blades. This event was huge, seeing over 821 skater entries over the three-day event. The amount of work the Abbotsford Skating Club did decorating Prospera Centre and hosting such a huge event was true show of the dedication to our sport. Langley Skating Club was successful with their bid for Winterskate. Again, this competition exceeded expectation with registration, closing at 951 skater entries. The event ran for 4 days, starting on the Thursday night. Langley Skating Club provided an exceptional experience for the skaters and the officials who attended the event. Thank you to the Langley Skating Club and your volunteers for the endless work that entire weekend.

The BC Coast Region is dedicated in providing a positive experience for all skaters and to ensure there are opportunities for all skaters to compete at their level and in events of their choice. I don't think any of us were prepared for the events that occurred in March of 2020. With a new season, comes new experiences and new events. Sadly, this year will be like none other we have ever experienced. There has been some exciting work done at the Section level with competitions, utilizing technology to hold events virtually. The BC Coast Region Board will be working closely with the BCYK Section office to deliver a competition for our skaters sometime in the new year.

This is my second term on the BC Coast Region Board, and I am grateful for the experienced people around me to help guide us through this pandemic. I would like to thank all the board members who are truly dedicated to our sport of skating. They spend countless hours, not only with their own board duties, but also volunteering at their clubs, with the Section, as officials at competitions and at major Skate Canada events. They are truly an amazing group of people who I am proud to be part of.

Thank you to all the volunteers, at every event, who have spent their time to ensure the competitions continue and that they provide the skaters with every opportunity to succeed and excel in their sport.

Sincerely

Alex Clarke

2019-2020 Data Specialist Report

Lyse Prendergast

Data Specialists (DS) set up and operate the computer systems at competitions, and are trained to work with judging and technical panels to translate scores and assessments to results. In the 2019-2020 year, Data Specialists volunteered at 23 competitions throughout the province; in addition, several BC DSs, including Sharon Dahl from the BC Coast Region, were selected to serve at national level competitions. There are 4 levels of accreditation for Data Specialists, and we currently have 8 active Data Specialists qualified in the BC Coast Region. We are always looking to welcome new volunteers to the Data Specialist team. A figure skating background is not necessary; what's makes a good Data Specialist is being organized, detail-oriented, having ability to problem-solve and, most importantly, a passion for the sport and an interest in contributing to it. Anyone interested in exploring this opportunity is welcome to contact me.

Volunteer Coordinator & Director's Report 2019-2020

As one of the newer Directors at large on the BCCR Board, it has been a most unusual yet rewarding year. Starting with the National AGM, having the opportunity to go to Ottawa and meet other clubs and their executives, coaches and judges from across the nation was a great experience, understanding the issues and opportunities the skating world presents. I had the pleasure of again organizing the Know your sport program last September offering a diverse mix of topics that appealed to both athletes, club executives and coaches. To be able to increase the attendance at this event and expand the exposure and reach of this program to a broader audience was very rewarding. Due to Covid-19, we were unable to offer it this year, but I look forward to being able to organize the program for next year. I welcome your feedback and input on topics you would like to see covered at this annual event.

Being a member of the Region LOC for competitions working with various host clubs for these annual competitions to ensure they are smoothly run has also been amazing. The logistics and energy and dedication of this team at each competition is wonderful to see as it works like a well-oiled machine and I'm proud to be a part of this team and to learn from them. As we are in the midst of this pandemic and forced to change how we operate these competitions it does not take away the teamwork and collaborative efforts of all the tireless volunteers involved in putting this together for our skaters. I am grateful we have been able to pivot back on ice during the pandemic and look forward to serving on the Board and supporting another year of skating. I wish all a safe and healthy year to come.

Respectfully,

Jenny Kuan