

## **Status Report to the 2018 ISU Congress on the Four Year Plan 2016/17 – 2017/18**

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

**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 continued to review and expand the delivery of education to our officials and coaches, with a view to targeting more closely the needs of different groups and regions. In pursuit of this goal, the structure of SyS Coaches, Judges, Referees, Technical Specialists and Controllers education seminars has been further updated to achieve a balance of practical and classroom theory based training. With the increased interest in the discipline in Asia, we ran a very successful seminar in China for over 50 regional participants that were new to Synchro, to aid with the development of the sport in the region.

We continue to deliver 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 and the Junior World Synchronized Skating Championships. 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 development seminar for Junior level skaters and their coaches that has been running for the past four years is not being replicated for the Asia region. This has been done in conjunction with the ISU Development Program and the Sports Director for Synchronized Skating. Skaters and coaches that have been attendees at these seminars are already 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. We continue to offer National level technical education to support those ISU members who are newer to the Synchronized Skating discipline.

The annual ISU judges and referee update seminars were hosted by member federations in Australia, Sweden, Finland and China.

### **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 again with Georgia and Latvia competing at international and world events. The SyS TC was delighted to see Korea come back to the international Synchro competition circuit in 2018.
2. SyS TC members collaborated in the production of a new promotional DVD's in connection with the Olympic application. We will make this available for the use of ISU members to help with the promotion of the discipline.

3. The Synchronized Skating competition calendar continues to extend with the first international event now being held in September. The SYS TC continues to provide support and advice for countries looking to host new events and we hope that Latvia will be added to the Synchronized Skating calendar next season. The objective of spreading the dates of events is gradually coming to fruition.
4. The Junior World Synchronized Skating Championships are proving to be 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 are delighted with the growth of the Shanghai Trophy to incorporate all figure skating disciplines. As the founder discipline (with Short Track) Synchronized Skating is very happy to add to the development of this new competition format. 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 has continued to review of the rules and regulations with the involvement of our senior coaches for the SyS discipline and taking into account advice received from representatives of 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 continued success of the innovative Shanghai Trophy event that was run in conjunction with our Short Track Speed Skating and Figure Skating colleagues. This was so well received that the third edition has already been agreed. 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 have been working with the Development Commission on the selection and set up of an e-learning system. We had a very successful first event under the umbrella of this initiative where the Global Coaches Meeting that took place during the World Championships in Sweden was broadcast over livestream to give access to our global Sychro community. The broadcast will be available on the new e-learning system, along with other educational resources.
11. The SyS TC will continue to work tirelessly towards inclusion of the discipline in the Olympic Winter Games program.

On behalf of the ISU Synchronized Skating Technical Committee  
Chris Buchanan  
Chair

April 2018