



ANNUAL REPORT

2020 - 2021

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The purpose of the Annual General Meeting is:

- To inform the general membership of the various activities of the past season.
- To account for the actions taken by the Board of Directors.
- To vote on constitutional amendments, if required.
- To express views and concerns.
- To vote and elect from a slate of nominees, a new Board of Directors.

All activities are governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Guelph Skating Club.

Board of Directors 2020-2021

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|------------------------|---|
| President: | Sarah Macdonald |
| Vice-President: | Paul Thomason (December 2020 – present) Renaë Redford (resigned December 2020) |
| Treasurer: | Andre Buzbuzian |
| Secretary: | Daina Rye (June 2020 – present) Michi Motomura (resigned June 2020) |
| Publicity/Fundraising: | Christina Mann |
| Director at Large: | Yvette Bon |
| Director at Large: | Joseph Fera (resigned February 2021) |
| Director at Large: | Stephanie Gerend (October 2020 – present) |

Other Positions:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Office Administrator: | Chris Turcot |
| Program Director: | Kelly Shock |

AGENDA

1. Reading of the Notice of Meeting and Declaration of Quorum
2. Welcome and Opening Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 28, 2020
5. Confirmation of Actions taken by the Board of Directors
6. Directors' Reports
7. Financial Statements
8. Amendments to the GSC Constitution and By-Laws
9. Election of Directors

There are 6 vacancies on the Board for 2020-2021- current candidates nominated for election are:

Andre Buzbuzian

Stephanie Gerend

Christina Mann

Paul Thomason

Current Board Members continuing their term for the upcoming 2020-2021 Board are:

Yvette Bon

Daina Rye

10. Announcement of new Board of Directors
11. Appointment of Auditors
12. New Business
13. Announcement of Club Skater Awards
14. Adjournment



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, May 28, 2020
Time: 7-9 pm
Location: Online Platform – GoToWebinar

Board Members Present: Andre Buzbuzian, Sarah Macdonald, Michi Motomura, Christina Mann, Renae Redford, Paul Thomason

1. Reading of the Notice of Meeting and Declaration of Quorum

Sarah chaired the Meeting and read the Notice of Meeting. She reminded Members that the Notice was sent on April 28, 2020 in accordance with Skate Canada bylaws. Quorum was announced at 7:02 pm.

2. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Sarah welcomed everyone in attendance and informed Members of the purpose of the Meeting. Voting procedure using online polling function was explained.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was put forth by Renae Redford. Andre Buzbuzian seconded the motion. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Tuesday May 21, 2019.

A motion to approve the Minutes was put forth by Renae Redford. Andre Buzbuzian seconded the motion. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED

5. Confirmation of Actions taken by the Board of Directors

Members were asked to ratify the actions taken by the Board during the 2019-2020 season. These actions include but are not limited to:

- Running the Club's day to day activities
- Hiring of Program Directors & coaches
- Special Events: Halloween Skate & Holiday Family Skate
- Test days

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions. No questions were asked.

6. Directors' Reports

The Directors' Reports were posted on the Club website as part of the Annual Report on May 18, 2020. Thanks was expressed to everyone who made the skating season successful including the Program Directors (Michael and Melinda), coaches, skaters, families, test chairs (Daina Rye and Stacey Laughlin), Board Members, and our administrator, Chris Turcot. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions. No questions were asked.

7. Treasurer's Report (Annual Financial Statement)

The financial report was available to members upon request. With the abrupt end to the season we did not have the expected income from our spring session. As a result, revenue was down in 2019/2020. However, we do have sufficient funds to resume programming when it is safe to do so.

8. Appointment of Auditor

The auditor used this year is the same as the firm used last year, RLB LLP.

A motion to continue with RLB as the Club Accountant and Auditor was put forth by Renae Reford. Andre Buzbuzian seconded the motion. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED

9. Election of Directors

There were 9 vacant positions on the Board for 2019-20. Current candidates nominated for election are:

- Sarah Macdonald
- Renae Redford

Current board Members continuing their term for the upcoming 2020-2021 Board are:

- Andre Buzbuzian
- Christina Mann
- Paul Thomason

A motion was put forward to allow Sarah Macdonald and Renae Redford to renew their term as Board Members by Andre Buzbuzian. Christina Mann seconded the motion. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED

10. Announcement of the new Board of Directors

Andre Buzbuzian, Sarah MacDonald, Christina Mann, Renae Redford, Paul Thomason

11. New Business

There are uncertain timelines for safe return to skating. Phase 1 of reopening is limited to high-performance athletes. We will communicate with families as information becomes available.

12. **Presentation of Club Awards and Bursaries**

Michael and Melinda (Program Directors) presented all the Club awards. Awards are listed as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Henry Weeks Award | Daina Rye & Stacey Laughlin |
| PreCanSkate | Corinne Passenaud-McClennan |
| CanSkate under 8 | Oscar Arroyo-Cribb |
| CanSkate over 8 | Declan Duff |
| Jr. Fast Track | Pria Verdecchia |
| Sr. Fast Track | Pepper Huneke |
| PreStarSkate | Maxine Anderson |
| Adult | Emily Stubbs |
| Program Assistant in Training | Max Alles |
| Program Assistant | Keira Roberts |
| PrePower | George Pulleybank |
| CanPower 1-3 | Hudson English |
| CanPower 4-6 | Adrian Tersigni |
| Star 1 / 2 | Lola Moreton-Haw, Max Alles |
| Star 3 / 4 | Hazel Devitt |
| Star 5 + | Mhairi Milne |
| StarSkate Competitive | Audrey Brisbin |
| Competitive Development | Thea Poulstrup |
| Wendy Dempsey | Elena Smith |
| Pat te Boekhorst Award | Ali Fera |
| Artistic/Theatrical | Raquel Harte |
| SynchroSkate | Maya Macdonald |

Program assistants were also recognized for their contributions.

13. **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the Meeting was put forth by Renae Redford. Andre Buzbuzian seconded the motion. All in favour. MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

YEAR END REPORTS

2020 - 2021

President's Report

I started the report last year noting the unprecedented early end of the season. This past year has been no different, requiring frequent adaptations to reflect the ever-changing situation. My sincerest thanks to Chris and Kelly for staying on top of the fluid guidelines from the city, the public health unit and our governing bodies, Skate Ontario, Skate Canada. I also need to recognize the efforts of the coaches to adapt to the new realities and continue delivering quality programming. Lastly, to the skaters and families, thank you for your patience, your understanding, and your dedication to the sport. While it was far from a normal year, your combined efforts resulted in a successful 2020-2021 year, we made the best of it and many of the adaptations will serve us in the future.

Due to the restrictions, our membership decreased this year, resulting in 135 participants throughout our many programs including CanSkate, PreStar, Fast Track, StarSkate, Adult, and CanPower. Unfortunately we were not able to run PreCanSkate or PrePower due to the ongoing pandemic and public health considerations.

While Kelly Shock is a familiar face, she was new to the Program Director position at the club this past year. Her expertise, direction, out-of-the-box thinking, and desire to support all skaters were truly instrumental to our success this past year. She had to get creative with programming to maximize the ice time. She grew the coaching staff, welcoming back some familiar faces and really rallied the coaching team, supporting them as they implemented the changes. New this year is a Skater Council, charged with empowering our skaters to support and encourage the club from within. While most of their plans were derailed this past year, stay tuned for next year - they have some great ideas.

The Guelph Skating Club has a fantastically supportive group of coaches. They truly care for our skaters, encouraging them to do their best and grow as both skaters and individuals. It has been an especially challenging year and they rose to the occasion, delivering a quality program despite the restrictions and interruptions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kelly, Janet, Jessica, Krista, Leah, Mikayla, Rachel, Barb and Stephanie. The coaching staff was supported by our passionate and supportive Program Assistants, Neve, Kiera, Charlotte, Hailey and Kayla - thank you all for your help.

Consistent with the last couple years, we have numerous vacancies on the board. Our request for additional members was successful in attracting a couple new candidates, we still need additional people to step forward. We need the support of the membership in order to deliver high quality programs. Please consider becoming involved. Generally, the time commitment is typically only a couple hours per month, meeting online. When we are able to host special events, additional volunteers will also be needed. Please consider reaching out if you can hold a position. Prior experience (including skating) is not a requirement.

My appreciation goes out to the returning Board Members; Andre, Paul, Christina, Daina, Yvette and Stephanie, as well as to Renae who stepped down earlier this year. I will be stepping down from the President role as well as the Board after this AGM but know that the club is in good hands with them, they truly want what is best for the club and work well as a team. Last but most certainly not least, my sincerest thanks to Chris Turcot for all the work she does behind the scenes, especially this tumultuous year. Without you the GSC would not be the same.

Sarah Macdonald

Secretary's Report

Since the pandemic continued throughout the 2020-2021 season, all Board activities were conducted virtually. As Secretary, I was responsible for coordinating the monthly virtual meetings, recording the meeting minutes, and organizing the documents in the electronic storage platform. I tracked and recorded all motions and voting decisions during the meetings and those that occurred in between, that were later ratified.

All Board members adapted well to the virtual platform and were proficient in electronic communications. We are hopeful that next season the Board will be able to resume more normal operations and we can interact with our GSC skaters and families in person.

Sincerely,

Daina Rye

Program Director's Report

First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all GSC members, coaches, and parents for their patience for our ever-changing schedule and policy accommodations this season. I am very proud that we were able to come together to make the best of the 2020/2021 season, which would never have been possible without your support.

We knew from the beginning that we were starting off in uncharted lands, and the skating community recognized that this season was going to be very different from the rest. The sport model in Ontario

changed rapidly from offering a normal competitive season to an exclusively developmental focus, and as a result GSC shifted their programming as well. We were challenged to think outside of the box to say the least. When we learned that we were required by the City of Guelph to give back 40 minutes for cleaning in between each different gathering of skaters, we divided our Star ice into two longer sessions to maximize the ice time we had to work with. When we realized we were restricted with the number of coaches allowed per session, we offered additional group instruction for the Star sessions as we knew that private lessons would be at a premium. Each week we had to anticipate and plan around possible Provincial gathering restrictions, and quickly worked on the weekends to fluidly move skaters between levels and sessions. In the end, all coaches worked together as one team to schedule as many skaters on the ice as possible. This meant that we ALL compromised and cooperated to ensure that if a skater wanted to skate, we worked together to find that skater a spot.

Although there were many plans that were either cancelled or postponed over the course of the season, our sessions were still a huge success. Many skaters continued to pass tests, others competed virtually, and everyone achieved personal success. Even some of our beginner coaches were still able to mentor and work towards their certification. Rest assured, the missed opportunities are not lost as we now have a bank of ideas to be implemented in the future when it is safe to do so. One of the few new initiatives to come out of COVID was that GSC created a Skater Council. Our experienced older skaters came together to plan for 'extras', and work with the skaters to pump up the fun and excitement they were missing from not having the opportunity to compete. They are true leaders in the GSC and Guelph Community, and I look forward to watching that involvement in club spirit continue to grow.

In all the uncertainty, we grew as a community. We created a sense of hope and wellness for all skaters and parents to find a little bit of normal in something that we all love. We offered safe CanSkate for younger children when many other clubs struggled to make it work financially. We offered a regular CanPowerSkate for younger hockey players who may not have seen as much ice time or had their season interrupted. We continued to program for our Adult skaters who were craving exercise when their fitness memberships were halted. We did it all because we know how important skating is to our community. I want to both congratulate and thank all our members and skaters for such an amazing first year. I look forward to seeing you at the arena soon!

Kelly Shock

2020-21 Season Competition Results

December 11 - 13, 2020 Skate ON #5 – Stratford December Classic

Star 5 Ladies U13
Thea Poulstrup - 3 rd

December 14, 2020 Skate ON Stratford Video Performance
Pre-Juvenile Ladies U12
Audrey Brisbin – 1st