



Club Report 2007

Over the ANZAC day long weekend 4 skaters from NSW clubs went over to Christchurch to skate in the inaugural Perpetual Shield Trophy which Mainland IR Club won. The event was initiated by Maggie Holland earlier in the year in her function as State Coach in conjunction with the Mainland Ice Racing Club Christchurch.

There were 3 skaters representing the Sydney Arrows and one skater from Erina representing the Vikings. The event attracted a total of 23 skaters. The Arrows skaters enjoyed the experience of racing skaters they did not know as it made it more interesting.

The standard of the skaters varied but they were ranked into compatible groups after the first rounds of 2 laps of pursuit type racing to seed them. The Groups were based on their times and this was successful as the skaters were not restricted to their own age division. The Ice conditions were very good and the people and skaters were friendly and enthusiastic.

There were Medals for the Groups 1 2 3 and Certificates of Participation for all skaters. There were snacks and drinks provided for the Officials and there was a small Presentation for prizes with finger food provided.

NZ Clubs that participated see the need for more racing for this level of skater. The Junior Open Clubs Challenge Event is a worthwhile project to continue in order to build younger skaters' experience and racing skill

Some parents, coaches and officials have agreed to a tentative time around the 3rd week of May in 2009 to have the return challenge in a bid to keep this an annual event. NZ would prefer it out of school holidays due to airfare costs and when it does not interfere with their main racing calendar event

A shorter trip, similar to this first outing, is more suitable say a period of 3 or 4 days of competition period on the Friday, Saturday and perhaps Sunday depending on numbers, returning home Sunday afternoon.

The May timing would suit the NZ Skaters as it leads into one of their premier events in the early part of June.

The Arrows Ice Racing Club wish to host this event in 2009.

Max Gallo
President Sydney Arrows