

Morley Panthers Roller Skating Club
Artistic Representative's Report
November 2011

This is my first report as artistic representative, and I feel I have to start with thanks to Heather Caldwell in her role as assistant. Morley is a large club with many training days and locations, and having an assistant to share the load makes what might be the biggest job on the committee more manageable.

We commenced the year “running”, with Novice Championships nominations immediately due, but seem to have sorted out all our nominees quickly – with help from outgoing rep., Judie Hanson. The impending National Championships, with both Judie and Heather going away, didn't help with finalising details.

The medal tally at the Nationals was a little down on previous years, probably able to be put down to a couple of significant absences (Shenae in particular), but also to the predominance of new blood on the team. On the plus side, special congratulations to our new double champions, Tamera and Alizanne. Some coaches came back grumbling about the judging, but as Brigitte Williams' effort in Juvenile CSD showed, nationals experience counts a lot, so perhaps we will see the benefit in coming years.

As would have been expected given the number of skaters entered, Morley was the top club in the Novice Championships, and in the list of participants there were a few standout performances. It was great to see Bernadette Monck and Tia Walker take the two trophies (Encouragement and Consistency), because they have both made remarkable progress through the year. But other efforts on the day from our new skaters – honestly, too many to list – made this year's event memorable.

The coming year is looking at least as good, with the RollerDrome going from strength to strength, and consequent new talent flowing through via the Tuesday development class. About the only concern is the way the club is now totally dominating local competitions; Perth really needs another rink, to provide an easy doorway for new skaters to enter the system.

Members will all be aware of the poor condition of the display screen on the notebook computer used to provide music for training. A few weeks before the Nationals its LCD screen was cracked by some form of careless usage. I have been awaiting an opportunity to propose a replacement, by a netbook computer which would probably cost a little over \$ 200. However, Ozzie has informed me that the rink is now installing its own digital sound system, which we will be welcome to use. This means that we may be able to avoid this expense. I will, of course, keep track of the issues this might spawn – such as how individual skaters' music will be incorporated.

I have to finish with massive congratulations to Tony Millett and our skaters who put on the performance for Telethon on Sunday 16 October. It looked really great on the TV at the rink, and I can't think of better publicity for skating – particularly with its being shown right in the middle of Sunday's star classes.

Peter Rye