



# Rope Skipping Canada

## Saut à la Corde Canada

### 2021 RSC Annual General Meeting Chair Report

We would like to start by thanking all of the athletes, coaches, judges, parents and volunteers for their continued support, hard work and dedication. The 2020-2021 season brought us many new challenges that we took in stride and we are confident that we will move forward with a refreshed energy and outlook on the future of our sport.

This year forced us to focus on a greater use of technology to help bring us together when we were unable to see each other in-person. From team Zoom calls, to the IJRU 24 Hour Virtual Meet-Up, to our inaugural RSC Challenge, our members rose to the challenge and continued to push our sport forward.

Rope Skipping Canada will continue to invest in our online resources. From increasing our online presence on Instagram, to beginning the process of creating a CANSkip App in collaboration with the Jump Rope Tricktionary, we will continue to carve out our space in the online world. RSC Challenges, National Championships, and local competitions, performances and workshops will have a greater online presence which will help promote our sport and grow our membership.

These new avenues will enable us to reach new audiences and promote participation in new provinces and communities in which we have not seen before. Our Nationwide Representation initiative will support individuals who move into new areas to develop new clubs and programs, and help lower barriers to entry for new participants.

Congratulations to our RSC Challenge finalists and winners, and good luck to Team Canada at the 2021 IJRU Virtual World Championships. We look forward to the upcoming season and can't wait to see what our athletes have in store for us!

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Sam Ashley and Carly Simpson, Co-Chairs  
Rope Skipping Canada

# NTC Report 2021

## **NTC Committee Members:**

Deirdre DeGagne - Chair  
Carly Simpson - IJRU Rep  
Nicola Eleniak - Scoring and Results  
Mary Kish - Scoring and Results  
Jackie Lega - Tournament Director  
Craig Van Herk - Facilities and set up  
Kerry Baird - Judging

The NTC had a busy year. In September it became apparent that there would be no face to face tournaments on a national level, and also in most provinces, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Our first task was to plan for a way to hold an IJRU qualifying tournament. At that time, we needed to have had the qualifier completed in time for a March submission deadline. Once the details and parameters of the IJRU competition itself were published, we made a decision to follow those guidelines exactly for our virtual qualifier. This would allow athletes to reuse a video made for the qualifier if that was their best one.

We contacted Andrej Kyselica with a proposal to pilot whatever IJRU were wanting to do in terms of tournament scoring and registration, and virtual video submissions. This would enable us to have the support we needed to host a virtual competition, and it would allow Andrej and his team to have practice runs and receive feedback. IJRU were very happy to have us pilot their software.

Between October and the end of the IJRU qualifier judging period, Kerry and Deirdre met weekly with Andrej to discuss progress and issues, and to make plans for next steps. We also met monthly as an NTC. The IJRU deadline got pushed back and this allowed us more time to problem solve. Kerry worked with Jodi and Carly on judging and Nicola and Jackie worked on scoring.

All in all the IJRU qualifier went well with few issues but lots of good feedback for the IJRU technical committee. There were many enhancements made to the registration and scoring systems, and the addition of the video hub made it easy for coaches to upload videos. The online judging allowed judges to have the opportunity to score routines by viewing them at a slower speed. This will ultimately improve judges' confidence for future judging. Judges used the tablets in practice mode, and for many it was their first time using a tablet for competition. Doing so at home with less time constraints and pressure made the whole experience less stressful.

We also planned the National Challenge. As this event did not fit within the parameters of IJRU rules, we chose not to try to use the IJRU software or video hub and set up our own registration

and a video hub in Dropbox. We had a healthy number of submissions but not as many as we would have had in a normal year. Many athletes competed in the IJRU event, and BC and NS also had their own Provincial competitions, making it a very busy time for those athletes who were able to practice. The dropbox video hub seemed to work well and the top qualifiers were moved on to the RSC website for public voting.

The NTC also started thinking about planning for Nationals 2022. We secured the National Tournament Center in Kamloops for the May long weekend, and booked dorms. We are in the process of working on hotels etc.

Despite it being a pandemic year, and the pandemic severely affecting many athletes being able to practice, The NTC seemed to have a very busy year. We learned a lot about the inner workings of the registration and scoring system.

We are looking forward to returning to face to face competition. The NTC, having many members who have a long history in the sport, is looking for interested people, who have a keen interest in how competitions are run. We need to ensure continuity!

On behalf of the NTC,

Deirdre DeGagne (Chair)

This year Rope Skipping Canada (RSC) held a virtual live IJRU judge training course in February in each of the judging disciplines:

- Speed (21 participants)
- Presentation (18 participants)
- Required Elements (13 participants)
- Difficulty (18 participants)

This training was meant to help our judges prepare for the RSC Qualifier tournament and IJRU Virtual World Championships. All judges were required to be certified as Level 2 IJRU judges to participate in these events.

## Upcoming live trainings

We plan to hold live trainings again in early 2022 to allow for new judges to get certified prior to the competition season. We will likely hold an online training to allow judges from across the country to participate.

If any Provincial organizations would like to host a judge training, please reach out to our RSC Judge Trainers:

- Carly Simpson ([carlyssimpson@gmail.com](mailto:carlyssimpson@gmail.com)) - Ontario and Nova Scotia
- Jodi Harrison ([jodilynne7@gmail.com](mailto:jodilynne7@gmail.com)) - Alberta and British Columbia

## Judging portal

We encourage clubs to start the judge certification process early in the season. Judges can take Level 1 certifications and recertifications online through the [IJRU Judge Portal](#). The portal also includes continuing education courses to allow judges to practice.

At this time, we don't know if IJRU will be making any updates to the rules in advance of 2022. However, there will likely be an online re-certification course each year to encourage judges to continue practicing and learning.

## 2021 RSC Awards Committee Report

Scholarship Recipient: Sofia Stadler, Lincoln Leapers  
Coaching: No nominations

The committee was more diverse this year with members from Alberta, Nova Scotia and Ontario.

There were six candidates this year for the RSC Scholarship. Two candidates made it to the interview phase and both really stood out.

All candidates really demonstrated how the sport is more than skipping.

Best of luck to all of the candidates with their post secondary endeavors and congratulations to Sofia on her being the recipient of the 2021 RSC Scholarship.

Regards,

Veronica Winser  
RSC Awards Committee Chair

## Jump Rope BC Annual Report 2020/21

This past season has been challenging for all teams across BC, as well as in other provinces of Canada. BC has approximately 113 competitive full members and 60 recreational members. BC has six active teams, and each one worked hard to comply with the changes in the Provincial Health Orders surrounding Covid, while still promoting our sport.

Some teams had a facility to practise in, while others were seen jumping on school tracks, in driveways, basements, and parking lots.

Our usual fall camp was cancelled, however teams did manage to hold varying degrees of our annual Records Day, and send in results.

This was a season of virtual competitions. Coaches had to follow strict rules in videoing events, athletes could try events until they achieved their best attempt, and judges had to work to reach higher levels in order to judge virtually. It was a learning experience for all involved, and we want to thank those behind the scenes in BC and across Canada that helped make this process work.

Many athletes from our teams submitted videos for the IJRU qualifying event, and it was a new experience for all our coaches, jumpers and judges to get the best videos filmed and submitted. We were very excited to have a large number of BC athletes qualify for one or more events in the IJRU championships to represent Canada . We were all looking forward to IJRU in Ottawa , but were happy being able to still compete at the world level in some capacity. Some teams are still videoing their final submissions to be judged for these world events. Our BC judges will be judging IJRU videos starting early September.

BC also held a virtual Provincial competition, and as coaches and athletes were familiar with the videoing process this competition seemed to be less stressful.

Our BC athletes also took part in the RSC challenge . The athletes enjoyed the different nature of our National competition, and hope that maybe something like this can be done again.

The BC Allstars developed their own instagram page and all the Allstars were introduced to the jump rope community. They also added weekly challenges for other jumpers to try, worked on a footwork routine, and did a live stream of a jump rope practise. These Allstars were also celebrity judges in the RSC Challenge.

Once the restrictions started to ease up, clubs have been advertising for start up camp dates for recreational jumpers, and we are all looking forward to getting back into the gym for our competitive practices.

Next season we hope to hold our Provincial competition in Victoria, and BC athletes are excited to compete alongside other Canadian teams at Nationals in Kamloops BC.

Submitted by:

Cathy Cunningham

JRBC National Board Representative



## **Ontario Rope Skipping Organisation Annual Report 2019-2020**

As with the rest of the country Rope Skipping in Ontario was very different this year then previous years. Ontario had to deal with multiple lockdowns and stay at home orders throughout the year due to the ongoing pandemic which made regular practice very difficult. Most teams had trouble finding practice space throughout the year with some teams not practicing at all. As a result our membership numbers were well below the previous year.

2020-2021 Membership:

90 Competitive Athletes

31 Coaches

22 Judges

24 Volunteers

0 Rec Members

We did however have a few teams who were able to stay quite active throughout the year. As a result these teams were able to qualify multiple athletes for the upcoming virtual IJRU championships. We also had a few athletes take part in the RSC challenge as well.

Due to lots of teams not having access to practice space there were no ORSO events or competitions held this year.

Along with the formation of the RSC athlete's council ORSO is also in the process of forming our own athlete's council.

We look forward to next season and hope we can return to a fairly normal schedule and season.

Respectfully Submitted

Samuel Faris

ORSO Rep on the RSC Board of Directors





## *Rope Skipping Association of Nova Scotia*

### **2021 RSANS Annual Report**

The 2020-2021 skipping year brought many new challenges and opportunities. We were fortunate to be able to run in-person practices, albeit slightly modified, for most of the season so we are grateful for that. Unfortunately we were abruptly shut down only days before our scheduled provincial championships. This was the opposite of what happened in 2020, where we were able to host our event just before the pandemic reached us.

Our school and recreational programs were hit harder than our competitive program, with schools being closed to community use. Hopefully we will be able to get those groups back up and running in 2021-2022. We look forward to the CANSkip updates and other online resources that have been emerging over the past year.

The RSC Challenge was a great new event for our athletes to be able to flex their creativity while practicing at home. Not only was it fun to participate in, but it was a great opportunity to see what others had been up to and to share our love of the sport in new ways. Hopefully we can continue this event and increase our online presence and build more connections with each other.

RSANS would like to congratulate all of the athletes who are representing Canada at the 2021 IJRU Virtual Championships. We are proud of all of the hard work and dedication that it took to train under these circumstances, and we look forward to seeing your performances on the world stage.

We would like to congratulate the Jump Energy Executive Committee for their Support4Sport Sport Makes a Difference award from Sport Nova Scotia. We appreciate all that you do.

To conclude, I would like to thank our athletes, coaches, judges and volunteers for all of the time and effort they put in throughout this difficult year. I look forward to seeing what the future holds for rope skipping in Nova Scotia, in Canada, and around the world.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam Ashley', is written over a white background.

Sam Ashley, President  
Rope Skipping Association of Nova Scotia



The 2020-2021 season was a challenging one for Rope Skipping Alberta. The pandemic forced us to put our entire season on hold. Health measures that were put into place in March 2020 carried forward into the early summer. We had a slight easing of health measures during the summer and into the early fall. We had hoped that we might be able to start the season but with a rise in Covid-19 case counts during the fall we were once again under tight restrictions. We were forced to cancel our annual Summit which is normally held in October. We also made the decision to cancel all competitions for the year as our clubs had no access to school gyms or recreational facilities for practice. Even with the strict health restrictions, four of our athletes persevered and qualified for spots on Team Canada for the 2021 IJR Virtual Championships. A few of our clubs were able to engage their athletes using Zoom and other electronic means. This was great way to keep athletes and coaches connected. We are looking forward to the 2021-2022 season.

Nicola Eleniak  
Chair, Rope Skipping Alberta