



For immediate release

## Discovery Bay Ice Rink to Host Skate Asia 2023 – The Largest Recreational Skating Competition in the World

*1,750 Skaters from over Ten Countries and Regions  
Showcasing their Ultimate Skating Skills*

Hong Kong (13 July 2023) - **Discovery Bay Ice Rink ("DBIR")** is proud to announce that it will **be hosting Skate Asia 2023, the world's largest recreational skating competition** endorsed by the Ice Skating Institute Asia (ISIA Asia) and a significant competition for the skating community worldwide, **from 4-15 August 2023.**

### Skate Asia to Return to Hong Kong after 22 Years

Skate Asia has been held in various countries across Asia and Southeast Asia during the summer since 1989. The first Skate Asia was held in Hong Kong in 1989 and again in 2001. **After a 22-year hiatus, Discovery Bay Ice Rink is pleased to bring this grand figure skating event back to Hong Kong.**

This year's Skate Asia event will be the biggest ever, a testament to the growing popularity of figure skating in Asia. This highly anticipated event will bring together **1,750 skaters from over ten countries and cities**, including cities in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau, Chinese Taipei, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, and the USA, to showcase their skills and compete in around **4,400 individual and team events.**

Committed to promoting ice sports and nurturing ice sports enthusiasts, DB Ice Skating School's team of elite coaches, composed of Hong Kong Figure Skating Team members, offer a wide range of training courses from beginners to advanced levels. By organising Skate Asia, we aim to **increase awareness of ice sports and promote them to the public in Hong Kong.** This event not only serves as a platform for figure skating athletes to excel and improve their skills through a large-scale international competition but also **provides a showcase for the sport and an opportunity for public participation, all set against the backdrop of our international standard rink.**

### Discovery Bay Ice Rink to Host the Largest Recreation Figure Skating Event Ever in the World

"Hosting Skate Asia at DB Ice Rink is an honour for us," said Mr. Ivan Lee, Executive Vice President, Operations, Auberge Hospitality. **"Being the first international figure skating event in Hong Kong post-pandemic, we are thrilled to welcome 1,750 skaters from Hong Kong, mainland China, and overseas."** DB Ice Rink's state-of-the-art facilities have made it a preferred venue for professional performances and international competitions. **"Our goal is to establish DBIR as an elite training institute for figure skating, speed skating, and ice hockey,** thereby elevating Hong Kong's ice sports," added Mr. Lee.

Mr. Harry Janto Leo, President of ISIAAsia, expressed his excitement at the overwhelming response to the event, "**The number of skaters enrolled exceeded all expectations.** As a result, the competition period has been extended by three days to cover 4-6 August as well to accommodate all skaters."

A total of **46 ice rinks in the region will be participating in the competition**, and 13 coaches and over 120 students of DB Ice Skating School will be among them.

#### **U.S. National Champion Ms. Mariah Bell will Perform at the Opening Ceremony**

The opening ceremony taking place on 8 August 2023 will feature four exciting figure skating performances, including DB Ice Skating School Figure Skating Senior Coach Mr. Harry Lee, home-grown "Prince of Ice" who is not only a 6-time champion of Hong Kong Championships but also a three-time third runner-up of the Asian Open Figure Skating Trophy whose best ranking is 130th in the world. Apart from a solo performance, Harry will also be performing with DBIR students.

Furthermore, we are delighted to have two other special guests with us – **Ms. Mariah Bell and Ms. Linda Dean Huggins**. Ms. Mariah Bell is a world-renowned figure skater and the 2022 U.S. national champion, her best result being fourth place at the 2022 World Figure Skating Championships and represented the United States at the 2022 Winter Olympics. Ms. Bell will also be the guest coach for the coach accreditation seminar and will have a meet-and-greet session with skaters during Skate Asia 2023.

Ms. Linda Dean Huggins is the Vice-Chair of ISIAAsia's Technical Committee and High Level Test Committee, ISI Gold-Certified Judge & Referee, a former World Professional Figure Skating Championship competitor, and a former Principal Skater with Holiday on Ice, a popular international touring ice show. She is also a highly respected choreographer and a referee of Skate Asia this year.

#### **All are Welcome to Witness the Landmark Event of the Global Figure Skating Scene**


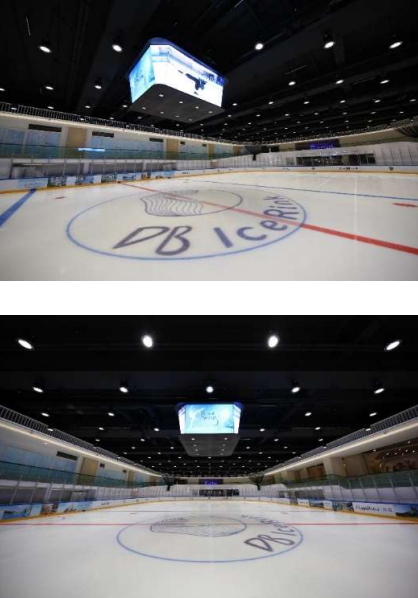
Skate Asia 2023 is a celebration of the sport of figure skating. It provides a unique opportunity for the public to witness some of the world's most talented skaters in action. We invite everyone to come and witness this unforgettable event and experience the graceful and expertly executed figure skating performances. Whether you are a seasoned skating enthusiast or a newcomer to the sport, Skate Asia 2023 is an event not to be missed. Mark your calendars and join us in Discovery Bay to witness this spectacular ice sports event and support the athletes.

## Skate Asia 2023 - Facts & Figures

<b>Schedule</b>	Competition: 4-15 August 2023 Opening ceremony: 8 August 2023 (11:40am -12:45pm) Award ceremony: 15 August 2023 (5:20pm – 6:20pm)
<b>No. of Skaters</b>	1,750
<b>Age of Skaters</b>	3-63
<b>No. of Rinks</b>	46
<b>No. of Countries and Regions</b>	>10
<b>No. of Events</b>	4,400

For more information, please visit the official website [www.skateasia2023.com](http://www.skateasia2023.com).

Please download high resolution images from this link: <https://rb.gy/cl5h4>

	Image
<b>Skate Asia 2023 logo</b>	
<b>Discovery Bay Ice Rink — the newest international-sized ice rink in Hong Kong</b>	

**Mr. Ivan Lee, Executive Vice President, Operations, Auberge Hospitality**



**Mr. Harry Janto Leo, President of ISIA Asia**



**Mr. Harry Lee, Figure Skating Senior Coach, DB Ice Skating School**



**Ms. Mariah Bell, world-renowned figure skater and the 2022 U.S. National Champion**



**Ms. Linda Dean  
Huggins, ISI Gold-  
Certified Judge &  
Referee, a former  
World Professional  
Figure Skating  
Championship  
competitor**



This press release is issued by Discovery Bay Ice Rink.

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## **Appendix**

### **About Discovery Bay Ice Rink**

As Hong Kong's first resort skating destination, Discovery Bay Ice Rink offers a brand new skating experience to skaters and visitors. This newest international-sized ice rink in Hong Kong features state-of-the-art amenities, our world-class professional coaching team designs training courses for all levels from beginners to advance level talents of all ages at the DB Ice Skating School. It is also the venue of choice for professional performances and international competitions.

[www.dbicerink.com](http://www.dbicerink.com)

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/db.icerink> and Instagram @db.icerink.

### **About Auberge Hospitality**

Auberge Hospitality is a collection of hotel, club and leisure properties under Hong Kong Resort Company Limited offering premium hospitality services and all-round leisure facilities, events and activities to create unique resort leisure lifestyle and experiences for every taste. The Auberge Hospitality brands include Discovery Bay Golf Club, Lantau Yacht Club, Auberge Discovery Bay Hong Kong, Discovery Bay Recreation Club, Club Siena, DB Ice Rink and Peony Chinese Restaurant in Discovery Bay, a renowned resort-style community located just 25 minutes away from Central CBD by ferry and 20 minutes from the Hong Kong International Airport, Tung Chung and Sunny Bay by land transport.

*Auberge Hospitality - Redefining Your Lifestyle at Discovery Bay.*

### **About ISIAAsia**

Ice Skating Institute Asia (ISIAAsia) is an Asian industry trade association encompassing owners and operators of ice skating facilities. Founded in 1999 as a non-profit organisation, ISIAAsia creates a platform to the Asian ice skating facilities to obtain industry information and to encourage the participation in ice skating as a recreational sport.

### **About Skate Asia**

Skate Asia is one of the world largest team recreation skating competitions which tour around Asian cities in every summer.

The competition started in 1989 in Hong Kong by the founder of ISIAAsia, Mr. Ted Wilson. Though there were very few ice rinks in Asia at the time, the event managed to attract 520 skaters from the Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Japan, U.A.E., Australia, Canada & the United States. The competition has ever since been held annually during summer and has been toured around Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Hangzhou, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Manila and Chinese Taipei etc.