

:

President's Report
42nd Annual General Meeting – May 2025
New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association

It is with great pleasure that I present the 42nd Annual Report to the members of the NZ Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association.

As many of you will recall, last year's AGM involved the discussion and resolution of several important remits. These were critical matters that needed to be addressed in order to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of our much-loved sport. As an Executive, we recognised the urgency of these issues and were committed to taking action. We are extremely grateful for the input and suggestions provided by member clubs, which played a pivotal role in shaping our decisions.

Our first meeting following the 2024 AGM was focused on developing strategies to improve the Association's financial position and ensure the continued success of our National competitions. I am pleased to report that through a combination of adjustments and collaborative efforts, we have made significant progress. Today, the Association is in a much healthier financial state.

Key changes, including revised pricing structures, medal sponsorships, host clubs assuming greater responsibility for official-related costs, donations and the receipt of a grant to support our Junior competitors, have all contributed to this positive outcome. Our sincere thanks go to the Judges, who have helped us reduce costs by billeting, sharing accommodations, and assisting with travel arrangements. This spirit of teamwork has made a meaningful difference and has been an incredibly rewarding experience for all involved.

The **Senior Nationals in Christchurch** were a standout success. The atmosphere was electric, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to every club and individual who supported their dancers in taking to the competition floor. A particular highlight was the novelty section, which brought a sense of fun and creativity to the event, wrapping up what was a truly energetic and memorable two days.

The **Junior Nationals** also showcased some fantastic talent. Congratulations to all clubs who dedicated time and effort into preparing their Junior competitors. A special mention goes to the Novice section — we hope to see these dancers continue in the sport and progress in future competitions.

After careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to combine the Junior and Senior Nationals for Labour Weekend 2026. While we acknowledge there was opposition to this idea — as discussed at the last AGM — the reality is that in 2025, there are currently not enough Junior dancers at competition level across our clubs nationwide. This presents both a financial burden to the Association and to potential host clubs. We hope to see a renewed focus from clubs in developing their Junior membership, with the aim of returning to two standalone competitions in the future.

Our **Promotion Group** has held several productive meetings throughout the year. Of particular note have been recent sessions where Judges engaged with competitors to explain judging criteria and expectations. These forums have proven valuable, and we thank all who have taken part.

The work on updating our **Constitution** remains ongoing. As previously advised, this will be addressed after the 2025 AGM, with a Special General Meeting to follow. I would like to extend

sincere thanks to Yolanda van Dorrestein, Leeyan Stephens, and Jan Morgan for their tireless efforts in aligning the Constitution with the Incorporated Societies Act.

On behalf of all members, I would also like to thank **Dianne Halstead** for her dedication in the role of Head Judge over the past two years. In addition to her judging responsibilities, Dianne has successfully secured medal sponsorships for the last two Nationals and is already working hard on sponsorship for the 2025 Senior Nationals. Thank you, Dianne, for your commitment and contribution.

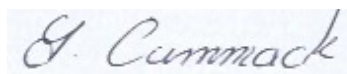
A big thank you as well to **Chloe Lowe**, who has served as Vice President over the past year. Many of you will have seen her in action at the Senior Nationals in Christchurch and the Junior Nationals in Porirua, where she managed our social media presence. Her efforts have created some truly special moments for our Facebook community, and we greatly appreciate her work.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the incredible **Executive Team**. The time and energy each member devotes to their roles is immense. When everyone contributes and works together, the results are not only effective but also deeply rewarding.

We have faced our share of challenges this year, but we have done so united in our passion for dance, the friendships we build, and the shared sense of community that defines our sport. It has been a privilege to serve this Association and to witness clubs coming together in support of one another throughout the country.

I look forward to seeing you all in Wellington on 24th May 2025.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theresa Cummack", written in dark ink on a light blue background.

Theresa Cummack

NZARRA President