

NZARRA Senior Nationals 2024

Host Club commentary to accompany accounts

The support given for the 2024 senior nationals offers some evidence that our sport may have stepped onto the path of recovery after the decline of the 'Covid years'. Competitor numbers showed significant increases when compared with the past few years, as did the overall level of ticket sales. This made it the largest senior nationals since the event was last hosted by Christchurch Rock 'n' Roll Club at the Lincoln Events Centre in 2019, an achievement of which club members are justifiably proud.

The many clubs and dancers from around the country were generous in their support with both competitors and supporters. As they all are, this was your 'nationals', and you took advantage of the opportunity to make it another outstanding event, a showcase of our best, as you and your supporters filled the venue to near capacity both days.

The facilities were as good as we find anywhere, and the venue operators (Selwyn District Council) were very supportive and responsive in meeting our needs, and this year also offered some grant funding to ensure that the event was successful. We are grateful for the support of the following organisations in providing grant funding:

- Kiwigaming Foundation
- Pub Charity
- Aotearoa Gaming Trust
- Selwyn City Council

The new approaches to such issues as catering for attendees also perhaps offer different models that might be considered by host clubs in the future. We applied for and were granted a license to sell alcohol, which we did at very good prices, so it was disappointing that some clubs put our licensee at risk by bringing in their own drinks. It is essential that clubs continue to support hosts by reinforcing this message with their members. The alternative is that host clubs will simply stop applying for liquor licenses.

We take this opportunity to thank the clubs of New Zealand for giving us their confidence and support in granting Christchurch Rock 'n' Roll Club the opportunity to host the 2024 senior rock 'n' roll nationals. Thank you. We trust that we warranted your confidence, and look forward to being able to do so again in the future.

Kia tau te mauri
Christchurch Rock 'n' Roll Club