



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc.



MINUTES OF THE 2020 NZARRA Inc. 37th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING VIA ZOOM Conference Call, SATURDAY 9th MAY 2020

The Annual General Meeting opened at 9.02am with a welcome from the NZ President, Nola Calvert.

The NZ Executive Committee was introduced

President	Nola Calvert
Vice President	Karen Birch
Secretary	Neva Zainey
Treasurer	Yolanda Van Dorrestein
Head Judge	Colleen Ryan

The President confirmed that with 21 clubs plus 5 Executive present the majority for voting is 14, and the voting procedure will be as follows:

- The voting to accept reports will be by show of hands.
- Voting for Remits will be by Zoom poll.
- Election of Officers — Secret ballot using the Zoom poll for all positions, the Treasurer will act as scrutineer.

Apologies

Gracelands

Sun City Rockers

The President Moved the apologies be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

Matters Arising:

- 1) General Business item on new songs – additional submitted songs have been sent out to all clubs. Feedback was due 25 April but this will be extended, new date to be confirmed.
- 2) Achievement award - being raised as a general business item today.
- 3) Suggestion by Drifters that standing orders be discussed prior to approving – they have been circulated in advance and accepted for this meeting as above.

The Treasurer Moved that the Minutes of the 2019 AGM be approved.

*Seconded by Cambridge
Carried unanimously*

President's Report

The President's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Nola spoke to her report.

The President moved that the report be accepted.

*Seconded by Tauranga
Carried unanimously*

Head Judge's Report

The Head Judge's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Colleen spoke to her report, specifically:

Acknowledging Dave Sayers who has retired from Judging, for his years of service and input into the rock'n'roll community.

Congratulating Jessie Stevens and Nicole Reder who have attained their Association Judge Status and thanking those judges who have helped them along the way.

The Head Judge moved that the report be accepted.

*Seconded by River city
Carried unanimously*

Correspondence Inwards/Outwards

The list of Inwards and Outwards correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Secretary moved that the Correspondence report be accepted.

*Seconded by River City
Carried unanimously*

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was circulated prior to the meeting. Yolanda spoke to her report.

The Association made a small surplus for the 2019 year although there was a significant loss for both Nationals (this is not the host club, but the Association) mainly due to expense of travel. There was a net increase in membership due to an increase in Juniors although Seniors decreased slightly.

Thank you to Helen Reeves for her advice and review.

The Treasurer moved that all levies and fees remain unchanged for the 2019/20 year.

*Seconded by Surf City
Carried unanimously*

Wellington - If the loss for Senior and Junior expenses is consistent, is there a way to address this?

Treasurer - Note that it covers the Executive and all Officials, but is offset by Association levies.

President - The Executive have discussed Officials sharing accommodation at Nationals. We know not everyone will be in favour of this. We are always mindful of using money wisely.

Invercargill - Would we consider increasing competition entry fees?

Treasurer - We are not looking to increase fees as we currently have a generous balance.

The Treasurer moved that the Financial Report be accepted.

*Seconded by RoseTown
Carried unanimously*

Nationals Reports

An assessment of the current situation regarding Junior and Senior National Championships for 2020 and 2021 had previously been sent to all clubs. The President summarized as follows:

River Rockers Whanganui will host the 2021 Seniors, as appointed at last AGM. Whakatane will bid today to host seniors in 2022.

Drifters have expressed a wish to have their hosting 'roll over' to 2021. The Executive have agreed to refund any costs related to 2020 hosting which cannot be recovered.

Kapi Mana have expressed willingness to forfeit their hosting of the 2021 Junior Nationals, but they will lose their non-refundable deposit on Te Rauparaha Arena and are unable to secure it as a venue for Easter 2022. In the lockdown situation it has not been possible for them to source or inspect alternative venues. The Executive has agreed that, if required, it will reimburse the deposit paid by Kapi Mana for the 2021 hosting.

Kapi Mana asks that they be given reasonable time after lockdown to locate a venue for 2022 Junior Nationals and, if a venue is not found, an assurance that they can be allocated the hosting of the 2023 Juniors.

In summary, it is proposed that:

- (a) Drifters host 2021 Junior Nationals.*
- (b) Kapi Mana be given approval to host 2022 Junior Nationals, providing they are able to locate a suitable venue within an agreed period of time after lockdown ends.*
- (c) A backup host be appointed for Juniors 2022, should Kapi Mana not be successful in finding a suitable venue.*
- (d) If Kapi Mana are unable to find a suitable venue for Juniors 2022, consideration be given to appoint Kapi Mana as host club for the Juniors in 2023.*

It was agreed that discussion on the above be deferred until all reports had been received.

Senior Nationals 2019 Report - Christchurch

Craig Blaikie presented Christchurch's report.

The current global circumstances make it important that we reflect on past successes as they give us hope for our future. The 2019 Senior Rock 'n' Roll nationals held in Christchurch offer that hope for us while we are mired deep in the middle of this most unusual and challenging of times.

The nationals were well supported by clubs and dancers from around the country, and we wish to say thank you dancers of New Zealand. 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 capacity both days.

The facilities were as good as we find anywhere, and the venue operators (Selwyn District Council) were delightfully supportive and responsive in meeting our needs. 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 2019 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

Christchurch spoke to the report:

We made a profit of \$30,800 for our club and paid the Association \$6,000 for levies on ticket sales. It was a good outcome and helped put much needed funds back into our club and we enjoyed hosting the event.

Junior Nationals 2020 Report – Drifters

Jan Morgan presented Drifter's report.

OVERVIEW

It seems such a long time ago now that we had to make that difficult decision to postpone the Junior Nationals. At the time we were still under the 500 people gathering limit but we could see from what was happening overseas that it was only a matter of when not if.

TICKETING

We were quite happy with the forward door ticket sales and were expecting to pre-sell around 400 seats on the Saturday and a slightly smaller door on the Sunday.

The competition entries were on par with previous years although a couple of sections were a little light. So it was shaping up to be a great weekend.

We did find the door entry ticket refunding process a little difficult as a couple of the bigger clubs had not "pooled" their door ticket orders and had left it up to individuals to place their own orders.. This then meant that we had to rely on all of those individuals to apply for a refund rather than just being able to repay in bulk to the clubs concerned... A lesson learnt for next time.

VENUE & DECORATIONS

We were very lucky with our venue, they had been very helpful and understanding when that decision was made, so that really did help. Our decorating team had been very busy that previous weekend and our plans were all in place for the venue set up. Hopefully we can still utilise these in the future

WHERE TO FROM HERE

We were obviously devastated at the time, but also in the end happy with our decision. We would still love to hold a Junior Nationals and I know discussions have been going on in the interim.

We would love to be able to hold Junior Nationals next year 2021 but also understand that we are not the only players in that decision.

I'm sure Both Jnr & Snr 2020 Nationals events will be high on the agenda at this AGM and I'm confident that collectively a resolution can be found.

Greg Sammons
President
Drifters Rock n Roll Club
Hamilton

Senior Nationals 2020 Progress Report - Whakatane

Karen Saul spoke on behalf of Whakatane, in summary:

We feel the cancellation of this year's Nationals was a good call by the Executive. We thank River Rockers for offering to hand over the 2021 nationals to us, a really kind gesture, however we discovered our venue had already been booked and wasn't available. Therefore we would like to put in a bid to host Senior Nationals in 2022. I have booked our event centre in the hope that this will be possible.

Our RnR club, motellers, businesses, and town folk are all hoping for this to happen as we all know of the hard times our community has been through lately with the White Island disaster, let alone all the Covid-19 restrictions. Our band are happy to re-negotiate another time and place and the moteliers are longing for their motels to be fully booked out again. Plus we as a club just really want to do this, we want you to come and have fun with us in 2022.

So good luck and best wishes to Whanganui for 2021 and if we are lucky enough to host again, please book accommodation as soon as possible.

Junior Nationals 2021 Progress Report - Kapi Mana

Barry O'Donnell spoke on behalf of Kapi Mana, in summary:

The current situation has created contention in that we have committed to 2021 Junior Nationals and have paid a deposit of around \$2,600 which is non-refundable. We can't secure a booking for 2022 because the Arena is already booked.

The President suggested that further discussion on this be deferred until allocation of Juniors 2021.

Senior Nationals 2021 Progress report - Whanganui

Scott Greenlees presented River Rockers Whanganui's report.

Rotorockers booked for the weekend

MC & Music: - Karen Reder booked

Venue: Whanganui War Memorial Centre tentative booking. Not yet confirmed but definitely pencilled in for dates. No problems envisaged. No BYO at hall but will be applying for a liquor license to have alcohol for sale.

Food: We are organising food trucks for the forecourt.

Accommodation: We will send out a motel list to all clubs when we can meet again and organise.

The President spoke regarding the reports, thanking the clubs involved and appreciating those who came together to try to come to a decision regarding future hosting.

Break for morning tea

Allocation of 2021 Junior Nationals:

Drifters - As instructed by my club, Drifters moves that they have 2021 Junior Nationals allocated to them.

Seconded by Christchurch

City Of Sails Does it not make more financial sense that Kapi Mana carry on and Drifters host 2022. From a financial point of view, the Association won't suffer as much of a loss.

River City - Support Drifters for 2021.

Wellington - We had different views and do support Drifters, but also have not considered costs for

Kapi Mana - Believe the Executive and the presidents of each club should sit down and discuss.

Treasurer - The Executive has agreed that no clubs will be out of pocket for any of the inconveniences we are having at this time, and we definitely have the finances to support that.

Drifters Moved that Drifters host 2021 Junior Nationals

*Christchurch Seconded
Carried*

Allocation of 2022 Senior and Junior Nationals:

Senior Nationals 21st – 23th October 2022

Whakatane moved to host Senior Nationals 2022

*VicePresident Seconded
Carried Unanimously*

Junior Nationals 15th – 17th April 2022

Kapi Mana indicated they would like to host but were unable to confirm this until a venue could be confirmed, as the Arena is unavailable.

A number of clubs indicated that this was not clear to them when previously voting. A five minute recess was called for delegates to discuss options with their clubs.

A five minute recess was called to allow delegates to discuss options with their respective clubs.

Drifters - Our President has agreed that we are more able to roll over to 2022 and believes his committee will support this decision.

Gold Coast moved that we revert to Kapi Mana hosting Junior Nationals 2021.

*Seconded by City of Sails
Carried*

Drifters proposed that if they can get a club mandate to host, they would like to bid for 2022.

Seconded by Kapi Mana

Drifters Move to Host 2022 Junior Nationals, subject to confirmation.

*Seconded by Christchurch
Carried Unanimously*

The President thanked the clubs for their interest and congratulated both future host clubs.

REMITTS: ALTERATIONS TO THE RULE BOOK

Remit 1 – Drifters

Seconded by Rosetown

Amend Rule 1.8 (a) to change Junior age range to 5 years to 10 years and Intermediate age range 11 years to 13 years.

Currently:

- | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Junior | 5 years to 9 years |
| 2 | Intermediate | 10 years to 13 years |

Amended rule to read:

Junior Championship Sections

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Junior | 5 years to 10 years |
| 2 | Intermediate | 11 years to 13 years |
| 3 | Seniors | 14 years to 17 years |
| 4 | ----- | |
| 5 | Top Club | 5 years to 17 years |
| 6 | Novelty | 5 years to 17 years |
| 7 | Triples Junior | 5 years to 13 years |

8	Triples Intermediate	5 years to 17 years
9	Cheerleaders	5 years to 17 years
10	Restricted	5 years to 17 years
11	-----	
13	Same Sex	5 years to 17 years
14	Novice	5 years to 17 years
16	Junior Same Sex	5 years to 12 years

Intention:

To make this rule more age appropriate and for most, within their skill level.

Reasoning:

To change the age in Junior from 5 - 9 years to 5 - 10 years.

This would allow these dancers to compete fairly within their peer group. 10 year olds, generally are still in primary school and 11-13 year olds are at intermediate. Currently 10 year olds will compete against 12 - 13 year olds and they tend to also be a higher caliber dancer.

Children tend to dance within their age group of 8 - 10 year olds, so once they turn 10 they now find themselves no longer having a dance partner which in turn means they are no longer able to compete at Junior Nationals.

Drifters spoke to their remit. Further discussion included:

Wellington - Against - Keep 4 years spacing as you don't see 5 year olds dance..

Kapi Mana - For – changing it to school age years is appropriate and an advantage to a number of couples.

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 2 - Harbour City

Seconded by Drifters

Add to current rule 3.9 new clause (b), and re-letter the remaining clause.

“Any couple/triple having achieved National Qualifying Level points as per rule 3.8 may, on request, and at the discretion of the Executive, also be deemed to have passed assessment for a section with lower National Qualifying Level points that they and their assessment met any other criteria to enter”.

Reasoning:

Last Senior Nationals we had only one couple choose to enter a particular section. As they were both old enough, the Exec asked them to instead consider entering an “older” section, but to do so, they had to be reassessed - even though when they had been assessed, their standard of dancing had already obtained a National Qualifying Level that was well above what was required for them to qualify them to compete in that section. This change would allow them to make this change without the need for reassessment. Note that this (correctly) could not apply for changing to a Restricted section, as their assessment would not have met the “any other criteria” needed.

Harbour City spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

Drifters For - We want numbers on the floor, no barriers, and they have already achieved the required mark..

Tauranga - For - This happened to me and my dance partner and it was a little frustrating to have to be reassessed.

River City - For - As long as it's the same couple or combination.

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 3 - Harbour City

Seconded by Whakatane

Remove rule 5.5 (a), amend rule 5.5 (b) to remove the word “also”.

Reasoning:

Every year we hear that there isn't enough time at Nationals to relax, dance, catch up, socialise. The competition days are long, the hall clears as soon as presentations are finished, and long gone are the days when we had time on Sunday morning for a look around our host club's neighbourhood. This is mainly because we have continued to add new sections as we discover a need or desire for them e.g. senior club, senior triples, senior restricted, best dressed junior female – but we've not removed anything from the programme.

From our perspective, it seems that a small number of clubs are very invested in best dressed as an event. We feel that although it is great to see people understanding and adhering to the dress “of the day” and our defined and agreed standards, that the focus of Nationals should be on the dancing and less on the dress.

When we proposed something similar at a previous AGM, the main objection was from dancers, that they liked parading prior to being called to the floor to compete. This could still be done at the start of each section immediately after marshalling, but there would be no judging, no call-backs to finals, and no presentations.

The best dressed female and male sections on Sunday would remain unchanged.

Harbour City spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

River City - Against. It's costly for the costumes and even though it is nice to see people, we are actually there to dance and compete. Friday night is for socialising.

Rosetown - Against. If it's a time issue then that's around the efficiency of the programme itself.

Kapi Mana - Against - We know that a lot of couples put time into best dressed, to take it out is not appropriate, but could be benefits to maybe combining best dressed.

Drifters1 - Against - An important part of promoting rocknroll ideals and it's something our dancers can achieve outside of dancing. Junior members it teaches them about participation and part of their competing process that they can aspire to and gives them another chance to have a sense of achievement. Unclear on Harbour City's reasoning, they want more time to socialise but if the dancers are still to parade really how much time are we saving? Best dressed to our club, is a pivotal part of the competition process to them.

Voting on the Remit - Lost

Remit 4 - Harbour City

Seconded by Kapi Mana

Add after the first sentence of Rule 5.5 (a)

“For the Senior Championships, the best dressed parade will be combined for sections 7 and 8, and for sections 13 and 16.”

Updated rule would read:

“A best dressed parade will be held on Saturday prior to the particular section of competition for Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12 & 14, and on Sunday prior to competition 5, 7, 8, 13, 15 & 16 . For the Senior Championships, the best dressed parade will be combined for sections 7 and 8, and for sections 13 and 16. Entry is optional. Seven official Judges will judge these parades.”

Intention:

Our intent is to combine best dressed competitions for similar sections on the Sunday at Senior Nationals. This will create more competition within those sections, while reducing the time required,

and recognises that there is no valid need to have an age criteria as part of the best dressed consideration.

Reasoning:

We have age-based criteria for our dancing sections because there is a perceived difference in agility or capability between a much younger and a much older dancer. But we do not need to take any such difference into account when considering our dress – senior dancers of any age are able to compete equally.

We are proposing that:

- The best dressed competitions for Open and Senior Triples be combined
- The best dressed competition for Open and Senior Same Sex be combined

The existing Open Best Dressed trophies would continue to be used.

When we proposed this at a previous AGM, the main objection was from dancers, that they like having a best dressed section and parading immediately prior to being called to the floor to compete but this only applies to those in the first heat, everyone else has to enter best dressed and then wait anyway, so this objection doesn't really stand.

From our perspective, it seems that a small number of clubs are very invested in best dressed as an event. We feel that although it is great to see people understanding and adhering to the dress "of the day" and our defined and agreed standards, that the focus of Nationals should be on the dancing and less on the dress. We are not proposing any change for Juniors – as a club we have very little knowledge of Junior Nationals. We would be open to an amendment on the day of the AGM, to extend this to include combining the best dressed competitions for sections 10 and 11, Open Restricted and Senior Restricted, if there was support for this.

Harbour City spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included

Kapi Mana - For - We notice that numbers are reducing in these sections and there could be some benefit for combining them. The only difference is the size not so much in what they are wearing.

Vice President -

Against - if you're combining best dressed then you need to look at all the sections. The ages are too big and do impact on the costumes.

Wellington - Against - Feel that it's part of rock 'n' roll and set in place. Better ways to save time.

Head Judge - Against – there are other ways to save time in the programme, we should honour each individual section, this is highly contested.

Voting on the Remit - Lost

Remit 5 - Executive

Amend Rule 5.8 as follows:

'Competitors in Section 9 (Cheerleaders) shall perform cheers and chants with accompanying music (without words) if desired, no longer than 4 minutes duration, such time to include entry/exit from the competition floor. No club participation from the sidelines is allowed.'

Intention:

To clarify the use of music and change how timing applies to align with Novelty, and to increase the time allowed as a result.

Reasoning:

Cheerleaders were to have appeared at Juniors this year for the first time in almost 10 years. There were a number of queries from clubs regarding the use of music and clarification of the rules was required. It was also felt that to change what constitutes the 'start' of the cheerleading and then align the floor time rule to be consistent with the Novelty section made for less confusion.

The Treasurer sought Council permission to split this remit into two, one to add "without words", the other to set duration and include entry and exit from the floor – this was agreed.

Remit 5.8 - part 1

Seconded by River City

To add the words "(without words)" after accompanying music.

The Treasurer spoke to the remit. Originally cheerleaders included cheers and chants only, accompanying music was added at a previous AGM to help boost volume, with the intent of that being music, not songs. This intent needs to be confirmed and clarified. Further discussion included:

Drifters - Against – being able to include words could be more enjoyable for everyone listening. Would like to see that clubs have the choice of either.

Christchurch - For - Cheer for your team loud and proud, not there to lip sync to a song

City Of Sails - Clarification, what does "if desired" mean if it's not about music with or without words?

Treasurer - "if desired" means that you do not have to have accompanying music. This amendment is to clarify that the music is without words.

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 5 - part 2

Seconded by Kapi Mana

To amend 5.8 to include '4 minutes duration' and then a second part of the clause 'such time to include entry/exit from the floor'.

The Treasurer spoke to this remit. The current rule isn't clear when timing should start and has no exit criteria specified, this clarifies both and brings it in line with Novelty..

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 6 – Drifters

Seconded by Tauranga

New Rule under Section 7 - Conduct and Obligations

"7.1 - General conduct over National weekends.

During the competition weekend, there will be zero tolerance of anyone considered to be verbally or physically abusing anyone attending the event. The NZ Executive reserves the right, should they deem it necessary, to enforce the removal of anyone in breach of this rule from the venue".

Reasoning:

To safeguard and provide guidelines for everyone at Nationals when incidents involving these types of abuse may arise.

Note: The rest of the rules in Section 7 would be renumbered accordingly as we feel this rule should be first, being the most important.

This remit may also affect Book B, Section 5.1 - Information for Club Team Managers which currently only addresses conduct towards the judges, suggesting that this be revisited.

Drifters spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

River City - How often does this actually happen? It should be the team manager's responsibility.

Kapi Mana - For - We support this however we are asking for an amendment, to add 'for a period of exclusion at the discretion of the Executive' to the end, which could be the rest of the weekend, the current session, or a year or longer.

*Kapi Mana moved an Amendment to this Remit
Secoded the Amendment - Head Judge*

Discussion of amendment:

That a person be excluded from the venue for a period at the discretion of the Executive.

Wellington - Against the amendment and the remit itself. Who's going to police rules on behavior? Agree with River City that team managers and the host club normally sort things out.

Kapi Mana - For. This wording needs to be in the rule itself to give the Executive the power to have people removed and be clear about the length of time.

Head Judge - For. The amendment allows for a cool-down period, maybe allows for them not to be excluded from the weekend.

Hawkes Bay – For. Current wording is vague and does need clarification.

Voting on the Amendment - Carried

Further discussion on the Remit included:

Christchurch - For - you can't always leave it in the hands of team managers, they know the people involved.

Voting on the Remit - Carried

The meeting adjourned for lunch 11.50 - 12.20pm

Remit 7 – Executive

Secoded by Invercargill

Remove 8.7 and 8.8 and create a new section after current 8.6 called "Judge Qualification Criteria" containing new rules 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 8.10, 8.11 and 8.12 as below:

Amend Rule 10.13 to align with the relative rule changes above:

Level One - reference to 8.9 renumbered to 8.7

Level Two - reference to 8.10 renumbered to 8.9

Amend Rule 10.20 to add definition for Mentor:

"A mentor is defined as a National Association Judge who undertakes to assist a Trainee Judge through all steps of their judging pathway".

New Rules 8.7,8.8, 8.9, 8.10, 8.11, 8.12

8.7 Before being accepted onto the Trainee Judges List, an applicant must:

- Have attained the age of 18 years;
- Complete and return to the Association Head Judge and introductory questionnaire attesting to their rock 'n' roll experience and commitment, along with a nomination in writing from their Club;

- Have their application considered and accepted by the Executive Committee.

8.7.1 Addition to the official register of Trainee Judges, will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

8.8 The criteria to remain as a Trainee Judge is as follows:

- To attend a minimum of one workshop per calendar year.

8.8.1 Any Trainee Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control and agreed to by the Head Judge (who will consult with the National Executive), may be removed from Trainee Judge status.

8.9 The criteria to qualify as an Association Judge is as follows and must be completed:

- Armchair judge a minimum of six competitions, all using the NZARRA rules and judging guidelines;
- Officially judge a minimum of four competitions, all using the NZARRA rules and judging guidelines;
- To attend a minimum of one judging workshop per calendar year;
- Upon completion of the above, the trainee judge consults with their mentor and the Head Judge to determine the next step in their journey. One of the considerations would be that they (trainee, mentor and Head Judge) feel confident that they are ready to sit the exam;
- Sit and pass an examination set by the Head Judge.

8.9.1 Addition to the official register of Association Judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

8.10 The criteria to remain as an Association Judge is as follows:

- To attend a minimum of one judging workshop per calendar year;
- Armchair or judge at least one club competition or equivalent event/competition/assessment per calendar year.

8.10.1 Any Association Judge failing to meet the above criteria is to consult with the Head Judge regarding their circumstances. They may then be required to attend a judges' workshop prior to recommencement of judging. If reinstatement to the Association List is required then this will be at the discretion of the Head Judge and Executive.

8.11 The criteria to qualify as a National Association Judge is as follows:

- To have qualified as an Association Judge;
- Armchair judge at least one Junior and one Senior National Championships.

8.11.1 Addition to the official register of National Association Judges will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

8.12 The criteria to remain as a National Association Judge is as follows:

- To attend a minimum of one judging workshop per calendar year;
- Be available to judge at least one National Championship per calendar year;
- Armchair or judge at least one club competition or equivalent event/competition/assessment per calendar year.

8.12.1 Any National Association Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control, and agreed to by the Head Judge (who will consult with the National Executive), may be removed to Association Judge status.

Reasoning:

Tidy up criteria and make a clear pathway for all judging levels and provide a communication opportunity throughout the process. The proposed Judge Qualification Criteria determines and clarifies status and expectations for judges of all levels.

Over the past 18 months at workshops around the country, the topic of training and criteria were discussed in an effort to establish a more clear pathway and allow balance and flexibility in situations. The trainee judge level gives a generous timeline and will be encouraged to attend workshops and work closely with their mentor. This will be one of the determining aspects to the progress they make. The description of mentor appears in rule 8.9 (4) and hence requires a definition (the proposed change to rule 10.20). A mentor is critical in the progress of a trainee judge.

Once a judge has been accepted onto the Association and/or National Association list, there is a requirement and expectation to keep updated and current. All levels give opportunity to communicate and convey at every step along the way to ensure that everyone gains the best value and help, in their judging roles.

This remit supports and is in line with our judges' values for ongoing training and sharing of ideas and trends that support the growth of our rock 'n' roll communities within New Zealand.

Judges understand they serve the dancers and give their time and expertise generously. The value of collaboration of all our judges to assist one another and our trainees coming through cannot be under-estimated.

Several opportunities are provided for workshops and they take place on the Friday prior to Junior and Senior National events, at Regional workshops, at the Combined National Workshop every alternate year, and to ensure the availability of communication is always open additional workshops can also be by way of ZOOM meetings.

Obviously, in life there are known and also unknown challenges, circumstances and commitments such as for work, family responsibility, personal, travel, stress, health or wellbeing, illness and the like. Any judge unable to attend a workshop for any reason can let the Head Judge know.

You will see that the new rule **8.9 has removed the words 'in the following order'** – this is due to the fact that some judges are very capable of judging at competitions and invited by Clubs to judge in an official capacity. The thoughts are by allowing the process to be simultaneous seems the most logical and helpful way forward in the judging pathway process.

The Head Judge spoke to the Remit. Further discussion included:

Drifters - For - Agree to reformat as proposed but suggest amendments e.g. definition of a mentor and establishing some guidelines etc

Kapi Mana - For - Having judges in our club has been beneficial to understanding this remit and adding "assessments" for criteria is good as there are now fewer club competitions.

Voting on the Remit - Carried unanimously

Remit 8 – Christchurch

Seconded by River Rockers

Remove the word Insurance from Rule Book A 8.13 and Rule Book B 3.5.

Intention:

That the word "insurance" should be deleted both from rule Book A 8.13 and from Book B Paragraph 3.5 Reimbursements.

Reasoning:

That it is perfectly “reasonable” and prudent to purchase insurance for flights and insurance costs should also be reimbursed. Flight delays and cancellations, weather related or otherwise, should be insured against and the cost should be reimbursed.

Christchurch spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

City Of Sails - Does a maximum amount for insurance need to be set?

Kapi Mana - For - But yes we need to determine the level of insurance cost.

Rosetown - For - Assume the intention is for the normal insurance cover when you book flights?

Christchurch moved an Amendment to include the words ‘including reasonable insurance fees’.

*Seconded by City of Sails
Voting on the Amendment - Carried*

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 9 – Executive

Seconded by Invercargill

Amend Rule 9.6 (a) as follows:

‘Each place-getter in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and only one of each place-getting team in Sections **6 and 9** receive an engraved place medal and ribbon.....’

Intention:

To present one medal to place-getting teams in Cheerleaders (Section 9), as happens in Section 6 (Novelty).

Reasoning:

This year, 4 Cheerleading teams were entered, with team sizes being 7, 10, 11 and 12. Therefore it was necessary to order medals for the largest team, i.e. 12, in each of gold, silver and bronze places, a total of 36 medals. It may be that smaller teams would have placed and consequently there would have been medals that were not used. As each medal costs \$8.50, the 36 medals ordered for Cheerleaders cost \$306, instead of \$25.50 if only one medal was presented to each placing team. While we appreciate that each participating junior would get a thrill from receiving a medal, the Executive is always conscious of the need to use funds wisely. The presenting of one medal for a team is already done for Novelty, where numbers again may vary.

The President spoke to the Remit. Further discussion included:

Tauranga - Against – Juniors thrive on receiving medals and would be disappointed if they didn't receive one. Look at other options, or generic medals that don't have to be replaced each year.

Kapi Mana - For. Costs are quite substantial, this brings it into line with Novelty.

Christchurch - For, although we could consider certificates or winning clubs providing their own individual medals.

Treasurer - Confirming all participants already receive a certificate with their sections on it

Voting on the Remit - Carried

Remit 10 - Harbour City

Seconded by Kapi Mana

Amend Rule 10.6 (c) to replace “1 male and 1 female dancer” with “a Couple or Same Sex couple”

Replace 2.1 (b) with “Females will dress in lady’s attire, males in men’s attire.”

Intention:

To allow for Same Sex Novice entrants.

Reasoning:

With the uptake in same sex at club level, we would like to see this encouraged, but there is currently no “introductory” section for these newer dancers at Nationals. Rather than suggesting an additional section at Nationals, we are suggesting that our current Novice sections allow Same Sex couples to be included. There would be no change to Novice assessment levels.

Harbour City spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

Kapi Mana - For – Suggested amendment to rule 10.6 that the Same Sex dancers will appear in ladies attire

Treasurer - The amendment will be to remove where it says to replace 2.1b ‘females will dress in ladies attire and males in mens attire.

Amendment moved Kapi Mana, Seconded Rosetown Rockers

City Of Sails - Do we need to address section 14 under 2.1b it applies to section 13,14 & 16.

Treasurer - Agreed. If we go ahead with the amendment on the understanding from this AGM, if there are any other anomalies in the rule book that should also have been addressed, we will make clear to those competitors that females will dress ladies attire and males in mens attire.

Voting on the Amendment - Carried

Further discussion included.

Invercargill - For - We do this already in our club as a Novice Junior or Senior and it’s worked quite well, numerous judges say it makes no difference to their judging.

Happy Dayz - If it passes can Same Sex Novice couples who dance on the Saturday also dance Same Sex on Sunday?

Treasurer - 4.12 e) currently says they can dance.

Drifters - Yes, we would be against it as it stands. If they dance Novice, they dance Novice only.

Kapi Mana - Clarify please that the dancers are allowed to dance in both sections and split up and dance with other partners for other sections.

City Of Sails - The original intention, was if you were a Novice dancer you were a male and female so if you wanted to dance on Sunday in Same Sex that would be with a change of partner. We need a new rule that if you dance in the Novice section 14 as a same sex couple, you cannot also dance in Same Sex sections 13 & 16.

Treasurer - Proposed amendment to add “a couple who competes in section 14 cannot compete in sections 13 & 16”. That would still allow an individual person but doesn’t allow the same couple to dance in both in Novice and Same Sex.

*Amendment moved by Happy Dayz, seconded by City of Sails
Voting on Amendment – Carried*

Voting on the Amended Remit - Carried

Remit 11 - Harbour City

Seconded by River Rockers

Amend Rule 10.11 to read “A Triple team is defined as three dancers.”

Replace 2.1 (b) with “Females will dress in lady’s attire, males in men’s attire.”

Intention:

To allow for same sex triples combinations.

Reasoning:

With the uptake in same sex, we are seeing same sex triples combinations at club level, and would like to see this encouraged. Rather than suggesting an additional section at Nationals, we are suggesting that our current Triples sections allow same sex triples combinations to be included. There would be no change to Triples assessment levels.

Harbour City spoke to their Remit. Further discussion included:

Drifters - Against. While we think it's good to put more people on the floor however not good for juniors and want to encourage our boys. Do we need this in Triples?

Invercargill - Against - Would be nice to see clubs trial this at a club level. Could have merit but at the moment we are against.

Whakatane - For - We think we have got a lot of dancers who are keen to give this a go

L&P Rockers - Against - Don't want to see 3 females on the floor, it is a National competition.

Voting on the Remit - Lost

END OF REMITS

Election of Officers

Nominations for President

Nola Calvert – *nominated Invercargill, seconded Dunedin*

Nominations for Vice-President

Karen Birch – *nominated Invercargill, seconded Gold Coast (NZ)*

Nominations for Secretary

Neva Zainey – *nominated by Drifters, seconded Cambridge Cruisers*

Nominations for Treasurer

Yolanda van Dorrestein - *nominated by Harbour City, seconded Kapi Mana*

All Nominees were elected by secret ballot.

Confirmation of Head Judge

Colleen Ryan was reconfirmed as Head Judge, elected by postal vote prior to the AGM.

General Business

Item 1 - Drifters

Judges Sheets for purchase

We would like to discuss the option to purchase a digital copy of Judges sheets instead of a paper copy? If this was an option would the cost be cheaper? We also feel that this is an environmentally friendly option.

Treasurer - We could make this an option and the cost might be reduced.

Kapi Mana - Could we put them on the website?

Rosetown - How much does it currently cost?

Treasurer - \$60 for a set of judges sheets, we put the scrutineer sheets on the website at no cost.

Kapi Mana - We have the ability to do digital copy but there would still be a cost for this.

Drifters - Happy for the Exec to consider a way forward, appreciate the discussion in terms of saving time and cost.

Item 2 - Wellington

Assessments

Can Juniors assessed for 2020 Nationals have their assessment carried over to 2021 providing they are still with the same dance partner, same section and same level in that section they were assessed for? It is for the Executive to decide but hopefully common sense will prevail.

Treasurer - Rule 3.1 says assessment has to be held within the 12 months proceeding. You would have to take the rule out for a year in order to make this change today, and then reinstate next year.

River City - Against that idea - a lot can change within a year, ages/level people can move up a level.

Drifters - Against this too- New year, new day. We haven't been able to dance for most of a year and kids will need to be refreshed and get reassessed.

Head Judge -.It's a new year. I think it gives the ability to do their part of their assessments for the year ahead so to have the assessments roll over probably won't work.

Kapi Mana - Juniors are prepared to be assessed again and it won't take much to update routines so it's not a major issue.

Item 3 – City of Sails

Suggest we hold next year's AGM at an earlier date to allow clubs to use their flight credits within the 12 month period.

River City - Also consider holding more AGMs online as we have today, takes less time and saves money.

Drifters - Air New Zealand have confirmed that the booking has to be done within 12 months but not the travel itself.

Treasurer - Executive will send out a survey on how today went and we could include whether we want to run AGM next year via zoom or physical as well as including whether clubs are able to get a credit or rebook flights for next year which will help us to decide what to do going forward.

Item 4 - Invercargill

Proposed Life Achievement Award - 'New Zealand Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame'

Awarded to someone who has passion, dedication and commitment to the New Zealand Rock 'n' Roll Association and keeping the era of the 50's Rock N Roll dance alive and strong.

This award will be awarded yearly during the weekend of the Senior Nationals, most preferably on Sunday evening at the end of the weekend, or Friday night which will encourage more attendance along for that night.

To determine the recipient of this award they will be chosen because of the following:

- Years of dedication, passion and commitment to the association and clubs from around New Zealand.
- Either as a judge, head judge, MC, sitting on the exec, helping clubs from throughout New Zealand with workshops etc, years of competing and enjoying Rock 'n' Roll in general.

To acknowledge and commend members from around New Zealand that have gone above and beyond for Rock 'n' Roll dancing in New Zealand. These people have made what Rock 'n' Roll is today and without them it just would not be the same or may not even be existing at all. As members of the association we cannot let this go unnoticed and start rewarding members and publicly congratulate them on having such passion and commitment towards what we all love and enjoy.

Notes

There are two options in deciding who would receive the yearly award: Either, individual clubs put forward their nominations and then the exec has to choose who will be awarded determined by the nominations Or, the exec puts a list of nominations to all clubs and they decide by choosing one from the list then it goes back to the exec and the one that gets the most votes is the recipient. The exec will be the only ones that will know who is being awarded till the name is being read out.

Also discussion needs to be made on who pays for the trophy? Trophies don't cost too much so it just needs to be supported by a club that would like to sponsor the award which I don't think we will find hard to do but will also need to pay for the engraving on a yearly basis.

The only concern is whether the recipient will be at the nationals or how to get the person there without letting them know and who will pay for that person to attend? Please have a good read over this remit and put your suggestions forward as it's hard to put something like this together but I'm sure with all of the clubs around the table, we can come up with a concrete remit to put forward.

Discussion included:

River City - A good idea but so many people over the years deserve it, who gets to decide, it's an impossible task.

Kapi Mana - The idea has merit. But surely a lifetime award is a pinnacle award so how do you decide that? and the criteria needs to be quite specific around how it is awarded.

Drifters - Good at club level but policing it, criteria or guidelines around it will be a nightmare.

Vice President - Could set up a subcommittee to talk to clubs and come up with some guidelines?

Wellington - We've discussed having some kind of board on the website, an honours board. So many deserving people who are not dancing now.

The Executive held a non-binding poll vote on the option of a Lifetime Achievement Award:

Against.

Item 5 - Kapi Mana

Insurance - Do clubs take out insurance to cover their assets and also if they have Public Liability Insurance? Kapi Mana has both of these types of insurance currently and is wondering what position other clubs take, in particular Public Liability Insurance.

Dunedin - Yes, we have Public Liability Insurance but no longer have contents as it cost more than what we have worth.

City Of Sails - Used to years ago and don't any longer as it's too expensive.

Drifters - Yes, we do have Club Asset Insurance and Limited Public Liabilities Insurance for holding small events. Regarding insurance for nationals at the venue, the school and their policy deemed that we would be covered under their policy so that's what we did.

Tauranga - Yes we did when we were based at the RSA. Now we have moved we don't as the cost is huge.

Hawkes Bay - Yes, our club hall is owned by third party but also told in booking other venues we needed it to hold events so we have Public Liability Insurance.

Item 6 - Kapi Mana

Value versus cost of providing a Nationals DVD:

This is mainly a question of new technology and content delivery systems superseding DVDs. Kapi Mana generated \$500 of income by selling 25 DVDs of the 2016 Junior Nationals and RotoRockers have quoted about \$2,200 to film the 2021 event. Based on selling the same number of DVDs this leaves a shortfall of \$1,700, but with people using tablets and mobile phones to record those sections of interest the number of DVDs being sold has dwindled over the years.

The Rule Book requirements need to reflect these technological changes including live streaming. The question then becomes "how does the Association get a permanent record of the Nationals?"

Happy Dayz - Shouldn't the cost from RotoRockers be covered in your ticket cost?

Kapi Mana - Question is the format - not the videographer, it's the method of delivery.

Treasurer - What Kapi Mana is saying is looking at alternatives. We could look at providing online links or on a flash drive. Format doesn't matter as long as we have a permanent record that we can come back to so it's not just on youtube, and has the ability to be copied over time into newer formats.

Rosetown - I would say adding next to DVD, have a digital copy so that is either one.

Wellington - In the past we have seen other people video in VHS and DVD form. We actually got every year and we look back on that often and would not like to see it disappear. Needs to make it available to the ones who still want to buy them. If there is other options look into it but be careful on quality.

Treasurer - Clarify, the paragraph is looking at Book B, and can be changed outside of the AGM if we can agree to change it in principle.

President - If any club has any alternatives we would be happy to hear it.

Item 7 - Christchurch

Extension or dispensation for Juniors too old for Juniors next year/

Is it possible to apply for an extension or dispensation for juniors who will be too old to dance in junior nationals next year. As they have lost the chance to dance this year due to Covid-19, they feel like they still deserve their last shot at juniors. Christchurch won't be the only club with this issue.

Rosetown - In principle, it's good but we would have to amend Rules for it to happen?

City Of Sails - Sounds like a good idea but we just said assessments could not roll over so we do want to give dispensation to kids who are too old because it then disadvantages the kids are actually of age next year.

Treasurer - Agree with Rosetown, we will have to amend Rules, and it's not just Senior Juniors who are too old but there could be others who can't dance in the section they were going to dance in. It's really unfortunate but there's no easy way to accommodate what you are trying to do that doesn't disadvantage those who are legitimately allowed in that section.

Drifters - Unfortunate but it's a new year, new day. All sympathetic but we have to move on.

Item 8 - River City

Mileage format:

Rule Book B, 3.5 in relation to reimbursements.. Suggest changing the mileage cost of 40c The government vehicle reimbursement is 80c, we don't expect the Executive to pay that much but do think it needs to be more.

Rosetown - I think 40c is too low, even if it's between 50c - 60c I think that would be better.

Treasurer - We have revisited this often. The government rate assumes you are using a vehicle mainly for work purposes and includes WOF and maintenance, where this is for an individual trip. We use it as a guideline but clubs took it as a rule and at the higher rate found it far too expensive and people were getting paid much more than their cost. So we reduced it again.

President - Cost for me for one expense last year was \$1000 when I could fly for considerably less but it made sense to drive so we came to an arrangement that made sense for my trip.

Drifters- I can see both sides, having been involved with having it up and down. We have experienced this within our club champs last year and our committee had paid based on that recommendation but someone had travelled from north Auckland and couldn't be adequately reimbursed. Because we had a good relationship with this judge, we were able to take it back to our committee and work out an amicable solution to that. Clubs think it's exact when they need to be made aware it's a guideline.

Item 9 - Drifters

Limit of 10 new suggested songs:

Suggestions that are put forward for the national list, be limited to 10 per club, per year.

Drifters - Think we should just limit the songs even though we want a variety but also needs to be from more people. And an easier job for the Executive when sifting through music to put forward.

- Wellington* - We weren't impressed with the caliber of songs and some didn't meet the criteria. We have submitted our choices but think we have enough songs on our current playlist.
- Rosetown* - Definitely agree having a limit, and to save the work of the Executive.
- Treasurer* - Don't agree that we should limit the music. If people can find good music and want to put it forward they should be encouraged. At the last AGM the clubs wanted to be involved in the choice of music which is why you have been able to review the music that's been put forward - but it's optional to listen to them.
- Kapi Mana* - Being one of the clubs who puts music forward, we would hate to see us limiting it. As a club we have already had them checked out. Agree it is a big job to go through the songs but hate to see it limited.

Item 10 - Rosetown Rockers

Covid 19 pandemic guidelines:

What are the Covid-19 guidelines from the Executive for clubs as most national bodies will have a directive to the pandemic.

- President* - The guidelines keep shifting so it's very difficult to formulate a plan because of that.
- River City* - We have a hall that is used by many different clubs. We felt it's really up to the hirers to manage this. We did close the hall for the last 6 weeks nobody has been allowed to use it and are waiting for level 2 to see what is allowed. I have advised all the hirers to make a list of the people in their group so they can be traced.
- Treasurer* - We aren't aware of the specific circumstances that the clubs are under. We can't come up with anything blanket for the clubs to follow. Other than follow what standard government guidelines are. It's up to individual clubs to do what they need to do for their club.
- Rosetown* - We agree that it should be up to individual clubs but if a club agrees to go back and start a cluster, it could fall back to the Association.
- Drifters* - We can't control what clubs do as a body. We are here to run and host rocknroll, but I'm sure clubs will follow the government procedures. Something we could look at is the Executive having some protocols in place not now but going forward about what happens if this was to happen again.
- Tauranga* - Be careful of having 2 metre distance and a lot of us are dancing with strangers not with our partners. We are looking at our club not coming back till level 1.

End of General Business

The President thanked all delegates for their valuable input and participation.

The date for the next AGM is Saturday 22 May 2021, venue to be confirmed

The meeting closed at 2.40 pm.