



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc.



2026 NZARRA AGM Remits and General Business

Proposed Rule Book A Changes

Remit 1 - River Rockers

Amend Rule 1.6(a)

National Championships - The Association may organise a Senior Nationals Championship at Labour weekend and a Junior Nationals Championship at Easter weekend or a Combined National Championship at Easter weekend annually, at the discretion of the Executive.

That Senior Nationals (whether combined or split) be held at Labour weekend from 2027.

To Read:

“(a) The Association may organise a Senior Nationals Championship at Labour weekend and a Junior Nationals Championship at Easter weekend or a Combined National Championship at Labour weekend annually, at the discretion of the Executive.”

Reasoning:

After much discussion, the remit comes about due to both a disruption to high level training schedule, and also its proximity to most 'Club Champs/Challenges' etc and other standing annual events. Traditionally, training for Senior Nationals begins after partners have had their respective summer holidays, somewhere between late January and early March. You can reasonably expect there to be no further major disruptions to that schedule for the rest of the year. The aim is to have routines roughly ready for early August when our Fun Challenge/Club Champs takes place, and anyone intending on competing at Nationals can choose to be "assessed" or not by Association judges. Feedback from the judges is taken on board and full-on high level training continues for the next few months, up until the traditional Labour Weekend Nationals. The issue we have with an Easter Nationals is that this heavy training period then coincides with the Summer holiday period. This will either disrupt training when you can't afford there to be a break, or force partners to not take a break during summer. Many passionate dancers will likely not have much of a problem with this, but it will certainly not translate back to a partners family, spouse, children.

Easter itself is also very close to Beach Hop dates. Many Beach Hop attendees book their accommodation for the next years Hop immediately, and we have been hearing of a number of traditional Senior National attendees that will no longer be attending due to their standing bookings for Beach Hop.

We have also been hearing about a worrying number of people from clubs across the country who would normally attend and/or compete at a Labour weekend Senior Nationals that are flat out refusing to attend an Easter Senior Nationals.

Although Easter requires less annual leave to be taken, it is also when retail facilities like supermarkets and food shops are forced to close on Good Friday, when people are arriving and setting up their stay and, in some cases, closed for at least half a day on Easter Sunday.

On a more minor note, Easter also does not have stable dates and can be either in March or April.

Juniors are our future, we understand that. However, we feel it shouldn't be the be all and end all at the expense of the people who are keeping RocknRoll alive now.

Remit 2 - Whangarei

Amend Rule 1.6 (a)

Combined Nationals to be held over Labour weekend

Reason:

Our club would like to formally express concerns regarding the scheduling of Nationals over the Easter period and proposes that the event instead be held over Labour Weekend.

Easter presents several practical challenges for participants. With Good Friday and Easter Sunday subject to widespread business closures, travel logistics become more difficult. Many competitors and families travel on Good Friday, and reduced access to essential services such as food outlets and fuel stops creates unnecessary complications.

Furthermore, Easter is one of the busiest and most expensive travel periods of the year, with costs for fuel, flights, accommodation, and associated surcharges often comparable to those seen at Christmas. This significantly increases the financial burden on families, making participation less accessible and potentially reducing overall attendance.

We are also mindful of event clashes within the wider rock 'n' roll community, particularly with the Beach Hop festival. Holding Nationals over Easter may force participants to choose between two major events, which could negatively impact competitor numbers and community engagement.

In addition, there is concern about the downstream impact on regional competitions. These events currently function effectively as a structured lead-up to Nationals, particularly in northern regions. A change in Nationals timing may reduce incentive for dancers to attend these competitions and could necessitate rescheduling into less suitable periods, such as the peak summer heat or key family holiday times. This may ultimately affect participation levels and the sustainability of these events.

Finally, Easter is traditionally a time for family connection. Retaining this period as a non-competition window supports the wellbeing of dancers and their families and helps maintain a healthy balance between competitive commitments and personal time.

For these reasons, we believe that Labour Weekend offers a more practical, accessible, and sustainable option for hosting Combined Nationals, and we respectfully ask that this proposal be given full consideration.

Remit 3 - Executive

Amend Rule 1.8 c (ii) by replacing "thereby qualify for entry to" **with** "dance up into"

To Read:

A Senior section entrant for the Junior Championship cannot dance up into the Senior Championship.

Reason:

Making clear the intent of this rule.

Remit 4 - City of Sails

Amend Rule 1.8(c)(ii)

Add "by adding two years to that entrant's age."

To Read:

"A Senior section entrant for the Junior Championship cannot thereby qualify for entry to the Senior Championship by adding two years to that entrant's age."

Reason:

We believe this makes the rule clearer.

Remit 5 - Executive

Add new Rule 1.8 (c) (iv)

"A dancer who is 17 years of age whose birthday falls between the Monday immediately following a Junior Championship and the Monday immediately following the next Senior Championship will need to choose to dance in either the Junior sections or the Senior sections at a Combined National Championship. They cannot dance in both Junior and Senior sections at the same Combined National Championship. A birth certificate must be provided. Once having danced in Senior Championship sections, a competitor cannot again dance in a Junior Championship."

Reason:

The intent of this rule is to ensure fairness by requiring eligible 17-year-old dancers to choose either Junior or Senior divisions for a Combined National Championship, preventing them from competing in both, and ensuring a clear, one-way progression from Junior to Senior levels.

Remit 6 - City of Sails

Add new rule 1.8(c)(iv)

"A dancer who is 17 years of age whose birthday falls between the Monday immediately following a Junior Championship and the Monday immediately following the next Senior Championship will need to choose to dance in either the Junior Sections or the Senior Sections at a Combined National Championship. They cannot dance in both Junior and Senior sections at the same Combined National Championship.

Reason:

To clearly set out that a 17 year old Junior cannot compete in both Junior and Senior categories at a Combined National Championship."

Remit 7 - City of Sails

Amend Rule 2.4(b) by replacing "agree with," **with** "agreed with, by"

To Read:

".....Any other items deliberately removed or replaced between marshalling and competing, or while competing, will, on that replacement or removal being identified, result in disqualification unless it had been previously advised by the competitor's Team Manager to, and **agreed with, by** the Floor Manager(s)."

Reason:

Better English, as items removed or replaced need to be "agreed with by" the Floor Managers and not just advised by the club to the Floor Managers.

Remit 8 - River Rockers
Reinstate Rule Book A - Section 3 – Assessments

Reason:

The reasoning for removing assessments was to do with increasing the number of competitors dancing at Nationals. We don't feel that this has been particularly successful, and has instead mostly led to the demise of many local Club Championships, and less opportunity for Judges to attend competitions regularly and complete training criteria within a reasonable timeframe.

Assessments, either at a Club Champs or privately, provided competitors with a marker for where they were standing on their training journey. They also motivated even seasoned competitors to be ready to compete earlier in the year, and then spend the time after assessment to refine their routines and performances.

Remit 9 - Executive
Amend Rule 4.4

Remove "all" from first paragraph

Add a second bullet point "Best Dressed Male, Best Female, Best Male 5-12 and Best Dressed Female 5-12 entry forms are required 7 days prior to the first day of the National Championship weekend."

To Read:

The closing date for entries (including Novelty) is:

- 60 days prior to the first day of the Championship to which the entries relate.
- 7 days prior to the first day of the Championship weekend for Best Dressed Male, Best Female, Best Dressed Male 5-12 and Best Dressed Female 5-12.

Reason:

To make clear that this deadline is final. No entries will be accepted after this date. Despite previous requests to submit Best Dressed entries early to assist with planning/sheets, late entries were still received as late as 9:00am on Sunday morning at the last Senior Nationals.

With time restraints and ensuring the event runs efficiently, all entries must be submitted before the deadline - no exceptions will be made. The best dressed sections as above - does not cost and those who enter will already know ahead of time that they will be entering so it is fair to request that if interested in entering that you submit the form prior to Nationals.

Remit 10 - Hutt Valley
Amend Rule 4.10 (ii) Junior Championship

Change number of entries from "3" **with** "1" under Cheerleaders

To Read:

"9 Cheerleaders 1 team"

Reasoning:

If the number of entries falls below minimum then the Executive have the option to reopen entries to that section.

There are only 3, (or maybe 4) clubs that have the minimum number of juniors to

be able to put together a team. To meet current minimum criteria every one of those clubs would have to find 6 eligible entrants. If it was 2 or 3 entrants sure but not 6. And possibly over two other clubs. That is near impossible less than 60 days out from Nationals.

In the past the Exec have also allowed the entrant(s) to a non compliant section to enter into another section. That is not an option with Cheerleaders.

This is not a dancing section. It is there for a bit of fun, to add some atmosphere and life into the competition, to open on a high and set the tone for the weekend. We have not had any entrants in this section for years and why would you enter when the chances are that there will be no possibility of bringing anything home.

If we want this section to come alive again, we need to start with some encouragement for the first team to give it a go. Changing the criteria is essential for this to happen.

This section allows for juniors of all ages that have not been able to find partners to be able to participate in the competition. They also come with an entourage of parents, family, support crew etc. This just adds to the competition and the host club's bottom line. We are trying to build the sport and this section does that. There are no downsides to this amendment.

Remit 11 - Hutt Valley

Amend Rule 4.10 (ii) Junior Championship and Senior Championship

Change number of entries from "3" **with** "1" under Novelty

To Read:

Senior Championship

"6 Novelty 1 team"

Junior Championship

"6 Novelty 1 team"

Reason:

Same reasoning as previous remit for cheerleading.

Remit 12 - City of Sails

Amend rule 4.12(e) by replacing "& 16 (Top Club, Novelty, Triples, Same Sex sections, Cheerleaders & Senior Team)" **with** ",16 & 18 in the National Championships."

To Read:

"A Novice couple in Section 14 (Novice) cannot compete in any other section except 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16 & 18 in the Nationals Championships."

Reason:

'18' was missed from being added into Rulebook A when Diamond Triples was introduced. We are also removing the description of each number to align with the rules.

Remit 13 - Kapi Mana

Remove Rule 5.1 (d)

Currently reads:

"Provided Rule 4.10 is adhered to, a semi-final will be danced in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 & 17 irrespective of the number of competitors entered".

Reason:

As raised at the 2025 National AGM, with the combining of Junior and Senior Nationals, we now have to try and fit 27 dancing sections into the weekends programme.

Compromises need to be made to be able to run this programme successfully. We propose that in a section where the number of entries does not exceed four couples, as per Rule 5.1 (b), that we return to a straight final.

The argument of these couples having trained all year to only dance once doesn't stack up. In a section of, say, 6 couples. 2 couples who have trained all year, only get to dance once. We understand the other argument of it being a great way to "shake off the nerves etc", but that is unfair. In sections where there are 5 or more couples, they are not afforded the luxury of dancing a semi with zero consequences (i.e. they make the final regardless of how well or badly they dance).

Remit 14 - City of Sails

Remove Rule 5.1(d) and renumber the rest of the rule accordingly.

Reason:

Competitors who don't advance to the next round (e.g. from heats to quarters, or semis, or finals) only get to dance once and have to do their best first time out on the floor. We have also seen where if the "semi" had been the final, there would have been different placings. It will give more time in the programme.

Remit 15 - City of Sails

Add new rule 5.7 (a)

At a Combined Nationals, competitors in the Senior Novelty section can be aged 3 years and over but there must be a minimum of one Senior competitor aged 18 years and over.

Reason:

To allow clubs to combine Senior and Junior competitors in the same Novelty.

Remit 16 - City of Sails

Add new rule 5.8 (a)

At a Combined Nationals, competitors can be aged 5 years and over but there must be a minimum of four Junior competitors aged 5 years to 17 years.

Reason:

This is to allow more club participation and to get club members of all ages involved.

JUDGES REMITS

Remit 17 - Executive / Judge

National Championship Judging System

Remove Rules 6.1 and 6.2

Place in Rule book B for future reference

Reason:

Judges receive comprehensive training to assess Timing, Harmony, and Variety throughout their progression; however, at national competitions, they are required to evaluate only one specific category at a time.

As Timing is afforded the highest score by judges, individual allocations for Timing, Harmony, and Variety can sometimes result in significant differences.

The practice of awarding points across all three categories is considered beneficial for dancers, as it promotes greater consistency in scoring.

Many judges are of the view that this remit enables them to fully exercise their expertise. Panels inspire more confidence than individual evaluators; thus, having judges assign marks in all categories during heats, quarterfinals, and semifinals enhances the process.

If the above rationale is accepted, and judges are permitted to score Timing, Harmony, and Variety individually. It is recommended that this approach be trialled at the next National competition.

There is no change proposed for FINALS, which will continue to be on placing

If the above remit is passed the following remit will need to be actioned also.

Remit 18 - Executive / Judge

Amend rule 6.3

Add to first paragraph "for each category of Timing, Harmony and Variety" **after** "0 – 10 points"

Remove "With six judges and two songs the maximum that can be scored is 120 points in each instance"

Remove in third paragraph - "Please note: This points system is similar to but different from the points system used for National qualifying"

To Read:

"POINTS SYSTEM

The heats, quarter-finals and semi-finals are judged on a points system from 0-10 points for each category of Timing, Harmony and Variety. Each Judge marks each song (1 slower, 1 faster).

The highest scoring competitors proceed to the next round of the competitions, and if necessary a dance off will take place to resolve any tied placing."

Reason:

Judges will now be scoring a maximum of 10 points for each category, timing, harmony and variety. There is no longer a requirement to have a minimum of six judges (2 x Timing, 2 x Harmony, 2 x Variety)

The third paragraph - refers to the previous assessments process to qualify to dance at a national competition, which is no longer required

Remit 19 Executive / Judge

Amend rule 6.3.2 (a)

Add to first sentence the number "16" **after** the number "11"

Remove "Regardless of which categories they are judging (Timing, Harmony and / or variety)"

To Read:

"In any stage of the competition preceding a final in Section 10, 11, 16 and 17 (Restricted) if a judge sights an illegal move as per 11.5.1 then that judge will give the couple an "X" and in addition will deduct 2 points for that song. If two or more judges' sight"

Reason:

Number 16 was missed when Rule Book B was updated.
Judges will no longer be judging specific categories so this needs to be removed.

SCRUTINEER REMITS

Remit 20 - Executive
Remove Rule Book A 6.3.3

Reason:

The correct result can be achieved without the scrutineers needing to amend the judge's marks.

Remit 21 - Executive
Remove Rule Book A 6.3.3 (b)

Reason:

Same reasoning as previous remit. The correct result can be achieved without the scrutineers needing to amend the judge's marks.

JUDGES REMIT

Remit 22 - Executive / Judges
Amend Rule 6.4 (c)

Remove "and not separately as in the heats, quarters and semi-finals

To read:

"The three categories (Timing, Harmony and Variety) are judged together."

Reason:

Judges will now be judging all 3 categories in the heats, quarters and semi finals

Remit 23 - City of Sails
Amend Rule 6.6

Remove the words "section e.g. Platinum, Top Club, etc" at the end of the first sentence.

Reason:

Only six judges currently judge heats, quarters and semis (in sections like Platinum).

Remit 24 - City of Sails
Add new Rule 7.9 (a)

However, at a Combined Nationals, Junior competitors will be allowed to compete in the Senior Novelty section under the terms set out in rule 5.7 (a).

Reason:

To allow clubs to combine Senior and Junior competitors in the same Novelty.

JUDGES REMIT - National Judges Criteria

Remit 25 - Executive / Judges
Amend the second bullet point in Rule 8.11

Add at the end of the sentence "or two Combined National Championships"

To Read:

"Armchair judge at least one Junior and one Senior National Championship or two Combined National Championships."

Reason:

Current Rule states Judges must Armchair one Junior and one Senior National Championship, and currently this is not possible with the Combined Championship being held annually.

Remit 26 - Executive /Judges

Amend the second bullet point of rule 8.12

Replace "per calendar year" with "every two years"

To Read:

"Be available to judge at least one National Championship every two years."

Reasoning

Due to the combined National Championship there are now limited spaces for judges to be selected to judge at Nationals to meet their annual judging criteria. If we update Rule 8.12, second bullet point - to remove "per calendar year" and replace with "every two years" this will allow judges to meet the required criteria. This will only be until the Association returns to holding two National competitions per year (a Junior and a Senior competition).

Remit 27 - Executive / Judges

Amend Rule 8.13

Add after "every two years" and Regional Workshops will be held on the alternative years

To Read:

"The Association will hold a one-day Combined judges workshop every two years and regional workshops will be held on the alternative year."

Reasoning:

This was omitted at the last update to this Rule

Remit 28 - City of Sails

Amend Rule 8.13

Replace "\$1 from the National ticket levy" **with** "\$2 from the National ticket levy"

Reason:

Whilst we are having Combined National Championships there will only be one Nationals in a calendar year from which to collect the "National ticket" portion of the levies for the Combined Judges Workshops.

Remit 29 - Executive

Amend Rule 9.2 (c)

Change "\$35" **with** "\$50"

To Read:

"Recipients' clubs will be charged \$50 per trophy for each trophy returned later than one month prior to the next championship"

Reason:

In recent years, trophies have been returned late, damaged, or not properly cared for, and in some cases have had to be tracked down when lost. To address this, a higher penalty for late returns will be enforced to ensure trophies are returned promptly and in good condition.

Remit 30 - City of Sails

Amend Rule 9.6 (a)

Add to the end of current Rule 9.6(a) the following sentence; "These may be donated/sponsored by individuals and companies as well as clubs."

Reason:

To put it in the Rule Book. This is already happening.

Remit 31 - Executive / Judges

Amend Rule 11.5 (a) - Add `17" after "16 "

Reasoning: The number 17 as was missed when Rule Book B was updated

Remit 32 - Executive / Judges

Amend Rule 11.5 (c)

Remove "10,11"

Reasoning:

Sections 10, 11, 16, 17 are restricted sections, and Rule 11.5 (c) does not apply

End of Remits

There are no General Business items