

NZARRA

Annual General Meeting 2018

President's Report

It is with pleasure that I present the 35th Annual Report to the members of the NZ Amateur Rock 'n' Roll Association Incorporated.

This year we welcomed Karen Birch to the Executive as vice president. Karen has embraced the role with enthusiasm and we have appreciated her attention to detail. Brenda continued in her role as secretary in her usual efficient and organised manner. Yolanda keeps a very tight rein on our finances and we benefit from the experience of them both. We have moved with the times and now use on-line banking which makes Yolanda's job a little easier. Colleen has been diligent in her management of her role and caring for our judges. My sincere thanks to them all for the work they have done and for supporting each other to ensure that all tasks are completed.

This year we held four meetings - two in Christchurch, one before the Seniors in Wellington and another before the Juniors in Auckland. Thanks to Brenda for hosting the Christchurch meetings. Outside of these meetings, we communicate with each other by email and telephone and are thankful for the miracles of modern technology that help us to keep in touch.

This year two new clubs were formed, Cambridge Cruisers and Happy Dayz Rockers in Auckland. This brings the number of clubs in the Association to 35. From these clubs we currently have 31 National Judges, 2 Association Judges and 20 Trainee Judges. In addition to meetings with the Judges, either regionally or before each Nationals, Colleen has continued with ZOOM conference meetings to enable judges to constantly hone their skills and benefit from getting together. Trainee judges being mentored by another experienced judge is also assisting their progress.

This year Nationals were held in Wellington and Auckland, being hosted by Upper Hutt United and City of Sails. Thanks to both these clubs for taking up the challenge and being wonderful hosts. Numbers of entries were gratifying, particularly at the Juniors when three heats were necessary in five sections. It was great to have Trev James back as MC at the Seniors and Rob Connor and Callum Butcher team-tagging at the Juniors. Rob achieved the almost unimaginable – to have every person in the hall on the floor for the clap clap. The MCs were able to create a great atmosphere and foster audience participation on each occasion. Large numbers of club supporters all vying for the Most Supportive Club and supporting their dancers, as well as those from other clubs, all added to the hype in the hall. When we are now watching third generation dancers on the floor, our organisation is in good heart and good hands at club level.

During the year, as is expected with an organisation the age of ours, we have lost a number of our members. We send our sympathy to you all and know that their wish for us would be to carry on dancing, and to share what we know with others.

At our AGM last year, after considerable debate regarding maintaining numbers at club level, a number of representatives from clubs expressed interest in working together to benefit from knowledge others have. We will be interested to know what progress has been made.

I wish you healthy constructive debate today and I move the adoption of my report.

Nola Calvert
President