



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc.



September 2021 Newsletter

Covid-19 Update and Senior Nationals 2021

The Executive hopes your club members and families are coping with the stresses that our Covid-19 levels have brought about. As the months progress, it would be wonderful to think that we can soon be back to some form of normality and once again engaging with our clubs with no Covid restrictions. These are challenging times for sure, but if we all do our bit, then maybe we all will be back on the dance floor sooner than later.

The Executive would like to thank the 2021 Senior Nationals Host Club, River Rockers Whanganui, for all their hard work and effort in preparing for Senior Nationals. Their National Committee kept in constant contact with the Executive, and graciously accepted and agreed on the need to cancel. They have expressed the desire to host at a later date.

Senior Nationals 2022

A reminder - next Senior Nationals is a 'new year' which means new assessments, new entries, new Top Team and Senior Team songs.

Junior Nationals 2022

The next Junior Nationals are being hosted by Drifters Rock'n'Roll Club held in Hamilton 15th - 17th April, 2022.

Entries and assessments are due 6th February, 2022. Please aim to have these completed and emailed into our Association Secretary before that date.

For all enquiries, please refer to our website under the Championship tab.

Junior Nationals Top Team Song

The Top Team song for 2022 is:

Western Union 147 bpm 2.11 mins

The team song is available from the Association Secretary, on request.

Junior National Trophies

Please return any trophies from the 2021 Junior Nationals, engraved and polished, by Friday 18th March, 2022. Please courier to:

C/O - The NZARRA Secretary at 23 Shannon Place, Hamilton, 3200.

2022 NZARRA AGM

The date for the AGM is Saturday 28th May, 2022 at 9 am.

This AGM is aimed at being a physical meeting, to be held at the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington. In the event that New Zealand is again in another lockdown, the Executive will hold the AGM via Zoom; as per the last couple of years. We will keep you updated as we get closer to the time.

Any motions to amend our Constitution or remits for Rule Book A need to be submitted by your club and be in the hands of the Association Secretary by Tuesday 22nd March, 2022.

Both are available on the Association website.

Head Judge Update

On behalf of our judges, I would like to share our heartfelt commiserations to our dancers and clubs for the cancellation of Senior Nationals.

As judges, we are still here to support you all and are keen to look at other ideas for competitions and get together to help our competitors to stay engaged and show us their amazing dancing.

Training Workshops and Zoom WaterCoolers:

All three workshops across the country were well attended with passionate judges who very obviously love Rock'n'Roll dance in New Zealand. Zoom WaterCoolers are also being regularly held for our judges to connect in and discuss timely issues which have seen some VERY busy conversations.

Acknowledgment:

Congratulations to Jessie Stevens for completing her training and joining the National Association Judges list and Danka Drengubiak for becoming an Association Judge. Training to become a judge is a big commitment and we thank you.

Also a warm welcome to Jarred Rumbold and Mike Dally both from Lower Hutt, who have recently been accepted as Trainee Judges.

Distance Assessment

Thank you to the following Clubs and amazing rock'n'rollers who assisted with trialing distance assessing, in preparation for reporting back to the AGM:

Christchurch Rock'n'Roll Club - Craig Blaikie, Bev Brash, Joel and Ella Dodd

Whangarei - Paul, Michelle and Chrissy Thornley and Alexandria Jones

Australia - Heather Blackburn for organising fabulous dancers there (once Brisbane opened up again!)

Goldcoast - Allan Schlegel and Therese Cummack, Glen and Phil Houlihan and Jeanette Greaves.

You all gave your time, patience and expertise to provide these trials. STARS!

Promotion of Rock 'n' Roll Group

In an effort to encourage and support inter-club exchange of ideas, the Executive have now hosted two zoom group discussions held on the 9th and 30th of September with representatives from over 15 clubs in attendance.

Topics for discussion included; what makes our 'members stick' (stay with our clubs), what we can do to not only retain members but gain new ones and what our clubs do for mini hops and monthly dances.

All affiliated clubs are invited to take part so if your club is interested in being involved in the next discussion, please email the Association Secretary for further information.

Events Page:

Just a reminder, to please refer to our events page on the Association website, for any events happening around the country.

Executive

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge and send our best wishes to Judy Russell (JR) who we all know very well. Judy has recently been unwell, and we are looking forward to her continued speedy recovery.

From us all on the Executive Committee,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neva Zainey', written in a cursive style.

Neva Zainey
Secretary
NZARRA Inc