



Remits and General Business for the 2021 AGM

Proposed Constitution Change - Notice Of Motion

18.b Add the words 'or Special General Meeting' after Annual General Meeting so it reads:

Alteration of Rule Book A must be implemented by remit at an Annual General Meeting **or Special General Meeting** and be carried by a majority of the total of member Clubs and Executive Committee present and entitled to vote.

Reason

Currently Rule Book A is only able to be changed at an Annual General Meeting.

If we had wanted to make changes as a result of the Covid-19 lockdown e.g. to assessment criteria or timing, although we could have called a Special General Meeting to discuss that, we would have been unable to actually change Rule Book A. This change allows for that.

Proposed Rule Book A Changes

Remit 1 - Executive

Amend Rule 3.1 to replace '12 months' with 'year', and add "Refer to Rule 3.10" as below:

The assessment is to be held within the **year** preceding the National Championship concerned and have been judged by two or more New Zealand Association Judges. **(Refer to 3.10)**

Reason

To avoid a potential gap in dates for assessment to take place within. Because Labour weekend and Easter dates shift from year to year, using '12 months' sometimes leaves a gap e.g. if Easter next year is two weeks later than this year, then there are two weeks this year where a Junior couple cannot be assessed for next year's Juniors. This anomaly is removed if we instead use 'year' as per 3.10, where it is defined effectively as "the time from one Junior or Senior Nationals to the next".

Remit 2 - Executive

Rule 3.9(b) replace 'a' with 'another' and remove 'lower' so it reads as below:

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 **another** section with National Qualifying level points that they and their assessment met any other criteria to enter.

Reason

To accommodate couples needing to change sections.

Where we do not have enough numbers for a given competition section, we ask competitors to consider entering another section.

At the moment, if they choose a section that has a higher National Qualifying Level (NQL), they must be reassessed – even if their original assessment gave them enough marks for that new section. Last year we changed this rule to allow competitors to move to a section with lower NQL without needing to reassess, on the reasoning that they had already proven their ability to meet that NQL. This change is based on the same reasoning.

CONTEXT FOR THE FOLLOWING “JUDGING CRITERIA” REMITS 3-11

Our 2020 AGM agreed to replace the entire Rule Book A Section 8 on judging with wording that in part sought to clarify the criteria to remain at a particular judging status and the consequences of not meeting those criteria. Although of course our first preference is to encourage and support our judges in remaining engaged and to work with them to help make that happen, we have also identified the need for additional detail in relation to how these new rules should be applied. The past year has also demonstrated the need to revisit the way we engage, to allow flexibility while remaining within the intent of the rules. The following remits are put forward in light of this.

Remit 3 - Executive

Amend existing rules 8.8, 8.10 and 8.12 to replace

“To attend a minimum of one judges workshop per calendar year” with

“To take part in a minimum of one judges workshop **or agreed equivalent meeting as hosted by the Head Judge or their nominee(s)**, per calendar year”.

Reason

To allow flexibility in our approach to “judges workshop” attendance. Changing ‘attend’ to ‘take part in’ allows for e.g. online sessions. As we have seen over the last year and longer, physical attendance may not always be possible.

Adding “or agreed equivalent meeting” is because there is currently no definition in the Rule Book for “judges workshop”. Rather than trying to define it, we suggest the rule be broadened to allow, for example, online meetings. The main purpose is for judges to have a forum to engage and communicate within, which does not always need to mean physical attendance.

This may also assist judges who currently incur significant travel costs to attend our physical workshops.

Remit 4 - Executive

Amend the second bullet point of rule 8.10 and third bullet point of rule 8.12 to add

“or equivalent activity as agreed with the Head Judge”

Reason

To recognise and accommodate limitations where actual judging is not possible.

It is not always possible for judges to physically attend assessments or competitions, or for clubs to hold them. This remit makes it clear that other options, if considered appropriate and

agreed to by the Head Judge, can be used to meet this criteria e.g. submission of marks and comments based on viewing a video, assessment of dancers at a physical workshop, etc.

Remit 5 - Executive

Amend 8.12.1 to replace “may” to “will” so it reads as below:

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), will be removed to Association Judge status.

Reason

To be clear about consequences for not meeting National Association Judge criteria.

There should be no doubt within this rule that if a National Association judge has not met the criteria and there are no circumstances outside of a judge’s control accepted by the Head Judge and National Executive, that this action *will* be taken.

Remit 6 - Executive

Amend 8.10.1 to read:

Any Association Judge failing to meet the above criteria, unless due to circumstances outside their control and/or agreed to by the Head Judge (who will consult with the National Executive), will be removed from the official register of Association judges.

And add new rule 8.10.2:

Reinstatement to the official register of Association judges is at the discretion of the Head Judge (who will consult with the National Executive)

Reason

To be clear about consequences for not meeting Association Judge criteria.

This brings this rule into line with the ruling for National Association judges in 8.12.1. There should be no doubt within this rule that if a National Association judge has not met the criteria and there are no circumstances outside of their control accepted by the Head Judge and National Executive, that this action *will* be taken.

Remit 7 - Executive

Amend 8.8.1 to replace “may” to “will” so it reads:

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), will be removed from Trainee status.

Reason

To be clear about consequences for not meeting trainee Judge criteria.

This brings this rule into line with the ruling for National Association judges in 8.12.1.

There should be no doubt within this rule that if a trainee judge has not met the criteria and there are no circumstances outside of their control accepted by the Head Judge and National Executive, that this action *will* be taken.

Remit 8 - Executive

Add new Rule 8.8.2

Trainee Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as a trainee Judge, and offered remedial options.

Add new Rule 8.10.2

National Association Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as a National Association Judge, and offered remedial options.

Add new Rule 8.12.2

Association Judges will be given at least 30 days written notice of a pending failure to meet the criteria to remain as an Association Judge, and offered remedial options.

Reason

To ensure judges are aware of potential changes in status due to non-compliance.

Our preference is that our judges remain engaged and actively involved in the judging community. If a judge is close to not meeting the criteria to remain at their current level of judging, the next step in dealing with this should be to formally advise them of that and look to find a positive way forward.

Remit 9 - Executive

New rule 8.12.2 (will renumber to 8.12.3 if Remit 8 is passed):

A judge removed to Association Judge status as per 8.12.1 will have until the end of the next calendar year in which to meet the criteria to remain as an Association Judge.

Reason

Clarity of timeframes for a judge to become compliant at a new level.

To be clear about the expected timelines for meeting criteria and being retained as a judge at this new level, after a change in status.

Remit 10 - Executive

New rule 8.14:

A register of judges' compliance will be held and maintained by the Association Secretary. Judges are responsible for ensuring the Secretary has been notified of their compliance-related activity.

Reason

Compliance needs to be proactively managed.

We need a formal record of attendance at workshops, judging at competitions and assessments etc, to allow for monitoring of compliance.

Although the Head Judge and Executive are usually aware of the level of engagement and involvement of individuals and will follow up as required, it is a judge's personal responsibility to ensure they are compliant and recorded as such.

Remit 11 - Executive

New rule 8.15:

Each judge is responsible for ensuring that their contact details as held by the Association and listed on the Association website are current and correct.

Reason

To ensure we are able to remain in contact with judges as required.

It is important that a judge is able to be contacted as a part of their standard engagement with our judging community.

END OF REMITS

General Business

Item 1 - Christchurch

Would like to float an idea that was suggested at the Christchurch Judges' workshop:

At Christchurch club champs we have a section called 'Senior Cruise'.

This section is open to all Senior couples who have not competed on the day, requires no 'costume', and is danced to one medium song.

It is designed to promote fun and participation without the serious edge of the usual competition.

The suggestion is that such a section be offered on the Friday night of a Senior Nationals, to encourage the values of fun and participation.

Item 2 - Invercargill

Discussion at our recent Committee meeting, that there had been a very large number of entries (32) in the Boys Best Dressed Section at Junior Nationals. A suggestion was made that in future this section be split.

END OF GENERAL BUSINESS