



April 2017

Daylight saving sure brings the changes – one day we are enjoying a nice outdoor evening and the next it is almost dark and wet. So, so wet. Hope you all have not been too affected by Debbie as she spins out of control over the country dumping rain and creating havoc as all cyclones or for us the remnants of a cyclone do.

NZ Champs are over for another year and many thanks to Marching Southland for a great weekend. Feedback has been very positive and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Closing Days and Team (and Association) End of Year Parties too will be all over and we move into the off-field season or the administration season with Open Forum Meetings and Annual Meetings with remits, budgets, and new directions and plans for next season. So, a very busy time ahead

- ♦ I hope that your Association acknowledged your **Teams and Judges** that represented you at the NZ Championships. Closing Day is the ideal opportunity to celebrate not only the end of the competition season but also the achievements of Teams, Judge and Members throughout the season; for example, new Qualified Judges and the presentations of Life Membership which Auckland and Canterbury included in their Closing Day activities. These actions can also be the catalyst for recruitment and retention on marchers for the new season.
- ♦ The Association **Publicity Officer** can also reap good coverage with the results of not only your high achievers at the NZ Championships but also any achievements by other Association Members.
- ♦ **MNZ Annual Meeting** coming up and your Association needs to give consideration as to who will be your Association Delegates to represent you at the meeting. Your Delegates must be capable of presenting convincingly your associations views to the meeting discussions and returning with a comprehensive report of the actions taken. This is an administrative meeting discussing and changing only the Constitution this year. No remits for changes to the Policies or the Rules of Participation. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington on Sunday 25th June commencing 10 am on arrival with Morning Tea and 10.30am with the Meeting and concluding at 4pm. Registration fee is \$50
- ♦ Any changes to the MNZ **Constitution** need to be carefully worded and before finalising remits make sure that a full check is made of the Constitution, Policies and Rules of Participation to ensure further changes are not required to give effect to a proposed change. Any such remits must be endorsed an Association Committee meeting and must be received by 30th April 2017.
- ♦ Does your Association have any item to be included for discussion in **General Business**? All items to be to the CEO no later than 30th April 2017
- ♦ Your Association will need to consider whom they intend nominating for **President** and one **Board Member** and will need to approach the person/s concerned to ensure that a nomination will be accepted and requesting a completed précis sheet of their marching and employment/business achievements and a personal vision statement aligned to the MNZ Strategic Plan. There is no election Director of Finance at this Annual Meeting. As per Rule 5.3.3 Craig as Director of Finance has served two years of the three-year term and as per Rule 5.3.5, commencing next Annual Meeting the Director of Finance will be appointed by the Board, not elected. One Board Member, Marie Brown will retire by rotation and shall be eligible upon nomination for re-election. The term of office for President will be four years and Board Members three years. Nominations close 30th April 2017
- ♦ Does your Association wish to submit names of suitably eligible person/s (as per Rule of Participation A23) for **MNZ Service Awards**? Send names and a brief précis of their service to reach me no later than 30 April 2017. Service does not include years as a marcher.
- ♦ **Volunteer of the Month** – Please do not overlook this important task of nominating a Volunteer of the Month even in the off season. Now is the time to nominate your Committee, Coaches, Judges now that you have no volunteers on the field of competition. Acknowledging the work of Volunteers encourages their further involvement and can even lead them into Membership.

- ♦ If your Association has been considering an application for hosting the **2019 NZ Championships**, it is now time to make those pencilled bookings for the venue, but be very clear to advise them that a confirmed booking cannot be made until the end of June. The allocation of the Championships will be announced at the MNZ Annual Meeting. Put the final details to your application document, which must be received no later than 30th April 2016. Refer to Rule of Participation NZC1-2.
- ♦ Have you planned or held an end of season **Open Forum Meeting** of all members? This is a great opportunity to get feedback, some will be good, some will be bad, but all will give direction and ideas for next season. You may also identify interested members who could become Committee Members for next season. They may need some persuading so start now, especially if you have some known vacancies on the Committee. The Open Forum Meeting could also be the platform for recognising your Volunteers who have supported your association during the year or just an opportunity for a grand get-together to celebrate a great year.
- ♦ The outcomes from the Committees 'discussion/planning' session/s on WHY are **Team numbers static or down** in your Association this year could be conveyed to the membership at the Open Forum Meeting. Some members may even have some ideas that could be added to your Committee list of strategies to address the issue next season.
- ♦ You will have started the planning and established the date for your **Association Annual Meeting** which must be held by the 31st July as per Rule 16.5.1.1. Your last Association Meeting will have considered the two options and agreed on which **Association Committee Composition** your association will operate next year. Now that decision is confirmed, notice and nominations can be called as per the Committee Composition requirements outlined in Rule 16.4.2. It is recommended that the Association Annual Meeting record which option the Association will be operating under for the coming year.
- ♦ **Board appointments** have been advertised in the Newsletter. Interested persons may require a copy of the Job Profile for the position of interest, they are available from the MNZ Website. Please encourage anyone interested, to send in an application and remind them that any such applications close with the CEO on the 30th April 2017
- ♦ Remind **Clubs and Teams Treasurers** to forward to the Association a list of their members with liabilities to the sport, giving details in respect to liabilities (as per Rule of Participation A20-9) to the member concerned. These must be sent to the Association by 30 April otherwise all members are declared 'cleared'.
- ♦ Just a final reminder to those Associations still to complete the Association **Life Member Registration Form, Volunteer Members Form and School/Community Participant Form**, please complete urgently. These numbers are desperately needed to bring our membership within the targets established by Sport NZ.
- ♦ Keep the **Minutes** coming through and remind your Chief Judge and Coaching Co-ordinator to send off their reports to their MNZ counterparts. Your Minutes will include reportage from your Treasurer, Chief Judge and Coaching Co-ordinator and if not included in the text of the minutes and referred to 'as attached', then the reports **MUST** be attached when circulated including when forwarded to MNZ and attached when filing for keepsake as per ROP A20.2.

A busy month and **MUST** on the agenda for Association Meeting is the strategies that you will be applying next season, be they for recruiting or retaining Under 12 Coaches, Masters Marchers, Volunteers or whatever your Association has deemed the greatest area of need to enable growth in the sport in your region.



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