



March 2019

March, the changing season.... BUT when is it going to change to rain? We are experiencing drought conditions here in Nelson I have never seen before, water restrictions are getting more severe and still no rain in sight.

Teams and Judges will all be directing their attention to and heading toward the Horncastle Arena in Christchurch for the NZ Championships where host Association Marching Canterbury are completing the final details ready to welcome Marchers, Team Management, Judges and Supporters at the indoor venue next week. Ensure that your Teams and Judges go with the full support and best wishes of your Association and you need to be aware of their travel times and their mode of transport, you are possibly the first contact if they run into difficulty e.g. getting fogged in on early flights or, mini-van breakdowns. We wish them all safe travels

We don't have many tasks to complete this month but after the NZ Championships we get into future planning for next season and Annual Meetings.

Tasks this month -

- ◆ **NZ Championships** are next week, farewell your Teams and Judges and check that they have no last-minute changes or concerns and wish them safe travels. Please remind Team Managers who have made 'pencil bookings' for accommodation that they no longer need to advise the establishments and avoid confusion and possible double charges for accommodation they no longer require and THOUGHT they had cancelled.
- ◆ **Publicity Officers** will be busy updating reports to the media about local Teams and Judges attending the NZ Championships and will need to follow up afterwards with the results and team achievements with photographs if possible. The Championship Draw will be added to the MNZ website on Friday evening and all the Results after the Presentation of Awards on Saturday.
- ◆ **2021 NZ Championship** applications to host this prestigious event will be considered at the May Board Meeting. Now is the time to follow up on the discussion from your last meeting and the research undertaken on venues etc and convince your Association of the benefits to the Association of putting together an application. Refer to Rule of Participation NZC1-2. The Application Document must be received no later than 30th April 2019. The Board consider applications at the May Board Meeting and the Host Association for the 2021 NZ Championships will be announced at the Annual Meeting to be held in Wellington on 23rd June. If you need any help putting an application together don't hesitate to ask and the Director of Finance will offer advice on budgets, you can contact him direct.
- ◆ **MNZ Annual Meeting** is to be held on Sunday 23rd June at the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington. It will commence at 10am and conclude at 4pm. This Annual Meeting, being a one-day meeting will only address remits to make changes to the Constitution, not to Policies or the Rules of Participation.
- ◆ **Association Delegates** to the MNZ Annual Meeting need to be considered, they represent your Association at the meeting and they must be capable of contributing the views of your membership in the discussions and then be able to present a comprehensive report back to the Association of the actions taken.
- ◆ **Constitution** is the only document for remit changes at a one-day meeting and they need to be carefully worded and before finalising your remit wording make sure that a full check is made of the Constitution, Policies and Rules of Participation to ensure changes are covered and are not in conflict with the different documents. Any such remits must be received by 30th April 2019
- ◆ **General Business** items for discussion must be submitted to the CEO no later than 30th April 2019. Be clear with your intent of the item for discussion and include convincing reasons why and how your discussion item will add value to the sport.

- ◆ **Nominations** for one Board Member will be required and your Association need to consider whom they intend nominating for that Board Member position. You will need to approach the person to ensure they will accept your nomination and for them to provide a précis. Nominations close 30th April 2019. The term for a Board Member is four years (Rule 5.3.2) There is no election for President, President John in the second year of a four-year term (Rule 5.3.2).
- ◆ **MNZ Service Awards** are an opportunity for MNZ to acknowledge the service of members in a role other than a marcher. Does your Association wish to submit names of suitably eligible person/s (as per Rule of Participation A23)? Send names and a brief précis of their service to reach the CEO no later than 30 April 2019.
- ◆ **Administration Workshop** will be held on the day prior to the Annual Meeting, Saturday 22nd June commencing 10am. Details will be sent shortly and will also be available from the website.
- ◆ **Association Forum Meeting** is a great opportunity to get feedback from all members of your Association and a chance to present a review of the past season, even some plans already finalised for the coming season. Some feedback will be good, some will be bad, but all will give direction and ideas for improvement next season. You may also identify interested members who could become Committee Members. They may need some persuading so start now, especially if you have some known vacancies on the Association Committee. The Forum Meeting could also be the platform for recognising your Volunteers who have supported your association during the year.
- ◆ **Association Annual Meeting** planning will be underway, and your Association Committee will need to consider which option of Association structure as per Constitution Rule 16.4.2. the Association will operate next year, and this should be recorded in your monthly minutes and then also in the Annual Meeting minutes. You have two structure options –
 - Option a) A President, Secretary, Treasurer, Coaching Co-ordinator, Chief Judge, Membership/Privacy Officer, Promotions/Publicity Officer and up to four other Committee Members
 - Option b) A President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Judge, Coaching Co-ordinator and three Committee Member Convenors of Sub-Committee for Publicity and Promotion, Planning and Development and Technical and Coaching/Judging
- ◆ **Volunteer of the Month** – please, please send in your Volunteer of the Month – look at the Mums and Dads who have volunteered during the year. This simple recognition might be the catalyst to getting them further involved in the Association next season, maybe even in key positions or even on the Association Committee
- ◆ Keep the minutes coming through and keep up the great work.

Have a great month. If you are lucky enough to get time off and attend the NZ Championships, I look forward to catching up sometime over the 3-days whilst in Christchurch.

Diane

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