



March 2020

March, the beginning of the Autumn BUT when is it going to begin to rain? Some of the trees are starting to change colour but not sure if that is seasonal or contributed by lack of water? But soon the temperatures will be dropping and of the course the days too will change at the end of the month when daylight savings ends the first weekend in April.

Teams and Judges will all be directing their attention to and heading toward the Pulman Arena in Auckland for the NZ Championships where host Association Marching Auckland are completing the final details ready to welcome Marchers, Team Management, Judges and Supporters. 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. mini-van breakdown, getting fogged in on early flights or even cancelled flights rescheduled.

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 planning.

Tasks this month should include regularly looking at the Ministry of Health website for updates on the coronavirus. More cases are being reported and the website provides not only information of the virus but offers great suggestions as to how to avoid the virus and ensure ongoing good health and well-being. Please share with your Teams, especially those travelling to Auckland for the NZ Championships. MNZ are receiving regular updates from Sport NZ and monitoring the Ministry of Health site for any changes. The health and well-being of our participants at the NZ Championships is very much a priority for us.

- ◆ **NZ Championships** on 26/27/28th March. Farewell your Teams and Judges and check that they have no last-minute changes or concerns and wish them safe travels.
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **2022 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 2020. The Board consider applications at the May Board Meeting and the Host Association for the 2022 NZ Championships will be announced at the Annual Meeting to be held in Wellington on 27/28 June. If you need 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 Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 June at the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington. It will commence at 10 am on Saturday and conclude at 4 pm Sunday. This Annual Meeting, being a two-day meeting will address remits to make changes to the Constitution, Policies and the Rules of Participation. It is the 75th Annual Meeting of the organisation so will include a celebration dinner on the Saturday Night.
- ◆ **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, Policies and Rules of Participation** changes require remits. 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 2020.

- ◆ **General Business** items for discussion must be submitted to the CEO no later than 30th April 2020. 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 2020. The term for a Board Member is four years (Rule 5.3.2) There is no election for President, President John is in the third 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 2020.
- ◆ **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 –
 - a) A President, Secretary, Treasurer, Coaching Co-ordinator, Chief Judge, Membership/Privacy Officer, Promotion/Publicity Officer and up to four other Committee Members.
 - b) A President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Judge, Coaching Co-ordinator and three Committee Member Convenors of Sub-Committee for Promotion and Publicity, 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 Auckland.

Diane

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