



May 2020

It is now 5 weeks since New Zealand fronted up to the challenge to eliminate the coronavirus, Covid-19. We have spent 4 weeks at Alert Level 4, stay at home, work from home and last week de-escalated to Alert Level 3. For how long is still unknown although we have been given a glimpse of what Alert Level 2 will be when and if we move, that announcement will be made on the 11th May.

In the meantime, MNZ Annual Meeting is POSTPONED, Workshops ON HOLD and the commencement date for our new season UNKNOWN.

Sport NZ has been working closely with the office of the Minister for Sport, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment to understand how the Covid-19 Health Act Orders will apply to and impact on the play, recreation and sport sector and they are regularly keeping us updated. The information is also posted on their Covid-19 page of the Sport NZ website. As we look toward Alert Level 2 the key principles to prepare for are requirements around physical distancing, mass gathering numbers, public health measures and contact tracing as well as remaining vigilant with health hygiene. We are considered a 'contact' sport – an activity, particularly a team activity, in which by participating you are coming closer than 2 metres to others as part of competing in that activity.

Closing Days and Team 'end of season parties' are probably now considered 'not happening this year' but although the 2 metre physical distancing may create some problems for end of year Team photos it may also create some amazing out of the box end of year photos when they are finally arranged.

Tasks on the Secretary 'To Do' List for May –

- ◆ **MNZ Annual Meeting** has been POSTPONED and you will be advised of a new date and details as soon as confirmed.
- ◆ Any changes to the MNZ **Constitution, Policies and Rules of Participation** 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 at an Association Committee meeting. Deadline for submitting remits etc has been changed and a new date will be advised.
- ◆ Does your Association have any item to be included for discussion in **General Business**? 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. Deadline for submitting General Business items has been changed and a new date will be advised.
- ◆ Your Association will need to consider whom they intend nominating for **President** and for the one **Board Member** vacancy and will need to approach that person to ensure the nomination will be accepted and requesting a précis sheet of their marching and employment/business achievements and a personal vision statement aligned to the MNZ Strategic Plan. Karen Bedingfield is the Board Member retiring by rotation and shall not be eligible for nomination for 2 years as per Rule 5.3.2. Deadline for submitting nominations has been changed and a new date will be advised.
- ◆ 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 the CEO.
- ◆ If your Association has been considering an application for hosting the **2022 NZ Championships**, remember the deadline for application was extended and is now 30th June 2020.
- ◆ **Volunteer of the Month** – please, please keep sending in your Volunteer of the Month for MNZ to recognise in the Newsletter and please continue to acknowledge your volunteers too, a card or quick email is all that is required sometimes.

- ◆ You will have started the planning, although may not have yet established the date for your **Association Annual Meeting** and when the circumstances around numbers at gatherings is changed the planning can be completed and a date established.
- ◆ 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 who must also be advised the Association will be advised of the liability. The list must be sent to the Association by 30 April otherwise all members are declared 'cleared'. Due to Teams not holding break-ups, team assets may not have been returned, please take this into consideration when preparing lists.
- ◆ **Planning for the coming season** can still be undertaken. Allocate tasks to each member of the Association Committee to focus on and present a plan for the coming season – tasks could be
 - How to get more Trainee Judges
 - A 'Working Bee' (when Alert Level allows gatherings) to tidy up/repaint competition day equipment.
 - Create aptly named Competition Days e.g. Cup Day, the dress code required might be as for the races, a Christmas March, an indoor Display Gala Night could be a competition and a fundraising opportunity at the same time by selling tickets....
 - Fundraising ideas, we all know funding is going to be limited
 - Have a Go for a specific age grade you are targeting this season when restrictions are removed that allow gatherings
- ◆ **Admin stuff** needs to be filed regularly and that includes sending copies of the Association Meeting minutes to the CEO, and have the minutes or reports from the Association Coaching Co-ordinator (sent to the Technical Manager and the Director of Coaching) and Chief Judge (sent to the Technical Manager and Director of Judging) as per ROP A19.4 and no later than one month after the date of the meeting. Association 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 Technical Working Party and attached when filing for keepsake as per ROP A20.2.
- ◆ **Administration Workshop** in the diary for August is on HOLD, and you will be updated next month

A busy month despite being in our bubble and working from home, stay safe and have a **happy Mother's Day** on Sunday

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