



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll
Association Inc.



**MINUTES OF THE 2014 NZARRA Inc 31st ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

HELD AT BRENTWOOD HOTEL, SATURDAY 17th MAY 2014

Welcome

The Annual General Meeting opened at 10.10 am with a welcome from the NZ President, Jan Morgan

The NZ Executive Committee present was introduced:

Brenda Neill	Secretary
Yolanda Van Dorrestein	Treasurer

The President moved that the voting procedure be as follows:

That voting for remits will be on a show of hands, the majority 51% of clubs & Executive present.

Election of Officers - Secret Ballot for all positions.

That the Observer, Erin Blake, plus one hotel staff member, act as scrutineers for the voting of Executive Officers

That Voting papers to be destroyed at the end of the elections

Seconded by City of Sails - Carried Unanimously

Clubs in attendance at start of AGM is 12 clubs plus 3 Executive so majority will be 8

Apologies

Gracelands, Whangarei, Robin Sutton (Vice President) Shane Taurima (Head Judge)
Top of the South, Drifters - Lateness

The President moved the apologies be accepted, Kapi Mana seconded. Carried Unanimously

Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting

The President moved the Minutes be accepted. Wellington Seconded. For 14, Abstained , Carried

There were no matters arising.

President's Report

Jan Morgan presented the President's report as attached and as circulated prior to the meeting.

There were no queries.

River City thanked Jan for the years on executive, and wished her the best with her dancing.

The President moved that the report be accepted. Seconded Kapi Mana, Carried Unanimously

Head Judge's Report

Jan Morgan presented an interim Head Judge's report as attached and circulated prior to the meeting.

The President moved that the report be accepted. Wanganui seconded. Carried Unanimously

Correspondence Inwards/Outwards

The list of Inwards and Outwards correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Secretary moved that the Correspondence be accepted. Kapi Mana seconded.
Carried Unanimously

10.20 am - Top of the South & Drifters arrived, majority will now be 9.

Treasurer's Report

Yolanda van Dorrestein presented the Treasurers Report as attached and previously distributed:

The net profit of \$5,500 was due to lower expenses and the increase in levies to cover the combined Judges workshop. The workshop money will be paid out this year.

Club sponsorship for medals raised over \$1000, a popular move which it is recommended to stay.

There was a drop in membership, both of affiliated clubs and memberships within those clubs.

Due to the balance in the bank, fees and levies can remain the same.

Discussion

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Wellington | Any Conclusion re reaching a break-even point on Junior Nationals? |
| The Treasurer | Distance was a factor in the last loss. |
| The President | We also maintain that balance in case the Executive has to host a Nationals |
| Kapi Mana | Term Deposit? Might earn some more interest |
| The Treasurer | We have discussed that and will look into it |

Setting of Fees and Levies

The Treasurer moved that all fees remain unchanged for the 2014/15 year. Seconded by City of Sails
Carried Unanimously

A motion was put by Kapi Mana, Seconded by Invercargill

"That the Executive decide a specific amount be placed in an interest bearing account."

Carried Unanimously

The Treasurer moved that the Financial Report be accepted. Seconded by Surf City

Carried Unanimously

Nationals Reports

City of Sails Senior Nationals 25th -27th October 2013

Heather Blackburn presented the report for City of Sails Rock'n'Roll Club

The City of Sails club were really pleased to host their 3rd Senior Nationals during Labour weekend 2013. We would like to give a big thanks to all the clubs who supported the event & to all their club members who were a pleasure to host.

The number of tickets sold for Association Levy for Saturday were 550 tickets and Sunday were 562 tickets. We also had numerous public door sales (Approx 100 over two days) which we hadn't counted on.

Full weekend passes Sold – 470 (even though we offered a discount, ticket sales were really slow which is worrying). They also came in dribs and drabs with many orders from one club which means seating plans were constantly changing.

Video passes – 74

Total profit - \$26,394.00 (includes shop gear & raffles)

(More than we expected as we received one small grant & negotiated quotes down at the last minute on hire product etc.)

Best bits – Our amazing new Venue; having a Venue manager who couldn't do enough for us; on-site café (with really good coffee)

Not so good bits – Rental van firm we had used before had really gone downhill since 2007 and vehicles were sub-standard; sharing the carpark with the market on Sunday morning (which turned out to be fine as the carpark was very large).

Overall we had a great time and the fantastic feedback we received made us think all our visitors did too.

Notes

1. Video passes are almost impossible and not fun to police. Build the cost of providing a Video (as per Association requirement) into the ticket price and then the sales of DVD's are a bonus. (I pads and iphones are making it unfair to those who do purchase a Video Pass, so building it into the ticket price would be fair as everyone would pay a little.)
2. Have a second tier of people who know what has to happen. By only having a small planning committee of six and 50 odd helpers, all needing to be shown what to do, meant we were constantly answering questions.
3. Have a small Planning Committee for the 18 months prior. It makes meetings a breeze and everyone is in charge of their own area. (eg; Association Liaison and Planning, Venue and Logistics, Secretary and Communication, Shop Gear and Catering, Club Member Coordinator, Fundraising)
4. Seating plans are like planning a wedding Venue, with who wants to sit by who... and one club requesting to sit with three different clubs? Be kind to the host club.
5. Please email if there is anything else or any other info you'd like on annette@superiorkitchens.co.nz

Discussion

Wellington	Please clarify re video passes
City of Sails	Not fair to those having video passes with I pads, smartphones etc. being used freely – we suggest that the cost of passes be built into the tickets
The President	The only Rule is a DVD of the competition must be provided. It is up to the Club how they handle that.
Wanganui	We did discuss this, and went with selling video passes
Christchurch	At the 2013 Juniors we built it into the ticket price.

City of Sails moved that the report be accepted. Seconded Wanganui. Carried Unanimously

Wanganui Junior Nationals 18th – 20th April 2014

John Williams presented the report for Wanganui

Wanganui hosted a successful Junior Nationals. We kept it simple and no frills. The main costs were the venue, DJ and Rotorockers. We anticipate \$16,000 profit once the books are completed

Wanganui moved that the report be accepted, Tauranga seconded. Carried Unanimously

Invercargill Senior Nationals 24th – 26th October 2014 – Progress report

Nicola Fleming presented the report for Invercargill

The Invercargill Rock n Roll Club is looking forward to welcoming competitors, their family and supporters to Invercargill for the 2014 Senior Nationals.

Our Nationals committee is working hard to put together a great weekend. Ticket prices have now been set. We have kept these as low as possible thanks to our sponsors and would therefore appreciate your support in using them. The ticket prices have been set at \$95 for the weekend or \$80 if order and payment is received before the end of June 2014. When we receive your ticket orders we will send you a confirmation by email and tickets will follow in the post. Payments are by cheque or direct credit. Please include contact details. To keep these costs down we will not be providing a supper on either night. The venue is fully licensed so please no BYO as this will be strictly monitored by the committee and the venue staff.

Campervans are allowed on site if they are fully self-contained and we are negotiating the access of shower facilities at the venue.

Friday night's entertainment includes a live band and we hope to see you there. We are looking at having a function on the Sunday night following the official proceedings however this is yet to be confirmed.

Included in your packs you will also find information and contacts for travel arrangements, vehicle hire and accommodation suggestions. There is also a copy of the ticket order form, attached to which you will find a raffle for flights for two to Stewart Island. This closes on the 31st of August so the winner will be advised in time to utilise the flights while they are in Invercargill. Also you will find details of packages from Stewart Island Flights which have been discounted for us.

For those that attended the 2012 Junior Nationals, you would have seen our Velodrome. We have organised the opportunity for you to test your nerves and have a go with professional coaching on the Friday.

Invercargill has many attractions in the city including being the home of Bert Munro whom you may have heard of, it is the home to the Blue River cheese factory, has a huge public park, Queens Park, a great swimming facility, just to name a few. We are also within driving distance of Central Otago, Queenstown, the Caitlins and the southern scenic route, Te Anau and Milford Sound. Stewart Island can be reached by flight or an hour on the ferry. You may wish to take the opportunity to have a good look around and with this in mind we have included some basic information in our packs.

There is a link from the national association website to our website (www.rocknroll.net.nz) with a Nationals section and we intend to provide newsletters here to keep you informed.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors, The Community Trust of Southland, the ILT, Laker House of Travel, Riverside Rentals and Stewart Island Flights.

We look forward to seeing you all in Invercargill in October 2014.

Questions

River City Are reports being sent to clubs also?

Invercargill They will be on our website, a link is on the Association website, but we are happy to email if addresses are provided

Invercargill moved that the report be accepted, seconded Christchurch. Carried Unanimously

Christchurch Junior Nationals 3rd – 5th April 2015 – Progress Report

Karyn Thomson presented the report for Christchurch

The Christchurch Rock n Roll Club organising committee would like to extend an invitation to all Rock n Roller dancers & supporters to come to the Junior Nationals 2015 in Christchurch.

You can be guaranteed a great weekend of fun, good music and fantastic dancing.

We once again offer you a great atmosphere at the Lincoln Event Centre - Lincoln. This centre is only 15 minutes from Riccarton Road.

We will provide a motel list for you to book your accommodation early, accommodation in Riccarton is only 12 – 15 minutes from the venue..

Book your flights early to take advantage of cheap airfares. Tag on a couple of extra days to tour the start of the central city rebuild.

Notes:

- Motels on the list are between 10 – 15 minutes travel to the venue
- You will need to secure rental vans / cars
- There will be no supper served on Saturday or Sunday
- We are endeavouring to keep ticket prices at a minimum

We look forward to seeing you in Christchurch in 2015.

Check out our website for further updates. www.christchurchrocknroll.org.nz

Christchurch moved that the report be accepted. Seconded Wanganui. Carried Unanimously

Kapi Mana 2015 Senior Nationals 23rd -25th October 2015 – Progress Report

Barry O'Donnell presented the report for Kapi Mana

HOST CLUB: Kapi Mana Rock n Roll Revival Club

VENUE: Te Rauparaha Arena, Porirua.
Under our contract the areas booked include:
The main stadium
The small stadium
Two upstairs meeting rooms
The studio
Changing rooms
The 80-seat tiered theatre

Other items included in the contract:
2,495 sq. m. of protective carpet
Twenty 1.8 metre long trestle tables
Eight 1.5 metre diameter round tables
400 chairs
Two after hours staff (7 p.m. to midnight Sat. and Sun.)

BOOKING DATES: 6 a.m. Friday 23 October to 1 a.m. Monday 26 October 2014

DEPOSIT: A contract with The Arena was signed and a deposit paid in December 2013.

CATERING: The Arena has a café that also provides a catering service. Other restaurant and fast food outlets are within easy walking distance of the venue. One sponsorship option being explored is to approach several of them about offering a discount to Nationals ticket holders over the weekend.

LIQUOR LICENSE: We will be applying to the Porirua City Council for a liquor license. Despite changes to the liquor laws in December 2013 we are led to believe that a BYO license will be granted, but in all likelihood will be restricted to beer and wine only.

ACCOMMODATION: A list of accommodation in the greater Porirua region is being compiled. We are looking at provision for Camper Vans at a nearby school

TABLES/CHAIRS: The Arena has 20 trestle tables and Kapi Mana Rock n roll Club has 18. These can accommodate 340 people.

The Arena has 400 chairs and Kapi Mana has 200, a total of 600.

Additional tables and chairs will be hired as required.

STAGING/LIGHTING:

A feature of our hosting submission was the use lighting and large screens to enhance the event. Preliminary costings have been received from two of The Arena's preferred suppliers - Vidcom for a 20 metre Ultra Widescreen and projectors; MJF Lighting for three lighting options – and these are being reviewed at the moment.

SPONSORSHIP: Our preferred option is to have one major sponsor, a local company with a well established nationwide brand. To that end we wish to know if the Association is will to permit a sponsor to have naming rights. ie: "Brand X 2014 Senior Nationals

Discussion

The President	Naming rights – this has been done in the past and is acceptable
River City	Motel information?
Kapi Mana	There will be a website link and we will email Clubs

Kapi Mana moved that the report be accepted, seconded Drifters. Carried Unanimously

The President thanked past and present host clubs for excellent Nationals hosting.

Allocation of 2016 Junior and Senior Nationals

Junior Nationals 25th – 28th March 2016

Kapi Mana will take it back to the Committee and respond as soon as possible

Senior Nationals 21st – 25th October 2016

Surf City, in Gisborne.

The President moved that Surf City host 2016 Senior Nationals, seconded by Wanganui - Agreed

11 am – 5 minute break – Harbour City arrived, majority is now 10

Kapi Mana confirmed hosting Juniors 2016, subject to the venue being available.

Remits

Remit 1 - Kapi Mana/Wanganui

Section 1.8(b): Senior Championship section:

A change in the age divisions so that Restricted is divided into 3 Sections;

Open: 18 years and over (no change)

Platinum or Golden: 35 years and older

Senior: 50 years and older

Reason: To narrow the age gap between competing couples; under the existing criteria a 39 year old can end up competing with an 18 year old, while someone 60 plus can end up competing with a 40 year old.

Kapi Mana spoke to the Remit –a third section reflects the aging of our dancers, encourages dancers to keep or return to competing.

River City	Against – not enough there now, just 7 in each section last year, and there have been just semi finals for a few year It is too few to split again.
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Wellington For - have several couples ready to dance in the older section
Invercargill Against – would need to carry the three sections over to triples and Same Sex
Drifters Against – sections would be too small.

Voting on the Remit For 7, Against 1, Remit Lost

Remit 2 – Executive/River City

Rule 1.9 – Delete “To establish club loyalty”

Reason: Tidy up, the words are not needed.

The President spoke to the remit:

For those with the desire to dance it often means going outside one’s own club. To find a partner or join a team sometimes means dancing in a split club partnership, or changing clubs. Dancing for one club at Nationals has nothing to do with club loyalty.

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 3 – Executive/Wanganui

Rule 3.1 – Replace the “in” with “for”

Reason – this allows a couple to compete in their local competition in one section and be assessed for another. For example, a couple who may be Masters at Nationals, but not of that age when their assessment takes place, allows them to compete in their current age group and be assessed for their future age group in the same dance.

The Secretary spoke to the remit.

We have several queries about assessments each year, and we do allow this scenario to happen. By changing one word the intent of the rule is clear.

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 4 – Executive/Christchurch

Rule 3.12 – remove the word “clubs championships” from the first and second sentences and replace with “Competitions”

Sentences will now read:

All National Association and Association Judges invited to officially judge competitions where assessments are being held must be utilised on the assessment. National Association and Association Judges that armchair the competitions will not be utilised on the assessment.

Reason – not all competitions where assessments take place are “Club Championships”

The Treasurer spoke to the Remit:

This change in wording recognises all competitions other than just club championships

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 5 – Executive/Kapi Mana

Rule 4.6 – Use the word “sent” instead of “posted”

Reason: to reflect current use of email as well as post.

The Secretary spoke to the remit, entries can be scanned and emailed, we are happy to accept them this way.

River City Does this conflict with Rule 4.1 re payment accompanying the entry
The Secretary We will accept confirmation of a direct credit or a deposit into the Association account

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 6 – Harbour City/Wanganui

Add to Rule 5.2 “Names and numbers of those dancers to be called back to finals will be made public as soon as possible after the conclusion of their semi-final.”

Reason

The intention of this remit is to announce finalists in advance of them dancing their final, to provide for a better experience for dancers and audience. At the moment competitors only learn that they are being called back to dance again when the DJ calls their name and number – the spectators love the suspense but most of the competitors don't.

Publishing the results and names of finalists in advance of the finals would:

- Allow finalists to be better prepared (physically and mentally)
- Create a more exciting final competition with everyone more able to dance at their peak
- Lessen the disappointment of those not being called back, who can find this out in a less public and dramatic way than in front of their friends, family and supporters.

Publishing the results could be done by posting the competitor numbers and names of couples and triples being called back (on a noticeboard) after the semi-finals. For example, the Golden finalists would be posted as soon as possible after the Golden semi-finals. Note: this is what is done at some of the competitions run in Australia, and from what we understand, is well liked by the dancers

Harbour City Speaking to the Remit. We believe it provides better experience for dancers, as detailed in the remit. As it stands, they need to be dressed in outfit on returning. It affects if and how they eat and gives them the chance to prepare if dancing, and get over the disappointment if not.

Wellington For, it shouldn't be too hard to do

City of Sails Against, could lose people from finals, yes, on edge, but it is all part of the day, and the anticipation, not knowing, is what crowd have come to see also. Was tried at a nationals many years ago, it didn't work

River City Competitors need the suspense, if they are not physically and mentally ready, posting results is not going to make a difference.

Christchurch Against, our dancers would not want to know. Would people come back if they knew they weren't dancing?

Harbour City Right of Reply - Could lose crowd, but that is their choice, if you don't make the final, you are going to be disgruntled.

Voting on the Remit – For 2 Against 16 Remit lost

Remit 7 - Harbour City/Gold Coast

Amend the first sentence of Rule 5.5 to read: “Three optional best dressed parades will be held on Saturday, one for Sections 1,2,3,4 and 12, one for Sections 10 and 11, and one for Section 14, and four optional best dressed parades will be held on Sunday, one for Sections 7 and 8, one for Sections 13 and 16, and one each for Section 5 and Section 15.”

Reason

The intention of this remit is to combine best dressed parades for similar sections of Senior Nationals, and offer flexibility for when the parades are held. Age has no bearing on the ability to

dress well - there is no reason why a Masters and an Open couple should not be judged together and using the same guidelines (unlike dancing, where age is seen as a differentiator).

This remit combines the following sections into one Best Dressed section each:

- Open, Platinum, Golden, Masters and Diamond.
- Open and Senior Restricted.
- Open and Senior Triples.
- Open and Senior Same Sex.

This remit is specifically for Senior Nationals, as the on-going debate and discussion over 'age appropriate' dress for Juniors suggests that combining their best dressed competitions could unfairly disadvantage some of them.

Harbour City	Speaking to the Remit – The intention is offer flexibility for when parades are held, and combines classes into one bigger parade
River City	Against - last year it came loud and clear that this wasn't supported. The parades aid competitor's mental preparation.
Invercargill	Against – being dressed ready hours before you dance is not conducive to a good frame of mind
Treasurer	For - it would shorten the day. Dancing reflects ability to dance in specific section, there is no age barrier to how you dress
Drifters	Against – could lower standard of dress with such a huge competition, many would not bother to make the effort
Christchurch	Against - judging 60 couples could be very hard.
Harbour City	Right of Reply – we consider that winning the award for a bigger parade would be prestigious, the best dressed of many rather than few.

Voting on Remit - For 3, Against 14, Abstained 1 Remit lost

Remit 8 – Executive/Drifters

5.5 – Delete “Optional” from the start of the rule and add to end first sentence “Entry is optional”

Delete the last sentence.

Reason – a tidy up to better reflect intention of the rule and current practice.

The Treasurer spoke to the Remit – this is a wording clarification that that entry into the parade is optional, not the parade itself.

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 9 – Executive/Drifters

New Rule

5.5 b - Best Dressed Female and Best Dressed Male parades will also be held, entry is optional.

Reason: to recognise the parades as part of the National Championships

The Treasurer spoke to the Remit - In the Rule Book the Best Dressed Male and Female parades are barely mentioned, this would include them as a recognised part of the competition.

Drifters/River City – Amendment to the Remit

Add after optional “*and open to any affiliated club member who meets the age criteria for the championship and/or section being held.*”

Drifters – This amendment is to define eligibility to enter the parades

Voting for Amendment: For 16 Against 0 Abstained 2 Amendment Carried

The amended remit now reads:

New Rule 5.5 (b)

Best Dressed Female and Best Dressed Male parades will also be held, entry is optional and open to any affiliated club member who meets the age criteria for the championship and/or section being held.

Voting on Amended Remit - For 16, Against 0, Abstained 2 - Amended Remit Carried

Remit 10 – Harbour City/Gold Coast

Amend Rule 6.3 first sentence to read “The heats, quarter finals, semi finals and finals are judged on a points system from 0-10 points.”

Delete from the last sentence of Rule 6.3 “so that they may have a better chance of reaching the finals.”

Delete Rule 6.4.

- Harbour City Speaking to the remit: The purpose of this remit is to remove placings and use points throughout the competition, to provide better feedback to finalists and more transparency of judging when judging finals. Currently all competition up to and including semi-finals are judged using points, with each judge focusing on one of timing, harmony or variety, supported by well-defined guidelines. Finals are judged using placings and considering the dance as a whole, and there is little ability to understand how placings are arrived at. Using points in finals would provide that transparency, and may also be easier for the judges who at the moment may have to apply two different mindsets to judging, depending on whether they are judging heats or finals. The last sentence of Section 6.3 already acknowledges that using points provides dancers with better feedback on where they may wish to improve. Appears odd that we use one system throughout the day, then a new system is used. More transparent, allocation of points, why stop at finals.
- The President Against – finals are to find winner and I cannot see a problem that needs to be fixed. We don't stop using the guidelines in the final – points in a final could give an incorrect outcome. Points during the day take us through to the finals where a winner is picked.
- River City Judges want to judge the whole dance rather than an aspect of dance as during the day. Placings are worked on by majority of judges, placing separates the dancers, points may not do this leading to more dance offs.
- City of Sails Why fix something that isn't broken, and has been used successfully for 30 years.
- Harbour City Right of reply, change the way we judge dancing. If you have a criteria that gets you to final, then the way it is judged. Competitors most important, and they are confused. Results on points must be kept the same. Placings are pinions, not using guidelines

Voting for the Remit – for 5, against 12, abstained 1 Remit Lost

Remit 11 – Executive/Drifters

Delete Rule 6.4.1

The President spoke to the remit

Our judging guidelines and training process expects and teaches judges to be able to make a decision at the end of one song, whether it be to award points in a heat/quarter/semi-final or placings in a final. At the moment, a judge(s) is able to call for a third song. This is inconsistent with our judging guidelines. At the recent round of judge's workshops, judges voted overwhelmingly to

have this rule removed to provide surety for judges and especially for competitors. The rule has rarely been evoked at local or regional competitions and as far as we are aware, never at Nationals, This takes away element of doubt for dancers

Drifters – For, it is a hard call for dancers to dance another song in the final.

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 12 – Kapi Mana

Remit withdrawn and tabled for General Business (later withdrawn from General Business)

Section 6.6: Judges be changed to read

That the pool of judges at the Senior Nationals be increased so that some can be rested while others judge the next section

Reason: The program on both Saturday and Sunday has lengthened to the point where they are very long days, particularly for the judges. More breaks have been inserted in the program, but this only compounds the problem of the longer program. Having a larger pool of Judges would allow a rotation system to be introduced whereby some could rest (or have several hours off) while others judge, and vice versa.

While this would increase the cost of running the event it will shorten the program and provide an opportunity for more Judges to participate at National level.

Shortening or compressing the program would benefit everyone - judges, competitors, supporters, and spectators. A decade ago there were more competitors, but the Saturday program began later and finished earlier while Sundays began after lunch with presentations finished about 10 p.m. This provided an opportunity for everyone to let their hair down for an hour or two. Hopefully compressing the program might rekindle the relaxed post-competition atmosphere that use to envelope the hall for the last couple of hours of Sunday evening.

Remit 13 – Executive/Kapi Mana

8.5 – Alter first sentence to read: Any written complaints or non compliance of the rules defined in Section 8 will be investigated by the Executive Committee.

The President spoke to the remit - This wording relates solely to complaints made about the rules in this section which apply to Judges

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 14 Executive/River City

Alter Rule 8.13 to read:

The Association will hold a one day combined judges' workshop biennially.

All National Association, Association & Trainee judges are invited to attend this workshop. All judges attending will be reimbursed for their travel expenses.

To be reimbursed receipts are to be submitted to the secretary no later than 1 month prior to the workshop date.

If a judge cannot attend a workshop any reimbursement must be refunded to the Association within 10 days unless otherwise agreed by the Head Judge.

\$1 from the annual membership levy per senior member, 50c per junior member and \$1 from the National ticket levy per Saturday and Sunday ticket will go towards funding this reimbursement.

The Treasurer spoke to the Remit – at the AGM last year the Council came up with a temporary solution, which now needs a remit to tidy it up.

Amendment - Executive/Kapi Mana

Add to the rule:

Reimbursements shall be no more than the Air New Zealand smart saver or equivalent air fare excluding commission/insurance fees, or mileage at the current cents per km rate as listed in Book B, whichever is the lesser

Voting on the amendment - Carried Unanimously

The Treasurer - This ties in the rules, how the reimbursements for the combined workshops are paid and how the money is collected.

Voting on amended Remit – Carried Unanimously

Remit 15 – Executive/Harbour City

9.2- Delete “All competition winners must sign the register”.

The Secretary spoke to the remit – This is a tidy up to reflect current practice. A record is kept of winner, and a signature is not needed.

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 16 – Executive/Christchurch

Part One

Alter 9.6 (a) to read.....

Non-returnable: Each place-getter in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 and only one of each place-getting team in Section 6 receive an engraved place medal and ribbon. The best dressed place-getters also receive an engraved place medal and ribbon.

Part Two

Delete 9.6 (b) and replace with:

9.6 (b) - Returnable: Each section has one trophy or cup for the winners and one for the best dressed parade winners. In addition there is a trophy or cup for Best Dressed Male, Best Dressed Female and Most Supportive Club.

Reason: Tidy up to reflect current practice and recognise the best dressed competitions, both competing sections and the individual parades

Voting on the Remit - Carried Unanimously

Remit 17 – Kapi Mana/Wanganui

Section 10.6(b) be changed to read:

A Same Sex couple is defined as 2 male or 2 female dancers neither of whom is dancing in another section.

Reason: The Same Sex Section was introduced to provide an opportunity for dancers without a partner of the opposite gender to compete at the Nationals. In 2013 the Section was won by ladies both of whom danced in the Open Section Final.

Kapi Mana	Speaking to the remit which aimed at encouraging competitive dancing for those who don't have male partners.
River City	Against – same sex couples still should have the opportunity to dance, the standard has got higher, and entries have been good
Surf City & Invercargill	Against, change is not needed
The President	Intent of introducing the section was a survival strategy, after a very low Junior Nationals, to keep the event viable.
Christchurch	Against – some of the best dancing, one of the biggest section, we are here to promote rock'n'roll and get dancers on the floor.
Drifters	Why put restrictions on dancers.

Voting on the Remit - For 1 Against 15 Abstained 2 - Remit Lost.

Remit 18 - Harbour City

Harbour City proposed holding this over until after the General Business item Majority agreed.

Amend Rule 10.6 (c) to insert at the end of the first sentence “and have danced rock’n’roll for less than two years”. Amended rule would then read:

“A Novice couple is defined as 1 male and 1 female dancer both of whom have never competed at any National competition, excluding Sections 6 & 9 (Novelty and Cheerleaders), and have danced rock’n’roll for less than two years. Refer Rule 4.12(d)”

Reason: The purpose of this remit is to level the playing field for the Novice section, and focus it firmly on those relatively new to rock’n’roll dancing. Competition in this section is currently very uneven as it is open to experienced dancers and even dance teachers, as long as they have not previously danced at Nationals. This prospect is very off-putting to our true novices, who are keen but don’t want to be potentially embarrassed in a lopsided competition.

To encourage our real novice dancers, in a way that may encourage them to keep improving and come back in future, this section needs to be restricted to those who are relatively new – we suggest dancing rock’n’roll for less than two years. A checkbox on the Novice form could be used for the Club Secretary to vouch for the fact.

End of Remits

Break for lunch 12.15 pm, the AGM reconvened at 1.10 pm

Election of Officers

Nominations for President

Brenda Neill Nominated by Christchurch Seconded By Dunedin

There were no other nominations.

Brenda Neill was elected by a secret ballot.

Nominations for Vice President

Robin Sutton Nominated by Christchurch Seconded By Dunedin

There were no other nominations.

Robin Sutton was elected by secret ballot.

Nominations for Secretary

There were no nominations for secretary.

Secretary Nominations will be put out to all clubs, to be received by 1st June.

Nominations for Treasurer

Yolanda van Dorrestein Nominated by Harbour City Seconded by Kapi Mana

There were no other nominations.

Yolanda van Dorrestein was elected by secret ballot.

Nominations for Head Judge

There were no Nominations on the advice of the Executive

The Executive moved to adopt the motion that we will call for nominations at the Judge’s workshop,
Seconded River City

- Kapi Mana Judges should select the Head judge, to be ratified by the AGM council.
City Of Sails Will there be an agenda and format, who will provide
The Treasurer Yes, there will be a format and agenda. This will be sent to Judges soon.

The Election of Officers was completed

General Business

Item 1 – Executive – Novice Section

- Do we need the section
- is it working
- Is the original intent still there
- Are we getting return dancers
- Are dancers being encouraged or discouraged by the section
- Should there be an assessment level
- Should we change the rules of entry

- Wellington Standard is uneven even in club competitions, true novices should be in club competitions first.
- River City Dancing a number of years as social dancer is different to training and competing, both of which improve dancing
- Invercargill It is a good stepping stone for any age group. It doesn't matter how long someone has been dancing, it depends on skill We think it is working and cannot see any reason to change.
- Gold Coast Perhaps some sort of limit, in years or experience.
- Hawkes Bay For example a person social dancing 13 years, now thinking about doing novice with new beginner partner. It is hard to police how long couples have been dancing, they may have been associated with clubs and not danced much at all
- Dunedin Novice dancers - the word is unambiguous
- Treasurer Do clubs have novice sections, what rules are there?
- Wanganui At most clubs, they can only dance Novice once
- President Many Novice dancers keep on competing.
- Secretary Many Couples would not have entered competitive dancing without the novice sections
- Treasurer The only restriction now is that neither partner has danced at nationals. What about an Assessment level
- City of sails Should be up to clubs how ready or skilled their dancers are
- River City Clubs need to gauge skill and ability
- Christchurch Don't put barriers to people dancing.
- Wellington Experience of dancers should be more on the clubs.
- President Do we need to enhance the definition?
- Top of the South Entry criteria perhaps have danced an interclub competition, to gain an intermediate level of experience. Agree to not too many restrictions, but this would take out those not ready for nationals
- President On the whole the section is working. If clubs have ideas of how to change the criteria they can bring it back next year.

Harbour City withdrew Remit 18

Item 2 - Executive

Following the trial at Junior Nationals comment is invited on introducing a new section - Best Dressed Junior Female with the split in ages of 5 – 12 years and 5 – 17.

President	The trial worked very well for the judges and executive.
Wellington	Age group, can you explain those
Treasurer	Entrants can choose one of the two age groups, it could fit for mature girls under 12 to enter open section.
Wanganui	Agree with the split
Christchurch	Has it been considered to do presentations immediately after the best dressed parades while the entrants are spik and span, not rumped etc. from dancing.
Wanganui	Great idea
Treasurer	It has been suggested that it could take kudos away.

Executive/Wanganui

That the appropriate Rule book changes affecting Rules 9.6 b, 5.5 b are made

Carried Unanimously

The Executive will consider the presentation idea and see how it would work

Item 4 River City

Tied Positions – dancing to a medium song, when routines are built on slow or fast songs.

River City	The rule is that dance offs are danced to a medium song. Couples have a slow routine and a fast routine. Perhaps change it to either slow or fast.
City of Sails	It could disadvantage one couple – medium brings out ability
Kapi Mana	Dance offs are now rare so why not two songs?
Treasurer	It could take it back to square one with two songs, dance off to one song makes a decision clear
Secretary	A medium song makes even playing field

Item 5 Surf City

Club responsibility for safety & maintenance of trophies.

Surf City	A Gisborne Club donated a trophy for novelty, it went missing, where is the original, who lost it? Disappointing to the donating club, with so much history lost. Recipients should be responsible if a trophy is damaged or lost.
President	History is on the replacement trophy.
Secretary	Replacement of trophies – needs to be done occasionally. They are not always well looked after

Item 6

Kapi Mana – Speeding up Presentations

Kapi Mana	Could the Executive look at how to give more free dancing time, gets pretty boring by end of the hour
Treasurer	We have looked at speeding up, it fine line between being respectful to winners, and speed.
Surf City	Marshalling has sped up things, rushing doesn't help.
Treasurer	Straddling speed/respect, we could ask the MC to call quicker, it is one thing left for us to do.
Wellington	We are there for the competition at nationals, General Dancing is a bonus

City Of Sails	We don't expect to general dancing – rushing through anymore is not respecting competitors
Top of the South	Why not call all place getters up and present all at once.
Kapi Mana	The presentation ceremony takes an hour. Perhaps having presentations spread out, not a big lump.
City Of Sails	It would depend on the structure of day
President	On Sunday some could be done during the day, it would still be a long day though

Item 7 – Kapi Mana

Declining numbers of members and affiliated clubs

Kapi Mana	We noted from Treasurers report declining numbers both of affiliated clubs and members We need to find ways of growing Rock'n'Roll. A suggestions is that if we know a club is in trouble, there could be a manual or "to do" list to assist them
Invercargill	Promotion was discussed a couple of years ago. Perhaps a manual to include how clubs are doing, what has worked for them
Wellington	Club success comes from people in place at the top in a club. Situation in Wellington is six clubs, which isn't good, perhaps a "super-club" in each city is the future.
Kapi Mana	Clubs are driven by personality, but guides and pointers from the Executive could help
President	Much depends on the club, they need to have a succession plan to keep momentum going when long time members are no longer there.
Surf City	We used to have a large junior club in Gisborne, now our club is very small. We won't give up and are hosting Nationals with a core of stayers.
President	We could share, how to run lessons, some themes and gimmicks to keep getting members involved. Perhaps we could post ideas which have worked, on the Facebook page perhaps
Treasurer	An online forum perhaps though it is hard to monitor we could share ideas
President	There are lots of little thing, we are happy to collate and put on the face-book page.

End of General Business

The President thanked all delegates for their valuable input and participation.

Retiring President Jan Morgan was presented with a gift, and thanked for her work over the past years

The Annual General Meeting closed at 2.30 pm

The date for the 2015 AGM is Saturday 16th May at the Brentwood Hotel, Wellington.

Delegates Present AGM 17th May 2014

Executive Committee

President	Jan Morgan
Secretary	Brenda Neill
Treasurer	Yolanda van Dorrestein
Head Judge	Shane Taurima

Minute Secretary

Brenda Neill

Delegates

1	Christchurch	Karyn Thomson	Connie van Slooten
2	City of Sails	Heather Blackburn	
3	Drifters	Chloe Kuriger	Justin Budgen
4	Dunedin	Tom Naylor	Liz Naylor
5	Gold Coast NZ	Bruce Herdman	
6	Harbour City	Miles Coverdale	
7	Hawkes Bay	Wendy Strickett	
8	Kapi Mana	Ron Diack	Barry O'Donnell
9	Invercargill	Karl Herman	Nicola Fleming
10	River City	Linda Knight	
11	Surf City	Wendy Cossgrove	
12	Tauranga	Ray Jacob	
13	Top of the South	Wayne Hotham	Gerrie Wilson
14	Wanganui	Donna Burns	John Williams
15	Wellington	John Rowan	Malcolm Carter

Observers

River City Erin Blake

Correspondence Report January to December 2013

Inwards

6-Jan	Whangarei	Late Assessment
7-Jan	River City	Judges Sheets
11-Jan	Rock'n'Roll Live	Junior Nationals Entries
	Westpac	Bank Statement
16-Jan	Christchurch	Late Assessment
23-Jan	Kerry Wells	Christchurch Club
	Christchurch	Members Levy
	Drifters, Whangarei	Junior Nationals Entries
25-Jan	Wellington	Junior Nationals Entries
28-Jan	Christchurch	Junior Nationals Entries
29-Jan	Dunedin, Hutt Valley	Junior Nationals Entries
31-Jan	Invercargill	Junior Nationals Entries
5-Feb	Marcia Summers	Australasian Rock'n'Roll Champs
12-Feb	UHU	Members Levy
	Ramblers	Committee update
17-Feb	Invercargill	Entry
25-Feb	River City	Members Levy
4-Mar	Timaru	Members Levy
11-Mar	Christchurch	TES
14-Mar	Drifters	Receipts for AGM
19-Mar	River City	Receipts for AGM
	Hawkes Bay	Apology AGM
20-Mar	City of Sails	Members Levy
23-Mar	City of Sails, Tauranga	TES & Receipts
25-Mar	Kapi Mana	TES
28-Mar	Gold Coast NZ, Whangarei, Dunedin	TES
	Invercargill	AGM Receipts
2-Apr	Gracelands	TES & Receipts
	Surf City, Top of the South	TES
	Westpac	Bank Statement
4-Apr	Hutt Valley	Members Levy
8-Apr	Kaiapoi	Members Levy
9-Apr	Drifters, Christchurch	Nominations
	Christchurch	Junior Nationals Levy
13-Apr	Christchurch	Travel Claim AGM
	Rose City	Members Levy
15-Apr	Christchurch	Nomination
19-Apr	Central Otago, Tauranga, Hawkes Bay	Members Levy
	Harbour City, Surf City	Nominations
24-Apr	Kapi Mana	Seniors 2015 bid
	Harbour City	Levy & Tes
26-Apr	Gracelands, Kapi Mana, Sun City	Members Levy
1-May	Wanganui, Southern	Members Levy
7-May	Whangarei	Travel Claim AGM
8-May	Dunedin, Surf City	Travel Claim AGM
9-May	Top of the South	Travel Claim AGM
25-May	City of Sails	Nationals Newsletter 3
28-May	Tauranga	Change of Officers
6-Jun	Hutt Valley	Late Trophy Return
11-Jun	Christchurch	Medal Sponsor
20-Jun	Tauranga	Medal Sponsor
26-Jun	New Plymouth	Members Levy
30-Jun	Timaru	New President

Inwards Cont.

MINUTES OF THE 31st NZARRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD SATURDAY 17 MAY 2014

5-Jul	Kapi Mana Westpac	Medal Sponsor Bank Statement
8-Jul	Hutt Valley Ramblers, Christchurch, Central Otago	Age category letter Affiliation Fee
10-Jul	City of Sails, Sun City, Hawkes Bay, Hutt Valley, Kapi Mana	Affiliation Fee
15-Jul	Tauranga, Whakatane	Affiliation Fee
17-Jul	Bush Southern. L & P Rockers	Trophy Donation Affiliation Fee
25-Jul	Whangarei, Taranaki, Timaru, Gold Coast NZ, River City, New Plymouth River City	Affiliation Fee Medal Sponsor
29-Jul	Rock'n'Roll Live, Surf City Wanganui, Ramblers	Aff Fee & Levy Trophy Donation
30-Jul	Top of the South, Wanganui, Upper Hutt United, Gracelands	Affiliation Fee
1-Aug	Harbour City Kaiapoi New Plymouth	Affiliation Fee Affiliation Fee Entries Senior Nationals
2-Aug	Tokoroa Wellington, Drifters, HB Jnrs Gold Coast NZ Wellington Westpac	Aff Fee & Levy Affiliation Fee - Direct Credit Music payment - DC DC Members Levy Bank Statement
17-Aug	Memphis Rockers L & P Rockers Ramblers, Drifters, Central Otago, L & P Rockers, Hawkes Bay	Affiliation Fee Trophy Donation & Members Levy Entries Senior Nationals
19-Aug	River City	Entries Senior Nationals
20-Aug	Gracelands, Memphis Rockers Christchurch, Memphis Rocker, Kapi Mana, COS, Drifters, Ramblers,	Entries Senior Nationals Entries Senior Nationals
26-Aug	Tauranga	Entries Senior Nationals
27-Aug	Jan Morgan Wellington, Hutt Valley, Whakatane, Gold Coast NZ	Claim Combined workshop Entries Senior Nationals
28-Aug	Gracelands, UHU	Entries Senior Nationals
30-Aug	City of Sails, Invercargill, Whangarei, Top of the South, Drifters, Harbour City	Entries Senior Nationals
31-Aug	Wanganui, Whakatane Ramblers	Entries Senior Nationals Thanks
2-Sep	Rose City Debra Norton Hawkes Bay City of Sails	Affiliation fee Junior dancing up Late Entry Novelty Reply to queries
3-Sep	Invercargill Westpac Invercargill	Members Levy Statement Junior Novelty
4-Sep	Whakatane	Change of Novelty Act
6-Sep	Invercargill, Dunedin	Affiliation Fee
16-Sep	Whangarei, Taranaki Drifters	Members Levy Entry Senior Nationals
24-Sep	City of Sails	Entry Senior Nationals
3-Oct	Westpac	Bank Statement
11-Oct	Timaru	Request CD Set

24-Oct	Timaru	Club Colours
28-Oct	Rock'n'Roll Live	Funding Letter
30-Oct	Timaru	Payment CD Set
	T Holman - Memphis Rockers	Website
Inwards Cont		
31-Oct	Phill Jenkins	Scrutineering
6-Nov	Steve Swale	Expenses Claim
12-Nov	Karen Stevens	Expenses Claim
	Geyserland RnR	Club Colours
13-Nov	Rotorock Productions	DVD
20-Dec	Drifters	Top Club Entry
	Rock'n'Roll Live	Junior Nationals Entries

Outwards

14-Jan	HB Juniors, Wellington, Invercargill, Bush, River City, Drifters & Hutt Valley	Trophy Return Junior Nationals
15-Jan	All Clubs	Reminder Junior Entries
	Hutt Valley, Invercargill	Top Club Song
	Christchurch	Late Assessment
	Gracelands, Rock'n'Roll Live	Entry Acknowledgement
25-Jan	Wellington, Drifters, Whangarei	Entry Acknowledgement
30-Jan	Hutt Valley	Entry Acknowledgement
31-Jan	Invercargill	Entry Acknowledgement
15-Feb	All Clubs, judges and scrutineers Rob Connor, Murray Dillon, Nola Calvert, Danielle Thompson,	Newsletter
5-Apr	Christchurch Club	Thanks for Junior Nationals
	All Clubs, judges and scrutineers	April Newsletter
14-Apr	All Clubs	Remits & GB AGM
29-Apr	Clubs attending AGM	Agenda and reports
23-May	Dennis Neill	Floor Manager Seniors 2015
25-May	All Clubs, judges and scrutineers Helen Cowie & Brenda Simmons Rob Connolly	May Newsletter
	Taranaki, Drifters, River City, Wanganui, Gracelands, Wellington, Christchurch, City of Sails, Hawkes Bay, Kapi Mana, Ramblers, Upper Hutt United, Tauranga, Harbour City	Invitation Scrutineer Seniors 2013 Invitation MC Seniors 2013
26-May		Trophy Return Senior Nationals
3-Jul	All Clubs, judges and scrutineers	July Newsletter
8-Jul	Hutt Valley	Reply re age category
20-Jul	All Clubs, judges and scrutineers	Rule Books
19-Aug	Gold Coast NZ Ramblers Ramblers, Central Otago, L & P Rockers, Hawkes Bay, New Plymouth, River City	MP3 Songs Senior Team Song Entry Acknowledgement
20-Aug	Memphis Rockers & Gracelands Memphis Rockers	Entry Acknowledgement Top Club Song
26-Aug	Memphis Rockers, Christchurch, Tauranga, Kapi Mana & Drifters	Entry Acknowledgement
27-Aug	Whakatane, Wellington & Hutt Valley	Entry Acknowledgement
30-Aug	John Williams, Wanganui Whakatane	Rule Books Senior & Top Club songs

31-Aug	Harbour City, City of Sails, Invercargill, Whangarei, Drifters All Clubs	Entry Acknowledgement Open Triples
3-Sep	City of Sails Nationals organiser Debra Norton Hawkes Bay	Badge count and queries Reply re Jnr dancing up Reply re Late entry Novelty
5-Sep	Invercargill	Reply re Junior Novelty
16-Sep	All Clubs, Judges & Scrutineers	September Newsletter
Outwards Cont.		
18-Sep	Bush COS, Invercargill, Hutt Valley, Bob Mazoyer, Kapi Mana, Tauranga, Harbour City, Wellington, Robert Ropiha, Whakatane, Christchurch, Westside (H Blackburn) River City, Dunedin, M Gray, Rotorua (Donna Mason), Surf City, Hawkes Bay, Sun City, New Plymouth, Gold Coast NZ, Timaru, Wanganui, Julie Dietsch, Kaiapoi, Top of the South	Affiliation Trophy Presenters
24-Sep	Attending Clubs team managers	Team Managers Information
18-Oct	Timaru	CD set
29-Oct	Rock'n'Roll Live Northland	Funding Letter
31-Oct	Timaru	Reply Club Colours
31-Oct	T Holman	Reply re Website
	All clubs, Judges & Scrutineers	October Newsletter
	Phil Jenkins	Scrutineering acknowledgement
	City of Sails Nationals organiser, Helen Cowie, Brenda Simmons, Paula Richter, Lian Cross & Rob Connor	Thanks for officiating Senior Nationals
13-Nov	Geyserland RnR	Reply re club colours
20-Dec	Drifters	Top Club CD

Accounts Received

20-Mar	Awards trophies NZ Post	Trophies and medals Box fee
4-Apr	WCC	Certificates
2-May	WCC	Judges Sheets
1-Aug	Copy Print	Rule Books
26-Aug	Ramblers	Reimbursement Workshop
3-Oct	WCC	Certificates
7-Dec	WCC	Judges Sheets

NZARNR Association President's Report 2014

To Fellow Executive, Delegates and Members of the Association welcome to our 30th Annual General Meeting.

30 years of dedicated development to our rules and guidelines is portrayed in the outstanding national events we have today.

Outside the National events, the Executive have met twice in Christchurch and once in Wellington. I thank Brenda and Dennis Neill for making their home available to us. Meetings were able to be scaled down due to the experience of the Executive and we are able to discuss and finalise so much by email. With a newer Executive this may have to be revisited as necessary.

Both Nationals were well attended, and City of Sails and Wanganui's hospitality will be well remembered. Both events displayed great fellowship and camaraderie, as well as some excellent dancing.

We have this year been able to elevate four Judges to National Level and having worked with them at Juniors I can say that Rock and Roll is in good hands going forward. I acknowledge the retirement of Colleen Jeffrey from Judging and sincerely thank her, as a friend whom I trained with, a past Head Judge, an organiser of Nationals and a dancer, for her commitment to the Association.

Nationals run smoothly due to the expertise of the officials we engage to do many roles. These people give their time freely and in some cases it is their way of giving back what they get out of rock and roll. This of course all starts at club level. As we get busier in our everyday life, I urge everyone to support their clubs and enjoy what Rock and Roll has to offer. That does not have to be as a competitor, there are many facets to the organisation for which your involvement will be rewarded.

It was with great sadness that we said farewell our MC extraordinaire Rob Connolly with his passing last July. He was a rock and roller from way back, a good kiwi bloke and a devoted Dad. He is missed throughout New Zealand at local and National events. I sincerely thank Rob Connor for stepping in and doing a sterling job at COS seniors and Robin Moore, for making himself available if needed. We have become a little vulnerable in this area, especially if Rob and Robin wish to dance, but after Juniors we now know that Mr Darren Bailey was born for the role and the Executive are pursuing a few other options for the future.

It has been a busy year and I commend the Executive on their efficiency to handle what ever has been put their way by communicating, following procedures, and supporting each other, to ensure good outcomes for all.

At the time of writing this report Shane Taurima is not seeking re-election as Head Judge. The Judges have respected and valued Shane's unquestionable input in to role, and we have worked together to keep the lines of communication open with the Judges for the betterment of Rock and Roll. I know he will be available to the new Head Judge and the Association to seek advice from whenever needed. My sincere thanks Shane.

My personal thanks to:

- All clubs, for your support to the Executive Committee making the running of Nationals "run like clockwork".
- To all the officials involved in the running of nationals whom I have had the pleasure of working with over many years.
- My friends and family for their tireless support, to allow me the freedom to enjoy and participate at Executive level.

I wish everyone all the best for the future and thank you delegates, for your time here today.

Kind Regards,

Jan Morgan
President

AGM 2014 Head Judges Report

Judges:

It has been a very rewarding year with Ashley Feck, Stacy Grootjans, Leila Maaka and Korena Wharepapa-Vulu, progressing to National Association status. Our congratulations to them for their diligence and commitment in completing the Judging criteria.

We have sadly fare welled two retiring Judges, Colleen Jeffrey and Steve Swale. Our sincere thanks to them for their support and involvement in both club and national level over many years.

Workshops:

The year started well with good attendance by Judges at the August/September workshops. This round of workshops focused on a new judging sheet detailing the breakdown of points, revisiting the Best Dressed guidelines and rules and Top Club and Senior Team events.

Nationals:

Senior Nationals was hosted by City of Sails in their usual 'come to expect' entertaining fashion and the all competitors out did themselves in standard and presentation. The finals were so closely contended that the anticipation at presentation time was immense. Meeting with the judges during the weekend for quick debriefs proved to be valuable and I think maintained the consistency of the judging throughout.

Junior Nationals in Wanganui was a "hospitality plus" event, and proved to be a challenging experience for the judges to test their skills in allocating points and more so determining placings in the finals

Upon assessment of the sheets, the judging was consistent and while some of the finals were a mixed result with count backs to rule 11, it shows the closeness of the competitors at final stage.

With a workshop scheduled for the Friday afternoon for those officiating, it gave everyone a chance to meet and discuss any prior issues or queries they may have had. I commend all present on the forthright discussions that took place. The main reason for holding a workshop at this time was to discuss the new type of judging sheet that was to be used. Unfortunately the end result of discussions with the Judges, was not to proceed with the sheet in this instance because of the time taken to complete each section.

I believe these sheets will be a value tool for the future in training and workshop exercises.

General:

It is heartening to see that the overwhelming majority of judges are either extremely happy or content with their judging. I believe the judges and the judging system is working well. Good communication seems to be the key to this result as it is what we have worked to achieve over the last 6 or so years.

It is with regret that Shane is standing down from the Head Judges role, but I am sure he will still be actively involved as a Judge and always available to call upon for discussions and advice. I know he would wish everyone, especially the trainees he has worked with over the last year all the best for the upcoming year and thank all those who over the past few months have offered him support and friendship.

My thanks to all the hosting clubs that have hosted workshops and nationals over the last year and the Judges for their time and input into the Association.

Thank you

Jan Morgan
Acting Head Judge