



New Zealand Amateur Rock'n'Roll Association Inc.



22 April 2025

Dear Club Secretaries,

We are writing to inform you of an important decision regarding the format of the 2026 National Championships. Following thorough consideration and in close consultation with the host club, Wellington, the Executive Committee has resolved to combine the Junior and Senior Nationals into a single event to be held over Labour Weekend 2026.

This decision was not made lightly. From the outset, the Executive's goal was to preserve the Junior Nationals as a standalone event. However, it has become increasingly clear that this model is no longer viable or sustainable. Currently, only 8 of our 26 affiliated clubs have juniors actively competing, and recent Junior Nationals have seen just 27 to 31 total entries. These numbers do not support the continuation of a separate Junior Nationals in its current form.

We acknowledge the concerns and valid reasons previously raised regarding the preference for separate events. However, the current situation necessitates action. At the 2024 Junior Nationals alone the association incurred a financial loss of \$10,167. Declining junior participation not only jeopardizes the viability of individual sections but also imposes a significant financial strain on both the host club and the association.

By consolidating the events, we aim to preserve a competitive platform for our junior dancers, while providing all clubs the opportunity to focus on rebuilding junior participation. With collective effort and support, we are optimistic that we will be able to reinstate separate Junior and Senior National Championships in future years.

We are sharing this update ahead of the AGM to allow clubs time to reflect on the decision and engage in internal discussions. We encourage all delegates to bring feedback from their clubs to the AGM so we can hold a constructive and informed conversation on how best to support junior development moving forward.

Additionally, a Special General Meeting (SGM) will be held on **Sunday, 20 July 2025, at 10 AM** to discuss and approve any necessary changes to the rule book in order to accommodate the combined format. The remits for the SGM will be sent to your club secretary post AGM.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and understanding.

Your NZARRA Executive Committee Theresa, Chloe, Neva, Malcolm and Dianne

And on behalf of the Wellington Rock'n'Roll Club

NZARRA President

Wellington President