

MINUTES OF SWIMMING NELSON MARLBOROUGH INC. 107th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 13 August 2017, 10 a.m.

Richmond Town Hall

Present:

Hamish Neill	Deputy Chair	Susie Foster	Treasurer/NLS
Jim Sinner	Registrar	Christine Fisk	BSC
Phil McMath	BSC	Sarah Woodhouse	BSC
Sean Trengrove	NLS	Margaret Young	NLS
Steve Malthus	WMA	Ivon Clemett	BSC
Mandy Bishop	TAS	Lorraine McMath	BSC
Melinda Baigent	TAS	Mandy Thomas	TAS
Lees Seymour	TAS	Dave Hall	NLS
Philippa Thain	MOT	Jacob Northage	NLS
Mark Lile	NLS	Fiona Lulham	NLS
Eileen Kelly	WMA		

Chair of AGM

Hamish Neill, Deputy Chair of SNM, opened the meeting and welcomed all.

Hamish noted that Steve Fryer, Chair of SNM, was unable to be present. The Constitution provides for the AGM to elect another Board member to chair the AGM.

Moved to elect Hamish Neill to chair the AGM. Phil McMath/Sarah Woodhouse/carried

1) Welcome to Voting Representatives, Roll Call and Notice of Voting Rights

Hamish read the names of Voting Representatives and the number votes to be exercised by each club. The Voting Representatives and number of votes are:

Blenheim (95)	Sarah Woodhouse
Golden Bay (80)	<i>no delegate present</i>
Kaikoura (21)	<i>no delegate present</i>
Motueka (46)	Philippa Thain
Murchison (0)	<i>no delegate present</i>
Nelson South (99)	Sean Trengrove
Tasman (111)	Mandy Thomas
Waimea (60)	Steve Malthus

Moved to confirm the Voting Representatives as named

Moved Mandy Bishop/Sarah Woodhouse
Carried

The number of votes present was therefore 411. A majority was 206 and a special majority (2/3) was 274.

2) Late distribution of draft accounts

Hamish noted that the draft accounts were distributed late. The Constitution provides for the AGM to proceed despite this if the AGM passes a motion to do so, which must achieve a special majority (2/3 of votes present).

Moved: To approve that this AGM proceed despite the late distribution of the draft accounts

Moved Hamish Neill/Phil McMath/*Carried unanimously*

3) Apologies

Apologies were received from Stephen Fryer, Jos Pattison, Steve Fox, Eric Peterson, Lindie Nelson

Moved that the apologies be accepted

4) Minutes of the One Hundred and Sixth Annual General Meeting

Moved that the minutes of the 106th AGM be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting

Susie Foster/Christine Fisk

Carried

5) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6) Consideration of SNM Annual Financial Statements, Statement of Accounts, and draft Budget

Susie presented the accounts. Compared to the previous year, large grants had inflated our income, e.g. starting blocks, pool hire and medals. We also received funds from SNZ on behalf of Makos Committee for Zonals and, at the end of the financial year, not all had been paid out to swimmers. The underlying surplus is about \$5000 or \$6000 after allowing for unusual income and expenses.

Hamish asked whether 25% was the appropriate rate of depreciation for starting blocks. Susie responded that she had checked other regions (including Auckland) and found that 25% was the standard rate.

Fiona asked whether there are plans to use the funds sitting in the “combined clubs” account for several years. Hamish replied that coaches have been asked for suggestions but nothing has been confirmed. Jim said that clubs can make suggestions. It was noted that swimmers might like to offer ideas.

Moved to approve the unaudited Annual Financial Statements and Statement of Accounts, subject to independent review

Susie Foster/ Steve Malthus

Carried

7) Consideration of SNM Inc Annual Report

Jim commented on the graphs in the report showing membership numbers and performance at South Island and national meets.

Mandy Bishop summarised the performance on our KPIs – mostly achieved, with some longer term actions being works in progress.

Susie commented on the KPI “increase revenue”. This is not possible this year because swimmers are now registering online, whereas all registration income used to come via SNM even though most of it was passed on to SNZ.

Hamish thanked Mandy for her significant contribution to the Board, especially in overseeing the Strategic Plan and KPIs for the past few years.

Moved to approve the 107th Annual Report of Swimming Nelson Marlborough Inc

Melinda Baigent/Phil McMath

Carried

8) Tabling of Annual Report and Annual Financial Statements from Clubs

Reports were received from:

- a) Blenheim
- b) Kaikoura
- c) Motueka
- d) Murchison
- e) Nelson South

- f) Tasman
- g) Waimea

Moved to receive the Annual Reports and Financial Statements submitted by Clubs

Hamish Neill/Christine Fisk

Carried

9) Election of Board

The following Board nominations have been received:

- a) Blenheim: Sarah Woodhouse
- b) Tasman: Lees Seymour

Moved that, there being two vacancies and 2 nominations, that Sarah Woodhouse and Lees Seymour be declared elected to the Board of Swimming Nelson Marlborough

Hamish Neill/Melinda Baigent

Carried

Hamish thanked Phil for his contribution to the Board, especially obtaining and implementing the touchpads and timing system, helping to organise events in Blenheim, and for being a calm and considered voice during difficult discussions. The AGM gave a round of applause.

Expressions of interest in the Management Committee

Hamish enquired whether there is anyone interested in joining the SNM Management Committee, noting that appointments are made by the Board.

Expressions of interest were received from: Sarah Woodhouse of Blenheim SC.
Next meeting of Mgmt Cmte will be on 12 Sept.

10) Announcement of Service and Honours Awards

Awards Committee member Margaret Young announced the following awards:

Recognition: Mandy Bishop, Melinda Baigent, Ben Knight, George McKenzie, Mark Daldorf, Kathy Daldorf

Service: Susie Foster

Honours: Lorraine McMath, Phil McMath

Life Membership: Jim Sinner, Lindie Nelson

Moved that the new life members be confirmed Hamish Neill/Susie Foster/carried

11) Consideration of other items of business

Two items of business were received from Clubs, one from Nelson South and one from Tasman. These were accepted by the Board and circulated prior to the meeting. The remits were similar but differed in asking to move to the All Stars zone for Juniors only (Nelson South) or for all zonal matters (Tasman).

Sean Trengrove introduced and explained the Nelson South remit.

Sarah W asked if this would be a temporary move while Chch rebuilds its pool etc. Sean replied that it was intended as an indefinite move, but that did not preclude it from being revisited in the future, eg when Chch has a new pool.

Steve M asked if this would affect swimmers wanting to attend the SI Country & Town meet. Sean replied this remit was only to address the Juniors festival.

Mandy Thomas spoke to the Tasman remit. The remit and logic are similar to the Nelson South remit, but Tasman wants to extend this to the NZ Zonal meet as well as Juniors.

Tasman's remit is motivated by the numbers of Juniors eligible for the Makos festival (fewer compared to All Stars Junior Festival in Wellington) as well as the cost of travel to Dunedin.

Jim asked about whether our swimmers would still attend the SI Champs, given that it would no longer be the selection meet for All Stars Zonals. Hamish noted that any regional championship meet will qualify for selection for Zonals, so yes, our swimmers could still attend the SI Champs.

Hamish explained the background to SNM being in the Makos zone—we were originally in the All Stars zone when zones were created in 2013, but that year's All Stars selection meet clashed with SI Champs, which we were hosting. We asked SNZ for temporary dispensation to be in Makos zone. This was granted and it has never been changed.

Hamish also commented on the qualifying times for Juniors and SIC&T etc, noting that the Makos Cmte set the qualifying times for Juniors so as not to undermine SIC&T and also based on the idea that Juniors should be a top event that swimmers had to strive for, rather than be open to almost any junior swimmer who had some natural talent. In addition, SNM and SCWC pools cannot accommodate more than about 200 junior swimmers. Qualifying times were set taking all of these into account.

Hamish then summarised his recent discussions with Steve Johns, chief executive of SNZ, about the possibility of SNM changing zones. Steve Johns indicated that, if SNM so wished, he would support a move to the All Stars zone either in whole or for Junior Festival only. He also said that he would allow the Makos Committee to determine the venue of future Junior Festivals.

Christine asked if SNM is willing to go to Makos Committee and try to get the Junior Festival back to our region. Hamish and Jim replied yes, if we are still in the Makos zone, although for 2018 it is set for Dunedin.

Ivon asked if perhaps there could be two junior festival meets in SI – one south and one north? Hamish replied that SNZ would need to agree, since it is their meet. Given that they are already hosting four juniors festivals on the same day, they would be unlikely to support a fifth.

Phil asked, would Tasman remit mean that SNM would cease to exist and become part of Swim Wellington? Hamish replied that, no, we would still be a separate region, but within the All Stars zone.

Ivon asked, would we still be able to host the South Island meets: SI Champs, SICT and SISS? Hamish replied that the SI meets are a separate matter to what zone we are in, and up to the four SI regions to decide. There was further discussion about the likelihood of losing hosting of SI meets if the other SI regions decided to exclude us from the rotation. We would hope that this does not occur, but there is some risk.

Sean raised a procedural issue about getting information about discussions with SNZ at the AGM rather than before, which makes it difficult to know how to vote. He suggested that the remits be carried over so that club reps could consult with their club committees.

Lees commented that he didn't think it was possible to carry over the remits. The business of the AGM needs to be concluded at the AGM.

A discussion ensued about how the zone and zonal committee were legally constituted and how this relates to the regional constitution. The Makos zonal committee has no formal legal status. It has been formed and authorised by the four regional boards to make decisions about zonal matters and south island meets, and has a terms of reference. If SNM were to leave the Makos zone, the Makos Committee would need to review its terms of reference because it currently serves as the South Island committee as well as the zonal committee.

Jim clarified that the SNM Board did not require a remit from the AGM to act, and could act on the wishes of clubs if they reached a conclusion at a later date.

Phil suggested that the remits could possibly be withdrawn and a special GM could be convened at a later date. He said that we should get SNZ's position in writing e.g. that we can use Blenheim pool for Junior Festival, and that we can change zones again if we wish, and talk to Makos Committee.

Lees noted that this situation has arisen because we have dissatisfaction from swimmers and families, and we now have some positive response from SNZ. Perhaps we could amend the remit to say that we wish to change zones "unless we get a satisfactory response ..." on certain issues.

Jim commented that the Constitution was silent on whether remits could be amended at the AGM. He suggested that the AGM could pass a unanimous motion to allow a remit to be amended by the club that submitted the remit, before putting the remit to a vote.

Jim also read the provision in the Constitution regarding Special General Meetings and noted that the Management Committee has called a meeting of clubs on 10 September to discuss the swim calendar. A SGM could be held in conjunction with that meeting.

The meeting paused for a tea break at 11:45 to allow club representatives to discuss privately how they wanted to proceed.

Jim Sinner left the meeting at 11:50.

When the meeting resumed, Nelson South reported that it wanted more time to consult with the rest of its committee, and preferred to defer consideration to a SGM held at a later date.

Tasman indicated that it had instructions to submit its remit and was unable to contact the club president to vary these, and therefore considered they needed put the Tasman remit to a vote.

The chair called for a vote on the Tasman remit. Tasman voted in favour. Blenheim, Motueka, Nelson South and Waimea voted against. The motion failed.

Nelson South then withdrew its remit.

Discussion ensued about further consideration of the item of business, including an indication that clubs would like to have an SGM on 10 September, with written information about the Board's discussions with SNZ. The Board will consider this as soon as possible and notify clubs.

Moved that the Board seek further information from SNZ and submit a written contact report to clubs as soon as possible.

Hamish/Phil/*carried*

The meeting closed at 12.20pm