

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting of the National Umpiring Staff of SNZ held at the SNZ office, Hutt City, Saturday 13th June and Sunday 14th June 2009. Issued 24Jun09 – General Distribution

Present: UIC -Wayne Saunders (Chair), NUS - Cass Seeling, Daph Turner & Mark McFarlane; RDU's - Bill Smith, Nicky Ogier; AWM - Wiremu Tamaki; SNZ- Dane Dougan (GM) Fiona Picken (RM).

Opening: Wiremu offered a Mihi Whakatau/Karakia

Apologies: Lindsay Edwards

Bereavements: None reported

Hospital: Ray Le Sueur & Joyce Phillips were still not been in good health.

Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting: Confirmed as a true and sufficient record. Mark/Wiremu

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 1.0 | <u>SNZ - Dane Dougan (General Manager) and Fiona Picken (Relationship Manager)</u> | <u>Action</u> |
| 1.1 | Operational changes: The GM advised of the direction SNZ is leading our sport and the restructuring associated with these changes. Fiona as Relationship Manager is now the new point of contact for umpiring. SNZ's new organisation chart will be forwarded to the UIC. New Regional Game Development Officers have been appointed. RDU's will align with the RGDO's for regional umpire development. | <u>Noted</u>
<u>SNZ</u>
<u>RDU</u> |
| 1.2 | Sponsorship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The GM advised that his sponsorship renewal discussion with Schutt was still WIP. The GM to progress and advise. ■ Private addition sponsorship for umpiring. This worked well last season. UIC advised this was WIP for the 0910 season. Additional discussion took place later in the meeting. It is envisaged that this area of umpire specific sponsorship could be developed with "Friends of Umpiring". Opportunities were identified and will be followed up. | <u>GM</u>
<u>UIC</u>
<u>ALL</u> |
| 1.3 | Umpiring budget: An amended budget has been approved by SNZ and forwarded to UIC for implementation. Basic annual funding is from the general pool plus the umpire registration fee. Umpire specific sponsorship unspent in the current year, with SNZ's approval, be carried forward as these funds need to be realised before expenditure can be apportioned. | <u>UIC/SNZ</u> |
| 1.4 | National Travelling Teams: A written copy of the Umpire Appointment Policy is still WIP. The accepted understanding is that wherever practical & possible an umpire will be appointed to travel with all NZ teams. A component of self funding is likely. | <u>SNZ</u>
<u>Note</u> |
| 1.5 | SNZ International Insurance Policy: SNZ to confirm in writing the extent of coverage as it applies to travelling umpires who have their policy cover. | <u>SNZ</u> |
| 1.6 | National Tournament Daily Allowance: It is recommended to <i>"Abolish the \$5.00 per diem allowance in lieu of provision of feeding & watering the officials by the host associations."</i>
Mark/Wiremu | <u>TBC by</u>
<u>SNZ</u> |
| 1.7 | National Tournament Umpire Appointments: SNZ appointment expectations are <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2 umpires (total) - Junior Secondary Schools ■ 4 umpires (total) - Div II Secondary Schools ■ Target 2 umpires per game - Secondary Schools Div I, U15 & U17 ■ Target 2/ 3 umpires per game - U19 and above. The policy relating to school assigned umpires was discussed and funding concerns were raised. It | |

- was recommended that the names of all school assigned umpires be made available to the TCU at least one week before the said tournament so assignments can be planned in advance. SNZ
- 1.8 **NZ Umpire Records:** Electronic copies of all past Chief Umpire AGM reports are required to complete historical records. Wayne/Wiremu to follow-up with Fiona. SNZ
- 1.9 **SNZ Recommendations to 2009 Congress:** GM advised SNZ has no recommendations to date. It was recommended that SNZ seek an update to the ISF Technical Code for the resolution of a tie after a double round robin play. SNZ
UIC
- 1.10 **SNZ New Rule Book:** New ISF Rule Book effective 1Jan 2010. New SNZ Rule Book planned effective August 2010. (Inclusions to be reviewed green/pink pages as in past, POA to included SNZ specific rule differences) SNZ
UIC
- 1.11 **Pitching Regulations:** Question raised by RM. SNZ ruling - Leaping is acceptable (ISF Rules state that leaping is illegal). It would be beneficial for our National Teams leading into International competition that they pitched off of a plate and rubber mats were not used. This was identified as an issue for SNZ. Noted
SNZ
- 2.0 **Matters Arising**
- 2.1 **SNZ Constitution and By-Laws –** The updated constitution has been circulated. This will be presented at the SZ AGM for acceptance. Update of Bylaws- Control of Umpires WIP by SNZ Email sent to GM
- 2.2 **ISF Rule Books:** New books will be ordered and issue when available. Replacement book to be sent to Cass. Actioned
- 3.0 **SNZ Coaching Staff –Naomi Shaw**
- 3.1 **U15 Pitcher/Catcher Rule –** There was an open discussion on the use of this rule. There had been an issue at one tournament, which may have lead to a forfeit. Naomi explained that this was not an intent outcome. When a possible infringement is brought to the attention of the umpires the umpires will notify the official scorer and the official statistics will be advised to the coaches. Should the coach choose to make a legal change, time will be allowed. No protests for any possible infringement of this rule will be accepted by the umpires and the game will continue under the SNZ Official Rules of Softball. Management of this rule and the handling of any infringement is the responsibility of the SNZ Tournament Representative.
- It was advised that SNZ are currently looking at introducing the same rule for players under 15 playing at other age grade tournaments. When confirmed a new paper on the rule will be issued. Target date is before 31 August. This paper will include two case play examples. SNZ
- The correct notification procedure. Not protestable. Game to continue.
 - Failure to continue. Possible infringements of Official Rules and associated outcome.
 - This rule will be a clinic subject at all preseason regional clinics. RDU's
- 3.2 **Red/Yellow cards –** This subject has been discussed at this meeting a number of times previously. These cards have been tried at local and nation level in the past. They are not used internationally. Game management and the use of the current rules, is seen as a better option. Noted
- 3.3 **Secondary School tournaments:** further to item 1.7 above. To assist with pre-tournament umpire communications please provide the name, email address and phone number of the umpires being SNZ

provided by schools at least one week before each tournament.

4.0 Regional

4.1 **Northern Region** – RDU written report tabled. Annual Reports received from Auckland, Waikato, WBOP, Rotorua and Counties. All reports will be posted to website. An updated report from North Harbour was received post meeting.

Noted

- Bill advised he was able to continue in the role as RDU for next season.
- Grading recommendations. L4 to L5 – Mark Porteous (NH) and Eugene Gilbert (WK) approved. Possible candidates for 0910 discussed.
- Jeff Weber and Mark Porteous will be invited to be assessed for L6 at a U17 NT or above. Approved
- Regional Clinics proposed for North Harbour and Tauranga. Details TBC.

4.2 **Central Region** – Wiremu Tamaki stood in for RDU Lindsay Edwards. RDU written report tabled. Annual Reports received from BP (Turanga), Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, Wellington and Hutt Valley. All reports posted to website.

Noted

- Grading recommendations. L4 to L5 – Phil Packer (HV) approved. Possible candidates for 0910 discussed.
- Regional Clinic at Wanganui. Details TBC.

4.4 **South Island Region** – RDU written report tabled. Annual Reports received from Otago, Central Otago, North Otago, Canterbury, Marlborough and Nelson. All reports posted to website.

Noted

- Grading recommendations. L4 to L5 – No recommendations. Possible candidates for 0910 discussed.
- Rikki Thompson will be invited to be assessed for L6 at a U17 NT or above. Approved
- Lower South Island Regional Clinic at Oamaru. Details TBC
- Upper South Island Regional Clinic at Nelson. Details TBC

4.5 **RDU Appointments** –the current tenure for the existing RDU's is due for regional review before the 2009-10 season. Following discussion the NUS makes the following recommendations for regional consideration and ratification. As recommended at last years NUS meeting at least one assistant to the RDU has been also recommended. (Mark / Cass)

Regions

- RDU (Southern) – Nicola Ogier; Assistant RDU – Dawie Sutton.
- RDU (Central) – Lindsay Edwards; Assistant RDU – Wiremu Tamaki.
- RDU (Northern) – Bill Smith; Assistant RDU – Richard Gale.

4.6 **Associations Contacts List** – RDU's to confirm the 0910 list to Wiremu copied Wayne by 31 July 2009. Level 1 email addresses are also required by Wayne by this date. Wayne to issue updated email list by 3rd week in August to RDU / NUS.

RDU/LA
UIC

5.0 National

5.1 **National Tournament Chief Umpire Reports** – Written reports were received from all TCU's and referred to at the meeting. 08/09 appointments "Yearbook" to be posted to website. The following points are noted.

Noted

- It is each umpires responsibility to complete their Emergency Contacts Detail Form and hand to their TCU. These copies will be destroyed after each tournament.
- L3/4 Grading certificates were not ready for issue at this year's tournaments. These certificates are now available and were issued to the RDU's for presentation at a suitable regional occasion. Certificates for grading adjustments at this meeting will be sent.

- 5.2 **Grading Reviews** – Three practical assessments were undertaken at this season’s National tournament. Grading Recommendations. L5 to L6 – Richard Gale (NH) and Liz Kawana (MN) Confirmed. Noted
- 5.3 **Trans Tasman Exchange** – following discussion a short list of candidates to be invited agreed. UIC to confirm availability for selection following receipt of National Tournament applications.
- 5.4 **NZ Umpire Annual Registration Fee** - All active umpires L3 and above on the 2008-09 grading list with the exception those umpires in these grades listed as administrators (A) will be included on the list of umpires required to pay the 2008-09 Registration Fee. This list to be emailed to LA’s, RDU’s and NUS before 8 August 2009. LA’s are to liaise with their RDU about any adjustments (additions or deletions) before the 31 August 2009. RDU’s to advise UIC of any adjustments prior to the list being sent to SNZ for invoicing in September 2009. All payments are to be returned to SNZ by 31 October 2009 and prior to the finalization of the National Tournament appointments. UIC
LA
SNZ
- 5.5 **SNZ Umpire Distinguish Service Awards** – In the second year of this award (2009) up to eight nominations can be confirmed. Awards shall be limited twenty in total, with no more than three awards being made in any one year hereafter. Policy confirmed. Sub-committee submitted nine nominations. One nomination was declined at this meeting. The eight nominations were confirmed and will be forwarded to SNZ for confirmation and announcement. Moved: Daph/Bill. A brief resumes from the Sub-committee is to be provided to accompany each nomination. Bill/Daph
- 5.6 **Miscellaneous Awards** – for the record
- 2008 SNZ Umpire of the Year and Softballer of the Year – Wiremu Tamaki
 - 2009 Sport Wellington Official of the Year – Wiremu Tamaki
 - 2009 WBOP Softball Association – Most Outstanding Contribution Award – Cass Seeling
 - Local chief umpires please advise of any provincial or local awards to be added. Future awards are requested to be added to LA reports
- 5.7 **NZ Committee Responsibilities:**
- Finance and Budget** - UIC/GM
- Sponsorship** - UIC/GM (Glen Nalepa) Also refer item 1.2
- Annual Rules Examination and Refresher** – Nicky assisted by Mark
- National Tournament Appointments, Accommodation and Travel** – UIC
- National League Appointments, Travel and Accommodation** – UIC assisted by RDU’s
- External and Internal International Appointments** - UIC assisted by NUS. It is note that the current process is transparent and works very well.
- TCU Toolbox** – Wiremu/Wayne
- RDU Liaison/Regional Clinic Schedule** - Cass
- International and ISF** – UIC/SNZ and ISF sub-committee appointees
- Website Manager** - Wiremu. Assistant Rikki Thompson
- Level 7 Group** - Lindsay, Mark, Wiremu, Nicky and Glen. (Rotation option to considered 2010)
- Rulebook Reprint** – SNZ assisted by Wayne/Bill
- 5.8 **Annual Rules Examination and Refresher**
- Examination Date: Monday 12 October 2009. Policy documents to be updated UIC
 - Checkers: Wiremu, Lindsay and Bill.
 - Exam Review. Comments to be back no later than 1 September 2009.
 - L2/3 results required for National Tournament appointments by 27 October 2009.

- Notice to be emailed to L1 umpires and/or Associations / Clubs by [20 September 2009](#) inviting them to sit examination and advising that the examination will be emailed direct to them on [Monday 12 October 2009](#)
- Answer sheet to be posted at the [end of November](#). Local Chief Umpires may request a copy earlier
- Examination requirement. All badge examinees (L4) must sit the exam in the year of examination and gain a 70% pass mark. To be reinforced at the local clinics.

RDU's

RDU/LA

5.9 National Tournament Applications

- Applications Forms to be emailed to associations [early September 2009](#). Returns from associations to Wayne [by Friday 2 October 2009](#).
- Appointment and travel schedule to be emailed to associations and SNZ [early November 2009](#). Associations will be responsible for advising their members and advising Wayne immediately of any change requests. SNZ to confirm accommodation.

5.10 National Tournaments and National Tournament Chief Umpires 2009/2010

TOURNAMENT	VENUE	START	FINISH	TCU
SS Jnr NI	Manawatu	30.11.09 Sat	03.12.09 Thu	Ray Dyason
SS Jnr SI	Otago	30.11.09 Sat	03.12.09 Thu	Dawie Sutton
New Div 2				
NC Men and Women	TBC	27.12.09 Sun	30.12.09 Thu	Wayne Saunders
Under 19 Girls	Hutt Valley	03.01.10 Sun	06.01.10 Wed	Daph Turner
Under 19 Boys	North Harbour	08.01.10 Fri	11.01.09 Mon	Bill Smith
Under 15 Girls (NI)	Manawatu	14.01.10 Thu	17.01.10 Sun	Wiremu Tamaki
Under 15 Boys (NI)	Counties	14.01.10 Thu	17.01.10 Sun	Bill Smith
Under 15 Boys & Girls (SI)	North Otago	14.01.10 Thu	17.01.10 Sun	Nicky Ogier
Under 17 Girls	Waikato	21.01.10 Thu	24.01.10 Sun	Cass Seeling
Under 17 Boys	Nelson	21.01.10 Thu	24.01.10 Sun	Mark McFarlane
Women's Open Club	Wellington	10.03.09 Wed	13.03.09 Sat	Daph Turner
Men's Open Club	Canterbury	17.03.09 Tue	21.03.09 Sat	Wayne Saunders
SS Div 1	Hawkes Bay	22.03.10 Mon	26.03.10 Fri	Lindsay Edwards
SS Div 2 NI	Wanganui	25.03.10 Thu	28.03.10 Sun	Ray Dyason
SS Div 2 SI	Otago	25.03.10 Thu	28.03.10 Sun	TBA

5.11 Website Review - facilitated by Wiremu

- **Overview** and where we are heading. How do we capture the future and encapsulate the history? Further ideas on presentation to increase user friendliness.
- **Articles** for web presentation must be sent to Wayne for final approval prior to web publication.
- **Skype** usage maybe a worth further investigation.
- **More photos** are welcome. Mark to take on the task to assist Wiremu and Rikki.
- **Umpires history** will be published to the website once finalized.
- **TCU Toolbox** - there is still some extra work to be done on the content presentation. WIP
- **Appointment programme** – Nicky demonstrated an XL appointments programme that is available for use by TCU's. This can be directly copied into the TCU appointment record for end of year reporting. This programme will be available from the TCU Toolbox

[Each umpire with a Career Review posted to the website is requested to update their review before 30 September. L6 and L7 umpires who have not submitted their Career Review are requested to do](#)

All

so by the same date. New – a home for L6 and below Career Reviews.

6.0 International

6.1 **ISF Certification** – the next Oceania ISF Certification Clinic is scheduled for early 2011 in Australia. ISF has updated the application form and expects all candidates to be well prepared before attending. Possible candidates for the 2011 and the future 2014 clinic were discussed. It was resolved that an invitation to participate in the lead-in programme for attendance at the 2011 clinic be sent to Rikki Tourangi (AK), Mark Porteous (NH), Tara Harris (HV), Jeremy England (WN) and Dave Shedlock (WN).

UIC

6.2 **Provisional International Calendar** – proposed calendar as received from Megan Harlick.

- Nov 2009 – White Sox Gillies Shield (weekend 1)
 - Dec 2009 – White Sox Gillies Shield (weekend 2)
 - Jan 2010 – White Sox Gillies Shield (weekend 3)
 - Jan 2010 - ISF Women's World Championships Oceania qualifier (TBC)
 - Mar 2010 – White Sox tri series (Australia and Japan TBC)
 - Jun 2010 – White Sox depart for World champs build up
 - Jul 2010 – White Sox at Canada Cup, White Sox at ISF World Championships
 - Jnr Black Sox/Jnr White Sox will undertake some form of activity Jun/Aug. (TBC)
 - Black Sox – no programme beyond World Championships (TBC)
- Moved - NZ accept an Australian offer to send an umpire to each weekend of Gillies Shield. When details are confirmed, nominations will be called in a timely manner by SNZ.

6.3 **ISF Committee activity** – further to the previously distributed minutes of the ISF Regional Coordinators meeting held Feb 2009 at Plant City, USA a number of items were discussed. Members of the NUS have been involved in ISF activities as listed below.

Noted

- **Rule box**- is an online rule Q/A programme. Participation is accessible to individuals who are required to pay an annual participation fee to the provider. Multi-level statistical reports are available at approved National and International level. This programme has the potential to provide a fully International Rules Q/A system. Wayne, Wiremu and Nicky involved with review process at National Federation level.
- **Mechanics** - tasked initially to review and comment on the current ISF 3/4 umpire mechanics and report to the Regional Co-coordinators meeting at Plant City. Outcomes include recommendations to the ISF Congress and a request to National Federations to reply to ISF DoU on an overview of their use of 5umpire mechanics. NUS members who have been involved with 5 umpire mechanics are requested to reply to UIC by Friday 19 June. NZ 5umpire experience – South Pacific Christchurch 1997; ISC WT 2004, 2006, 2008; Women's and Men's Open 2009. Wayne involved as Co-Chair.
- **Rules** – Nicky involved as committee member.
- **Education** – Wiremu involved as committee member.
- **Women in Umpiring**– Nicky involved as committee member.

6.4 Oceania

- **Samoa** - Lance Brown is undertaking a collection of pre-owned umpiring gear for gifting to the Samoan Umpiring programme RDU's are requested to collect any donations from within their region and contact Lance.
- **Umpiring Opportunities** – with reference to the forthcoming ISF certification Clinic. NZ would like to extend an invitation to Oceania umpires to attend a SNZ National Tournament to as part of their preparation. The U19 Boys at North Harbour is the recommended tournament.

RDU's
Lance

Wiremu offered a Karakia.
Meeting Closed 3:09pm



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