

Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting of the National Umpiring Staff of SNZ held at SNZ Offices, Sat 18th June and Sunday 19th June commencing at 9am each day.

Present: Wiremu Tamaki (WT), Lindsay Edwards (LE), Jeremy England (JE), Eugene Gilbert (EG), Mark Porteous (MP), Dave Beaumont (DB), Gavin Shepherd (GS), Lance Brown (LB), Dave Fortin (DF), Kevin Gorman (KG).

Apologies: Mark McFarlane (MM).

Opening: Wiremu offered the mihi whakatau and welcomed all.

Notified bereavements: BJ Wairau, Willie Fenton (Janine Gorman's father).

Health Updates: Billy Smith – doing okay and in good spirits, Elva Dyason (Ray's wife) – doing very well, Joe Okada – doing fine.

Minute recording: Eugene Gilbert/Dave Beaumont/Wiremu Tamaki

1.0	Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting Confirmed as true and sufficient record. LE/MP	Action
1.1	Matters Arising NUS Voting Procedure for Overseas Appointments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseas Appointments are selected through current ranking system. UIC has the casting vote if it is tied between two or more applicants. • MOTION – If the UIC is one of the applicants then the UIC is ineligible for the casting vote. The rankings of the tied applicants will be determined by the years of ISF experience, the more experienced will get the higher ranking. Carried. 	
2.0	National Umpiring Staff (NUS)	
2.1	NUS Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WT welcomed the assistant RDUs to the meeting and signalled that we would be making more use of their role in sharing the load of our umpiring programme. 	Add assistant RDUs to NUS communication group list
3.0	Strategic Planning	
3.1	Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LE acknowledged introduction and instigation of the strategic plan by WT • WT provided an overview of the plan and time line for delivery of the set objectives. Pathways objective underway with committee formed. 	WT to monitor progress and commence recruitment for the recruitment objective.
4.0	Regional	
4.1	Reports – Regional Directors of Umpiring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of regional reports given by RDUs • Major themes captured under TCU themes below in section 6.1 • RDU at large (LB) reported on his role in terms of assisting RDUs, UICs & TCUs. Responsible for training seminars. • RDUs provided umpire recommendations for evaluation 2016/2017 captured in section 5.2 	
4.2	Regional Clinics for 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern – Counties Manukau – September 17/18 • Central – Manawatu – September 17/18 • Te Waipounamu – two clinics – Invercargill and Christchurch – dates to be confirmed. 	
5.0	Umpire Development	
5.1	Level Five Recommendations endorsed and certified	RDUs to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heath Walker (NH) • Shirley Harvey (NN) • Ben Horn (WN) 	communicate endorsement and congratulations to member.
5.2	<p>Recommendations for Evaluation – 2016/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level Six – Rebecca Taylor (BP). The following umpire requires Rule Box enrolment and must attain required mark for Level Six to be eligible for evaluation - Robin Griffiths (CB). • Level Five - Heidi Leathart (AK), Leon Hopa (SL), Jill Farquhar (SL), Mark Andrell (SL), Kam Meng Kwong (WK), Tamati Montgomery. The following umpires require Rule Box enrolment and must attain required mark for Level Five to be eligible for evaluation – Karen Beaumont (CB), Terry Whittaker (HB), Keith Marsh (HV), and Shaun Poata (NH). • Level Four - Nazreen Hihi (TR) • Level Three - Tayne Akurangi (TR), Api Takoko (TR), Jason Tamanui (TR) 	WT to confirm recommendations with candidates.
5.3	<p>Talent Pool The purpose of the Talent Pool is to plan for the future and set up pathways and career development for those identified.</p> <p>Northern Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robbie Sadgrove, Tama Howard, Heath Walker, Kam Meng Kwong, Tamati Montgomery, Heidi Leathart, Rebecca Taylor, Shaun Poata, Geoffrey Simmonds. <p>Central Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Horn, Keith Marsh, William Sadlier, Tom Kingi, Ben Dyason, <p>Te Waipounamu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jill Farquhar, Dennis Ormsby, Karen Beaumont, Leon Hopa, Mark Andrell, Heath Lyttle, Robin Griffiths <p>Level Six</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy McManus , Brydon Wells, Kevin Gorman, John Hickman, Les Haslam, Chris Radford, Dave Beaumont, Rikki Thompson. 	<p>LE to engage with members and assign mentors.</p> <p>WT to contact members and seek EOI for ISF certification.</p>
6.0	National	
6.1	<p>National Tournaments - TCU Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umpire/coach conversations/interactions far too long • Homework required on rules, basic mechanics, rotations, plate and base set ups. • Noticeable under performance from some Level 3/4/5 umpires • Assessor framework required. Assessor to be higher than those being assessed. • Bat checks – initial teething issues but generally worked very well. Recommend a small team work this task. Ensure bat lists are available and up to date and on website. Implement LB’s testing documentation process. • ATCU roles assisting the TCU highly endorsed. Try to get the combinations right. • All u15/u17 national tournaments to have at least one L7 umpire on the umpiring roster to foster coaching/mentoring, culture, feedback and support. 	<p>RDU to incorporate key themes into regional clinics.</p> <p>Create a TCU Handbook – task to be assigned.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Withdrawals from tournaments are becoming more prevalent. Places a strain on the team, administration, pre booked travel and accommodation • Managers' meetings to include strong messaging around bad behaviour at national tournaments will not be tolerated. Umpires to enforce game management. Use the managers meeting to set the tone. • New bat stickers required to discourage tampering. • Introduce 5th Umpire (line-up changes) – look to trial it. • Review tournament Handbook – review rules around roster changes at plate meeting. • Need for a more proactive level of support from local umpires at national tournaments i.e. laundry. • TCU's to be more vigilant with their appointments when dealing with back to back games, conditions and daylight savings. • TCU's to be more aware of the new Health and Safety legislation. 	<p>National tournament application process to incorporate messaging regarding withdrawals from tournaments – LE</p> <p>WT to liaise with SNZ on tournament handbook and resources (stickers)</p>
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6.2 **National Tournaments & Tournament chief Umpires 2016/17**

2016/17 Tournament	Abbrev.	Park	City	Date/s	TCU ATCU
NZ Junior Sec School Championships	JSS	Resthills Park	Hamilton	Mon 21 - Thurs 24 Nov 2016	Cass Seeling TBC / Kevin Gorman
Temperzone NZ U19 Boys Championships	U19B	Akina Park	Hastings	Thur 5 – Sun 8 January 2017	Lance Brown / Darrel Paul
NZ U19 Girls Championships	U19G	Mainland Foundation	Christchurch	Thur 5 – Sun 8 January 2017	Dave Fortin / Dave Beaumont
Nth Island U15 Boys Championships	U15B NI	Waikirikiri Reserve	Gisborne	Thurs 12 – Sun 15 January 2017	Gavin Shepherd / TK
Nth Island U15 Girls Championships	U15G NI	Haitaitai Park	Wellington	Thurs 12 – Sun 15 January 2017	Jeremy England / Tara Harris
Sth Island U15 Boys & Girls Championships	U15 BG SI	Ellis Park	Dunedin	Thurs 12 – Sun 15 January 2017	Ricky Thompson / David Fortin
NZ U17 Boys Championships	U17B	Prince Edward Park	Papakura	Thur 19 – Sun 22 January 2017	Kevin Gorman / Cass Seeling TBC
NZ U17 Girls Championships	U17G	Colquhoun Park	Palmerston North	Thur 19 – Sun 22 January 2017	Ray Dyason / Gavin Shepherd
National Fastpitch Championship	NFC	Fraser Park	Lower Hutt	Thur 16 – Sun 22 February 2017	Mark MacFarlane TBC / Wiremu Tamaki
NZ Open Men's Clubs Championships	MO	Mainland Foundation	Christchurch	Wed 15 – Sun 19 March 2017	Lindsay Edwards / Mark McFarlane TBC

	NZ Open Women's Clubs Championships	WO	Meadowlands Reserve	Auckland	Thur 16 – Sun 19 March 2017	Wiremu Tamaki / Mark Porteous
	Div 1 Sec School Boys & Girls Championships	SSD1	Rosedale Park	North Harbour	Mon 27 – Fri 31 March 2017	Lance Type / Les Haslam / Chris Radford - TBC
	Div 2 Nth Island Sec School Boys & Girls Championships	SSD2N	Fraser Park	Lower Hutt	Tues 28 – Fri 31 March 2017	Dennis Smith / TBC
	Div 2 Sth Island Sec School Boys & Girls Championships	SSD2S	Saxton Fields	Nelson	Tues 28 – Fri 31 March 2017	Mark Andrell TBC / Dave Beaumont
6.3	National Tournament Application Process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application process brought forward to June/July. Dates to be communicated in a separate communication process. Database of national game tallies, grading and history records to be updated. 					LE – National Convenor, LB and WT
7.0	Annual Rules Test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brought forward to April to enable the NUS to better manage its processes and make informed decisions with real time data. Two tiered test testing levels 1-3 (25 questions) in one process and levels 4-7 (100 questions) in the other. By the numbers - 96 people submitted a rules test paper for marking. Average mark 83.92. Top three areas submitting a rules test paper – Tairāwhiti, Wanganui and North Harbour. 49 umpires level four and above are eligible to couple their rules test paper to a national tournament application. Good constructive debate and discussion on the rules test, the makeup, target audience and solutions to continually improve on it going forward. DB and LE to remain as checkers. 					LE to discuss with the Rules Convenor the NUS's strategy and expectations.
8.0	Softball New Zealand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rewrite SNZ bat policy to phase out ASA bats within the next five years. WBSC-SD bats to become the normal standard in SNZ national tournaments. Health and Safety – SNZ to research concussion protocols with different codes/sports SNZ to factor into all external tours a consideration to include an umpire for learning and development purposes. The term of one of the DDU roles is due to expiry. Seek to advertise. SNZ International Series – March 8 2017 – five day tournament. Finer details unconfirmed. Discussion about timing of this event and the impact it will have on our national tournaments – men's and women's open and secondary schools. Great opportunity for our internal ISF umpires. 					Policy to be reviewed. Task to be assigned. Task to be assigned EG and WT EG and WT EG and WT to work through logistics
9.0	Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SNZ Umpire of the Year - nomination requests to go out to 					EG and WT

	<p>umpiring fraternity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNZ Umpire Distinguished Services Award – Kevin Gorman nominated and endorsed for the DSA. To be presented at the next regional clinic. Frame to be organised. 	EG and WT. WT to provide NUS with history record.
10.0	<p>Other Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel policy – led by DB, an in depth discussion on the current situation and how realistic it is. Also introduced the impacts of the Health and Safety legislation on us as volunteer officials. • National convention – tagged for September 2017 replacing the regional clinics • ISF Fitness Test to be communicated to level six and seven umpires • Code of Conduct – led by MP, keeping in line with delivering quality umpiring a code of conduct is necessary for our umpires. Draft document introduced for discussion. • BLK – new sponsor for apparel. WT Tony Kaiaruna (TK) to meet with representative. Possible presentation to members at regional clinics. • Recording local, regional and national game tallies – discussion in how best to capture game tallies for required NUS reports. Google Plus has been suggested a good software to use. • Standardise template for TCU, RDU and UIC reporting to the NUS • TCU handbook/manual. Include a timeline so TCUs know how and when to communicate with crew members. • Website – discussion on how best to realign the website to be more user-friendly. A pragmatic and logical approach to the lay out of the site. • Alumni – discussed this title as befitting to our recent retirees and past members who may still be interested in the activities of the programme. • Re-establish the Trans-Tasman Exchange or an equivalent event i.e. State Championship. Tournament to target L5/I6 	<p>Dave B to draft a travel paper for SNZ review and consideration</p> <p>JE – Convenor to organise logistics, strategy, planning.</p> <p>WT to action</p> <p>NUS members to provide feedback to MP. To be introduced at next SNZ AGM or through the national tournament application process.</p> <p>WT, TK and EG for contact details</p> <p>RDU and ARDU to investigate process to standardise reporting of games</p> <p>Lance Brown to investigate and prepare a template</p> <p>Task to be assigned</p> <p>Glen Nalepa</p> <p>WT to gather contact details of our Alumni members and add them to the UIC general email group list.</p> <p>WT to discuss with Tricia Sibraa – UIC Softball Australia</p>
11.0	Meeting closed Sunday June 19 2016 at 4.00pm	