

# MINUTES OF 79th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE



## NEW ZEALAND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION INC

Held at Pelorus Trust SportsHouse, Wellington on

Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016 Commencing at 10:05 am

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The President, Lyn Lockhart, welcomed delegates and observers to the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Softball New Zealand.

She extended a special welcome to Merrell Ferguson, Life Member, and to Wayne Saunders, Distinguished Guest.

The Chair of the Board, Michael Hooper, introduced those Board Members present – Jeff Holloway, Trafford Wilson (Deputy Chair), Claire Beard, Raewyn Clarke. Carl Gould and Lynda O’Cain had sent their apologies.

The Chief Executive, Tony Giles, introduced the staff members present today – Chris Gates, Eugene Gilbert, Glen Roff, Rachel Murphy, Naomi Shaw, Darren Smith, Stephanie Smith, intern Josephine Nittel, and Maureen Annandale – and thanked them for their work.

The President acknowledged the work done by everyone in their Associations, and also all the clubs that had supported Softball New Zealand in the past year to ensure that the game they loved, and were passionate about, continued to grow and produce fantastic results.

### 2. IN MEMORIAM

At the request of the President, members observed a minute’s silence in memory of those stalwarts of the game who had passed away over the past year.

### 3. ROLL CALL

The President called the roll.

Those Associations present were: Auckland, Canterbury, Counties Manukau, Hawke’s Bay, Hutt Valley, Manawatu, Marlborough, New Zealand Defence Force, North Harbour, Otago, Southland, Tairāwhiti, Waikato, and Wellington.

**4. VOTING STRENGTH**

The President read out the voting strength, and declared that a quorum was present.

**5. APOLOGIES**

The following individuals had apologised: Ray Tibbets, Carl Gould, Lynda O’Cain, Lynda O’Cain, Bob Leveloff, and Danae Goosman.

**It was resolved** that the apologies be accepted.

**Hawke’s Bay / Tairawhiti**

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 78<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**It was resolved** that the minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 5 September 2015 be adopted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Auckland / North Harbour**

**7. BUSINESS ARISING**

There was no business arising from the minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

**8. ADOPTION OF ANNUAL REPORT**

The Annual Report had been circulated.

**It was resolved** that the Annual Report be received and be open for discussion.

**Hutt Valley / North Harbour**

The Chair of the Board, Michael Hooper, said that the highlights for the past year were:

- Our sport becoming an Olympic sport again and the opportunities that presented; and
- The positive turnaround in finances from an originally approved deficit of \$20,000 to a surplus of \$60,000, contributing to a growth in reserves, which now stood at \$560,000.

The Board was still to make key decisions on the level of reserves the organisation should hold and what should be done with any surplus. The Board will be engaging further with the membership on those questions.

**It was resolved** that the Annual Report be adopted.

**North Harbour / Waikato**

**9. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Financial Statements had been circulated.

**It was resolved** that the Financial Statements be received and be open for discussion.

**Hawke’s Bay / Southland**

The Chair of the Audit Committee, Trafford Wilson said that Softball New Zealand was in very good health financially. The Board congratulated management on achieving a surplus of \$58,666 in a challenging environment.

Trafford explained detail of the Financial Statements. He said that currently reserves were \$562,979. Over the past 2 to 3 months the Board and management had analysed what the reserves position should be. Following feedback from Sport New Zealand and also from the auditor, Grant Thornton, the Board recommended that the reserves should rest at around the \$400,000 mark. That meant there was potential to invest about \$160,000 back into our sport. Management had put together some initial ideas around projects that could be invested in this year, and will be getting feedback on those ideas in due course. This was a great position to be in.

Fay Freeman (North Harbour) congratulated those involved on making a surplus. However, that had not been at the expense of the game, but rather in tandem with investing significantly in game development. The role that Auckland's Regional Development Officer, Stefanie Trutanic, was playing was making a huge difference to the game in Auckland. Fay hoped that other areas were experiencing that.

**It was resolved** that the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 May 2016 be adopted.

**Canterbury / Auckland**

The President thanked the Audit and Risk Committee, and in particular its Chair, Trafford Wilson, and the Administration Manager for the work they had done this year.

#### **10. 2016/2017 BUDGET**

Trafford Wilson explained key assumptions behind the 2016/17 budget. It projected a surplus of \$356.

Auckland Association asked what the rationale was for the drop in revenue in this year's budget – i.e. there was a \$16,000 revenue increase this year yet the 2016/17 budget was predicting a \$50,000 decrease in revenue. Trafford Wilson said that while they will be maintaining the programmes that were delivered last year, they will also be looking to expand community softball programmes and the work they were doing in the high-performance space. Claire Beard added that a conservative approach had been taken to budgeting revenue from grants and donations, particularly in light of the reducing pot in the grants environment. Chris Gates, Administration Manager, said that whether tours were funded or self-funded had a significant impact on income.

#### **11. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

The President said that one nomination had been received for the position of President of the New Zealand Softball Association – that of Nicky Sherriff. She was thrilled to announce that Nicky will be President for the next 3 years. The President's comments were greeted with applause.

On behalf of the Board Appointments Panel, the Chair of the Board said he was pleased to inform the meeting that Lynda O’Cain had been reappointed for a further term of 3 years.

The Chair of the Board thanked retiring Board Members, Jeff Holloway and Carl Gould. He presented Jeff, and Carl in absentia, with a small gift in appreciation.

The President also extended her thanks to Jeff and Carl, and to the Appointments Panel.

She said that two nominations had been received for the two vacancies on the Board for elected members – those of Aran Bailey from Otago and Rhys Casley from Hutt Valley.

Aran and Rhys addressed the meeting.

The President then declared Aran and Rhys elected to the Board for a term of 3 years, commencing immediately after this meeting.

**12. LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

The Chair of the Board said that the Board recommended to the meeting that Nicky Sherriff be made a life member of the New Zealand Softball Association Inc.

**It was resolved** by acclamation that Nicky Sherriff be made a life membership of the New Zealand Softball Association Inc. for her outstanding service to the organisation.

**Lockhart / Hooper**

**13. REMITS**

No remits had been received.

**14. GENERAL BUSINESS**

There was no general business.

**15. MEETING CLOSURE**

The President thanked delegates and observers for their attendance at the meeting, and expressed best wishes to them for a great 2016/2017 year.

There being no further business, the President declared the 79<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting closed at 10.37 a.m.

Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting:

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President

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Date