

Minutes of a **SOUTH ISLAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of The CLUBS NEW ZEALAND DARTS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED held at the Hornby Club on SATURDAY 4 MARCH 2023 at 8:30 am held in conjunction with the 54th South Island Tournament.

ATTENDANCE 20 Clubs

S.O.Long	-	President (Chairman)
D.R. Frampton	-	Vice President (South Island)
A.W. McBeath	-	Treasurer.
D.M. Guard	-	Area Executive Member (Nelson/Marlborough)
S.J. Lines	-	Area Executive Member (Canterbury)
S.G.Westwood	-	Area Executive Member (Otago)
B.W. Jones	-	Area Executive Member (Southland)

APOLOGIES

W.Goodman (Life Member)

“That the apology be received.”

Hornby/Waimea -----**CARRIED**

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The President welcomed all to the meeting and gave a brief outline of business to be addressed. The meeting then stood and observed a few moments silence in memory of deceased members and in particular two valued Life Members, viz. John Butcher (the Association's Founding Secretary) and Paddy Fogarty (Former Area Executive Member and former President).

MINUTES

(1) Minutes of the South Island Executive meeting held at the Waimea Club on Friday 5th March 2021.

“That the Minutes having been distributed earlier be taken as read and tabled for discussion.”

Kaiapoi/Richmond -----**CARRIED**

Matters Arising

No item arose

- (2) Minutes of the South Island Annual General meeting held at the Waimea Club on Saturday 6th March 2021.

“That the Minutes having been distributed earlier be taken as read.”

Kaiapoi/Motueka -----**CARRIED**

Matters Arising

No items arose

“That the Minutes of the South Island Annual General Meeting held at the Waimea Club on Saturday 6th March 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurated record.”

Hornby/Papanui ----- **CARRIED**

- (3) Minutes of the NZ Executive meeting held at the Hornby Club on Friday 8 July 2022.

“That the Minutes having been distributed earlier be taken as read and tabled for discussion.”

Kaiapoi/Dobson-Brunner -----**CARRIED**

Matters Arising

No Items Arose

- (4) Minutes of the NZ Annual General Meeting held at the Hornby Club on Saturday 9th July 2022.

“That the Minutes having been distributed earlier be taken as read and tabled for discussion.”

Westport/Kaiapoi -----**CARRIED**

Matters Arising

No items arose

FINANCE

(1) Refund of Entry Fees

The President advise that he had had discussions with Treasurer regarding the Association's policy on refunds of an individual's entry fees in the case of non attendance because of Covid 19 infection. His recommendation was that the current policy of no refunds should be retained because of the strong possibility of abuse of the process and inability to authenticate the genuineness of claims. The Executive had agreed to the recommendation.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The President read his report to the meeting. (see Appendix to these minutes)

“That the Presidents Report be adopted’

Kaiapoi/Timaru South -----**CARRIED**

NOTICE OF ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS

The President called for notice of items of general business in order that the meeting have time to consider the items before General Business. He went on to advise that this would not preclude the addition of other items at the time.

- (1) NZ Tournament timing
- (2) Life Members Tie
- (3) Travel Fund
- (4) Delay in Ladies Games
- (5) Uniforms
- (6) Pronunciation
- (7) Transport
- (8) Behaviour

REMITTS

The following remit had been received in accordance with the Rules:-

(1) Remit 1.

That the South Island Inter-Club Challenge Trophy be renamed as The South Island Premier Club Trophy and the rules be amended to read as follows:-

80 South Island Premier Club Trophy – (See Playing Sheets Appendix 3)

- (a) The name of the trophy shall be, “South Island Premier Club Trophy”.
- (b) All games played shall be under the control of the Clubs New Zealand Darts Association and shall be played under the general playing rules of the Association.
- (c) The trophy is open to South Island Clubs only, with the two eligible winners of the two qualifying Tri-Series to play in the final at the South Island Tournament.
- (d) The two Tri-Series are comprised of:-
 - (i) Nelson/Marlborough, Buller/West Coast, and Canterbury.
 - (ii) Central Regions South Island, Otago, and Southland.
- (e) Qualifying eliminations:-
 - (i) Each Area will conduct an Inter-Club Competition in such manner as they deem appropriate.
 - (ii) All team members (including reserves) representing each club must be fully paid up card carrying members of that club.
 - (iii) Selected teams members must consist of players who have represented that club only.
 - (iv) Reserves must be named in order of introduction.
 - (v) Any Area's winning club may be substituted for the Tri-Series but that substitution will not be eligible to proceed to the final of the trophy playoff at the South Island Tournament. Should that substitution win the Tri-Series the next qualifying Area Winning Club will be eligible for the final.
- (f) **Finals Format:-**
 - (i) Teams shall consist of eight (8) players (non gender specific).
 - (ii) All games shall be the best of three (3) legs, 501, double start and double finish.

SELECTORS

The following nomination was received for a three year term.

Craig Sumner

This being the only nomination the appointment was **APPROVED**.

GENERAL BUSINESS

(1) NZ Tournament Timing

The President advised that the timing of this event had been amended to the 8-12 August 2023 because of the host club being unwilling to proceed at the original date due to the close proximity of the NZ Darts Council nationals . The Executive have resolved that a letter would be sent to NZ Darts Council seeking confirmed clarification of the change. The Executive would assess the response and make adjustments if needed. Any permanent change would require a change of our rules. Closing date for this years' entries has been set as 1 May 2023 to compensate for the change of tournament date.

(2) Travel Fund

Timaru South Cosmopolitan Club asked about the status of the overseas travel fund. The Treasurer explained that the travel levy of \$5.00 per entry was now separated on the Balance Sheet and it was hoped that overseas travel would resume within the foreseeable future.

(3) Life Member's Tie

Timaru South Cosmopolitan Club advised that Wayne Goodman had not received a tie following his election to Life Membership. The President informed the meeting that this would be corrected.

(4) Delay in Ladies Play

Papanui Club questioned why there was a delay in the Ladies Pairs while the Men's Pairs finals were being played. Discussion followed on the various facets and Area Executive Member Brian Jones gave a detailed summary of times involved.

(5) Uniforms

Bluff RSA expressed concern that some players had slipped through the uniform checking with clothing that didn't comply with the rules. Area Executive Member Stanley Westwood gave a summary of the difficulties in policing uniforms. The President advised that the primary responsibility rested clearly with the clubs concerned and they should be aware of the rules and should ensure their players comply.

(6) Pronunciation

Invercargill WMC spoke on the incorrect pronunciation of Maori place names and asked that efforts be made correct it. The President called for toleration as many people did not have a history or understanding of the language.

(7) Transport

Hornby Club outlined the difficulties of keeping the transport working to a high standard when players had not completed their details on the entry forms. The meeting was informed that clubs who did not complete the details on the entry form or used accommodation beyond a reasonable distance from the venue had no right to expect transport coverage.

(8) Behaviour

Bluff RSA expressed concern at the abuse that had been evident between players and towards staff. The President replied that this sort of behaviour was completely unacceptable and would not be tolerated. Clubs had a part to play in making their members act in a tolerable way.

CLOSURE

There being no further business the President thanks members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9:40 a.m.

Presidents Report

Island Tournaments 2023

As you will know the unexpected resignation of the previous President led to my appointment as a temporary measure until an election could be held at the NZ Annual General Meeting later this year.

Coming on board at short notice, it became obvious that a number of issues needed addressing and a reset was on the cards.

Financially the Association had come through a challenging period which had left us in a relatively precarious position. Some years ago a marketing study had resulted in the recognition that our real strength lay back at the grass roots level of clubs and Areas. While your Senior Executive, in an administrative sense, are too remote from individual clubs that is not necessarily the case when it comes to Areas. With this in mind I had planned to put some effort into visiting a number of Areas but the current inflated cost of travel, coupled with our own fiscal position, rather curtailed that ambition somewhat.

I have been asking the Senior Members of the Executive to do what they can to keep contact with the Areas and as a result some Areas have been visited although not as many as I would have liked. What has become obvious is that operationally speaking, a few Areas have not been up to standard with the minimum requirements as set out in our Rules. Those that don't meet those standards are doing themselves a great dis-service and I urge you all to try and meet those requirements as a start to improving your Area's operation. In one case the Area Executive Member was holding down most of the administrative positions and that is just, simply put, unacceptable.

Financially, I have asked all your Executive to play their part in keeping their expenses to a minimum, and as a part of controlling that, I have instituted a system of gathering a quarterly report from the Treasurer. Initially that report didn't quite give me enough detail but after working with the Treasurer we have been able to analyse and monitor the expenditure and cashflow in a more detailed fashion. Hopefully that will continue going forward to future administrations. Many years ago the Association had set the goal of building a reserve fund to insure us against any future challenge. Of course that challenge presented itself in a manner that we had not foreseen, namely Covid. As a result what small reserve we had was quickly eaten up and I urge future administrations to rebuild that reserve and to a meaningful level.

Operationally speaking, a number of your AEM's appeared to be flying blind in a knowledge sense and I have tried to address that in two ways. Firstly I have asked all AEM's to try and make themselves more familiar with the Rules of the Association and secondly I re-introduced a system of written communication from the President that existed a number of years ago. This 'President's Chat' is not an official publication for general distribution, but rather a process of a keeping up to date and team building within the Executive. In other words ensuring that the whole Executive is a team and not just a bunch of individuals operating blindly. One area that will need some attention in the future is assistance for new Executive Members who often get chucked in the deep end and flounder in trying to keep up. Previous AEM's in an Area and Senior Executive Members will need to step up to the plate in future.

I became aware that your previous President had been facing an unwarranted and illegal effort from Clubs NZ to take ownership of our Association. I was pleased to note that he had resisted that but unfortunately with our change at the top they had decided to try again. Myself and the Association's Treasurer responded to an invitation to meet with them and laid it out in no uncertain terms that our Association belongs to our members and will remain that way. Their response was disappointing to say the least especially given that this was the 4th attempt to go down this path. Threats of legal

action have no basis in law and we are not intimidated by that.

Previously we had tried to operate as a friendly part of the wider team which is the Club Movement. As part of that process we had always invited their representatives to attend our AGM's as observers and had a clause in our Rules as part of the appeal process. Given their position I took it upon myself to withdraw future invitations and will be presenting a Remit to remove them from the appeal process at the NZAGM. I make it plain to you all, that this Association belongs to you the members and will not be passed to a remote organisation that has no underlying knowledge of our wonderful game. Let me make it plain that they have no authority over our Association.

As I communicated with Areas and Clubs it surprised me that several Executive Members were unaware that our Association is a shareholder of Dart Players NZ Ltd. That relationship had been working to our benefit in a number of ways and it rather disappointed me that this had deteriorated to the detriment of both bodies over the past while. I am pleased to say that I have been working on improving and re-establishing that relationship and I expect good outcomes going forward.

At another level some clubs are struggling to survive which makes the role of Dart players much more difficult if they do eventually fold. While the management of clubs is not directly our business I do urge members to try and not operate in isolation from their parent clubs. Clubs survival is a team business and it behoves every member to give support whenever they can. Aligned with that I became aware of one Area that, in part at least, was operating away from their club base. In this case my information was that they were playing at private premises. I urge you all to remember that our strengths lay within the clubs and playing away from that base not only weakens the clubs themselves but also makes it more difficult to attract new members.

Sadly I have to report that we lost two of our Life Members over the past year. The first of these was Mr John Butcher, the last of our foundation members. John was our founding Secretary and part of the team that established our organisation in 1968. John and his fellow foundation members were part of, what was then known as, The Christchurch Working Mens Clubs Darts Association Incorporated. This organisation was the first of the organised Club Darts Associations and had commenced playing in the 1950's. In 1967 John, along with Frank Quemard, Alf Franklin and Percy Tyler, decided to set up the first National Tournament which took place at Hornby in 1968.

The second of our Life members to pass was Paddy Fogarty. Paddy was the former AEM for The Capital Area and a former President of our Association as well as the former President of the Petone Working Mens Club. His contribution to our cause was immense, especially when it came to resisting attempts by Clubs NZ to impose their ideas of rules and ownership over our Association. Prior to his death Paddy strongly urged me to continue resistance to Clubs NZ's position.

Finally, to you all I convey the message that your Executive work tirelessly on your behalf and I sincerely thank them for that. I urge you all to give support to your Area Executive Members in any way you can. They cannot be as effective as they need to be without that support.

Kindest regards to you all,

**Stephen Long,
President,
Clubs New Zealand Darts Association Incorporated**