



**MINUTES OF SKI RACING NEW ZEALAND INC
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT: THE COTSWOLD HOTEL, CHRISTCHURCH
ON SATURDAY 26TH MAY 2007 10.00AM**

PRESENT:

Roger Miller - Chair	Cyrus Berry (CSA)	Peter Gendall (Whak)
Marty Johanson	Mark Taylor (QAST)	Jane Taylor (QAST)
Nick Tapper	Andrew O'Donoghue (Hutt)	Grant Jamieson (Hutt)
Scott Zahn AD	Peter Duff (Wan)	Grant Winsloe
Sue Bridgwater CEO	Ben Griffin (Whak)	Erik Arndt (Whak)
Bonny Teat (Wan)	Grant Dixon (Whak)	Sue Johanson (Turoa)
Mark Butcher (Turoa)	Sue Mexted (Turoa)	Luke Mexted (Turoa)
Michael Gardner (NSSC)	Colleen Hickey (Hutt)	Graeme McGlenn (Hutt)
Jonathan Rice (Wan)		

APOLOGIES:

Tony Oxnevad
For lateness: Nick Tapper

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates.
It was explained that two versions of amendments to the Constitution were on the table for discussion.
The intent of the changes is to move away from a regionally based structure to a constituent member base.

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Moved: Miller

Seconded: Oxnevad

That the Constitution of Ski Racing New Zealand be amended as follows:

Version 1

- (a) Replace all references to 'Member Organisation' with 'Member Training Organisation or Member Club';**
- (b) Replace all references to board with Board;**
- (c) Replace all references to board members with Board Members;**
- (d) Replace all references to members with Members;**
- (e) Replace all references to registered athletes with Registered Athletes;**
- (f) Replace all references to 'NZ Sports Drug Agency' with 'Drug Free Sport NZ';**
- (g) Replace all references to general meeting with General Meeting;**
- (h) Replace all references to common seal with Common Seal;**
- (i) Replace all references to SRNZ officials with Officials;**
- (j) Replace all references to SRNZ rules and regulations with Rules and Regulations.**
- (k) Replace all references to by-laws with Policies.**

(l) That the following Interpretations are added to Clause 4 Interpretation:

"Associate Members" means any person, school, company, ski industry organisation, service provider, statutory body, research or other organisation whose activities relate to those of SRNZ but are otherwise

not able to be admitted to membership of SRNZ as a Member Training Organisation or Member Club. Associate Membership shall be subject to the approval of the Board and shall attract such privileges as the Board may from time to time decide.

“**Board Members**” means those persons elected to the Board from time to time.

“**Common Seal**” means the seal to be used by the Board to execute documents.

“**Honorary Life Members**” means those persons elected for life at a General Meeting of SRNZ on the recommendation of the Board in recognition of services rendered to SRNZ and subject to such privileges as SRNZ may decide.

“**Individual Members**” means Registered Athletes, Officials and coaches of Member Training Organisations and Member Clubs are individual registered Members of SRNZ; parents and guardians of Registered Athletes are deemed to be Individual Members of SRNZ.

“**Member Training Organisation**” means any incorporated club or association with members actively engaged in alpine ski racing that provides an approved alpine ski race training programme.

“**Registered Athletes**” means those members of Member Training Organisations and Member Clubs whose details have been provided to SRNZ (excluding masters racers) pursuant to Clause 5.5.13 of this Constitution. A Registered Athlete may only register with one Member Training Organisation or Member Club in any one year.

(m) That the following Interpretations are amended under Clause 4 Interpretation:

“**Alpine Director**” means the person **as may be** appointed by the Board to carry out such functions as determined by the Board.

“**Board**” means the Board Members for the time being elected or appointed under this Constitution and includes the Chief Executive Officer and Alpine Director in “ex-Officio” capacities.

“**Delegate**” means a person appointed by a Member Training Organisation or Member Club to be its representative at General Meetings.

“**Financial Year**” means the year ending 31 May in each year.

“**General Meeting**” means the Annual **General Meeting** or any Special General Meeting of SRNZ.

“**Members**” means and shall apply equally to “Member Training Organisations”, “Member Clubs”, “Individual Members”, “Honorary Life Members” and “Associate Members”.

“**Member Club**” means any incorporated club or association with members actively engaged in alpine ski racing.

“**Misconduct**” means conduct referred to in clause 12.3 of this Constitution.

“**Official**” means any person who is appointed to positions of responsibility on behalf of or for SRNZ or who perform duties at any SRNZ sanctioned race or event.

(n) Replace existing Clause 5.1 with:

5. MEMBERSHIP

Categories of Membership

5.1

The membership of SRNZ shall consist of:

5.1.1 Member Training Organisations;

- 5.1.2 Member Clubs;
- 5.1.3 Individual Members;
- 5.1.4 Honorary Life;
- 5.1.5 *Associate Members;*

(o) Replace existing Clause 5.2.2 with:

*All **clubs and associations** seeking membership under **Clauses 5.1.1 and 5.1.2** must be incorporated.*

(p) Amend existing Clause 5.5.2 to read:

The Constitution is made in the pursuit of a common object, namely the mutual and collective benefit of the Members, **SRNZ** and New Zealand alpine ski racing.

- **Amend existing Clause 5.5.3 to read:**

The Constitution and any other Rules, Regulations and **Policies** are necessary and reasonable for promoting the Objects and particularly the advancement and protection of alpine ski racing.

- **Amend existing Clause 5.5.8 to read:**

They will not do or permit to be done any act or thing which might adversely affect the standards, quality and reputation of alpine ski racing or **SRNZ**.

- **Replace existing Clause 5.5.11 with:**

Affairs pertaining exclusively to Member Training Organisations and Member Clubs shall be under their control subject to the right of SRNZ to intervene in matters affecting SRNZ where it sees fit. Each Member Training Organisation and Member Club shall ensure their constitution or rules have been approved by SRNZ and that they do not conflict with the Constitution and Rules of SRNZ.

- **Amend existing Clause 5.5.13 to read:**

Member Training Organisations and Member Clubs shall provide a return of Registered Athletes and other members in the form prescribed by SRNZ, including the full name, residential address and date of birth of each club member to the national office of SRNZ by 1 July each year.

- **Amend existing Clause 6.2 to read:**

*The membership fees or levies for each category of **Member** shall be payable by such time and in such manner as the Board shall from time to time determine.*

- **Amend existing Clause 7.1:**

Annual General Meetings

SRNZ or the Board shall arrange for the Annual General Meeting to be held annually at such time and place as the Board may decide.

The Board shall send notices of Annual General Meeting by circular to those specified in clause **7.4** not less than 30 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. Such notice shall state the time and place of the meeting and state all business proposed to be discussed.

- **Amend existing Clause 7.2:**

Special General Meetings

The Board will call any Special General Meeting if requested in writing by three (3) Member Training Organisations and/or Member Clubs or by three (3) Members of the Board. Such request shall set out the business proposed to be discussed at such meeting.

The Board shall send notices of any Special General Meeting within 14 days of any request, by circular to those specified in clause 7.4 not less than 30 days prior to the date of the Special General Meeting. Such notice shall state the time and place of the meeting and state all business proposed to be discussed. At any such meeting only the business set out in the notice shall be dealt with.

- **Amend numbering of Clauses 7.3 through to 7.11 to 7.4 through to 7.11**
- **Replace existing Clause 7.3 with:**

Member Forum

Each year prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Board shall convene a forum for Members to discuss matters of importance to SRNZ and formulate recommendations for future direction and development of the sport.

- **Amend existing Clause 7.4 (previously 7.3):**

Entitlement to Notices

Notice of every General Meeting will be given in such manner authorised by this Constitution to:

- (a) Member Training Organisations;
- (b) Member Clubs;
- (c) Honorary Life Members;
- (d) Associate Members;
- (e) Board Members;
- (f) the auditor for the time being of SRNZ; and
- (g) Snowsports New Zealand Incorporated.

No other person is entitled to receive notices of General Meetings.

(aa) Amend existing Clause 7.7.1 (previously 7.6.1)

The quorum at a General Meeting shall be at least ten persons entitled to vote and representing at least sixty percent of **all** Member Training Organisations and/or Member Clubs **present**.

(bb) Replace existing Clause 7.9 (previously 7.8) with:

7.9.1 *The only persons entitled to vote at any General Meeting are:*

- (d) Each Board Member
- (e) Member Training Organisations; and
- (f) Member Clubs

7.9.2

Each voting Board Member (reference Clause 8.2) shall have one vote.

7.9.3

Each Member Training Organisation shall have two votes plus any additional votes based on the number of Registered Athletes by it in that year with SRNZ under clause 5.5.13 in accordance with the following scale:

Less than 5	Basic 2 votes only
6 – 15	one additional vote
16 – 30	two additional votes
31 – 60	three additional votes
61 – 90	four additional votes
91 plus	five additional votes

7.9.4 *Each **Member Club** shall have two votes*

7.9.5 *No person shall be entitled to be a Delegate for a Member Training Organisation or Member Club unless that person belongs to that Member Training Organisation or Member Club.*

**(cc) Amend existing Clause 7.11 to read:
Disallowance of Vote**

A challenge to a right to vote at a General Meeting:

- (a) may only be made at the General Meeting; and
- (b) must be determined by the **Chairman** whose decision is final.

Every vote not so disallowed at the General Meeting is valid for all purposes.

(dd) Amend existing Clause 9.1 to read:

The financial year of SRNZ shall end on 31 **May** in each and every year.

(ee) Replace existing Clause 11.1 with:

Selectors shall be appointed annually by the Board to select athletes for such teams, events, training groups and any other selection requirements called on by the Board from time to time including selection of the most improved athletes.

(ff) Replace existing Clause 11.2 with:

Where an Alpine Director is employed he shall be the chairman of the Panel of Selectors and shall recommend to the Board the names of other selectors to be on any panel of selectors needed for any selection requirement.

**(gg) Amend existing Clause 12.3 to read:
Misconduct**

Where an allegation is made (which in the opinion of the Board is not vexatious, trifling or frivolous) that a Member of SRNZ including any Registered Athlete, parent, coach or Official has:

breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, any rule, regulation, policy, resolution or determination of the Board, or any duly authorised committee; or

acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of SRNZ and/or ski racing; or

brought SRNZ or ski racing into disrepute;

the Board shall refer the matter to SRNZ's Judicial Committee to hear and determine whether Misconduct has occurred. Where it is determined that Misconduct has occurred the Judicial Committee shall impose a penalty or penalties in accordance with this Constitution and any applicable **policy**, rule or regulation.

**(hh) Amend existing Clause 12.7 to read:
Procedure of Judicial Committee**

The Judicial Committee shall hear and determine all allegations of Misconduct and any Appeals referred to under **this Constitution**, and shall follow the procedures and principles of natural justice.

(ii) Amend existing Clause 12.7 to read:

Decisions

All decisions of the Judicial Committee shall be binding on all Members. The failure to adhere to a decision of the Judicial Committee constitutes Misconduct under **this Constitution**, and may result in the affected Member being suspended or expelled from SRNZ and/or such other steps being taken as set out in these Rules and/or any applicable rule or regulation.

(jj) Amend heading of Clause 14 to read:

RULES, REGULATIONS and POLICIES

The meeting discussed the proposals.

M Taylor advised that QAST currently believes that SRNZ is set up as having 5 regions and that having a critical mass within existing programmes is necessary for these programmes to be viable.

S Bridgwater explained that this was the previous structure and that the intent of the new Constitution as approved in 2004, was to move to member organisations irrespective of the number that wished to apply for membership. It is not seen that changing the voting structure will affect training programmes; the main thrust of the change is to encourage the growth of the sport.

P Gendall raised clause 5.5.10: *'Member Organisations shall be incorporated and shall act on behalf of SRNZ and shall be the local authority on behalf of SRNZ'*.

He believes that there should only be one member organisation training on a particular mountain.

A O'Donoghue stated that history has shown us that what we have done in the past clearly has not been effective and we must all work towards growing the sport. He advised that Team Hutt is looking to SRNZ to provide direction and support for the future of the sport. The proposed changes to the Constitution will encourage growth. Team Hutt is focussing on growing the base and is very happy that SRNZ is looking after the apex of the competitive pyramid.

M Butcher advised that he believes we must increase the membership and will support any initiative to do this.

G Winsloe stated he would not want to see the factionalising of areas.

A O'Donoghue advised that he does not see that this will happen because each ski area management can control the programmes training on their mountain.

C Berry advised that he feels that the intent of the 2003 Forum had not been followed through with and this had been detrimental to the sport. SRNZ had failed to communicate, and has never met with CSA. He stated that he feels that the athletes are still not achieving internationally and produced some statistics that had been taken from the FIS website.

He stated that CSA has changed its stance in terms of its membership of SRNZ due to the lack of communication.

B Griffin stated that he feels that the National Ski Team programme is working, athletes are being retained for longer and are producing better more consistent results at higher level competitions.

B Griffin did state that he feels that the base should be grown before taking the younger (National Development Team) athletes from the regional programmes.

P Gendall advised that he is not a supporter of proportional representation and is concerned as to how it might change the dynamics. He is worried about the North vs South divide.

He stated that wants to see racing continue on Ruapehu.

G Winsloe advised that has concerns as to the direction SRNZ is taking; **E Arndt** concurred with this comment.

M Butcher stated that he has concerns regarding Version 1 of the proposed changes but is more comfortable with Version 2.

M Taylor believes that any organisation should have a minimum number of athletes in order to be eligible to join SRNZ.

A O'Donoghue stated that if we don't change our outlook now, we will not change what has been happening over the past 10 years or so, we have not progressed as a sport, the only way to do this is to grow the base and provide more athletes for the apex of the pyramid.

R Miller suggested that the CSA delegates that have been attending the SSNZ meetings have given the strong impression that CSA is directing its energies into recreation rather than racing.

A O'Donoghue stated that historically SRNZ does not have a good track record in terms of direction, and it is a leap of faith to see that SRNZ will get this right in the future, but Team Hutt continues to give SRNZ the chance.

R Miller stated that the membership has the opportunity to tell SRNZ whether it is getting it right or not at the AGM.

M Johanson endorsed what had been said by the Team Hutt representative, but questioned what had not been done for CSA.

G Winsloe stated that the Strategic Direction had not evolved from a round table discussion, but from individual discussions, that he believes are not always as productive. Following this discussion the Chairman withdrew Version 1 of the proposed changes. Version 2 was then discussed.

Version 2

- (a) Replace all references to 'Member Organisation' with 'Member Club';**
- (b) Replace all references to board with Board;**
- (c) Replace all references to board members with Board Members;**
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(o) Replace existing Clause 5.2.2 with:

All clubs and associations seeking membership under Clauses 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 must be incorporated.

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The Constitution is made in the pursuit of a common object, namely the mutual and collective benefit of the Members, **SRNZ** and New Zealand alpine ski racing.

(q) Amend existing Clause 5.5.3 to read:

The Constitution and any other Rules, Regulations and **Policies** are necessary and reasonable for promoting the Objects and particularly the advancement and protection of alpine ski racing.

(r) Amend existing Clause 5.5.8 to read:

They will not do or permit to be done any act or thing which might adversely affect the standards, quality and reputation of alpine ski racing **or SRNZ**.

(s) Amend existing Clause 5.5.11 to read:

Affairs pertaining exclusively to Member Clubs shall be under their control subject to the right of SRNZ to intervene in matters affecting SRNZ where it sees fit. Each Member Club shall ensure their constitution or rules have been approved by SRNZ and that they do not conflict with the Constitution and Rules of SRNZ.

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(u) Amend existing Clause 6.2 to read:

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(x) Amend numbering of Clauses 7.3 through to 7.11 to 7.4 through to 7.11

(y) Replace existing Clause 7.3 with:

Member Forum

Each year prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Board shall convene a forum for Members to discuss matters of importance to SRNZ and formulate recommendations for future direction and development of the sport.

(z) Amend existing Clause 7.4 (previously 7.3) to read:

Entitlement to Notices

Notice of every General Meeting will be given in such manner authorised by this Constitution to:

- (h) Member Clubs;
- (i) Honorary Life Members;
- (j) Associate Members;
- (k) Board Members;
- (l) the auditor for the time being of SRNZ; and
- (m) Snowsports New Zealand Incorporated.

No other person is entitled to receive notices of General Meetings.

(aa) Amend existing Clause 7.7.1 (previously 7.6.1) to read:

The quorum at a General Meeting shall be at least ten persons entitled to vote and representing at least sixty percent of **all Member Clubs**.

(bb) Replace existing Clause 7.9 (previously 7.8) with:

- 7.9.1 *The only persons entitled to vote at any General Meeting are:*
(a) Each Board Member
(d) Member Clubs
- 7.9.2 *Each voting Board Member (reference Clause 8.2) shall have one vote.*
- 7.9.3 Each Member Club shall have two votes plus any additional votes based on the number of Registered Athletes registered by it in that year with SRNZ under clause 5.5.13 in accordance with the following scale:
:
Less than 5 basic 2 votes only
6 – 15 one additional vote
16 – 30 two additional votes
31 – 60 three additional votes
61 – 90 four additional votes
91 plus five additional votes
- 7.9.4 *No person shall be entitled to be a Delegate for a Member Club unless that person belongs to that Member Club.*

**(cc) Amend existing Clause 7.11 to read:
Disallowance of Vote**

A challenge to a right to vote at a General Meeting:

- (c) may only be made at the General Meeting; and
(d) must be determined by the **Chairman** whose decision is final.

Every vote not so disallowed at the General Meeting is valid for all purposes.

(dd) Amend existing Clause 9.1 to read:

The financial year of SRNZ shall end on 31 May in each and every year.

(ee) Replace existing Clause 11.1 with:

Selectors shall be appointed annually by the Board to select athletes for such teams, events, training groups and any other selection requirements called on by the Board from time to time including selection of the most improved athletes.

(ff) Replace existing Clause 11.2 with:

Where an Alpine Director is employed he shall be the chairman of the Panel of Selectors and shall recommend to the Board the names of other selectors to be on any panel of selectors needed for any selection requirement.

**Amend existing Clause 12.3 to read:
Misconduct**

Where an allegation is made (which in the opinion of the Board is not vexatious, trifling or frivolous) that a Member of SRNZ including any athlete, parent, coach or Official has:

breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, any rule, regulation, policy, resolution or determination of the Board, or any duly authorised committee; or

acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of SRNZ and/or ski racing; or

brought SRNZ or ski racing into disrepute;

the Board shall refer the matter to SRNZ's Judicial Committee to hear and determine whether Misconduct has occurred. Where it is determined that Misconduct has occurred the Judicial Committee shall impose a penalty or penalties in accordance with this Constitution and any applicable **policy**, rule or regulation.

**(gg) Amend existing Clause 12.7 to read:
Procedure of Judicial Committee**

The Judicial Committee shall hear and determine all allegations of Misconduct and any Appeals referred to under **this Constitution**, and shall follow the procedures and principles of natural justice.

**(hh) Amend existing Clause 12.8 to read:
Decisions**

All decisions of the Judicial Committee shall be binding on all Members. The failure to adhere to a decision of the Judicial Committee constitutes Misconduct under **this Constitution**, and may result in the affected Member being suspended or expelled from SRNZ and/or such other steps being taken as set out in these Rules and/or any applicable rule or regulation.

(ii) Amend heading of Clause 14 to read:

RULES, REGULATIONS and POLICIES

G Dixon asked why SRNZ wants to encourage new member organisations to join.

R Miller advised that the intent is to grow the membership base, and thus the number of athletes etc. SRNZ wants to encourage all programmes, both large and small.

S Bridgwater advised that every programme across the country is set up in a different way and SRNZ must cater for the needs of all the membership. It is unfair to penalise small programmes by giving them no voice, hence the proposal of proportional representation. We need to encourage them to grow for the benefit of the sport as a whole.

The proposed new Associate Membership structure does not allow for athlete registration because it has been opened up to all entities to apply.

Organisations must be Incorporated Societies in order to apply for full membership.

M Butcher advised that he would like to see some form of input from the existing membership sought before a new member is accepted by the SRNZ Board.

P Gendall would like to see a Strategic Planning meeting held with coach and athlete representation. He believes that a meeting at the very least should be held pre or post season with the programme directors and SRNZ.

P Gendall also stated that he believes that the Board itself should not have a vote at General Meetings. The meeting agreed with this.

The proposed changes were worked through point by point and a consensus reached.

Moved: A O'Donoghue

Seconded: M Taylor

That the Constitution of SRNZ as amended by the meeting shall be adopted.

Carried
by a 2/3 majority.
Wanaka Ski Club abstained

The meeting agreed that the Board would formulate a policy on the acceptance of new Member Clubs and that 5.5.10 would be amended.

2. Appointment of Auditor

The Board wishes to recommend to the membership that Michael Rondel of Polson Higgs, Christchurch is appointed as Auditor for SRNZ.

G McGlenn recommended that the motion be amended to read:

The Board wishes to recommend to the membership that Polson Higgs, Christchurch is appointed as Auditor for SRNZ.

Moved: Miller

Seconded: Johanson

That Polson Higgs, Christchurch is appointed as Auditor for SRNZ.

Carried

3. Setting of Fees

Moved: Miller

Seconded: Oxnevad

That the training membership levy for Officials and Coaches category of membership shall be \$10.00 for the 2007 year.

The motion was discussed.

The meeting was advised that SRNZ wants to create a database of Officials and Coaches and provide training and support. The nominal cost of membership is to assist to offset the costs of training provided by SRNZ.

The reason for the database creation is three fold:

- SRNZ should know the officials it has at its disposal and thus plan accordingly to up-skill Officials,
- proof of training covers SRNZ/ROCs in terms of legal liability,
- and to increase the size of the membership to assist in attracting funding from external sources, Government agencies etc

P Gendall advised that WSS would probably pay their Officials membership costs.

Comment was made that Officials often see their task as arduous and not enjoyable.

It is hoped by providing training that Officials will have a better understanding of what is expected of them and hence enjoy their role.

Carried

The business for the meeting concluded.

A brief period of informal discussion followed:

P Gendall advised that he would like to see more communication from both the Board and Management of SRNZ. He pledged support to SRNZ from WSS.

Finally he stated that he would like to see FIS races held on the North Island.

It was suggested that an exit questionnaire should be sent out to non-registering athletes.

Meeting closed at 12.55 pm

Signed as a true and correct record:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____