

**Minutes of the Clubs New Zealand Open National 8 Ball**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Held at Cashmere Club Inc. 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

- Start Time:** 7:50 am
- Meeting Chair:** Maurice Nutira (Bones), Clubs New Zealand Area Board Delegate
- Tournament Control:** Murray Davies
- Minute Secretary:** Janet McGrath
- Delegates Present:** Shaun Hope (ASH) Tom Hoera (ASR) Janet McGrath, Murray Davies (CAS) Thomas Young (DBR) Wayne Cameron (HOK) Pauline Laugesen, Cherry Pavelka, Richy Whitty (HOR) Keith Thorpe (KAI) Paul McIntyre (LEV) Jamie Kendall (MAR) Rod Buck (MNU) Julie Hocking (MTM) Jesse Laursen (NPL) Trist Reweti (OTK) Marino Hapi (PAK) Darren Purdon (PAP) Kat McKenzie, Tracy Andrew (RCH) Jack Lemon, Jessica Clapp (SWW) Richard Jackson (TGA) Terry Morris (WKE) Carole Lilley, Barry Appleton, Shirley Wall, Aron Hapi (WOL)
- Apologies:** Nil
- Welcome:** Maurice Nutira introduced himself & welcomed everyone on behalf of the board of Clubs NZ and called for a minutes silence for those we have lost in the last year, a particular mention was made of Trevor Higginson & Doug Riddel, both life members of the National 8 Ball Committee and responsible for developing and writing the rules we now play, Doug devised the rules and Trevor became the chief rules interpreter and referee for many years, sadly we lost them both in the last year.
- Previous Minutes:** Minutes of the AGM held at Mount Maunganui RSA on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were confirmed as a true and correct record.
- Moved: T Reweti (Otaki RSA)      Seconded: G Mitchell (Tokoroa Cossie Club)
- Matters Arising:** Nil
- Upcoming Hosts:** 2024 – Manurewa Cosmopolitan Club – Rod Buck spoke about the 2024 Nationals being hosted by his club, this will be their third nationals both previous events have run without issue, they just look to improve each

time they host and look forward to hosting next year, they are ready to rock and roll.

2025 – Invercargill WMC – no representative from Invercargill to speak.

2026 – Cashmere have made known their intent to host in 2026, Murray Davies spoke on behalf of Cashmere & said we have tabled for 2026 because 2026 was the year the Nationals was supposed to come back to the South Islands, 2025 was supposed to be in the North Island but was given to Invercargill because no other club applied to host, as far as the event itself goes our record speaks for itself, we have hosted 10 National championships.

**Remit:** The following remit was submitted jointly by New Plymouth Club & Richmond Workingmen’s Club in relation to the Junior Nationals.

Whilst this is not strictly a remit to change any current rule which may or may not exist, we wish these to be adopted and retained to assist all future host clubs of the Clubs New Zealand 8 Ball Junior Nationals Tournament.

1 That all competitors be no older than 18 years of age as of the start date of that year’s tournament.

2 Format for pairs, whether it be straight or scotch to be decided by the host club and advertised on the flyer and registration form.

3 The draw for the pairs should be performed live the night prior in front of competitors or live streamed.

4 that a new trophy as supplied by the New Plymouth Club for a girl’s competition within the Junior Nationals be accepted and competed for annually as part of the Junior Nationals competition on the condition that no less than 6 girls competed. Host to decide whether a separate competition or highest qualifying girl decides the winner.

Proposed by New Plymouth Club Inc & Richmond Workingmen’s Club

The remit was put to floor and was unanimously voted in favour

Maurice asked if anyone wanted to speak on the remit.

Keri Low (Cashmere) “Canterbury were the last bastion of divided male & female competitions and a few years ago we worked really hard to make that all open, you guys in the North Island have been blessed with your ladies competing against your men & the standard of the ladies playing at this tournament and where they have got to and performed has been a result of that, competitors should be looked at as players rather than boys & girls & providing a separate tournament in the juniors is taking a step back and I am completely against that”.

Zane Burnard (New Plymouth) replied to Keri, "In relation to that, as a valid explanation, there needs to be a small pathway that carries on to women's, all the girls competing in the junior nationals still compete in the major event and if you look at the results of the junior nationals currently no girl has won it, I'll probably be unpopular to say this, most young girls are weaker than the guys, but if they are competing against the other girls they get the competition & a couple of them get in the final and they achieve something, so they come to the Nationals and other events and carry on young, so hopefully when they get to their adult years they are competing with Camelia & Denise and all those types of ladies, I think it's positive to have anything for the girls".

Maurice responded by saying "I'll just let you know the remit was actually carried there was only two that opposed it, and reminded everyone it was up to the host club as to whether it was run as a separate competition, or the results taken from the main competition".

### **General Business:**

Terry Morris (Waikanae) was asked to have a chat about a new website one of Waikanae's players Nik Spiers who has put together the site which is called [cuesports.co.nz](http://cuesports.co.nz), basically it's his adaptation of Cuescore and is a site to go to for everything cue related in New Zealand, you can go there for a chat and ask questions and suggested everyone take a look, he also brought along some printed information for players to look at.

Murray Davies (Cashmere) "He had heard through the grapevine that Clubs NZ were looking forward for tournaments & going to be collecting all the entries & said that isn't going to work. I know we've got issues, but you can't host events of this size when the moneys heading to Wellington, how are you going to organize it? When you organize big events, you need to have your hands on, I think Clubs NZ have to take responsibility ensuring that clubs that host events are solid & honest, and said we were past the times when we had dodgy people in control of our sport and thought Clubs NZ were making a rod for their own back".

Maurice (CNZ) responded "Unfortunately that's not the case and it's happened at two clubs this year where money went missing, and this was thousands of dollars, and these are reputable clubs".

"As a result of this Clubs NZ are looking at implementing an online entry system where you would enter electronically, we are trying to safeguard the clubs that host these events, because unfortunately when there is a bit of money around it's just one of those things",

Murray replied "The club is hosting not your sections that's when you have issues & things go wrong. "The club is hosting, Rod is a part of the club at Manurewa, I am part of the club at Cashmere & there are others here that are a part of their club, where you're in the office, you're part of it, whereas if you've got a section running it that's when it brings the possibility of these sorts of things happening".

Maurice responded "If you look at the protocol for hosting, each club applies with a letter of intent signed by the manager or president the person responsible for the day to day running of the club, that's what's supposed to happen" But unfortunately something happened with the last one, I'm not sure what, but it wasn't very good".

Rod Buck (Manurewa) "At the end of the day the club is completely responsible for hosting that event, if money goes missing it's the clubs responsibility, the club pays".

Maurice (CNZ) "I totally agree but unfortunately some clubs aren't making the decision to reimburse the tournament".

Rod (Manurewa) responded "Then they shouldn't be hosting". This was followed by a round of applause.

Tracy Andrew (Richmond) "Maybe Clubs NZ need to come onboard and make sure all the ticks are done properly from the start".

Maurice responded with "This morning we have three letters of intent from Manurewa, Cashmere & Invercargill, so you are the ones that decide where these tournaments are going, personally I don't know every club, I look after Cashmere & Canterbury, I know my clubs, but I don't know those other clubs, so we're relying on you when voting, if you have an issue with a club that has put in a letter of intent to host a tournament, you should say something, that's what I'm saying, it's very hard for me sitting up here, reading from these letters of intent from the host clubs for the next three years, if you think one of them shouldn't be hosting, do you understand what I'm trying to say"?

He continued with "When you look at it, what's the difference with Clubs NZ taking the money and making sure you get it in time"?

Murray replied with "The biggest problem is around the organization, and is what you've got going on behind the scenes with the money coming in, it's a nightmare, you have clubs that enter and pay twice, you have clubs that don't pay the correct amount, you have players that pay for themselves and then their club also pays their entry, money gets deposited with no references, or with no corresponding entry form, you have players withdrawing for various reasons, we cannot be backwards & forwards to Wellington every five minutes, as an example we hosted an event the last one under different management and we didn't have access to the account and it was an absolute nightmare to run, to the point that we didn't want to host another event, Rod will probably speak to the same, you've got to have access, or you'd be making continuous phone calls, if you can't see the bank account it's just a nightmare, weeks and weeks of it, that doesn't matter what size the event is, once you get past eighty, ninety people it's a nightmare".

Maurice came back "To answer your question, Kate would have to do all that, because the money would go to Kate, she would have a list of all the financial players, so what you're saying is that she would then be addressing all those issues, like if someone's paid twice, clubs NZ will be dealing with those issues not you".

Murray responded with, "So what you're saying now is that Kate will on our behalf do all the behind-the-scenes grind".

Maurice answered with "That's what she's supposed to be doing anyway, that's what her role is, Sports Co-ordinator".

Murray responded with, "If she's prepared to collect all the money & do all of the grind behind the scenes, that's a lot of work!"

Maurice said " That is what will have to happen, if CNZ go that way, I'm not saying they are going that way because I don't know what was raised at the managers meeting, it was discussed at the managers meeting and they were going to come back to the board and until I've seen the minutes of the managers meeting I don't know, I'm only telling you what I was told at the last board meeting that's what the quick fix would be until they got this thing up and running electronically".

Keri Low "As I understand it was to be all sections, not just pool, so does that mean Kate would be doing all the different sports section tournaments?"

Maurice confirmed, "Yes all 52 tournaments" to which Keri responded, "That's a fairly decent sized job!" will we get notification if it's passed and be told it's happening.

Maurice confirmed, "If it does happen you will hear about it".

Murray said, "Surely if it comes down to that, 8 Ball will be informed and given the opportunity to speak against it or will CNZ just make the decision"?

Maurice said "It will be raised at the AGM at Sky City, Auckland, nothing will change until it's put forward in an AGM, if Cashmere's at the AGM that's where it can be raised", we're only looking at trying to stop what's been occurring in the last two years".

Rod Buck (Manurewa) "This is a bit of a hot topic for me, next year will be Manurewa's third Nationals to be held, we've been hosting events there from 2010 onwards, in terms of a Nationals it generally costs about \$20,000 to \$25,000K to put one of these events on. When we took on our first one in 2016 our main endeavour right from the word go was to find the money in sponsorship, so we were able to pay out 100% of your entry fees or close to it. We invite you to come into our premises and you will pay exactly the same amount of money over the bar and restaurant as I do, I don't think there are other clubs out there that share that sentiment and I'm starting to get a little concerned with what I'm seeing around, I put it to you guys this is a discussion point, should there be some kind of guidelines for clubs that host events on what they basically can and can't do, or should Manurewa just jump on the bus and do what the other clubs do? A discussion please".

Zane Burnard (New Plymouth) "I agree with Rodney, all of us players come here, there's 300 odd players that have come to this one and I'm sure everyone travelling out of Christchurch spend a minimum of a grand, and then to come to a tournament and the clubs taking 20% out of the pot, I don't think it's on and if they can't have a good structure in place to get enough sponsors to create the tournament without the players money, especially when all the players spend all the money to get here, to me it's a bit gut wrenching when the club takes three or four grand out of the pot if they can't come up with the sponsors then they probably shouldn't put in for the tournament".

Murray Davies – "I can speak to that, because I think you were pointing the gun at me, we were the first club to pay out 100%, we actually paid out 122%, it cost us a fortune to do it, I did it to prove a point about the bad management that was going on behind CNZ 8 Ball management at the time, but sponsors are hard to come by, and we have got as many sponsors as we can, we are paying out 84% which is still a big chunk of the pot, to host the event and you've got to break even, if you don't break even you wouldn't bother hosting, I think the guidelines from CNZ is 60%, Maurice confirmed this to be correct and pointed out that it's all in the guideline booklets you are provided with if you decide to host a tournament.

Tracy Andrew asked "When do the dates go online on your CNZ website for tournaments that have been accepted"? Maurice was unsure and said he would have to check with Kate.

Zane Burnard (New Plymouth) "One thing they are forgetting is I seen the last AGM the president of CNZ said these tournaments are a licence to print money, for the club, surely if you had a guess there's a \$100,000 grand coming over through the bar, \$90,000, \$80,000 grand in the week, something including all the activities going on here, at a cost profit margin surely there's \$20,000 to \$30,000 grand gross profit coming into these clubs, so there's a lot of money involved even if the event itself didn't break even, there's a lot of money around".

Maurice responded with, "I have to be honest when I was president for 21 years, pool & darts were my two favourite tournaments to host behind golf, there is big money for certain tournaments, you

are dead right, but I'll be honest with you I've probably chaired six of these in the last two weeks and one of the things I'm hearing from host clubs is around sponsorship, trying to be able to get sponsorship, I just did recently South Islands billiards/snooker at Richmond a few weeks back and the president of the snooker section told me it was \$13,000 to hire the tables and that's money they have to find, and I agree clubs should be supporting their tournaments and unfortunately sections have to go out themselves and find sponsorship, that's what I'm hearing that sponsorship is very hard to find, like I said the rules are here, CNZ stipulate that 60% is paid out, Murray is paying out 84% so he's well within the guidelines we set when it comes to hosting these tournaments", I hear what you're saying it costs you a lot of money for your accommodation & air flights, I'll raise that at the board meeting, CNZ give out \$300 per tournament, when you have 52 tournaments, that's a lot of money you're giving out, hopefully CNZ have some things in the pipeline.

Richard Jackson (Tauranga Citizens Club) "This is an official invitation to you ladies and all you older gentlemen and ladies, we have the National Ladies and National Masters next year at Tauranga Citizens Club, the club has had many, many tournaments over the years in fact they held the very first National Masters tournament 22 years ago, we are a very successful tournament club and we hold many tournaments throughout the year and they always go very well, so you're all invited to attend. There is one point we would like to make, like all cities we have a major traffic problem and getting you there by 8 o'clock in the morning is a mission, so when you book accommodation please book in Tauranga, not in the Mount or Papamoa, our courtesy vans will be running 24/7 but they won't be going to Papamoa or the Mount, there are several motels very close to the club, if you get in early it won't be a problem.

Tracy Andrew asked "What the dates were for these tournaments, this couldn't be answered and they were not on CNZ's website at this time".

Cherry Pavelka (Hornby Club) "On behalf of the Hornby Pool Section and I'm sure everyone in this room, I'd really love to congratulate Cashmere on such a fantastic tournament, I know the work that goes in the background for months leading up to the tournament and then on the days of the tournament, so I'd like to recognize Janet & Murray for their amazing behind the scenes work and also all the other people that have chipped in to help out, it is a huge workload to get through and I'd really like it recorded how fantastic this tournament has been, so I'd like a round of applause for the Cashmere Club please."

Maurice (CNZ) "On behalf of CNZ, and myself, would like to thank Murray and Cashmere, for hosting the tournament, and I'm sorry I couldn't answer all your questions but like I said I haven't seen the minutes from the managers meeting, regarding the entry fees and what they are going to do, it sort of caught me on the hop a bit, I will be talking to Kate to chase up with their website guy why the dates for tournaments are not appearing on the CNZ Website".

Someone then said "They had asked for a list of referees to go on the website", Barry Appleton said "Names had been sent through from the South Island and Mike Ryan had sent them through from the North Island", Maurice said "I will chase that up as well".

Murray Davies (Cashmere) “Just before you go, there is one thing that has happened this year and I don’t know if it’s happened in the past, we had a person that entered and registered on the Sunday and then never turned up for his game, my belief is he was in the tournament because he had registered, he was timed out of every game and doesn’t have a right to come into the trophy, that’s how it sits at the moment, I believe you should register on the day you’re playing then if you don’t turn up you’re not in”. Keri Low, “You’re saying they registered for both events the pairs and the singles”? Murray responded “Yes, it’s up for discussion and I don’t think the ruling is quite right, we’ve taken the opinion that he’s registered for the tournament so he’s part of the tournament, he’s lost all of his games 3-0 but because of his ranking he’s ended up ahead of some players that actually played all of their games but never won any frames. It needs to be discussed and put in the rules”.

Barry Appleton (Waikanae) responded “When it comes to things like that surely that would come under the host clubs responsibility, it’s up to them to run the tournament the way they see fit, we’ve had discussions many, many, many years ago about tables as well, that is all up to host club responsibility, if you want to only have registrations for each separate session so long as it is clearly in the program and everybody knows, so be it.”

No more general business

Meeting closed 8.41 am