Minutes of the 2026 CNZ Open Nationals Delegates Meeting

Chair: Maurice Nutira

Minute Taker: Janet McGrath

Date: 9th October 2026

Meeting Commenced: 7:52am

Location: Cashmere Club

Present: Delegates: Murray Davies (Cashmere Club), Sue Wakefield (Ashburton Club & MSA), Amber James(Club Buller), Darren Boyes (Gore RSA), Corrie Evans (Gore Town & Country Club), Carol Cameron (Hokitika Club), Pauline Laugesen (Hornby Club), Paul Gardner-Brown (Howick Club), Brian Stewart (Invercargill WMC), Lee Early (Kaiapoi Club), Manurewa Cosmopolitan Club (Glen Coutts), Otaki Club & RSA (Trist Reweti), Daz McKay (Papatoetoe Cosmopolitan Club), Anthony Payne (Petone Workingmens Club), Tracy Andrew (Richmond Club), Thomas Young (Rununga Club), Richard Te Haara (Tauranga Citizens Club), Mikey Snowdon (Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club), Denise Brennock (Waikanae Chartered Club), Katrina Tahana (Waikato Commerce Club), Barry Appleton (Woolston Club)
Others Present: 22 club members from various clubs.

Welcome by Maurice Nutira, representative from Clubs NZ.

Apologies: Nil

A minute of silence in remembrance of those that have passed.

Confirmation of previous minutes:
Mover: Trist Reweti (Otaki) Seconder: Barry Appleton (Woolston Club)

Matters arising from previous minutes: Nil

Applications to host:
There was only one application to host the 2027 Open Nationals from (Manurewa Cosmopolitan Club), Glen Coutts the Manurewa delegate spoke about how Manurewa was ready to host next year.

There was a letter of application for 2028 from the Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, Mikey Snowdon the Upper Hutt delegate confirmed they were keen to host in 2028, CNZ also received an application for 2029 from the Invercargill Workingmen's Club, Brian Stewart spoke about their club and what it has to offer.
Maurice mentioned how hard it was to get clubs to host tournaments with the increasing costs, so was a good idea to book 2 to 3 years in advance if a club is willing to host an event.
The other thing that was brought up at the Ladies South Islands was trophies they asked if Clubs NZ held the trophies for the safekeeping of the Island and National events, Maurice said that Clubs NZ were not willing to do this and it should be the winners and their clubs responsibility to keep the trophies in good condition, Murray Davies (Cashmere) said that Kate at Clubs NZ should keep a register of all winners with contact details, because so much time is spent trying to locate the trophies from the previous year's events. The winners should be included in a separate document with the minutes sent in by the host club.

Remits:
CLUBS NEW ZEALAND BOARD REMIT
At the Delegates Meeting of the Clubs New Zealand 2026 National 8 Ball Tournament, delegates
present at the meeting will be asked to consider, and if thought fit, pass the remit set out below.
RULE 19: QUALIFIED OR DESIGNATED REFEREE
That Rule 19 of the Clubs New Zealand 8 Ball Rules
19. the organisers of any 8 Ball competition must designate individuals who are to be considered qualified referees for the event where there are no persons present who have the appropriate qualifications.
Be replaced by
19. The host club must ensure that at least one suitably qualified referee is appointed and available throughout the tournament. In determining whether a referee is suitably qualified, consideration should be given to the individual's knowledge of the Clubs New Zealand 8 Ball Rules, previous officiating experience, and the ability to competently adjudicate matches and rule disputes.
Background/Rationale
The existing rule is unclear and may allow individuals without appropriate knowledge or experience to be deemed "qualified" by appointment alone. This amendment clarifies the responsibility of host clubs to provide suitably qualified referees, supporting fair, consistent, and credible officiating across Clubs New Zealand competitions.
Barry Appleton (Woolston) through the chair requested that the word senior qualified referee be added to the remit.

Motion Carried

Hokitika Club - Amendment to Rule 15f (Unintentional Interference)
Purpose of Remit
The Hokitika Club seeks to amend Rule 15f- Unintentional Interference to ensure fair and consistent outcomes when accidental contact affects play.
Background
Under the current rule, if a player is unintentionally bumped and their cue tip contacts the white ball, the opponent may choose to:
Take the free ball**,** or
Allow the player to replay the shot from where the white ball finishes.
This allows the non-offending player to gain an advantage from an incident caused by someone other than the players at the table. We believe this outcome is inconsistent with fair play and should be corrected.
Suggested Amendment to Rule 15f
15f- Unintentional Interference
Unintentional interference by players at the table results in a minor foul and a free ball.
15f(a) - Interference Caused by Others
if interference is caused by any person not playing at the table, the player at the table shall have the right
to continue play from where the white ball lands, with no penalty applied.
Rationale
This amendment ensures:
Players are not unfairly disadvantaged by accidental interference from spectators or other individuals.
The rule remains consistent, fair, and focused on player responsibility.
Opponents shouldn't gain an advantage from an incident outside the control of the player at the table. The spirit of the game is upheld through clear, equitable rule application.
Submitted By
Hokitika **Club** Date: 26/08/2026 Carol Cameron
Seconded by
Papanui Club: Date 15/08/2026 Darren Purdon
A discussion followed and consistency with the ruling by referees was requested.
Barry Appleton responded that rule 14f lies within the rule set of fouls therefore what Carol is asking cannot be entered into the rule 15 because that describes fouls. The unintentional foul as stated in rule 15 is for a clothing foul etc. so we can’t change it. The referees do have ruling under rule 34 states that referees can adjudicate on anything if not so written within these rules. The referees are supposed to be trained to offer ball replacement and at no foul and you carry on.

Barry proposed that the amendment be put in as a rule 37 to read: Outside Accidental Interference - when the striker is accidentally bumped or pushed causing a ball or balls to be moved unintentionally the ball or balls will be replaced to the best agreement of both players, failing that a referee's assistance if required with no foul penalty and play will continue.
More discussion followed, a vote followed all those in favour of Rule 37 as read
Motion Carried

General Business:
Murray Davies (Cashmere) Transport registrations to be in by the close off date, we've been getting registrations for transport the day before the tournament, making it difficult to organize the transport roster.
Maurice said tournament registrations have been take over by Clubs NZ and we all know why, any other requirements such as transport or food are to be sent directly through to the host club.

Barry Appleton(Woolston) brought up about the statement from Clubs NZ regarding the eligibility to play in the North & South Island by hosting both events at the same time and being a directive from Clubs NZ, this ma be more problematic than what it's trying to solve, simply by clubs that wish to host are now being restricted to being told to have it on that weekend, I suggest the wording from Clubs NZ say you may only enter one island event in a calendar year, therefore means you can only play one event which gives the clubs the freedom to host the event around something that could be possibly out of their reach by a specific and fixed date.
Maurice responded the reason wasn't to stop people playing in both tournaments Clubs NZ were updating the handbook, and that Clubs NZ have stopped supporting some of their tournaments because of dwindling numbers, CNZ revisit all their tournaments and realign them so they are played on the same weekend, in saying that if there is a specific need they will relook at it, this is what the CNZ board have agreed on.
Murray Davies (Cashmere) said CNZ can't be setting dates that may not be suitable for the host club.
Maurice said there were a few grumbles from the North Island about players playing in both, which made them look at things and once they started going through the handbook and making changes and decided to realign most of our tournaments so they fall within the same period of time, at the moment this has been passed by the board and is a ruling in the handbook so we can't change it here, if you're not happy with give me the reasons, to take back to the board.
Murray Davies (Cashmere) the sport is in really good hands at the moment, numbers have greatly increased in the last ten years, and if it isn't broke don't fix it.

Barry Appleton (Woolston) pointed out that the tournaments are called the North Island Open & the South Island Open and the word open by definition allows it to be open, to any player from any club, the main reason I brought this up was to open it for general discussion, and there is a feeling that the clubs themselves should be able to choose when it suits them to host an open event, that's my official opinion I know it's not a remit and nothing can be changed at this meeting but if we can have something from this meeting to go back to the board for further consultation and perhaps a revisit.

Tracy Andrew (Richmond) questioned why it isn't affecting the Ladies the South Island Ladies can play in the Ladies North Islands and the North Island Ladies can play in the Ladies South Islands. The Ladies can play at three events, and the men can only play at one.
Wayne Cameron (Hokitika) What Clubs NZ have to realize is the tournaments are Clubs NZ and it's only a word, you have to be careful you don't make it impossible for clubs to host the events because the clubs could go ahead and host a similar tournament and drop the word clubs NZ, clubs are just trying to remain open and you don't want to make it too difficult for them, Maurice responded with we have it all written down here to go back to the board and if you want to follow up with an email to the President of Clubs NZ Terry, and will be discussed at the December meeting.
Maurice asked if there was any other general business.

Meeting closed: 8:30am