

**New Zealand Ballroom Dance Council  
2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes  
24<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

Venue: 20 Millisle Place, East Tamaki Heights, Auckland 2016

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

Present: Kingsley Gainsford (KG), Erica Gunn (EG), Zarlane Ziegler (ZZ), Murray Bootten (MB), Robert Connors (RC), Scott Cole (SC), Chante Mueller (CM), Darrell Crozier (DC)

As all were present, no apologies were required.

KG welcomed all delegates and the new Registrants' Trustee CM.

1. 2017 AGM Minutes. The 2017 AGM minutes held 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were moved (there were no matters arising that would not be covered under other items on the agenda) as accepted and confirmed. RC/ZZ. Carried 7/0.
  - a. Noted the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2018 Special General Meeting minutes had been confirmed by email by all Trustees.
2. Chairperson's Report. KG presented his 2018 report. Moved as accepted and confirmed. KG/EG. Carried 7/0 – matters arising, **RC** to send letter of appreciation to Michael Jonson, retiring Registrants' Trustee.
3. Secretary's Report. RC presented his 2018 report. Moved as accepted and confirmed KG/EG. Carried 7/0.
  - a. As processes develop and to eliminate errors, it was agreed that the ballot paper for 2019 would be redesigned. It was questioned whether "Electronic Voting" in some form could be introduced to make this easier and more participatory. This should be done in line with a review of our database, how it is operated and the system it should be maintained in. Moved KG/MB. Carried 7/0. **CM/DC** to look at a scope/concept for this.
  - b. It was also agreed that we should engage a specialist (paid or volunteer) to review our Constitution, Standing Orders, Competition Rules, etc. Moved KG/MB. Carried 7/0. **CM** to liaise with **RC**.
  - c. **RC** to add \$5000 to the budget for possible costs associated with the above. Moved KG/MB. Carried 7/0.
  - d. The attached Financial Report, Budget, Operating Authorities for Bank Accounts, Trust Accounts establishment and Recommendations for allocation of funds to Reserve Funds were all tabled. Moved KG/MB. Carried 7/0. **RC** to establish the appropriate Serious Saver accounts and undertake the necessary funds transfers
4. Registrar's Report. DC presented his 2018 report. Moved as accepted and confirmed RC/CM. Carried 7/0.
  - a. As per 3a, database review to be undertaken with concept development by **CM/DC**.

5. Confirmation of Election of Registrants' Trustee.
  - a. KG advised that in line with the Returning Officer's report that CM was elected to the vacant position of Registrants' Trustee. The interest in the ballot and the strong canvassing by both candidates was good to see.
  - b. RC as Returning Officer moved that the ballot papers should now be destroyed.
  - c. Confirmation of both 5a and 5b moved **RC/KG**. Carried 7/0.
6. Nomination of Officers. Prior to this being undertaken a point of order was raised by MB. The constitution does not have the Chairperson of Council nominated as an officer, but rather a person elected from within the Trustees to chair meetings and act as a spokesperson for Council when required. As such the nomination should be rephrased as just an Election of the Officers being Secretary/Treasurer and Registrar and then the further election of a Chairperson and if required a Financial Advisor. The meeting had a brief discussion on this and agreed to proceed with the election as per this understanding:
  - a. One nomination had been received and having been accepted was declared elected for each of:
    - i. Secretary/Treasurer – Robert Connors
    - ii. Registrar – Darrell Crozier
  - b. One nomination had been received and having been accepted was declared elected for each of:
    - i. Chairperson – Kingsley Gainsford
    - ii. Financial Advisor – Darrell Crozier
7. Remits for discussion/approval:
  - a. N Gampell – remit on the definition of eligibility to compete in the Class A New Zealand Closed Championship Title events. After discussion it was decided that there needed to be a clarification on the restriction period and what representation actually meant.
    - i. It was agreed that the restriction applied from 1<sup>st</sup> January to the end date of each Championship applicable.
    - ii. The definition of Representation is meant to apply to
      1. Actually competing to represent another country in a particular style, regardless of success, and/or
      2. Actually representing another country at a World or Regional representative event.
      3. It was noted being named, as from a particular country, in an event programme that is not a Regional or World event does not necessarily indicate representation for that country, but may be a residential definition. Couples are encouraged to be careful to state they are dancing as a New Zealand couple whenever possible.
  - b. Society of Australasian Dance Teachers (New Zealand) Incorporated remits, all remits were moved KG/ZZ after discussion votes were cast as follows:
    - i. Remit 1 – passed 7/0
    - ii. Remit 2 – passed 5/2

- iii. Remit 3 – passed 7/0
  - iv. Remit 4 – passed 7/0
  - v. Remit 5 – passed 7/0
  - vi. Remit 6 – passed 5/2
  - vii. Remit 7 – passed 5/2
  - viii. Remit 8 – passed 5/2
  - ix. Remit 9 – passed 7/0
  - x. Remit 10 – passed 7/0
  - xi. Remit 11 – passed 7/0
  - xii. Remit 12 – passed 5/2
  - xiii. Remit 13 – passed 7/0
- c. **KG/RC** to draft advice to Registrants of these changes (as it was agreed to commission a redraft of all Council Rules this will be done as an Addendum to the Council Rules (applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019).
8. The Social Media Policy put in place by the New Zealand Federation of Dance Teachers Incorporated was reviewed as whether it should be adopted by Council. It was decided that this would be part of the redraft of all Council Rules and in the interim the Secretary (**RC**) should add a reminder to all registrants as part of the update from the AGM of the need for care and consideration in Social Media posts.
9. Adjudicators' Manual. **MB** has completed an initial review and will forward this to **SC** for his input/comments. When these are complete **SC** to forward to **CM** – to be included with other Rules/Manuals for redrafting.
10. Standing Orders – the meeting confirmed the adoption of the draft Standing Orders completed by **EG/RC**. 7/0.
- a. Standing Orders allow for AGM attendees to receive an Attendance Expense Allowance, these were suspended during the legal challenges and court cases that Council faced. After discussion it was moved **KG/ZZ** to reinstate the allowance at \$150 per meeting (AGM or SGM)– passed 7/0.
  - b. It was moved that the Chairperson, elected at the AGM by and from the Trustees should be added as an Officer of Council – passed 5/2.
11. Following discussions at the 2017 AGM (February 2018) it was formally agreed that American Smooth and American Rhythm would be added as a style covered by Council – will require appropriate additions to the Rule Book as it is redrafted.
12. Otago Dancesport Championships – a query on whether these would need to pay \$200 reinstatement fee or just \$30 annual application fee if the provisional organiser elected to proceed was discussed. These have been in abeyance for a number of years (outside the 2 year temporary suspension allowed). As such they should be treated as a new application. The meeting agreed that if the organisers wished to proceed a one off concession application fee of \$100 would be charged and that the event would be considered for any weekend in August except 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019 as this would compete with the Christchurch event in the same island. **RC** to advise Mike Birnie accordingly.

13. Council received a request to recognise the Canterbury Scrutineers Association. The meeting discussed this and RC/EG moved to recognise – passed 7/0. The CSA would be recommended to use the Dancescore scrutineering software, which would allow support from NZSS.

14. General Business:

- a. SC raised the issue of an email he had sent to Trustees being circulated wider than the Trustees. While he was clear that the general contents were his true thoughts on matters raised, he also acknowledged that if it were to be distributed further he would have wanted to be so advised and have the opportunity to amend the language used.
- b. It should be noted that the email was not sent to Council, and was not forwarded by Council Secretary to Trustees. As such it was neither considered as a formal complaint nor as a matter that needed to be addressed, until such time as it might be made formal.
- c. EG said that the NZFDT Executive and their Trustees felt entitled to send the email on to the subject of the email, and that the language was not what any of them expected within our profession. The other 5 Trustees agreed the language was not acceptable. SC apologised if his language had offended the reader, however he stands by the content of the email. As was discussed at the 2018 AGM, the other 5 Trustees felt the communication should not have been circulated/shared with the subject of the email without, in the first instance, reverting to the author for comment, amendment or retraction. The action of forwarding the email to the subject of the email has instigated Legal issues and inflamed further ill feeling within our Industry. Trustees discussed the possible Breaches of the Privacy Act and Human Rights Act. Notwithstanding, NZFDT Trustees stand by the NZFDT decisions in direct opposition to the majority of Council.
- d. KG advised that he had addressed the language with SC on a personal basis.
- e. RC reminded Trustees that the minutes of the previous AGM did specify that words such as “In Confidence”, “For Trustees Only” or “Heads Up” should be used if the contents of a particular email were not to be circulated outside the Trustees (and Executives if deemed necessary). **KG** commented that commonsense and the wider ramifications of Trustees actions had to be taken into account by all Trustees.
- f. EG commented that she had received many abusive emails from KG and that it was not acceptable that she was being blamed for others inability to be civil. KG asked EG for examples. EG advised that as she did not know this matter or issue might be raised, she did not have any available with her. ZZ asked and EG agreed to send to ZZ the abusive emails she had received direct from KG.
- g. **EG/MB** will ask the NZFDT Executive to provide Council their policy regarding to the receipt of correspondence of this nature.

15. Meeting concluded 15:20pm

