



2nd Annual General Meeting of New Zealand Lacrosse Minutes

Date: Sunday 28 August 2022

Time: 4pm

Venue: Remote via video call

Present:

Participants:

- Waikato Delegate - Aksel Bech
- Auckland Delegates - Max van der Maas
- Wellington Delegate - Andy McNeil
- Canterbury Delegate - Liam Griffiths
- Kim Grafton
- Yui Khai Foong
- Ronald Jones
- Eric Terpening
- Marina Samountry
- Nicole Goode

Observers:

Debra Cowen, Mike Thompson, Martyn Nash, Joelean Mayall, Henry Ling, James Stacey, Bill Hollins, Roger Snow, Kenzie Baer, Moshe Malal

1. **Welcome and Karakia** from Nicole Goode
2. **Apologies:** Toby Delamore, Shawn Barbarash, Tim Brebner, Mike Mete, Eric Messick
3. **Conflicts of Interest:** none
4. **Speaking/Voting Rights**

Only those who have been confirmed as the regional delegates may participate in this AGM. That means that only these people may talk and vote. Everyone else is an observer of the meeting.

While our constitution sets out that only those delegates would attend a General Meeting, this year the NZL have made this available for all individual members to attend in an observing capacity.

5. Quorum and Voting Entitlements

The quorum for a General Meeting is 66% of the Members who are entitled to vote. (17.13)

Present at this meeting:

Max van der Maas on behalf of Auckland Lacrosse (1 vote)

Liam Griffiths on behalf of Canterbury Lacrosse (1 vote)

Andy McNeil on behalf of Wellington Lacrosse (1 vote)

Aksel Bech on behalf of Waikato Lacrosse (1 vote)

With delegates from all but 1 of NZL's members present, quorum has been met at 80%.

At last year's AGM, Waikato and Wellington were confirmed as full members, while Auckland, Canterbury and Manawatu were confirmed as interim members. This reflected that they have conditions imposed on their membership to take certain actions to meet full membership. It was agreed at the previous AGM that these interim members will have the same voting rights as full members.

Voting Entitlements

Region	2021-2022 Paid Members	Delegates Allowed	Votes at 2022 AGM
Auckland*	158	2	2
Canterbury*	8	1	1
Manawatu*	1	1	1
Waikato	23	1	1
Wellington	22	1	1

*Currently interim members will have the same voting rights as full members. The 'interim' nature of their membership reflects that they have a condition imposed on their membership to take certain actions to meet full membership criteria by a certain point of time.

6. Agenda

James Clarkson noted that in "Receipt of Financial Statements", that the Financial Statements will be in full draft as it is in process of being reviewed by a Chartered Accountant as per the Constitution.

7. Appointment of Scrutineers

For this meeting we are required to appoint scrutineers to count votes. If required, we will use Election Buddy to receive votes for this meeting. This will be managed by the scrutineers.

Motion: that Marina Samounry and Bill Hollins be the scrutineers for this meeting.

- 1) Aksel Bech
- 2) Liam Griffiths

Motion passed.

8. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting

Clarifications requested by Aksel Bech:

- Ensure the minutes reflect the agreement that interim members have full voting rights (this was confirmed as being in the previous AGM minutes); and
- That the omitted proposed amendment clause be added in.

Motion: that the 2021 AGM minutes be approved as a true and accurate record provided the above clarifications be made.

- 1) Liam Griffiths
- 2) Max van der Maas

Motion passed.

9. Matters Arising

No outstanding business arising from the previous AGM minutes.

Aksel Bech requested that it be noted that before the AGM, he requested that the outstanding membership fee discussion from the 2021 AGM be considered as a matter arising which the NZL considered resolved. All regional members have been invoiced for their 2021 individual membership. Future membership fee amounts will be discussed with regional members at a later date.

10. Receipt of Annual Financial Report

Presented by James Clarkson, Treasurer. Noted that this is a draft Annual Financial Report, pending review by a Chartered Accountant as per the NZL Constitution.

Motion: that the annual financial report be accepted and approved.

- 1) Andy McNeil
- 2) Max van der Maas

Motion passed.

The Operations Manager has confirmed that she will confirm with the regions an expected timeframe and communications process for the forthcoming year's budget and membership fees.

11. Board Report

Presented by Nicole Goode, Chairperson.

The first year post merger has been significant. As the inaugural Board since our NZL merger, our focus has been bedding down the merger and continuing some of the operational work required. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board Members for the work they have done. While it is largely unseen and behind the scenes, they have spent many hours on meetings, in emails and taking actions to keep NZ Lacrosse moving in the right direction. While our operational involvement pulled us away from stepping into governance, it was reflective of where we were as a sporting organisation, meaning the short term requirements became a priority.

Our current Board is Toby Delamore, Kim Grafton, Yui Khai Foong, Shawn Barbarash, Eric Terpening, Ronald Jones and myself.

With the appointment of Marina Samoury as our Interim Operations Manager, as well as the group of key operational roles, we are starting to gain more capacity for the Board to step out of the Operational and into governance.

Key Operational activities that have taken place this year:

- Managing the holding of and postponements of tournaments and overseas tours in a constantly evolving pandemic environment. We were able to hold our Men's Senior Nationals and U18 boys nationals. We have 3 tournaments due to be held in September – National Secondary Schools, U18 and U15 Nationals
- NZBLAX competed in the World Lacrosse Senior Women's World Championships in Towson in June this year, where they finished 12th place
- Our Senior Men's squad has selected their squad to compete at the APLU Senior Men's Qualifiers later year ahead of the Men's World Championships in San Diego next year
- U18 Boys and Girls NZ Development teams competed in the Lacrosse Australia U18 Nationals in Adelaide in July
- We had 6 officials participating in overseas tournaments this year so far – Erina Taylor and Josh Muller at the Lacrosse Australia U18 Nationals, Ursula Johnston and myself at the World Lacrosse Women's Senior World Championships and Bill Hollins and John Brocklebank at the World Lacrosse Men's U21 Mens World Championships

Key Board activities for this year include:

- Completing the dissolution of NZWLA and NZLA, and the consolidation of the governing bodies into NZL
- Strengthening NZL's relationship with World Lacrosse and ensuring we were on the same page
- Establishment of relationships with external partners including Sport NZ
- Documentation of Board roles and responsibilities
- Appointment of Interim Operations Manager and business case in development for paid General Manager position
- Commenced policy review and new policy creation
- Led a consultative strategy process

The final draft strategy is ready to be considered by the incoming board and members before being published and communicated.

As with most grassroot sports in New Zealand, NZ Lacrosse is built on volunteers. You may have seen an advertisement that went out last week seeking volunteers. These expressions of interest may form working groups determined by strategic goals, as well as other opportunities to get involved within NZ Lacrosse. There continues to be a lot of work required, rather than rely on a small number of passionate volunteers who give a lot of their time, we would like to include more people on our journey by opening this up to more. This will ensure diversity in how and who does this, as well as to relieve some pressure from our current volunteers.

I would encourage you to review this expression of interest form and either yourself or recommend to others to register your interest in volunteering time.

We know that the past couple of years have been tough for everyone, and we hope that we are starting to establish our new normal and we will be able to improve accessibility to Lacrosse.

As we move into the new year, our key aims for NZL are to:

1. Work with the Regional Governing Bodies (Members) to develop programmes and offer services that can be delivered locally to grow the game.
2. Raise the profile of the sport in Aotearoa.
3. Work with its Members and external partners to grow participation and ensure a safe and inclusive environment.

There has been a considerable amount of work done by the New Zealand Lacrosse community in continuing to grow the sport this past year. I would like to thank the players, the volunteers and the supporters who have put in the effort during this past year; all the more remarkable as we managed the challenges of a global pandemic impacting sport in New Zealand as it did around the world. While there have been differences, the one thing that has united us is our passion for the Creator's game.

Success is not the work of one, but the work of many
Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari, he toa takitini.

Motion: that the Board report be received

- 1) Aksel Bech
- 2) Andy McNeil

Motion passed.

12. Operational Report

Presented by Marina Samounry, Interim Operations Manager - link to report [here](#).

The Board would also like to take this opportunity to recognise and thank the work that Marina Samounry and Max van der Maas have and continue to do. They manage a bulk of the operational work in NZ Lacrosse.

Motion: that the operational report be received

- 1) Andy McNeil
- 2) Max van der Maas

Motion passed.

13. Membership Applications

NZL has not received any new membership applications.

14. Election and Appointment of Board Members

At this AGM, we have 5 Board Member positions vacant - 2 appointed positions and 3 elected.

Since the last AGM, the Board advertised and appointed two interim Board Members - Yui Khai Foong and Ronald Jones. NZL would like to thank them for the work that they have done so far for NZL.

Appointed Board Members

Our Board Appointments Panel has received, shortlisted and interviewed applicants for these 2 positions. This Panel was made up of Gillian Simpson, an independent governance professional, Andrew Corkill, National Partnerships Manager for Sport NZ and Nicole Goode as Chairperson of NZL.

The Board has received and accepted the recommendation of the Board Appointments Panel to appoint Mike Thompson and Martyn Nash.

Elected Board Members

We have received 3 applicants. They are Yui Khai Foong, Ronald Jones and Debra Cowen.

Motion: that as there are the same number of applications as there are positions, we elect these three people to the three available Board Member positions

- 1) Liam Griffiths
- 2) Max van der Maas

Motion passed.

The Board wishes to thank outgoing Board Member Kim Grafton for the work and support she has provided the NZL during her time as appointed Board Member. She has agreed to be available as an advisor and supporter for NZL as and when required.

15. Any Other Business

No requests of general business were received, however the Board raised the below to Members.

Constitutional Amendments and Upcoming SGM

Nicole Goode gave forewarning of a Special General Meeting which the Board anticipates calling by the end of this year. This will be to put forward a motion to make some minor amendments to the constitution.

In the process of doing business, the Board has come across some aspects of the Constitution that do not best fit NZL in its current position. It is normal to have some tweaks that need to be made to a brand new constitution coming in, and especially so as the NZL constitution was written using templates and examples from Sport NZ and from much larger and more established Sporting organisations in NZ.

As a result, there are some minor amendments to the Constitution that the Board would like to consider. We are not in a position to table these at this AGM because we are still in the process of drafting the wording. Once this has been done we will share the draft wording and detailed reasoning behind the recommendation to amend this. This will be shared alongside a notice of a Special General Meeting which will be held no less than 30 days after sending this draft wording.

The attendance and voting entitlements will be similar to this meeting, based on individual registered membership numbers of each region.

The key amendment that you can expect to be tabled is to our Board Appointments Panel process. We have had feedback from Sport NZ and from a couple of other governance professionals that the clauses we have around the Panel do not reflect the size of the sporting organisation. It requires us to have someone appointed by the president of the NZ Institute of Directors and someone appointed by the Chairperson of Sport NZ. NZL does not need people of this seniority on the Appointments Panel, and it costs money for us to have these people involved, which we could be diverting to other very needed areas of Lacrosse.

The Board will be sending out more information about the proposed amendments and date for an SGM.

Henry Ling and James Stacey proposed discussing coaching opportunities for the New Zealand Men's Team. Marina Samoury will discuss this at a more appropriate time after the meeting.

16. Close of Meeting

Meeting was closed with a karakia from Nicole Goode and formally closed at 4.52pm

Approved as a true and accurate record

NZL Chairperson

Date:

2023