

Management Report

Firstly thank you everyone for taking the time out of your day to attend this meeting online. While we have had online components at previous AGM's, we have never had one in its entirety.

We have endured another crazy COVID filled year, particularly in the back half since August but also the blip mid event in March bringing everything to a halt. This disruption has made it tough not only nationally but also throughout our network of 32 boardrider clubs and hard-working volunteers delivering at a local level. So, thank you again for keeping it altogether for the New Zealand surfing community.

Olympics

Having Ella Williams and Billy Stairmand represent New Zealand at the Olympics was a major highlight of the year. The two athletes finished ninth at the event and represented New Zealand and surfing as a sport, proudly.

Olympic inclusion continues to drive the sport forward and that is reflected in the financial support from the Olympic Solidarity Fund (\$23,000 USD) and High Performance Sport NZ who funded part of our Olympic campaign along with support for Billy Stairmand and Paige Hareb.

With Paris/Tahiti looming in 2.5 years, work is already underway to build our high performance programme and strengthen our relationship with High Performance Sport NZ.

Our board's desire to develop the sport also led to contracting Joe Payton to build out our high performance plan.

Domestic Events

While the back half of the year saw the cancellation of five events, we managed to run a full summer-season calendar which finished with the return of the Super 16 at Piha and the crowning of Taylor Hutchison and Ava Henderson as the NZ Surf Series Champions. There were multiple highlights through the season including the Hurley Club Championships and the new Neon Grom Comp at Pauanui as additions to the calendar.

The NZ Surf Series saw an 11% drop in male participants and a 2% increase in female participants compared with 2019 (2020 was heavily COVID impacted). Differences can be attributed to one less event for males and one extra event for the females. Coverage on Sky Sport and Sky Sport Next across three events boosted the profile of the series as did support from a number of publications including New Zealand Surfing Magazine and our own digital channels now amassing 45,000 fans across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

The NZ Grom Series remained over-subscribed this summer and we restricted entries to allow sufficient time to get through the events. A total of 365 participants took part across the ten events.

Development Initiatives

Lee Ryan and Dan Westerkamp have led another year of our Wave Warriors learn-to-surf programme, predominantly through Northland and Auckland thanks to support from Foundation North and Water Safety New Zealand. Almost 1,500 students have given surfing a go under Lee's team of coaches, all having a blast and learning valuable water safety skills in the process.

Our Surfers Rescue 24/7 programme has launched and is building

momentum with over 100 participants to date in past twelve months and a number of courses being rolled out this summer. This has been a great collaboration with Surf Life Saving New Zealand.

Support from the Halberg Disabilities Fund and Sport New Zealand's Tu Manawa Fund has seen a number of adaptive have a go days take place. We recently applied for increased funding to develop this area of the organisation and a part time role.

The SNZ Team

Our board has been energised this year, brilliantly led by Greg Allnutt though until last month. Greg will be missed on the board as well departing Mark Pevats but as Russell said, Mark won't be far away.

This year, our sub committees included:

- Sponsorship and Funding led by Sarah Rogan and Char Clark
- Membership and Community lead by Keri McKenzie and Deb Bowry
- Participation and Performance led by Russell Ritchie and Alan TeMoananui
- Tikanga – Alan TeMoananui
- Finance, Risk and Rem led by Greg Allnutt and Mark Pevats

Thanks team for all the hard work that has gone into the year and for supporting our management team to get the job done.

Lee Ryan has tirelessly driven a number of projects all year and it has been good to have some youthful energy at our side with Dan Westerkamp on board full time all year and adding extra value to all of our initiatives. Alongside full time staff, we have an extremely dedicated team of event officials and coaches which, without them, initiatives simply wouldn't be delivered.

Financial

We continue to get great support through the community trusts via New Zealand Community Trust and the Lion Foundation plus a number of smaller applications.

Skinnies came on board at the start of the year as a major partner and Volkswagen in April and now helping us traverse the coastline. Together, they complement the great support we get from the surf industry including Billabong, Rip Curl, Quiksilver, Backdoor, Exit Surf, Hurley, Neon Surf, Seventh Wave and Sticky Johnson.

While our support from High Performance Sport New Zealand grows, our funding from Sport New Zealand was reduced to \$20,000 annually in 2021 which was disappointing. We have a lot to achieve to reverse this trend and meet their criteria of membership and impacting Rangatahi (12-18 year olds).

Looking Forward

We have some great opportunities ahead of us with a full calendar of summer events looming. The return of the inaugural Piha Pro in November 2022 will be exciting. And the work being completed in the high performance space will bring added value to our top surfers.