

NOTICES TO CLUBS OCTOBER 2020



Dear Club Secretary,

Please forward information on to your members.

Note: There are calls for Expressions of Interest included in this Notice – so keep reading...

2020 AGM:

Thank you to all Associations for agreeing to move the AGM date to accommodate Leo Mouat's funeral. Leo did a huge amount for the sport of polocrosse over the years at both Club and National level, which was evident by the turnout of polocrosse members (past and present) and Leo's funeral, and by the eulogy provided by Tony Schrafft.

The AGM was therefore held on Sunday 27th September 2020, at the Avantidrome in Cambridge. Although the weather was not great to start with the day turned out well, with a good turnout of delegates and other polocrosse stakeholders.

Regrettably, this was Neil Smith's last official duty as the President of New Zealand Polocrosse and also as a Board member - we will all miss him greatly, although he ensures us that we will still see him around out on the field!

For the second year in a row there were more nominations than vacant seats available for the Board which is very promising for the future of New Zealand Polocrosse and great for our succession planning. Congratulations to Nicky Schrafft, Russell Tye and Andrew Fowler for being elected. Thank you to Dirk Faul and Beau Moore for making themselves available; there are still plenty of things to do within the sport to keep you involved, and in the stakeholders eyes, in the hope that you may wish to stand again next year.

The AGM went well with a mixture of remits being carried and lost, with some of these carrying over to the conference for further discussion. The conference provided information and time for discussion on a variety of matters with constructive input from all parties.

Draft AGM & Conference minutes will be distributed to Club and Association Secretary's along with this Notice to Clubs.

AGM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PATRON:

Another farewell from official duties was for Anne Mickell, who has been the Patron of New Zealand Polocrosse since 2015. Anne was presented with flowers at the AGM and thanked for fulfilling this position so well over the last 5 years.

The Board had pleasure in advising the stakeholders that Lawrence Tye accepted the invitation to be Patron. Lawrence is a Life Member of New Zealand Polocrosse, he has been a member of the NZ Polocrosse Board, as well as holding a multitude of offer titles within the sport at various Club, Association and National levels over the many years of his playing career.



PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT:

The Board is pleased to advise that they have appointed Craig Zielinski as the President of New Zealand Polocrosse and Chairman of the New Zealand Polocrosse Board, with Gary Malcolm being appointed as Vice President. With the Board having such a vast workload, spread over the country, and with unprecedented times ahead for all sports the Board felt that it was a good time to officially appoint a Vice President to assist in the Presidential role and duties.

BOARD MEMBERS & AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

At the first meeting of the Board the following Areas of Responsibility were designate to the various Boar members with their role being to act as a go between for the subcommittees and the Board and to be the recognised Board member for stakeholders to approach to discuss items that fall within their specific portfolio.

Coaching
Umpiring
Publicity / Website
Growth & Assisting with Fundraising
Sponsorship / Sponsors Carnival & Fundraising
Junior Scholarships and Overseas Liaison

Gary Malcolm
Russell Tye
Andrew Fowler
Craig Zielinski
Nicky Schrafft
Russell Tye



COACHING PANEL:

The Board is very pleased to announce the appointment of Neil Smith as the Coaching Panel Administrator. The Coaching Panel format has been reviewed with minor tweaks been made based on a review of how this has worked over the last few seasons. The four main areas of focus are –



- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1). Survey Monkey Review Panel | The main aim of this panel is to review results (once compiled from the Survey Monkey to ensure confidentiality and anonymity) and to then provide constructive feed back to the various coaches by way of individual reviews; this is followed up by reporting to the Board and follow up reviews if deemed necessary. |
| 2). The Coach Appointment Team | To make recommendations to the Board on NZ Junior & Intermediate Coach position and selector appointments. |
| 3). The Coach Development Team | The aim of this group of coaches is to coordinate the development of coaches at all levels, identifying suitable coaches for Professional Development, reviewing the Coaching Syllabus, and assessing Level One Coaches. This group is also responsible for making recommendations re Junior Scholarship recipients and some annual player awards. This team includes all the NZ national coaches. |
| 4). The Seeding & Selection Team | As the name suggests, this team will be responsible for seeding of National Fixtures each year; having the same team throughout the year should help provide consistency in this important role. The overall general knowledge of players and their ability will help in placing players in mixed teams for the likes of the Sponsors Carnival etc. |

UMPIRES PANEL:

The Umpires Panel for the 2020 – 2021 season will consist of –

New Zealand Chief Umpire Umpire Panel Members

Tony Schrafft
Paddy Cornelius, Jesse Kereopa
Nigel Watson & Martin White

Umpire Panel Administrator

Jenelle Coxall



The new style score pads have been printed and will be distributed as needed throughout the season. If you still have some of the older ones these are still able to be used. Please ensure, no matter which type of score pad you are using, that they are filled in correctly – recording any penalties etc. If you require help with this, please see a member of the Umpires Panel.

It is envisioned that this season will see each Club's Umpire collate the score sheets from their carnivals and forward only the relevant information to the NZ Umpires Panel Administrator – we will be working on a sheet, or process to make this as easy as possible for you to do.

PUBLICITY, FACEBOOK & WEBSITE:

Several “young ladies” have shown an interest in taking on these roles and hopefully they will all work together under the guidance of Andrew Fowler.

We will update you on this as soon as appointments are made but please continue to send through any relevant information that you would like on the website through to the New Zealand Publicity Officer - email address nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com ; please copy the NZ Secretary in on any carnival flyers or information that you want distributed to Clubs – NZ Secretary email address nzpolocrosse@gmail.com



Please remember that the New Zealand Polocrosse face book page is viewable by all, possible sponsors, new and potential members, and other equestrian sports etc so please keep the content, and comments, of a “nice” nature.

A reminder that if anyone is able to assist in supply high resolution photos for use on the website and face book page this would be most helpful, especially if a new Publicity Officer or Website Administrator (s) are unable to do this, or do not attend all carnivals.



NEW ZEALAND COACHES, SELECTORS & MANAGERS:

With an exciting, but possibly very different year ahead of us the Board is please to announce the following appointments. Please see below for Expressions of Interests for some positions that are yet to be filled.

New Zealand National (Open) Coach: Shane Hill
(no changes) **Assistant Coach:** To be confirmed (TBC)
Selectors: Shane Hill, Nicky Schrafft & Paddy Cornelius
Manager: Nicky Schrafft

New Zealand Intermediates Coach: Jarrod Richardson
Assistant Coach: TBC
Selectors: Jarrod Richardson & one other to be advised
Manager: TBC

New Zealand Juniors Coach: Rick Murray
Assistant Coach: TBC
Selectors: Rick Murray & one other to be advised
Manager: Lionel Gundry



For clarification – Assistant Coaches are put forward by the Coach and are then approved by the Board. Selectors positions are filled by way of Expressions of Interest, through the Coach Appointment Team. The New Zealand Open team has three selectors, with the New Zealand Polocrosse President being an arbitrator if required (these positions were filled last year). The Junior and Intermediate teams only have two selectors, being the Coach and one other; if there is a need for a third opinion or an arbitrator, then this is the New Zealand Polocrosse President. All Coaches, Managers and Selectors declare any conflicts of interest when applying for positions.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR NEW ZEALAND SELECTORS & MANAGERS:

The New Zealand Polocrosse Board is calling for Expressions of Interest for the following positions - all these EOI are due into the Board Secretary by 5.00pm on the **28th October 2020**



Expressions of interest are being sought for - New Zealand Junior Selector
New Zealand Intermediate Selector
New Zealand Intermediate Manager*



Please provide a brief reason as to why you think you would be suitable for these roles and declare any conflicts of interest when applying. Please e-mail your application to the Board Secretary at nzpolocrosse@gmail.com by 5.00pm on Wednesday the 28th October 2020.

** Note: Tours for any teams are still yet to be confirmed due to travel restrictions etc. It is expected that there will be games within New Zealand for teams even if no outbound tours take place.*



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR OVERSEAS TOURS: **SOUTH AFRICA 2021 and 2022**

EOI are due into the Board Secretary by 5.00pm on the **28th October 2020**



The New Zealand Polocrosse Board has received invitations for two tours to South Africa - an Open Tour in 2021 and a Veterans / Masters tour in 2022. Due to Covid 19 and travel restrictions it is very uncertain as to what will happen regarding any inbound or outbound tours in the foreseeable future. At this stage, the Board is calling for **Expressions of Interest** to simply see if there is enough interest to pursue these invitations any further.

Please Note: Both of these tours are probably going to be self-funded; you must consider the possibility of quarantine on your return to New Zealand (especially for the 2021 tour) which would be at your own expense and would also add to the time off work required to take part in these tours; you must also consider the risk to your own health by travelling to these places.

➤ **South Africa – Open Tour 9 – 11th July 2021**

Official test series against South Africa

Venue: Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

Divisions: Mens and Ladies Top 7 players in each division

Also available - NZ Team to play against South African “B” team on an unofficial basis over 3 games, with the opportunity for some additional NZ players to take part.



➤ **South Africa – Veterans & Masters June / July 2022**

Venue: Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa;

Divisions: Veterans (Mens 40+ / Ladies 35 + / Mixed)

Masters (Mens 50+ / Ladies 45 + / Mixed)

Sections will be accommodated if full teams not possible.

Please forward your Expressions of Interest to the Board Secretary by 5.00pm on the **28th October 2020** stating which tour / section you are interested in. South Africa are wanting to know the feasibility of these tours going ahead. Please include name / age / phone number and email address.



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR FUNDRAISING & SPONSORS CARNIVAL
SUB COMMITTEES**



Fundraising for New Zealand Polocrosse, in any size shape or form, including the Sponsors Carnival, needs input and assistance from as many Clubs or people as possible. These funds are used to help all New Zealand Polocrosse, as may assist various touring teams, not just World Cup teams. Fundraising and sponsorship is getting harder to find and this may be even harder now with many companies affected by Covid 19. There are lots of great ideas out there, including the calf programme that has recently started and the horse treks, but there are still lots of things to be done and any new ideas and help would be much appreciated. If you are interested in being part of this dynamic team, please forward your name and contact details to the NZ Polocrosse Board Secretary **ASAP**.



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO HOST
AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**



With the current, and unknown future, of travel between Australia and New Zealand the Board would like to call for host families for the three Australian Junior Scholarship recipients that usually come to New Zealand in January. New Zealand Polocrosse will extend an invitation to New South Wales (for 2 Juniors) and Queensland (for one Junior) dependent on travel restrictions and quarantine restrictions. However, due to the fact that host families need to be Police Vet Checked (a requirement by the PANSW), and the fact that this can take up to three weeks to complete, the Board would like to call for host families now to get this process underway. If you are interested in hosting a Junior player from Australia please contact the Board Secretary for the required forms to be completed.



**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR
NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

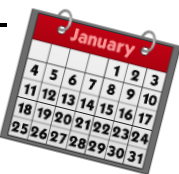


Again, with the uncertainty of Covid 19, it is unknown if New Zealand will receive invitations for, or even be able to take part in, sending New Zealand Juniors to Australia in 2021. Our 2020 recipients Layla Collins, Leah Cox and Taylor Faul have not been able to travel in the last season and the Board are working with the Coaching Panel to find suitable placements in New Zealand for these players to still get some experience. However, the Board would still like to call for Expressions of Interests from New Zealand Juniors for the 2021 season in case there is the opportunity to travel (which does not normally happen until July). Successful applicants are usually named at the Juniors & Intermediates competition in January. Please see the criteria below, and email your applications to the Board Secretary nzpolocrosse@gmail.com by 5.00pm on Saturday 16th January 2021.

CARNIVAL DATES & NATIONAL FIXTURES:

Attached to this Notices to Clubs is the DRAFT Polocrosse Calendar for 2020 – 2021.

Please note there are a couple of dates that may change, other dates may also be added as Clubs try to fill in the gaps so that we have a full polocrosse season.



Our National Fixtures are set for the following dates –

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| ➤ Juniors & Intermediates | 23 rd & 24 th January | Host: Te Mata Polocrosse Club | Venue: Otorohanga |
| ➤ Roke & Rockwood | 27 th & 28 th February | Host: Counties Polocrosse Club | Venue: Glenbrook |
| ➤ Inter Association Champs | 19 th & 20 th March | Host: Central Plateau Association | Venue: Tokoroa |
| ➤ Sponsors Carnival | 27 th & 28 th March | Host & Venue to be confirmed | |

DISCUSSION EVENING:

From discussions held at the Conference surrounding remits submitted and suggestions put forward, the Board is looking to hold a "Discussion Evening", possibly at the Juniors and Intermediates Competition, to talk through various scenarios surrounding the Player Eligibility and Selection Criteria for New Zealand teams. This will possible be the first of two or three evenings where everyone has the chance to have a say in a very controlled environment. More information on this will be sent out closer to the time.

POLOCROSSE CARNIVALS – Let's try something different:

There was a lot of talk at the conference about how we can make the season better, especially if there is little or no international competition, with some great ideas coming through! At the end of the day it is up to every Club to run their Carnival how they see fit, but it would be great for the sport if all Clubs tried to have a "FEATURE MATCH" as part of their carnival – similar to when we had the Presidents Games. The feature match would be just that – the feature of the weekend and would be commentated and have no other games on whilst it was being played. It could be NZ teams, development teams, composite type teams, even Subbies. With the possibility of having Coaches assigned to each team (with assistance from the Coaching Panel) for Coach development and could also see Umpires being used in a similar way, with either umpires on the sidelines to assist or the matching up of experienced and non-experienced umpires.



Clubs would be asked to advise the Board / Coaching Panel of their intended feature and then to promote it through their Carnival flyers etc.

SPONSORS CARNIVAL:

The Sponsors Carnival may also have a different take this season, with the empathies not being on sponsors so much as on the makeup of the teams that everyone enjoys, and just a good general carnival to finish off the season that hopefully makes some money along the way! The date has been set for the weekend after the Inter Association Championships (27th & 28th March 2021), with the venue yet to be confirmed.

AFFILIATIONS:

Affiliations and Club Levies:

Affiliations and Club levies are due by the 30th November 2020, forms will be sent to all Clubs and these will also be available on the website. As agreed upon at the AGM the affiliations for the 2020 – 2021 season will remain as last year –

Senior/Intermediate Member	\$160.00 per player
Junior Member Under 16 years.....	\$100.00 per player
Sub Junior	\$ 5.00 per player
Social Member	\$ 10.00 per member
New Player	1 st Carnival free 2 nd Carnival full affiliation required
Casual Player	\$80.00 for 1 st and subsequent carnival
Life Member	NO CHARGE
Club Levies to be paid by end of November	\$150.00 per club
Carnival Levies	\$ 10.00 per player
Transfer Fees....	\$250.00 per player
Social Member – Casual Player	No charge – one time only at own Club carnival
Pony Club Affiliation – for up to 5 Carnivals	\$25.00 with proof of affiliation to a Pony Club

Pony Club Affiliation: To encourage growth within the sport any member of a registered NZ Pony Club, under the age of 21 years, can pay a reduced affiliation fee (set annually by the Board) which shall allow that player to play at a maximum total of 5 carnivals or competitions within a polocrosse season without having to affiliate fully. After completion of 5 carnivals they can upgrade to a full affiliation by paying the balance of the affiliation fee due.

Proof of Pony Club registration is required.

Social Member Casual Player: This allows a paid up Social Member to play one carnival, per season, at their home Clubs local carnival without having to pay the Casual Player levy; if they play again in the season they then must pay the full fee to upgrade to a playing member. The carnival levy of \$10.00 still applies. This is seen as a positive way to increase participation, which could possibly result in these players coming back into polocrosse. This affiliation is intended for genuine Social Members of Clubs and is not intended for "visiting players" from overseas.

Sub Juniors & D Grade Players Entry Fees:

To encourage growth in the sport and to make it more affordable for families with young children (often more than one) or for new players to attend carnivals, Clubs are encouraged to consider having a lower entry fee for D Grade players or even Junior players; and with sub juniors not being required to pay a carnival levy there may be no need for an entry fee for sub juniors, even if playing in a "D Grade" game. However, this is for Clubs to implement within their own carnivals.

Carnival Levies:

Carnival levies, of \$10.00 per player, are required to be paid within 7 days of the Club carnival and must be accompanied by a list of players attending the carnival. Please note that Sub Juniors are not required to pay a Carnival Levy.

COACHING SYLLABUS:

If any members would like to start their Coaching qualifications (Level 1) then please contact the Coaching Panel Administrator Neil Smith - by e-mail at neilsally10@gmail.com



BOARD MEETING SNIPPETS:

To help with the Boards endeavors for transparency there will be brief updates after Board meetings to inform you all of what the Board has been doing or is currently working on.

The first meeting of the new Board post 2020 AGM was held on the 7th October in Cambridge, as this is now the halfway point for those travelling and enabled several members to be able to carpool. The BNZ Partner rooms provided a great venue at no cost. All Board members were in attendance with the meeting going from 9.00am to 2.30pm, with just a brief break around midday.

The first item of the day was for the Board to elect the new President – the President is elected by the Board from within the Board and this person usually holds the position of Chairperson for the Board as well. This year the Board decided to officially elect a Vice President to assist with the running of the Board and support the President. The Board unanimously appointed Craig Zielinski as President / Chairperson and Gary Malcolm as Vice President.

All Board members were asked to read and complete the “Board Member Moral Contract”, which included the Code of Conduct for Board Members and a Conflict of Interest disclosure. As part of their role all Board members are expected to complete some online training on Governance which is available through our alignment with Sport New Zealand.

Board members were allocated areas of responsibility based on their skill sets and preferences. Various other roles and positions within New Zealand Polocrosse were discussed with appointments being made either through Expressions of Interest received or, if no Expressions received in some instances the Board appointed people that were suitable for particular roles, and will advertise for other positions that are yet to be filled.

The Board ratified the appointment of the New Zealand Junior Coach and Manager and the appointment of a new New Zealand Intermediates Coach. Expressions of Interest for Selectors for the Juniors and Intermediates and for a Manager for the Intermediates will be called for through a Notice to Clubs.

The Coaching Panel format was reviewed and updated with minor changes; a strong well-organized administrator is yet to be found for this important role(*since filled*). The Board discussed the topic of Player Eligibility and Team Selection Criteria and after listening to what the stakeholders had to say about this at the AGM it was thought to try having a discussion evening on these topics – possibly at the Juniors & Intermediates competition.

Much of the meeting involved discussing Coaching - plans, proposed tours (inbound and outbound) and the effect of Covid19 on the playing season and how this can be used as a positive for our sport.

The Board ratified the appointment of the Umpires Panel, and for Tony Schrafft to continue in the role of New Zealand Chief Umpire. The Board was happy to appoint Jenelle Coxall as the Umpires Panel Administrator.

The Board moved onto the Governance side of the sport and tabled a positive report from Sport New Zealand on our reporting for the last 12 months. The Board will now focus on compiling a new Strategic Plan for the coming 4 – 5 years and has asked each Board member to think about what they see as the main focus for our sport, and what is of high importance to ensure good governance of the sport.

Russell Tye will be approaching several senior members of NZ Polocrosse to see if they are able to accommodate hosting our own NZ Junior Scholarships girls from last season for a weekend, rotating the girls between various families, to ensure that they get to receive some special time since they were unable to travel to Australia due to Covid 19. Junior Scholarship jackets will still be provided for these girls. The Board will still seek host families for January 2021 incase the border restrictions are lifted and we receive some Junior Scholarships here from Australia and will also call for EOI from our Juniors to go to Australia in 2021 if invitations are received and border restrictions also permit this. The very real chance of having to do two weeks in quarantine will ruin nearly all chances of travel in or out of New Zealand for our players.

International competition in New Zealand (test series between countries) was discussed with the IPC “Rules” for doctors and ambulances being questioned and a letter will be sent to the IPC seeking clarification on this.

Correspondence reports and Financial reports were tabled. This included questions from the Auditors, accounts to be passed for payment, budgets and the need to change signatories on the bank accounts and set up Internet Banking for Business as more banks and businesses move away from accepting cheques.

One of the last items for the day was to discuss what to do with some old saddle blankets (and saddle blankets that were of no use as although they were almost new they were too small to be of use) and some even older playing shirts. It was agreed to try and sell any of the saddle blankets that could not be used. It was suggested that some of our “older” players that represented New Zealand many years ago may indeed like to have a NZ shirt – Gary Malcolm will follow this up; the remaining shirts can be used for practice games etc.

OUR FIRST NEW ZEALAND HORSE TREK! (see flyer overleaf)

Thanks to Paddy and Nicky Cornelius and the Putaruru-Tirau Polocrosse Club our first New Zealand Polocrosse fundraiser Horse Trek is all set for Saturday the 21st November 2020. Make sure you tell everyone about it and get a group together to support this event!

The trek is providing a packed lunch for the riders with filled rolls, home baking, fruit, muesli bars and water. As this is a fund raiser for ALL of New Zealand Polocrosse any assistance by way of donations of food or sponsorship of bread rolls, water bottles etc would be much appreciated. Please contact: Nicky Schrafft e-mail: nicky26@xtra.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND JUNIORS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

Juniors need to be nominated by their Association and also have signed approval for nomination from their parent or guardian. The player's present playing ability is to be taken into account, along with their ability to mix with people. Their application should contain references from their school and a summary of their involvement in polocrosse and their future polocrosse aims – as per the By Law below –

Junior Scholarship Criteria

- a) Juniors are to be nominated by their Association along with signed approval for nomination from their parent or guardian. Proof of age may be requested.
- b) The nomination is to be approved by the Coaching Panel.
- c) In the event of more than one nomination being received the Coaching Panel should make a recommendation to the Board.
- d) Present playing ability is to be taken into account.
- e) A reference as to character and endeavour is to be requested from the school that is being attended at present, or past.
- f) The ability to mix with people is to be taken into account.
- g) The length of time that the nominated person has been involved, along with their aims towards polocrosse in the future is to be considered.
- h) The Board will provide 50% of airfares to Australia (internal flights at recipient's expense) and cost of a windcheater type jacket with appropriate monogram.
- i) All Junior Scholarship recipients must have comprehensive travel, medical and sports insurance prior to travel. The Board will reimburse 50% of the insurance cost.
- j) All Clubs that put forward a recipient for the Junior Scholarships must be willing for their Club to host a recipient Junior Scholarship, or to find a suitable host, if their Club's Junior player should be selected. The host family must be of a suitable caliber.
- k) Host families, or their Club, will be responsible for all / any Carnival entry fees for the Junior Scholarship player that they are hosting, unless the Carnival Host Club decides not to charge for these players. There is no entry fee required for the Junior Scholarship players in the Juniors & Intermediates competition.



CONTACT DETAILS:

Please ensure that you advise the Board Secretary of any changes to your Club contact details or Office holders.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

To e-mail address for corresponding with the Board / New Zealand Polocrosse Secretary etc has been changed to a g-mail address, instead of a personal email.

New Zealand Polocrosse – Board Secretary & general e-mail: nzpolocrosse@gmail.com .

New Zealand Polocrosse Publicity: nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com

ADVERTISING ON THE WEBSITE:

Website advertising package includes your company logo on the rotating slider at the bottom of the main web page; your logo on the Sponsors page with a link to your website and a post on the NZ face book page promoting your company all for only \$250.00 for 12 months.

Please contact –

nzpolocrosse.publicity@gmail.com or nzpolocrosse@gmail.com
to secure your space for the coming season.





NZ Polocrosse Fundraiser Trek

Where: 165 Orakei Korako rd, Taupo

When: Sat 21st Nov



3hr & 6hr fully guided trek riding over farmland, native bush & forestry

\$60 per rider (including lunch)

Options to camp Friday night are available, contact to arrange.

De-brief at 8:45am, ride out at 9am

To register contact Putaruru-Tirau Polocrosse Club on Facebook or putarurutiraupolocrosse@gmail.com for the registration form

Toilets at truck parking only

