

## Proposal for Changes to NZSSAA Constitution Clauses 7 – 9

### Rationale for Change

The rationale behind a review of the composition of the NZSSAA Executive and staging of the Annual General Meeting is that the way of working today is now very different to when the current composition was set up many years ago where a local executive was the working group, and the regional reps came together one – two times a year for a full Executive due to travel and communications at that time, being predominantly by telephone and hand written. The Local Executive was based within one of the regions as the working administration group.

It has been noted today too that attendance at the AGM during the Championships has dwindled and we believe staging an online AGM maybe more efficient and satisfactory with modes of communications and our ability to share information instantly through such formats as email, zoom and other platforms. Executive especially since Covid as worked on cost efficiencies and predominantly online communications. The Executive and LOC are also often very consumed with the Championships delivery at the previous pre-Championships AGM 's

In reviewing **clauses 7, 8 and 9**, we propose the following changes which will give

- a. streamlined Executive of nine including to support efficiency
- b. give improved and clear succession planning for the Executive
- c. alignment of the regions with Athletics NZ new strategic direction of three working regional
- d. The Executive still has the power to co-opt or designate specific roles outside the Executive such as an Event Coordinator, Social media Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator etc.,.

### Proposed Changes

#### REMIT. 1

#### Current clause 7

#### 7. OFFICERS

*The officers of the Association shall consist of a Patron (see below re appointment), President, (term not to exceed 5 consecutive years), Secretary and Treasurer.*

*Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.*

*Appointment of Patron: the patron be appointed for a term of 2 years (but the appointment can be reviewed and continued for a further term or terms). The nominations shall come from regional delegates and appointment is made by the Executive, to be announced at the AGM*

#### Proposed Changes to clause 7

#### 7. OFFICERS:

- a) Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The officers of the Association shall consist of,
  - i. Patron (see clause 7.b)
  - ii. President [Chairperson]
  - iii. Secretary
  - iv. Treasurer

b) Appointment of Patron:



- i. The patron be appointed for a term of 2 years (but the appointment can be reviewed and continued for a further term or terms).
  - ii. The nominations shall come from regional delegates.
  - iii. The appointment is made by the Executive, to be announced at the AGM.
  - iv. The Patron is ex-officio member of the Executive.
- c) Appointment of President, Secretary and Treasurer
- i. The appointment of the above officers be for three-year terms by election at the AGM.
  - ii. Each role be elected in rolling rotation. *(rationale to give some consistency with lead officers \*\*)*
  - iii. *In the event of resignation of one of the officers during their term the executive have the power to appoint a replacement from within the Executive or second a person for the remainder of the term.*
  - iv. Any of the Officers may be reappointed for up to three consecutive terms.

## REMIT. 2

### Current clause 8 a) – 8 d)

#### 8. COMMITTEES.

- (a) The affairs of the Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall consist of at least five members, and shall include a President, who shall act as Chairman of the Executive Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer.*
- (b) The Executive Committee shall be drawn from one City or Region except for the four representatives drawn from other Regions of New Zealand.*
- (c) Five Regional Representatives will represent the Southern South Island, Northern South Island, Southern North Island, Central North Island and Northern North Island, to be elected at the AGM on a regional basis. The region where the Executive is based will not have a Regional Representative during their term of office.*
- (d) A newly elected Region will hold Office for a minimum of two years.*

### Proposed Changes to clause 8 a) – 8 d)

#### 8. COMMITTEES.

- (a) The affairs of the Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall consist of
- i. The three specified elected officers under clause 7.a) ii - iv
  - ii. Six Regional delegates, two from each of the three regions
    - a. Northern [from Athletics NZ centres of NTH, AKL, WBP]
    - b. Central [from Athletics NZ centres of TAR, MWA, HBG, WLG]
    - c. Southern [from Athletics NZ centres of TAS, CAN, OTG, STH]
- b) The Regional delegates will be elected on two-year cycle at the AGM with one delegate vacancy from each region be available for election by rotation biennially. \*\*\*
- i. In the event of resignation of one of the regional delegates during their term the executive have the power to appoint a replacement from within the Executive or second a person for the remainder of the term*
- c) Any of the elected regional delegates may be reappointed for up to three consecutive terms
- (d) A newly elected Region will hold Office for a minimum of two years*

#### **Previous Clauses 8 e) to 8 k) be renamed 8 d) to 8 j)**



- d) The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt members for special purposes.
- e) The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees to organize its various projects.
- f) The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall be an ex-officio member of all sub committees.
- g) The Chairman of any of the Associations Committees shall have a casting, as well as a deliberative vote.
- h) The incoming elected Executive Committee shall take office and stage their first general meeting within six weeks of the Annual General Meeting.
- i) At any Executive Committee meeting, a quorum shall be at least five of the nine members of the committee.

### REMIT. 3

#### Current clause 9 a) – 9 h)

#### 9. GENERAL MEETING:

- (a) *General Meetings shall be held during the Association's Championships. If the Championships are not held annually then the previously elected Officers and Executive committee shall remain in office until the next General Meeting.*
- (b) *Written notices of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all Officers, Life Members, and Affiliated Schools fourteen (14) days prior to such a meeting.*
- (c) *All Officials of the Association and each member school shall be entitled to one vote at the General Meeting. Votes must be cast by a delegate nominated, in writing, to the Secretary of the Association by the Principal of the School no later than one week prior to the General Meeting. The delegate must be a member of that school.*
- (d) *A quorum shall be delegates from **25 schools** taking part in the Championship meeting who are present at the General Meeting.*
- (e) *Any alteration to the Constitution of the Association shall require a notice of motion to be given in writing to the Secretary at least six weeks before a General Meeting and shall require the support of at least 2/3rds of the delegates present.*
- (f) *The Chairman of the General Meeting shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.*
- (g) *Recommendations for changes to Rules of the Competition must be given in writing to the Secretary at least six weeks before a General Meeting.*
- (h) *A Special General Meeting may be ordered by the Executive at any time. To facilitate all members participating in these meetings postal voting will be used.*

#### Proposed Changes to clause 9 a) – 8 d)

#### 9. ADD the Word Annual for clarity of reference: (ANNUAL) GENERAL MEETING:

##### Change wording of 9 a) and Add 9 b) and then renumber following clauses of 9 c) to 9 k)

Minor word changes to give clarity under underlined

- a) Annual General Meetings shall be held during the Association's Championships within a six-month period of the financial year end.
- b) **The Annual General Meeting may be held online so long as all notices of meetings are appropriately met at a time deemed appropriate by the Executive.**
- c) If an Annual General Meeting is not held annually [within the 12-month period of the previous meeting] then the previously elected Officers and Executive committee shall remain in office until the next Annual General Meeting.



- d) Written notices by means of advertisement or email, facsimile or other forms of visible or electronic communication, of the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to all Officers, Executive Delegates, Life Members, and Affiliated Schools fourteen (14) days prior to such a meeting.
- e) Every such notice shall state the date and place/medium of the meeting and the nature of the business to be conducted at the meeting.
- f) All elected Officers, Executive Delegates, and Life Members of the Association and each affiliated member school shall be entitled to one vote at the Annual General Meeting. Votes must be cast by a delegate nominated, in writing, to the Secretary of the Association by the Principal of the School no later than one week prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- g) A quorum shall require 25 members eligible to vote as under clause 9 f) schools taking part in the previous calendar years the Championship meetings who are present at the Annual General Meeting, whether present in person, participating by audio or audio and visual communication, or having appointed a proxy. If, at the end of 30 minutes after the time appointed for the opening of the meeting, there is no quorum, the meeting shall stand adjourned for one week. If at the reconvened meeting there is still no quorum those members present and entitled to vote shall be competent to discharge the business of the meeting.
- h) Any alteration to the Constitution of the Association shall require a notice of motion to be given in writing to the Secretary at least six weeks before a General Meeting and shall require the support of at least 2/3rds of the delegates present
- i) The Chairman of the General Meeting shall have a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.
- j) Recommendations for changes to the Rules of the Competition must be given in writing to the Secretary at least six weeks before a General Meeting.
- k) A Special General Meeting may be ordered by the Executive at any time. To facilitate all members participating in these meetings postal voting will be used.

**NOTES for Changes to Clause 7 & 8**

**\*\* In first year all three roles are elected, the following year the President be elected, next year Secretary and third year the Treasurer. E.g. 2024 all, 2025 Secretary, 2026 Treasurer, 2027 President.**

**\*\*\* In the first year both regional delegates will be elected for two years thereafter one delegate will stand for re-election by rotation E.g. 2024 Two delegates elected, 2026 delegate (a) position to be elected, 2027 delegate (b) position to be elected.**



New Zealand Secondary Schools  
Athletics Association



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**Your sincerely**  
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