



6 August 2025

## Newsletter No 3 for 2025

### Roles, Responsibilities, and Appointments

We are delighted to share with Clubs and Players recent appointments, and detail of portfolio responsibilities. We are fortunate that there are many in our community who are willing to step up and contribute to the future wellbeing of our game.

Over the preceding few months, we have shared news about changes we have been making to ensure we are well equipped to deal with the future needs of the game. Changes should be seen as a positive step and not a reflection on the dedication and devotion by many people over a long period. In many cases appointments have followed an 'expressions of interest' process.

Those highlighted in **red** are new appointments.

Governance, Risk and Insurance, Incorporated Societies Act, Health and Safety, Constitution, Club Toolkit	Chair: Anne Barrowclough Members: John Skipper, <b>Peter Newell</b>
Congress Major Events	Chair: Bridget Willcox Members: Alister Stuck, Sue Brown, Terri Logie, <b>Matthew McManus</b> , Mel Auld, Allan Morris
International	Chair: Kris Wooles Members: Jonathan Westoby, Jan Alabaster, Nigel Kearney, Sam Coutts, Mike Cornell, <b>Matthew McManus</b> Note: From September 2025 Tim Schumacher is appointed Chef de Mission, taking on the role held by Jonathan Westoby
Youth- International and Domestic	Chair: Sam Coutts Members: tba
Finance and Treasury	Chair: Sue Brown Members: John Skipper, <b>Peter Newell</b>
<b>Teaching &amp; Learning-</b> players, directors, scorers	Chair: Kate Terry



	<p>Members: Shirley Newton, Phil Noye, Mary Christensen, Mike Dunn, <b>Caroline Wiggins</b></p> <p>Note: Caroline will lead a director development and assessment programme with a particular focus at tournament and national director levels. Allan Jospeh will focus on club director development.</p>
<p>Handicapping and Grading</p> <p><b>Note: no action until website project is complete</b></p>	<p>Chair: Sam Coutts</p> <p>Member: Daniel Skipper</p>
Marketing	<p>Chair: Kate Terry</p> <p>Member: Mel Auld</p>
Online and Surveys	<p>Chair: Kate Terry</p> <p>Member: John Skipper</p>
Administration and Secretarial	<p>Chair: Alister Stuck</p> <p>Member: Allan Morris</p>
Relationships- Clubs, Regions, Players,	<p>Chair: Alister Stuck</p> <p>Members: Allan Morris, Mel Auld</p>
Website	<p>Chair: Alister Stuck</p> <p>Members: Bridget Willcox, tba</p>
Strategy	<p>Chair: Allan Morris</p> <p>Members: Board Members, Secretary</p>
Tournament Scheduler	Rona Driscoll

Head Director	<p><b>Matthew McManus</b></p> <p>Support: Caroline Wiggins</p>
Fair Play (Conduct and Integrity)	<p>Chair: <b>Julie Atkinson</b></p> <p>Members: <b>Stephen Henry, Brad Johnston</b></p>
Laws and Regulations	<p>Chair: Matthew McManus</p> <p>Members; tba</p>
Honorary Solicitor	<b>Alison Brown</b>
Conduct Discipline and Disputes	<p>Chair: Roger Bell</p> <p>Members: Bryan Northcott, Christine Gibbons, Christine Wilson, <b>Ken Smith</b></p>

Some of the new positions would benefit from a brief description. As recorded above we have appointed Matthew McManus as Head Director. The role is all about

1. Advocating for all directors and will develop director pathways in conjunction with the teaching and learning committee.
2. Act as a reference point for all directors providing support and direction as required.
3. Assist the event manager with the appointment of directors and scorers for national events and congress.
4. Provide learnings and insights that will help directors throughout New Zealand.

The role directors play in our game is central to the conduct and wellbeing of the game. Caroline Wiggins will continue in the valuable role supporting the Head Director with a focus on assisting directors at all levels; problem solving; training and development of tournament and national directors; growing the pool of tournament and national directors. Caroline will also join the teaching and learning committee.

The other significant change is the establishment of a 'fair play' committee. Historically we have been like the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff, picking up the pieces (dealing with complaints). We saw this as a negative approach and did little to foster a safe, respectful and fair playing environment for all participants. This committee will spearhead a cultural and procedural shift towards higher standards of behaviour across all play, through education, empowerment, and resource provision. When you set these things up it comes with the right intent, then you realise there is plenty of work required behind the scenes to ensure it is effective. The team is working on ensuring they have very clear terms of reference and authority. That there is rigour within the processes and procedures. How they dovetail into the constitutions and authorities held by clubs. It is no good putting a support model together if it has no teeth. We must also ensure everyone is entitled to natural justice and there is a review process. It is quite possible it might be the end of the year before this committee is operational.

Regarding Fair Play we remind everyone to think before they speak. I am aware of a couple of behavioral issues that could have been avoided if people had thought before they spoke or acted. I remember being taught we were given 2 ears and 1 mouth. Listening twice as much as you speak is not a silly adage. Bad behaviour is such a turn off impacting the harmony and environment of a club.

The feedback we have had on the roll out of the toolkit has been encouraging. Refreshing the manual and ensuring the document is fit for purpose is now a priority of the laws and regulations committee.

In the last two newsletters we have talked about retention and the importance of this for the development and wellbeing of our game. We are delighted to share with you that we have broken through the 13,000 barrier, with membership reaching 13,013 at 31 July. Congratulations!!!!

Cheers Allan