



WNZ EXECUTIVE GROUP RE-STRUCTURE

As part of the organisational restructure that was recently announced (ie; introduction of a formalised Commission structure), WNZ are also looking to enhance the efficiency and governance capability of the organisation.

The intention is to move to:

- a 5 member, elected Executive Group (currently 7)
- include the ability to co-opt (appoint) up to 2 EG members if required or deemed necessary (currently no ability to co-opt for this purpose)
- extend terms to 3 years to provide more continuity (currently 2 years)
- stagger term expiry so that a maximum of 2 EG members are up for re-election in any one year (currently 4 in one year, 3 the next)
- allow the EG to focus on setting and maintaining strategic direction, financial and statutory oversight, and organisational governance (currently heavily involved in operational matters)

The proposed changes to the EG structure and function will provide a more efficient governing body that can focus more strategically rather than on day to day operational issues (Commissions will deal with more of the operational requirements of the organisation).

The ability to supplement the elected EG with “appointed” EG members (maximum of 2) will provide the flexibility to strengthen the governing body (if and as required) with suitable people from within the organisation – or from outside if necessary. This can, for example, provide the opportunity to obtain the services on the EG of a person with specific legal skills if deemed necessary. This will allow the EG to be extended to a maximum of 7 members if required.

The proposed changes will also allow any “registration type” to be eligible for election (currently only financial members are eligible) - providing that they have been members for at least the past 3 years.

The extension of terms to 3 years for elected EG members (2 years for appointed) and the “staggering” of terms - 2 expiring in subsequent years and 1 in the third year - provides for better continuity and stability on the governing body. Currently the term is 2 years with the terms of 4 EG members finishing

one year, and the other 3 the next. This potentially means that more than half the EG can be “turned-over” every 2 years!

The North and South Island delegates will be removed. The reality is that – by definition – the EG are elected to serve the best interests of ALL members, irrespective of which part of the country that they live. This has been the practice to date. Incidentally, the current 2 North and 2 South Island delegate requirement is non-democratic as 67% of WNZ members live in the North Island!

The sooner we can create a more efficient and focussed organisational structure (ie Commissions focussing on operational matters and producing resources and policy to improve the way weightlifting functions in NZ, and the EG focussed on strategic direction to make things better in the future and grow our sport, as well as making sure we are financially and “legally” sound), the sooner we will be able to make noticeable change and progress.

For this reason, we are proposing to get these changes in place as soon as possible so we can speed up progress on improvements for our members and clubs and aid the growth of membership.

WNZ have been working with Buddle Findlay solicitors in the drafting of the new Constitutional wording to support the proposed changes, and also in the process for implementing these changes. They have recommended, in order to get the intended changes made to the governance structure in a timely manner, that the calling of a Special General Meeting prior to this year’s Annual General Meeting is the best option. This will allow the proposed new EG structure to be introduced under the current rules, and the election for this year’s EG members to take place under the proposed new structure and rules.

The Executive Group have therefore requested that an SGM be called and the details will be announced shortly. This will have a single agenda item requesting a change in the Constitution to allow the changes as outlined. The wording of the proposed changes will be provided sufficiently prior to the meeting, which will be held in November.