

SPORT FLY FISHING NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2015

Welcome to the 2015 Annual General Meeting,

The 2014/15 calendar has been an extremely successful and busy one for competing anglers as well as your committee.

2014/15 Regionals and Nationals

The season continued on from the previous year with 11 regional competitions held, 1 cancelled and the inaugural Lake and River Nationals held as separate events.

We again had record attendance at regionals throughout the year and our thanks must go to all organisers, sponsors and controllers who made the season such a success. Cory Scott again came out on top as the Presidents' Cup winner having the combined highest two lake and two river regional points total.

The Lake Nationals was held on Lake Kuratau and Lake Rotoaira. Dan Comer showed his dominance on the lake taking out the title from Sam Bourne and John Bell in third.

The River Nationals was held on the venues planned for the previous year, the Tukituki and Manawatu Rivers. Fortunately this year the weather gods looked favourably upon us and we were blessed with clear rivers, plenty of fish and fine weather. Records fell with large numbers of fish caught on both rivers. Cory Scott took out the title of River Nationals Champion from Tony Houpt and Lloyd Struthers.

A special thanks must go to the controllers who had their work cut out recording and measuring so many fish.

In addition we acknowledge the generous donation, by our Patron Jill Mandeno, of two amazing trophies, for each event, which will be highly sort after in the years to come.

The overall National Champion, combining both river and lake Nationals, was once again Dan Comer with Lloyd Struthers second and Tony Houpt third.

We were fortunate to have the support of The Park Traveller's Lodge, Rod and Reel, Totally Fly and Stolen Rum who all contributed to the successful competition season.

International Competitions

For the first time we had two juniors representing New Zealand at the Youth World Championships in Vail, Colorado. This is the same venue that the senior team will be competing at in 2016. The society was able to make a small contribution towards the cost of sending Paul Gummer (manager), John Gummer and Geoffrey Bernsten to the competition. The information they have brought back will undoubtedly be of great assistance to the senior team as they prepare for their campaign.

While the results were mixed, both boys came back with a great insight into international competitions and I'm sure this will be a great learning curve for their future international development.

The Oceania team to represent us in Ballarat Australia will be departing in a matter of days and we wish them well in their five lake sessions. The team is captained by Steve Brown, who will also fish, and in addition comprises Paul Dewar, Paul Baker, Tony Houpt, Mark Clasper, Tim Rich, Chris Young, Geoffrey Bernsten, Neil Hirtzel and Brendan Lyon.

The World team selected to compete in Vail Colorado in September 2016 is Paul Dewar (captain), Tim Anderson (Manager), Lloyd Struthers, John Bell, Tony Houpt, Dan Comer, Sam Bourne and Cory Scott.

The Commonwealth team to compete in Canada in 2016 is headed by Neil Hirtzel as captain, Paul Baker, Peter Scott, John Gummer, Johannes Krill and Mark Clasper.

We wish these teams well in their respective competitions.

Financial

The treasurer will present his report shortly however it is pleasing to note that the income derived from sponsorship and regional entry fees allows the society to contribute towards the cost of members attending international events overseas. Applications for a grant are made to the committee who will assess the individual's past and potential contribution to the society prior to approval. This has helped to alleviate one of the society's major problems, that of having enough manpower to run the events in a professional and equitable way.

While the accounts show a surplus of \$12,669 for the year and net assets of \$58,279, we potentially have commitments of \$28,000 which covers potential grants to the 2015 Oceania, 2016 Commonwealth and 2016 World teams. We have also committed \$3,500 to upgrade the website.

I would like to thank Brendan Lyon for his work as Treasurer over the last year. Keeping track of our finances is an important role. He will be stepping down as Treasurer following this AGM and his role will be taken by Peter Rubischon.

In addition we should acknowledge the contribution of Graham Evans for reviewing the financial reports.

Rules

We now have a set of rules taken from FIPS Mouche and tailored to our own situation here in New Zealand. No doubt these may need some minor adjustments however we want everyone to be clear on what is expected of them. The ultimate goal is to have fair competitions where everyone is competing on a "level playing field". I would personally like to thank Paul Dewar for his work in rewriting these rules.

Unfortunately with our desire to achieve the goal above we have had a large number of protests to deal with. The committee has gone to great lengths to ensure all parties have had a fair hearing when making its decisions. This has led to a variety of penalties depending on the breach, however we are determined to maintain a high standard when competing. I would personally like to thank those members of the committee who have put the time into dealing with these matters.

International

Jill Mandeno continues to represent us at the various FIPS Mouche and Commonwealth Fly Fishing meetings. We thank Jill for her continued support and representation of us at these meetings.

The latest conference in Cancun, Mexico adopted some rule changes that have been advised to members

Survey

Following the conclusion of the 2014/15 season, Peter Rubischon instigated a survey to ensure we were meeting the needs of all members. After receiving feedback from 21 members (excluding the committee), the committee decided to

- Continue with a separate lake and river Nationals for one more year at least
- Have no competition over Easter
- Retain the existing number and cost of regionals

Sponsorship and fundraising

Unfortunately our ability to attract sponsorship is hampered by our limited exposure and membership base. We are hopeful that the new membership plans will increase our base and ultimately make us a more attractive proposition to sponsors.

We remind all members of the need to support the sponsors we do have and where possible direct business their way. The generous support we have had from Rod and Reel over the years has come to an end which will put further strains on our fundraising.

Again, I would like to acknowledge the support of Totally Fly, The Park Hotel and Stolen Rum for their ongoing support of the society.

Finally I would like to thank the committee for their work over the year.

We continue to work towards a professional and financially strong society which can meet the objectives of all members.