



**NEW ZEALAND AMERICAN  
FOOTBALL FEDERATION**  
Te Runanga o Whutuporo I Amerika ki Aotearoa

**Minutes**

**NZ American Football Federation**

**Annual General Meeting**

**30 September 2017**

**6:00 pm**

**Manurewa Sports Centre & via Skype Session**

Meeting started at 6:12pm

**1. Welcome and opening of annual general meeting by the Chairperson**

Chairperson Dan Amosa welcomed everyone and made the following statements:

- That this has been a transition time between two constitutions so, for the purpose of the continuity, the previous Board has continued until the new Board takes over at the conclusion of this AGM.
- He was happy that there was a good platform to go forward.
- He was personally "in a good space" as far as the potential outcome of the elections being held tonight.
- He was very pleased with the turn out and seeing everyone here tonight.

**2. Present:**

**NZAFF Board:**

Dan Amosa	Chairperson
Patsy Whaanga	Board Member

**Delegates:**

Alva Tohovaka-Staples	Hamilton Hawks Sports Club
Dorothea Ieremia	JC Spartans
Jason Vaka	Metro Lions
Jono Entwistle (Via Skype)	Nelson AFC
Jeremiah Nonu	North Harbour
Danny Tixier	Papatoetoe Wildcats
Jeremy Ewe	South Auckland Raiders
Shiraz Soysa	Tamaki Lightning
Jess McGregor	Western Wolves

**Non-voting Attendees/Observers:**

Brendan McGurk (Via Skype)	AFC
Shane Tinetti (Via Skype)	Nelson AFC
Eugene Meredith	Metro Lions
Jonathan Staples	Hamilton Hawks
Lakita Meredith	Papatoetoe Wildcats
Toiana Vaka	Metro Lions
Caroline Tixier	Papatoetoe Wildcats
Sarai Meredith	Papatoetoe Wildcats
Russell McConnochie	NZAFF General Manager
Adam Felix	

**Apologies:**

Mervyn Hurley	Appointed Board Member
Todd Wackrow	AFA & Candidate for Election to the Board

### 3. Presentation of Reports

Dan Amosa presented a verbal report.

Russell McConnochie talked to the written report with a number of statements as follows:

- That the sport has great potential.
- That the drive to capture participants needs to start in primary school so that American Football becomes “their sport” from an early age.
- That a pilot league for primary school aged players will be delivered in the Manurewa area in term 4 and based on the (hopefully positive) results of that we will be looking to roll out similar leagues across the country.
- That the preference will always be to partner with clubs to deliver junior leagues.
- That a registration of interest form will be put to the clubs to determine if there is sufficient interest in holding National Championships for 7-a-side and Flag.
- That the success of the any initiatives and the sport itself is down to individuals who donate their time to the sport.
- Working together to move the sport forward is the only way we are going to be successful.

Questions regarding the reports

- Shira Soysa asked if whether there was any fixed venue for the Championships.
- Russell replied – not as yet.

#### Resolution

It was moved that the reports be accepted.  
*Moved Alva Tohovaka-Staples /Seconded Jeremiah Nonu  
Carried unanimously*

### 4. Presentation and adoption of the 2016 & 2017 audited accounts:

It was noted that the reports will be accepted by two separate resolutions because the 2017 Annual Accounts are provisional upon the Auditors receiving a statement from Kiwibank that the account balances at the end of the 2016/2017 year are consistent with the NZAFF records.

There was discussion regarding the amount in both reports for the Travel (International and National) lead by the Papatoetoe Wildcats. The amounts of \$91,749 in 2016 and \$67,698 in 2017 need to be further broken down so that an understanding of what the total consisted of can be had. This needs to include any cross subsidising of international tours costs and players payments.

A request was made for this information to be forwarded to the clubs as soon as possible. Russel replied that he will deliver the information within a month to the clubs.

There was a further request that there is a breakdown of any budgeted costs that are over \$20,000 be presented as part of the AGM each year. This information for the 2017/2018 year will be delivered as part of the report to be sent to the clubs within the month as above.

Based on the agreement to provide the reports as above the resolutions for acceptance were put to the vote.

Two matters of interest were raised:

- A request to clarify how a negative amount occurs in the income section of both years.
- An explanation of Dan Amosa owing monies to NZAFF was requested.  
Dan replied that there was a need to pay insurance cover for women’s athletes attending camps in Australia that could only be paid via credit card. NZAFF deposited funds in Dan’s account to enable him to pay the insurer. Sufficient funds were deposited to also cover purchases of equipment that subsequently were not required. Dan confirmed that the amount will be returned to NZAFF in November.

#### Resolution

It was moved that the audited accounts for 2016 be accepted.  
*Moved Shiraz Soysa /Seconded Jason Vaka*

**Resolution** It was moved that the audited accounts for 2017 be accepted conditional upon the Auditors confirming that Kiwibank confirm that the account balances at the end of the financial year are consistent with the records provided to the Auditors (see note below).  
*Moved Shiraz Soysa /Seconded Dorothea Ieremia*  
*Carried unanimously*

Note: To confirm that the condition in the above resolution has been met, NZAFF will inform the clubs once the Auditors receive the Kiwibank statement and the audit documents have been signed by NZAFF.

**5. Confirmation of the appointed board members**

It was confirmed that the two Board Members appointed by the Selection Panel were:

Patsy Whaanga  
Mervyn Hurley

**6. Appointment of scrutineers**

Dan Amosa handed the Chairing of the meeting to Patsy Whaanga at this point as he was standing for re-election to the Board.

Patsy asked for volunteers for two scrutineers.

The two scrutineers were:

Jonathan Staples                      Hamilton Hawks  
Caroline Tixier                          Papatoetoe Wildcats

**7. The election two board members**

The candidates were:

Adam Felix  
Brendan McGurk  
Dan Amosa  
Todd Wackrow

The voting was held by secret Ballot with the first round providing a clear winner and an equal number of votes for the second position. A further vote was held between the two candidates with equal votes. Nelson AFC had placed the first vote early and provided the second round vote to the scrutineers via phone.

The two successful candidates appointed to the NZAFF Board were:

Adam Felix  
Todd Wackrow

With this result Dan Amosa relinquished the Chair to Patsy to continue the AGM.

Shiraz raised a motion of thank to Dan for stepping into the job three years ago when no-one wanted the job and continuing to work hard for the sport.

**Resolution** It was moved that Dan Amosa be thanked for his efforts on behalf of the sport during his term as Chairperson.  
*Moved Shiraz Soysa /Seconded Alva Tohovaka-Staples*  
*Carried unanimously*

Patsy then thanked Brendan McGurk for his participation in the process and stated that she looked forward to working with him in the future.

**8. Remits / notices of motion**

The NZAFF Board presented a Resolution to the AGM to approve all previous decisions and actions of previous Boards. This will prevent any future action against the Federation if any

decision was deemed improper in any way. The reason for this is to stop any distracting discussion regarding any past decisions while we move forward.

**Resolution** It was moved that all decisions and actions of previous NZAFF Boards be ratified.  
*Moved Dorothea Ieremia /Seconded Jess McGregor*  
*Carried unanimously*

## 9. Any items of business not listed on the agenda

It was noted that any business needs unanimous agreement of the Associations delegates in order to be discussed.

- Alva Tohovaka-Staples raised the question of whether there has been any check on value of Xero to the clubs.

It was agreed that this could be discussed.

Patsy answered that the system was promoted because it would help clubs with funders who required an accounting system for reporting and for meeting the obligations of being an incorporated Society.

After some discussion a request was made, supported by everyone, to upgrade the package so that the number of transactions per month limitation is removed.

NZAFF will reply back to the individual clubs.

There followed several discussion points where it was unclear that there was a unanimous agreement to discuss the topic. Despite this there was some discussion that we have recorded that can be continued subsequent to the AGM.

- Shiraz Soysa raised a point regarding Regional Development. The new Board will discuss this.
- Jason Vaka asked a question regarding the Auckland Women's competition.
  - Patsy replied that it was envisaged as an in-house event hosted by the JC Spartans.
  - Dorothea added that the JC Spartans were willing to take it on as an internal competition if there was interest because they had coaches that have worked in the women's game and were willing to assist. However no-one turned up at an initial meeting so they no longer supporting the initiative.
  - Danny Tixier stated that the AFA wants to support a women's competition. And that any competition in Auckland needs to be run by the AFA. The AFA were happy to start small.
  - Dorothea reiterated that the competition was going to be in-house with resourcing coming from the JC Spartans and was never going to be an offshoot competition.
  - Russell confirmed that a meeting was being arranged with the interested parties to ensure that the expectations of all parties and the players are set correctly with one agreed pathway forward.
- Brenda McGurk commented that it would be good to have a national calendar of events that had all the regional information etc. for people to see. Further that it would be good to have that available by the 1<sup>st</sup> January.

## 10. Meeting close

The meeting closed, with thanks to everyone for their attendance, at 7:50pm.