

NEW ZEALAND Underwater

New Zealand Underwater
56th Annual General Meeting
Dolphin Underwater Club
Northcote Road Extension
Northshore
Auckland
13 June 2009

Meeting declared open 9.10am

Members Present:

Bob Rosemergy	Life Member, Chairman Spearfishing New Zealand
Denis Adams	Dolphin Underwater Club
Trish Mahon-Adams	Dolphin Underwater Club
Martin Brett	Dolphin Underwater Club
Steve Boundford	Dolphin Underwater Club
Sue Boundford	Dolphin Underwater Club
Andrea McFarlane	NZUA Staff
Tony Colhoun	Mt Maunganui Underwater Club
Tony Kiuumdjian	Mt Maunganui Underwater Club
Phil Young	Wellington Underwater Club
Mike Batey	Auckland University Dive Club
Ali Perkins	Auckland University Dive Club
Ryan Mc Cardle	Auckland University Dive Club
Mike Penfold	Wellington Underwater Club
Grant Leighton	Pending Staff member NZUA
Peter Crabb	Veterans Underwater Club, New Zealand Underwater Staff
Robert Feist	Dunedin Underwater Hockey, NZUA board
Tristan Reynard	Going Postal Underwater Hockey Club, Underwater Hockey New Zealand
Alan Warner	Life Member
Jeroen Jongejans	Life member
Bruce Carter	Life Member, New Zealand Underwater Staff, NZUA Board
Rex Gilbert	Life Member, Veterans, Incident and Accident Recorder
Katy Tapling	Veterans
David Graham	Life Member, New Zealand Underwater Trust, Past President
Paul Roberts	Underwater Sports Christchurch (SCAP Station)
Judy Johnston	Life Member, Southland Underwater Club
Eric Simmons	Nelson Underwater Club
Anne Neumann	Nelson Underwater Club
Mark Roden	Nelson Underwater Club
Ray Dolman	President New Zealand Underwater, East Bay Underwater
Emma Burdett	Waikato University Dive Club
Angela Bridger	Waikato University Dive Club
Mike Percy	Western Underwater Club
Margaret Howard	Dolphins Underwater Club
Mario Bertora	Bluefins Underwater Club
John Anderson	Bluefins Underwater Club

Apologies:

Clive Mudgeway –Life Member
John Gallagher –Life Member
North Canterbury Underwater Club
Brin Thompson-Underwater Hockey NZ

*Motion: That the apologies and roll call be accepted.
Carter/Adams*

1 Minutes 55th 2008 Annual General Meeting

The minutes were presented for review by the meeting.

*Motion: That the minutes be accepted
Johnston/Gilbert*

Matters Arising

No matters arising from the minutes were raised

2 Correspondence

One resignation – Bay of Islands Club wished to resign. A Letter was dispatched outlining the activities of NZUA which Ray Dolman said are long and extensive. This had the result of the club responding to say that they still wished to resign.

Ray Dolman confirmed the AGM had sufficient club representation of seven clubs to meet the constitutional requirements for a quorum.

Outwards AGM correspondence is noted as zero.

*Motion: That inwards and outwards correspondence is accepted.
Dolman/Feist*

3 Ratification of Clubs

Table on Page 6 Clubs Listed

Ray referred to the discussion last year-Those clubs not registered for two years were deleted. Meeting last year felt that we should keep attempting to retain those clubs.

Tony Kuumdjian, Mt Maunganui-commented that what was the point of having a constitution if you're not going to stick to it and you may as well throw the constitution away. For Tony this was a "sticky" issue because on the one hand you need constitutional rules, yet we don't want to NZU to go in to total decline-but Clubs can waltz in after two years and make decisions which doesn't seem right somehow.

Discussion was held regarding the various clubs as per the list who haven't paid and whether or not striking them from the register was prudent given their constitutional importance to the core business of the association. Discussion was also held around whether there had been moves by the office to contact these clubs to keep them informed, and to attempt to re-establish clubs that are not currently financial. It was asked if we use the list of clubs who are not financial to let them know what New Zealand Underwater is up to. The response was that this is not done. This prompted a discussion about a plan to contact these people.

Discussion around this raised many points about validity of financial clubs and Eric Simmons was keen to point out that if we look at the constitution, it says under points 3.1. And 3.4 represent everyone in underwater Sports.

Rex noted that it was most important that the association is seen to represent the divers in on and under the water, and the more clubs the association has means that weighs a lot when you are talking to the government etc.

Do we know if the clubs still exist-Ryan McCardle-Ali Perkins indicated that this may be an opportunity to do a Google search to see if there in fact are more clubs that have come into existence recently and would join if they knew about the association.

List of defunct clubs.

Eric Simmons said it is important to create a list of defunct clubs so that they can be eliminated once and for all. David Graham said that the true membership fees are actually 138 k from trading which is contributed by every "scubeedoo" in NZ. The revenue from membership is something which the association has long recognised of 10 k contributes possibly only enough to run the annual conference.

SCAP and the roc was a way of attracting fees from all divers.

The meeting agreed that the association should go through the process of eliminating those clubs which are no longer constitutionally valid.

David Graham made the point that the association has long recognised that the current constitution is not the appropriate structure for NZUA, however in the meantime we should follow the constitution we have and delete those clubs not ratified for more than two years and keep a record of all clubs so that the Association can have a hit list of clubs to approach.

Motion

That the association deletes the clubs who have not paid in accordance with the constitution and that the constitution be upheld and the clubs not registered for two years be deleted from the ratification table and be retained on a "hit-list" for contacting after the AGM to be encouraged to re affiliate.

Graham/Jongejans

4 Presidents Report

Judy Johnston commended the improvement in the Enews letter, the last edition of which was great. Rex commends the staff for all their hard work and the direction and the way that they have moved the association in and the momentum that has been developed and the staff should all be proud of themselves. While Rex was sorry to see Ray standing down, he said this means we have a base from which to build and thanked Ray for his work.

Motion: That the Presidents report be accepted.

Dolman/Carter

5 Spearfishing NZ Report

Bob Rosemergy went through his report and highlighted the following points:

Bob commented that one reason Spearfishing is in the position of being "quite flush" is that every person gets a newsletter and this generates a lot of questions and feedback and is a key reason why spearfishing does so well. Bob added the newsletter creates a lot of feedback and means that they are really in touch with the people who are interested in spearfishing or spearfishing themselves all the time. Spearfishing NZ receives ten dollars every time a competitor Like John Anderson comes to a competition. This means that Spearfishing NZ is in the happy position where money keeps coming in. David Graham commented that this is one good thing about underwater hockey and spearfishing is that the competitors need to pay to compete.

Denis Adams asked Bob what was his position regarding the recent controversy around spearing marlin. Bob said he wasn't aware of any such controversy and perhaps this didn't make it as far it down south as Wellington. After the situation was clarified Bob did conceded that he was aware that there was some discussion about it. Bob when told of Dave Moran's editorial, said that it is important to keep such things in perspective. Bob also added that one weekend in the Bay of Islands, one fisher in particular was recorded as having "boated and landed twenty marlin in one weekend so if we are talking about numbers, the number speared is a very small percentage of the total.

John Anderson said that hundreds of marlin killed every year through fishing and he is aware of only two that were shot (speared) and he felt that perhaps Dave Moran in his editorial wasn't taking into account the relatively few numbers of marlin taken by spearfishing.

David Graham commented that someone speared the Queensland grouper. Ray mentioned that Peter Crabb's article in Enews did explain that the spearfishing fraternity were concerned about that and had done a great deal of effort to point out that this fish was rare and shouldn't be speared.

*Motion: That the free diving report be accepted.
Rosemurgy/Dolman*

6. Technical Managers Report

Tabled as read

Bruce Carter commented his report outlined what NZUA does for divers in NZ. Bruce mentioned that there were areas where we have representation and one of things that kept the association going was the money that is generated through the revenue created via the technical programs.

Bruce mentioned the upcoming Serf Program and indicated that he was planning to make a powerpoint presentation later on as this wasn't actually in the agenda.

Bruce referred the meeting to the last paragraph on the first page of his report and wanted to acknowledge Ray and Rob.

Bruce thanked Rex and Katy and many others that have volunteered to help the association following the 2007 AGM.

Mike Batey asked for elaboration on Serf. Bruce responded and said that the initial directive came from the Commerce Commission to set up a regulator service program with accreditation and certification.

RLMG-(rock lobster management group) Rex asked if anything was being done to ensure that cray loops for catching crayfish are being made legal.

A discussion developed around the use of crayfish loops (lassos). Eric said the law is aimed at snares and traps so that they have an escape hole-No judge will prosecute and the Law is basically an ass as its not illegal to have them or dive with them.

Outcome was Rex asked if NZU could get this clarified as Rex is a lot more destructive with them than without them

Let's get it changed. Bruce says that via Keith Ingram something is being worked on.

Action: Rex Suggests that we tell the membership what is happening with the loop issue in the Enews

Rex added that the serf is essential and he has an incident on his table relating to equipment issues and is very keen to see us pursue.

Peter Crabb added that a cascade of issues may lead to a diver accident and often the equipment issues if any are present are difficult to determine in all but the most obvious cases.

Risk vs reward, Eric Simmons said that he still hasn't found a case where a regulator was serviced poorly- Many where not serviced at all but wasn't aware of a single case where a poorly serviced piece of equipment lead to a problem.

Eric Simmons said that no certification for servicing regulators is required and anyone can buy parts off the internet (any parts you like) and can do it yourself.

Bruce said that the Commerce Commission said if we weren't going to be proactive then the government would regulate.

Ray Dolman said this is why we have carried out industry-wide consultation and talked to everyone and why we are taking the leadership on this issue.

Jeroen asked it is still like a WOF for tanks and directly asked Bruce Directly if NZUA has still got the strategy per the decision that was reached a few AGM's ago to get ROC on all cylinders and are we pursuing this?

Bruce Carter said that we have an agreement with CTLA who took it on board to have all of their affiliate organisations installing roc on all cylinders with a lot of support from Kim Comben (Department of Labour). There were changes at DOL and now Bruce is working with ERMA and yes, he is still pushing to get ROC on all cylinders and in the last two weeks Bruce mentioned that he had himself been audited by Erma.

Bruce said he meets many testers who don't like filling cylinders without ROC on them. When the roc is attached dive store staff can tell immediately the "in-test" or not status of the cylinders.

Jeroen noted his concern about the lack of ROC on all cylinders and how it makes it hard on customers and hard on staff to have some with and others not and urged that the association continue to push to get the ROC on all cylinders and said that it is important for the association to insist that the Roc is put on all cylinders everywhere and that is part of NZUA stamping it's mark.

Bruce mentioned that only those persons authorised to test cylinders can buy ROC. Bruce explained in the instance where people falsify station marks they can get away with this but not so if the Roc is on all cylinders this contributes greatly to increasing the security of the system and therefore the safety back to the diving community.

Jeroen asked can we make this a priority?-Ray Dolman said that we have talked to CTLA-CTLA have said to their shops it should be done but can't make them do it-it's a case of education and sometimes it's a slow process-cost is one issue but the NZUA keeps pushing.

Tony Colhoun said the testing prices are high and passing the cost along to the customers is difficult-he shops on price and always goes where it is cheaper.

Eric Simmons said that while the Roc is a good system and the proposed serf is also a good thing but more importantly he felt was that not all divers in NZ are trained and ensuring that all divers get instruction must be a greater priority?.

Robert Feist said that we can't force people to use the systems like Roc.

Eric Simmons reiterated that until everyone is trained the other systems are a lower priority.

Bruce thanked everyone for their comments and said that in his experience there is a large variation throughout NZ on price for testing and he sometimes takes his own tanks to the most expensive places.

Tony Colhoun said it needs to be looked at where people are asked to show certification which is compulsory in Europe.

Peter Crabb said that more untrained divers come unstuck than divers with poorly serviced equipment and that is documented.

Rex Gilbert asked have we done a survey on the ROC amongst industry? and later,. Do you have any consumer resistance? Ray Dolman said we haven't done a survey. Rex said personally he will not go anywhere where the shops put Rocs on simply because of the handling difficulties they create.

Mike Batey of Auckland University Dive Club raised the issue of cost for MSCDB. A discussion around the need for skippers to have this qualification for clubs developed.

Mike Batey also said that the price made it unfeasible for clubs. Discussion developed around the necessity for club skippers to have MSCDB and many confirmed that this qualification covers any situation with pay and reward as long as the boat is in survey and therefore was essential for researchers and charitable organisations to have their skippers qualified under this system.

Rex added that this is a far more appropriate qualification than the suggested format from Maritime NZ that was being promoted at the time which was modeled on that for large ships and why NZUA were proactive at working with MSA (maritime NZ) to devise the MSCDB course.

Rex added that this is now cheaper and simpler than the original and an example of us regulating ourselves from within and was a good example of NZU being proactive.

Peter Crabb said the question is not whether it should be done they are not questioning this at all but rather is there a capacity for NZUA to do a deal as the price is out of the reach of clubs (especially students) if all skippers must be trained at 6-700 hundred dollars a time and most clubs running a boat need several skippers in order to cover most eventualities.

Judy Johnston said that surely this is an opportunity for the association and should be further investigated?

Bruce Carter said that the cost for any given MSCDB course was set by individual trainers. Emma Burdett says that the University of Waikato are in the same position and would welcome a student price or group deal.

Mike Percy said he is in the same situation for his survey work and needed to have MSCDB skippers.

*Motion That Bruce Carters Report be accepted
Carter/Colhoun*

7 Underwater Hockey Report

Tristan Reynard (outgoing Chairman) mentioned that this would be the last act for him as he was stepping down and told the meeting that Brin Thompson will be taking the helm of chair of Underwater Hockey. Tristan spoke briefly of the Incorporation of Underwater Hockey New Zealand as a separate entity and said that during the 3 years of his tenure he had developed a strategic plan:

Which Included:

- Underwater Hockey NZ being recognized as a world leader in UWH
- Specific objectives:-High performance sport-criteria for SPARC
- Maintaining world leader status of junior UWH 64 teams 800 players
- World recognition for referees and coaches
- Maintain top three place in world champs
- Grown 1300 members
- Schools program
- Publicise events and achievement needs SPARC funding
- The need for a higher event manager type role

Tristan spoke about some of the threats to this strategy such as: Funding drop-offs and the world wide global recession and that Clubs relied on funding It had become apparent that one or two accountants not willing to audit small voluntary organisations and now actively try to avoid it.

The Incorporation of Underwater hockey-enables teams to attend either event-

With NZU have CMAS covered off and through Hockey NZ they have WAA (World Aqua Challenge)

Increasing pool charges are becoming a major threat.

Mini UWH an opportunity across NZ-doesn't need a deep pool-schools leagues are a possibility.

Grow SI membership 1213 highest it's ever been for the year club player's females 1/3 pop but in schools females about 54 %

Need to look at tournament participation-if an event is in South Island-should only be in CHCH as it attracts NI and Dunedin and Invercargill etc

School participation –dropped down to 71 teams

Financially –consolidated accounts. Kiwi bank hosted team accounts and all accounts for interest are good

2006-7 Worlds UK revenue went up for these events.

Funding-Tristan commented that good success rate when funding applications put in.

Wide funding approach

For example., In Sep 2006 5 of 6 applications obtained \$17000 dollars

2007 37 applications to get \$37 000

2007/08 39-78 k

2008 7 out of 12 successful at obtaining \$30 000

Equipment focus five cameras and equipment to produce DVD's for game analysis were purchased.

Future funding

Several trusts have now indicated no further funding applications will be considered until UWHNZ is separate from NZUA and this has further been replicated by Double Trust as well as one other and pub charities have also made an enquiry about this. Lion Foundation have indicated the same.

Tristan indicated that there may be a perception that underwater hockey antagonised the NZUA Board of a few years ago. He said that it is important that both organisations work together still.

NZUA UWH both small and both need administration.

Need to support each other to raise profile.

Small voluntary based organisations all Suffered from poor governance and volunteers who are time-poor.

NZUA is suffering from a lack of strategic plan was Tristan's view.

Tristan suggested that the way forward for New Zealand Underwater is to create a Strategic Plan and set some goals

See if Mini dippers and uwh can develop together and these courses obviously complimentary together.

All clubs will retain membership of NZUA for the benefit of the CMAS registration.

Together both organisations should Secure funding for mini dippers and mini underwater hockey
Funding for administrative support could be obtained for these from both organisations and the way this is currently done is straight-out duplication while better synergy could be achieved.
In future may be spearfishing can go that same way more from a funding point of view.

Ray Dolman asked if it was true that the junior girls' record has never been beaten? Tristan was uncertain about this.

Andrea Mc Farlane asked about membership and said that in the hand over to Brin he needs to be told to pay the bill for eight clubs-Tristan said yes, but NZUA needed to contact the UWH administration to collect the affiliation fees.

Tristan indicated that NZUA should take the opportunity that the constitution provides to Co-opt more members onto the board and he sees a problem with staff on the board as this confuses governance with operations.

The vision to have a shared administrator was cleared up for Rex who though this was already happening.

David Graham said we had a half and half deal where both organisations shared a staff member before for minidippers and mini underwater hockey and it worked really well.

Ray Dolman said in fact-both entities do essentially the same thing and having a shared cooperating staff member would save much duplication

*Motion: That the chairperson's report for underwater hockey be accepted
Reynard/Johnston*

8 Accounts/Financial Statements

The New Zealand Underwater Annual financial statements were tabled as were the copies presented by New Zealand Underwater Hockey.

Ray Dolman noted that those accounts that the members had in their draft annual report documents are identical to the audited accounts and that registered delegates were sent copies of the audited accounts which did not differ from the set of financial statements originally circulated.

David Graham wished it to be noted that the law firm listed with the set of financials is now called DG Law.

Questions Arising From The Financial Statements

Bob Rosemurgy asked did we pay NZRFC fees last year to which the answer was yes. "Bob also asked about the year before that? And the answer was also yes.

Bob queried the CMAS fee and why it was so much higher one year compared with the previous and Ray Dolman explained that the larger sum is because there were arrears owing when Ray took over as president.

Ray confirmed Bob's next question about whether the use of the CMAS license was available to be used by Underwater Hockey and spearfishing to which the answer was yes the organisation in question simply had to purchase the sport license for any given event.

Tony K asked about the "consultants fees" that were reversed-out and the explanation of this given by Ray Dolman was that those fees which we now don't pay were re allocated to different codes and apportioned more correctly against the costs for which more accurately reflect their use.

Tony K asked what was the New Zealand Underwater Trust?, to which David Graham explained in a potted summary:

The New Zealand Underwater Trust is not a separate account, but was set up to administer the building ownership and protect the asset. David further explained the deal negotiated by Alan Warner and himself with PADI. The building asset in Trust effectively prevents people claiming New Zealand Underwater is insolvent.

Tony k asked how come we pay The Trust back 25 000?

David Graham responded to say that in the early days more money was coming in so they built up reserves of cash for a rainy day and the rainy day came. As a result of the reserves The Trust made an advance to the association to clear some debt. The 25 k is for the association to repay to accumulate reserves for another rainy day

Alan Warner, David Graham, Lynn Taylor and John Gallagher (just resigned) sit as directors of The Trust to maintain the separation. David explained that it is important for the PADI grant to remain intact that NZUA promotes diving and doesn't denigrate PADI.

Ray Dolman added as a end note that an errant board cannot flog the building asset as it is protected in trust and Alan Fowler and Alan Warner had the vision to buy the PADI franchise in the first place lead to the association being in a position to buy the building which David Graham said they brought for around 300 K back in the day.

David Graham cautioned the meeting once again that this grant entitlement is not "a given" nor should it ever be taken for granted and the association shouldn't bank on it and use it well why they can. He said that one day PADI may question it and while NZUA represents all divers, the association needs to look after their sponsors and partners well just as any agency like the NZ Rugby Union did.

Tony Colhoun commented that NZUA should be trying to work in with all training agencies and general agreement was felt. Many gave examples where PADI and SSI had Joint Venture arrangements at expos and so on. A discussion around what the scenario of involving SSI as a major partner developed. On this subject it was generally agreed that the association would obviously consider revenue from all comers but this is something that would need to be worked through under discussion with PADI in the first instance. David Graham commented that PADI don't see other training agencies as a threat so much as they want to see people promoting diving. Nowadays diving is competing with a vast array of other adventure sports on offer. It was noted that the object of DINZ before its' demise was to help ensure that divers were not competing amongst each other.

Alan Warner noted to the meeting that he is currently a director of PADI Asia-Pacific and is able to relate to us that PADI's concern is that we have a healthy dive sector in New Zealand and that NZUA is a champion for diving and divers. As long as PADI feel that the money is going to the benefit of diving in NZ, then the grant which The New Zealand Underwater Association receives, will be secure.

Jeroen asked what did the association spend 21 000 dollars on advertising for. This is healthy sign but Jeroen wondered what the advertising was as he hadn't seen any. Ray Dolman wasn't absolutely certain but suggested that this was actually a problem with incorrect coding as this is actually the expenditure for dive safe posters, decals and stickers under funding received from The NZ Lotteries Grants Board.

Actions

- 1) Ray would investigate and either he or Eric Simmons would report back to the membership to clarify for sure that this is actually what this money was spent on.

Motion: David Graham moved that the association write two letters as a vote of thanks to the two individuals namely: Ray Dolman and John Gallagher who had generously lent the association money during the last financial year.

Graham/ Gilbert

Alan Warner posed the question to the chairman regarding a motion that was passed two years ago where it was recommended the association would provide half yearly accounts and in addition to that was there any budget for the upcoming year as per the same motion given that the building is up for lease, and whether there were any revenue-stream impacts that were likely to affect the association for the coming year.

Ray Dolman's response was that yes this was correct there was an agreement to produce half yearly accounts and Ray felt that this was in response to the dire financial situation of the time and since this situation was no longer the case and management at the office had been changed, half yearly accounts were not produced for year ended 28 February 2008 although it was generally agreed that they were for the year before when a set of audited accounts for the year ended February 28 2007 were finally presented to the association at the special AGM in Wellington. And this was in fact the reason why the special AGM was held November 17 Wellington public library because audited accounts were not presented at the June 9 AGM at Western Underwater Clubrooms

Ray Dolman went on to say that last year he did a budget and followed it and for this upcoming year he felt that a budget was more something that Eric Simmons needed to develop as Ray was no longer to be the president and didn't wish to saddle Eric Simmons with a budget that he had set. Ray said the income streams for the association would be around the same except for: a new person (Grant Leighton) who the executive had just hired this week and that would amount to 50 k expenditure plus expenses. Ray Dolman added that the impact of not receiving any rent for the downstairs premise was about \$3000 a month and that depended obviously on how long the building remained empty-but luckily the association was in a position where they could carry that debt he said.

Ray Dolman further added that 3 months earlier he had made the offer to the wider membership via the Enews letter, that the association was in now position to offer funding to select projects if approached. So far only one application by the Director of Refereeing for Underwater hockey had been posted and this was for some jackets with sponsors logos to be worn at The Schools Nationals.

Alan Warner then summarised those comments to his questions: The investment in a new person was coupled with an expectation of an increase in revenue, the vagaries of the rental market meant business as usual except for a sign saying under new governance.

A discussion about the building prompted by Denis Adam was had where it was explained the space occupied by NZUA was a unit title of an area approximately 185 square meters in size of which 80 square meters had been sublet in recent years and this included four sublet carparks (out of 9 altogether).

A discussion prompted by Mike Batey of Auckland University dive club about how the notification of the funds available for clubs to apply for, was sent out. Ray remarked that potentially if folks hadn't received that Enews then the addresses we had on file were incorrect and in spite of the university being clear that they hadn't changed email addresses for three years. It was resolved that all contact details would be cleared up and in fact Eric Simmons mentioned that it was anticipated that this ongoing and frustrating issue would be one and for all sorted out by the by the office investing in a customer relationship management /database software package, the purchase of which had been researched.

Ali Perkins asked if the Enews was posted on the NZUA website to which the answer was no!

*Motion: That the annual accounts be accepted.
Tony Kuiumdjian/Feist*

New Zealand Underwater Vehicle

It was clarified by Andrea Macfarlane that New Zealand Underwater does now own this vehicle although Ray thought a one off payment in the order of 5 thousand dollars was till to be paid to which the response was that this had already been made.

From the minutes of the 09 AGM

Bob Rosemurgy raised the issue once again of the Beyers Memorial Fund at \$4200.

Bob asked what rate of return are we getting for that account and asked was there interest accrual earned for the year 2008? as he noted it appeared that an interest amount didn't seem to have been added. Ray asked was the fund not paid out? Bob responded that no in fact the fund hadn't been claimed last year so it rolled over.

A discussion about The Beyers fund was held and Ray Dolman agreed that the new board and Spearfishing NZ should discuss the ongoing holding of the fund. Ray said it was difficult for NZUA to administer because it wasn't a separate and distinct account.

Action

- 1) New Board to discuss Beyers Memorial Fund
- 2) Get an answer about the conditions of the account and what rate of return the money gets and what would be involved in New Zealand Underwater signing that account and control of it over to

spearfishing NZ? Ray and Bob agreed that It may not be simple but nonetheless agreed that the two agencies should work together to sort out once and for all the Beyers memorial fund and see what the deed was at the time

Alan Warner told the meeting the original amount of the fund was \$1370 being the difference between the insurance pay out and the cost of bringing Graham's body back to NZ from New Caledonia. The winner of the "Interpacifics" could claim the fund but generally it wasn't claimed and the money compounded.

9 Environmental report

There was no report document from the Environmental Committee for this AGM. The members Dr Roger Grace, Peter Crabb and Eric Simmons have all been contributing in their various areas. Peter Crabb gave an oral overview of his contributions which included writing submissions and stake-holder work, sitting on the Auckland Conservation Board as convener of the Marine Subcommittee, writing contributions to Amateur Fishing News, working on building and re-establishing relationships with WSPA, DOC, Mfish, Forest and Bird and Greenpeace, and attending the NZRFC AGM. Peter also mentioned that the main issue on the table at present is legislation planned to prevent diving in Waikorupupu springs. We will be working hard and have already put significant effort into this. We will also be working on the process to create marine reserves in the area between Ahipapra and East Cape in conjunction with a process being conducted jointly by Mfish and DOC. Peter Noted that Roger would be providing a presentation during the evening events and he would be outlining more detail of the work he does. It was mentioned that Roger had taken on a large role in Whangateau Harbour Care Group who were leading the way as a community focus-group raising awareness.

Eric Simmons was heavily involved with the Cod fishery and Marine Reserves issues around his home town of Nelson. Eric has sat on the Horiangi marine reserves committee in Nelson for three years, and stated that this reserve is now starting to show many signs of recovery, and has been a phenomenal success. Eric mentioned that it was good to see a reserve in a place with a variety of ecosystems.

Jeroen indicated that he had read in the morning's NZ Herald that the whole Mfish/Doc marine reserve (MPA) creation process was now off the agenda due largely to the reallocation of resources at Mfish under the new national government.

Mark Roden from the Nelson Underwater Club is working with the Top of the South Fisheries Forum

Peter Crabb indicated that his sources have told him that Nick Smith is promulgating a kind of Environmental protection agency and Jeroen said that something is about to happen soon and that during the strategic planning session in the afternoon he would be presenting some material –some old plans being dusted-off once again.

Ray Dolman asked Bob Rosemergy about the reference in his report to the regional forums and asked did he attend those and whether or not they were worthwhile. Bob did attend and they were worthwhile but given recent events at Mfish with the disestablishment of 80 positions and the entire Mfish office from Nelson being removed, the future of those forums was uncertain. The forums provided great opportunities for spearfisher's input.

*Motion: That a brief verbal report was presented.
Dolman /Jongeans*

10 Incidents and Accidents

Rex's Report was tabled as read.

Rex mentioned the loss of some friends over the past year to diving accidents and that had prompted discussion about the use of rebreather units which, while they had become a fact of life, the reality was that as recreational diving equipment they were highly risky given the many problems that can occur with use of rebreathers and the very specialised nature of the gear. Rex had difficulty understanding why divers wanted to put themselves in such situations but reading a book called "Raising the Dead" had provided good insight into the psyche of why divers wanted to do such dives. Rex acknowledged that there were always going to be adventurous people and mountains were there to be climbed and the oceans depths there to be explored.

Technical diving aside, Rex saw that still too many people were presenting at the recompression chamber because of too many mistakes. There was no need to be a super diver with multiple qualifications when really people just need to refer to the basic of their training. However Rex acknowledged that decompression sickness is not a perfect science and there is still much with respect to that that we didn't know.

Rex said that for people of his age, condition and mileage, the tables and computers were invalid.

Rex related the sad case of a woman who he was close to who had suffered DCI for no apparent reason after a single dive and he would be reporting on this although it was still a complete mystery as to why this had occurred.

Rex stresses that buddy diving is very important and the use of oxygen as a primary first aid tool is very important. Both Rex and Jeroen provided examples where the prompt administration of 100% oxygen almost certainly saved lives.

Jeroen pointed out that while it is uncommon amongst the 25 000 dives performed per year under the custodianship of Dive Tutukaka, there were always one or two cases where the prompt administration of oxygen had been crucial.

Rex says that he calculated 1 million dives were performed annually in NZ and while most of these are "safe" he says we can do better.

Peter Crabb, in his capacity as the Water Safety New Zealand representative, reiterated that it was very important that all divers publicised and distributed information about The Des Number. Rex said that was absolutely correct and, while 111 did a great job, the specialised nature of diving meant that having experts on the end of the phone 24/7 did save lives and really helped folks to take the best course of action for any given set of circumstances when a dive incident occurred. Its free and they (The Devonport Naval Base Hyperbaric Medical Services) provide advice and talk a first aider through any situation, so we encourage all divers to use it and its one of the ways we support all divers in NZ whether they are members or not.

When Ryan Mc Cardle said that don't DAN say to always ring 111 first the answer from Rex is a resounding no-if DES number is activated a diver suffering severe DCI can be choppered at low altitude rapidly to a recompression facility while an ambulance service would necessarily institute the same and delays are life threatening

Rex stated that he is happy to continue as incident and accident recorder.

Motion: That the incident and accident report be accepted.

Gilbert/Brett

11 Election of Officers

a President

One nomination received – Eric Simmons.

Ray Dulman thanked Eric for putting his hand up for the role and hoped that he could carry on the work of the past 56 years. Judy Johnston noted that this was the appointment of the first ever South Island based president of the association.

It was agreed that for the remainder of the meeting Ray Dolman would continue as Chairman

b Executive Board

While three nominations were received, only two were valid– Bruce Carter and Phil Young.

It was noted that since Canterbury Underwater Club were not financial, the nomination by them for Paul Roberts was not valid and David Graham indicated that while that may be the case there is the mechanism for the executive to co opt the services of Paul onto the Executive Board to which there was general agreement amongst delegates that this was a good idea.

No election was required and Phil Young and Bruce Carter (both nominated by Wellington Underwater Club) were appointed unopposed to the Executive Board.

David Graham noted thanks to all officers of the association as in recent years as the number of people prepared to volunteer were thin on the ground and organisations such as ours relied on them for their ongoing viability.

C Cheque signatories

Ray Dolman moved that the Cheque signatories be Eric Simmons, Phil Young and Bruce Carter. It was clarified By David Graham that there were two signatories required for Cheques and two authorisations for electronic payments.

*Motion: That the current Cheque signatories be changed to reflect the new board.
Dolman/Colhoun*

D Other positions

Medical advisor:	Dr Simon Mitchell
Accident Recorder:	Rex Gilbert
Environmental Committee:	Peter Crabb, Ali Perkins and Roger Grace
NZRFC representative:	Peter Crabb
Auditor-after discussion	Kelvin C Deal of Whakatane
Life Member nominations-	None

12 Notices of motion

Note that these motions were constitutionally invalid only because of late arrival to the office but noted they were worthy of discussion

a Motion 1

A 4 Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion 1 (see note at the bottom)

The following propose changes to the constitution

6.1 The two (2) main categories of underwater activities covering Sporting and Underwater Hockey shall be administered as two (2) semi-autonomous branches of the Association.

6.2 Those branches shall be known as:

NZ Underwater Sporting and NZ Underwater Hockey

altered to

6.1 Underwater sporting activities shall be administered as semi-autonomous branches of the association

6.2 Those branches administrates by committees

Rationale:

Underwater Hockey New Zealand has completed Incorporation of Underwater Hockey New Zealand Inc and wish to remove reference to Underwater Hockey in the NZ Underwater Constitution

Notice of Motion 2

The following propose changes to the constitution

Proposed to delete clause
Clause 6.8

Rationale:

Underwater Hockey New Zealand has completed Incorporation of Underwater Hockey New Zealand Inc and wish to remove reference to Underwater Hockey in the NZ Underwater Constitution

Notice of Motion 3

It is proposed that NZ Underwater Hockey accounts and assets as at 1 May 2009 be transferred to Underwater Hockey New Zealand Inc. Underwater Hockey New Zealand Inc accepts all liabilities incurred in 2009 for NZ Underwater Hockey from NZ Underwater. Association

Rationale:

This tidies up Underwater Hockey New Zealand Inc start up balance and removes any liability from NZ Underwater Assn.

*Going Postal Underwater Hockey Club
Tristan Reynard/ Zoe Firth*

A discussion was had where there was general agreement that the intent of these notices after hearing Tristan's comprehensive presentation, were valid and reflected the new reality that UWH in order to satisfy the criteria for funding agencies as well as have an ability to run tournaments under World Aqua Challenge rules as well as CMAS. David Graham said that from a legal perspective, the changes for underwater hockey were straight forward.

Judy Johnston noted that motion one was good because it included finswimming.

David Graham said that we needed to follow a prescribed time line to achieve outcomes that would be decided by the executive board.

The time line would be:

- that this meeting would discuss the notices,
- The board would meet to decide upon the alterations to the constitution are required and in light of the discussion pending in the afternoons workshop, any further alternations which could then be sent through to David who would then have his team put them into the correct legal language
- Then recirculated well ahead of time for the next years AGM or dealt with separately at a special AGM.

David cautioned the meeting that there were certain aspects of the constitution that were necessary in order for NZUA to retain its tax-free status. This related in fact, not to the Charities Act, as is the perception of many, but in fact to do with being an amateur sport. NZUA could be considered under the Charities Act if we justified our criteria under Mini Dippers where we could be considered under the educational banner but it's best not to rock the boat. The Government may decide to tax amateur sport in which case then some change may be necessary.

However, the main point is that the constitution needs to reflect which direction the board decides to head in strategically.

David Graham cautioned that whatever the case, the material to be tweaked by DG Law needs to be presented well ahead of time in order for the association to receive favourable rates.

A break was had for Lunch

13 General Business –

Hosting the 2010 AGM went to Mt Maunganui

I Wreck of the Seafire

A letter was tabled and passed around. A discussion developed about the letter which most hadn't read. The Letter was received by Ray Dolman from The Seafire Trust regarding safety issues with respect to diving on the wreck of the Seafire. The ascent and descent lines were very slack and this resulted in ascending divers on leaving the wreck in order to follow the lines, often descended off into deeper water from an already deep dive. Confusion reigned as people were at cross purposes discussing "mooring lines" which some thought were for tying the dive boat up to in order to make the dive, while others were talking about mooring lines being those which secured the sunken vessel to the actual seafloor.

There was also a risk that inexperienced divers could become entangled in the rigging which was all still intact.

Jeroen said in his ten years of experience on diving the Tui and the Waikato the safest system they had developed was to have the lines that dive vessels tied up to as the same as the lines going down to the wreck. While Dive Tutukaka had experimented with having lines away from the wreck to protect the wreck, this method was found to not work, Jeroen Said.

The meeting was in agreement that the lines needed to be tightened up and Ray Dolman committed to seeing the issue through and to keep discussing a favourable outcome with the Seafire Trust.

The main outcome Ray Suggested would be to work cooperatively to develop some signage for the wharf where most boats left from to go diving at the wreck site.

Action

Ray to work with Seafire Trust and report back to NZUA.

Western Underwater Research Team

Mike Percy Provided a brief presentation about his work to do with the Western Underwater Research Team.

Mike outlined his involvement with marine debris campaign and distributed some resource materials about his great work and collaboration with PADI aware on this project. This prompted some great discussion and general agreement that marine debris was a problem which we all needed to be more aware of and help resolve when and where possible.

Auckland University Dive Club Turns 50

A call was made by Ali Perkins for past University Dive Club members to contact the club to help with the celebrations in 2011 and a call was made for records, photographs and other material relevant to the University club to be made available to the current administration.

SERF

Bruce Carter provided the meeting with a presentation about the SERF (scuba equipment repair facility program) on power point.

This is a newly developed safety initiative that was instigated through communication with the commerce commission who said that if NZUA or the dive industry didn't do something about the situation with respect to regulator servicing, then they would be forced to do something and Bruce commented that the last thing any industry needs is the government legislating on their behalf.

Bruce then outlined the program, distributed information which he indicated that he is happy to email out to anyone who contacts the office.

The program contains;

- Code of practice
- Syllabus
- Terms of reference which Bruce passed around.

The scope of the programs has undergone some trials which has been something that NZUA and others have been developing for the last two years or so.

The Syllabus yet to be completed will involve some grandparenting in the first instance and once established then the details about the syllabus can be determined.

The program will be distinct as accredited facilities under this program will place an annual coloured heat shrink sleeve onto the regulator hoses and these will be stamped with a facility mark of some type along with the date.

Cost was estimated to be in the order of 150 incl GST to belong and this would involve an annual audit of the facility and of the technician's qualifications.

Following Bruce's presentation, A discussion with questions resulted.

Mike Batey Uni Dive asked how this program would be integrated with the manufacturers courses that individual importers run . Eric Simmons responded that after discussion with three major distributors the day prior to the AGM, that simply once this program is running any candidate will not be accepted to do a manufacturers course until such time as they have completed the serf course so the serf training course actually becomes a compulsory prerequisite.

Bruce mentioned the course will be rolled out by appropriately trained/qualified experienced persons of which he estimated there would be three around NZ.

Ray Dolman said the time line would be one year before course would be run to allow the establishment for facilities operating under the program plus most people working currently in the industry would be grandfathered into the program and the need for newly inducted people to be trained would come later on. In response to the question from Tony Colhoun that this was actually a happening thing not an idea thing was a resounding yes and in fact there was the new NZUA staff member, Grant Leighton who was asked to put his hand up and Ray Dolman indicated that Grant would be responsible for making it happen.

Emma Burdett from Waikato University Dive Club asked what happens now? The response was that there is nothing in place. Individual manufacturers hold programs but in fact, as Robert Feist explained there is nothing to prevent anyone from doing there own servicing in the garage at home with parts purchased from the internet.

Martin Brett from Dolphin Underwater Club asked is there any system in place for NZUA members to get a reduction in DAN insurance. A discussion resulted where it was learnt that this had been discussed before but nothing was in place and Eric has been talking with Dan and this is something, that if it can happen, will create incentive for membership and it was generally agreed that this was a good thing.

Eric Simmons said all divers thinking that not getting DAN insurance was a good idea should think again as he related an unfortunate story where a traveler had long delays in treatment because he thought that diving was covered under his basic travel insurance.

Mike Batey raised the question of five dollars fees and that with 200 members this was prohibitive for the university. This is a problem for all clubs and is something that needs to be worked through within the club to come up with solutions to their individual member affiliation issues.

Rob Feist put down the challenge and invited a volunteer to be the Webmaster. A discussion around who might be able to do ensued. Rob said that unless there is money it has to be done in this way. Jeroen felt the website needed to be run from the office by the paid staff as it's an important tool that needs the focus and attention of those closest to the coal face of the association. Denis said why it cost so much when they get their one for free and Rex suggested talking to Phil Bendle.

Ray thanked everyone for coming

AGM Meeting Closed For Afternoon Tea at 3:00 PM

Workshop

A round the table discussion about strategic direction of the association was facilitated by Eric Simmons following an interesting powerpoint presentation about some ideas.