



**New Zealand Maori and Polynesian Canoe Federation: NKO
Council Meeting Summary and Action Notes**

Meeting Date:	4 th July 2010	Location:	Auckland
Present:	Lara Collins President Corrina Gage Vice President Charmaine Matiaha Secretary Alex Ryder Treasurer Robert Gable Tai Tokerau Rep	Cherie Collison Auckland Region Rep Nani P Te Puku o te Ika Rep Kapua Waikari Te Uranga o te Ra Rep Samantha Tamanui Hoe Tonga Rep Shaun Hardcastle Te Waka o Aoraki Rep	
	Chrissie Cobb – Meeting Scribe		Hellen Messenger (TPOTI) in attendance

For the benefit of communicating with the greater waka ama community, every effort will be made to continue providing a summary of the Council meetings soon after each meeting. On Sunday 4th July we had a full council meeting in Auckland, which covered a lot of issues over 7 hours.

This is an effort to highlight key issues that may be of interest and you may wish to continue conversations within your regions or clubs to take an active part in.

Sometimes when we are in the hustle and bustle of meeting many outcomes or demands it is important to take the time to look back at what has been achieved and look ahead to ensure the pathway is still heading in the right direction. The President has done this and a President's Blog page will be set up soon for viewing.

Finances

This always seems to be a topic of interest and it is always rewarding to know that NKO are in a good financial position or if times are difficult that there are plans to work towards financial sustainability of the organisation without too much disruption to members. Nga Kaihoe o Aotearoa still remains a voluntary based organisation and through the energy of the Council members are managing to maintain debt free without increasing paddler affiliation fees, National Sprints race fees, or drawing from World Sprint campaigns. We must all celebrate this achievement and surviving the economic recession, however we must also acknowledge that the economy has changed. If you are not aware, the New Zealand government will increase gst from 12.5% to 15% in October. This will mean that like everyone else NKO will need to make adjustments to meet this increase. This will require a significant amount of time for the Treasurer and with the National sprints only 6 months away the council have co-opted Danielle (Dani) Rouse of Te Waka o Aoraki (South Island) region who has a background in finance to assist the Treasurer. Dani will be covering a large portion of the financial tasks for the National sprints.

Communication

Communication is the key to any successful organisation. With so much happening and so many items tabled, it is vital that communication lines are clear and are followed. A communication plan was tabled and approved and will be loaded to our website. It is important for all to remember that Regions are the members of NKO and that communication should come from and be delivered via regions to clubs and paddlers.

National Sprints

Discussions at the meeting highlighted that a small number of regions require some support to transition their members towards managing and administrating the Club Nationals Future Plan from 2011 and beyond. This was anticipated prior to releasing the proposal, during consultation with regions, and following confirmation of accepting the proposal. The council are implementing ways and key people to set priorities to work through the changes.

Race Rules

Extensive consultation, examination, dialogue, debate and consolidation in clubs, regions, and council were conducted over an 18-month period in review of the NKO Race Rules. All input is very much appreciated and we can only imagine the discussions you may have had as teams, club members, regional organisations, supporting friends, whanau, and any other interested stakeholders. The council are very grateful for the subcommittee especially Joern Scherzer from the Hoe Tonga (Southern North Island) region for the tireless energy put in to ensure the review was completed. A copy of the race rules can be found on the waka ama website.

The process for future Rule reviews will be published on the website in the near future.

Waka Ama Safety Guidelines

NKOA, by way of the Vice President, is working along side the Maritime Safety Authority (MSA) to update the guideline information and progress towards waka ama safety rules. Management of the rules will be conducted by MSA and that is why it is important that waka ama must provide input into the process. The waka ama community have been given opportunity to contribute and voice their opinions via their clubs and regional bodies. However, if you believe a safety issue may not have been addressed discuss this with your regional rep who will be able to advise or direct a plan of action.

2010 World Sprints

Aotearoa/NZ were the second highest medal recipients at this event behind Tahiti and ahead of Australia. The organising committee acknowledged this by awarding those countries with trophies. It was our most successful overseas world sprints campaign to date. A photo of the trophy will be posted on the website soon. Well done to the whole campaign; paddlers, coaches, managers, whanau, and supporters. NKOA wish to acknowledge the hard work everyone put into this success.

A process and action plan for collecting feedback and reviewing the 2010 Worlds Campaign will be posted on the website soon. Surveys and other ways of getting as much feedback on the 2010 World Sprints processes and activities are being conducted nationally, regionally, and in separate campaigns. This will all be collected and consolidated by an independent party and presented to NKOA.

Strategic Plan

The President, Executive and Council are leading action towards meeting timelines and outcomes directed by the waka ama community and documented in the 3 year Strategic Plan for the Sport of Waka Ama 2009-2012. Action so far includes meeting with key stakeholders potential sponsors and funders to gain the best possible support to get our sport to where its members want to go. There have been many many many voluntary hours put in by the NKOA Executives and council members as a whole with funds from the operations budget being used so far. However, this has been to the detriment of the organisation, individuals paid employment, whanau, and sanity, which cannot continue if we want to meet the strategic plan outcomes and timeframes. Restructuring of the organisation as directed in the plan requires commitment, focus, time and funds. In order to achieve this the Council has identified that the President has put a lot of time and energy in so far and has built relationships that require consistency to progress efficiently, effectively, and financially. To move the current waka ama structure forward and move towards a separate governance and operations structure, and explore alternative funding sources, sustainability and employment of a CEO in 2011; the Council have nominated the President to continue with the work started and fulfil a role, which facilitates this transition process. This will require a huge commitment and we are waiting and hoping that this will be possible.

2010 National Long Distance Marathon

The Council has voiced its concern to the hosting region and they are aware of the inconvenience caused for changing the date of this event from August to October. It is confirmed that the new date is 30th & 31st October 2010. Information will soon be posted on the website.

Full minutes will be forwarded to all regional executives and representatives by 12th July 2010.

Next NKOA Council: 8th August 2010

NKOA AGM: 8th August 2010 (Auckland)

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