

NZMMNA NEWSLETTER December 2024

Tēnā koutou,

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā kārangaranga maha, tēnei te mihi ki a koutou. A little over three months since the celebration of our 40th year at Men's Nationals 2024, and the election of a new Board, we are pleased to provide this update to our members. In this edition:

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President's message

Kiingi Tuheitia ki te rangi. Te Arikinui te Kuini Māori,
Ngawai hono i te po ki te whenua. Rire rire hau, Paimaarire.

It is difficult to look to the future without acknowledging and remembering our past and I want to firstly acknowledge those who have passed on. There are so many people who have contributed to our sport over the past 40 years laying the foundation and pathway so that we are able to stand here today. I also acknowledge our life members who sit quietly amongst our regions, holding the knowledge and whakapapa of yesterday. E mihi atu ana – you are the true trailblazers of our sport.

I acknowledge the departure of the previous Board members – Junior Tana, Junior Manapori, Marian Daals and Naze Silbery. It is important we acknowledge and thank them for the many years and hours of service and dedication they have given to the kaupapa, while also contributing within their own regions. A particular acknowledgement to Junior T for leading our association and sport for the past four years. Few will understand how incredibly humbling it is to be elected President. Thank you for your service e hoa – teenei te mihi nui ki a koe.

It is hard to believe that over three months have passed since we gathered in Tauranga Moana to celebrate 40 years of men's netball in Aotearoa, New Zealand. NZMMNA acknowledges and thanks the hosts –Rotorua and Waikato-Tainui for the tireless mahi, planning, and organisation. I also acknowledge Mana Whenua and the Tauranga Netball Centre for their maanakitanga throughout the 2024 tournament.

There were many highlights and stand out moments at nationals this year. For me, having seven teams entered into the U20 men's grade, with well over 70 players participating was amazing! Another special moment was having so many life members attend the tournament, with some taking the court. Finally, having 42 entries for NZMMNA Men's Nationals this year shows the continued growth of our sport.

It is with pride our new board and I lead you into the future with the support of our rohe and regions to continue the mahi that has been laid before us, developing and growing our game from grass roots to the international stage.

Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua
I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on my past

Tania Anderson
President, NZMMNA



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NZMMNA BOARD 2024 – 2026

Tania Anderson – President



Tania has been involved with men's netball for 40 years. Her experience at all levels of the game including Mixed Netball, NNZ age groups, Premier Women's, and NZ Indoor Netball brings an unmatched level of experience to her role as President.

Having been successful at a National and International level, Tania has been a committed and dedicated coach, contributing to our sport for many years. She has been involved in a number of International Series and NZMMNA Teams, most recently defending the Trans Tasman Mixed Title.

The success within her association, Waikato-Tainui, continues to be a focus and passion for her but more importantly upholding the mana of the legacy, passed down by those who stood before her, their life members.

Outside of netball, Tania is a māmā, nana, teacher and Deputy Principal.

Peter Miller – Vice President



Peter is a stalwart of Wellington netball and spent 10 years as the NZMMNA Secretary. After stepping down in 2020 to focus on his region.

Wellington has returned to top level netball in the open grade, winning the A grade title at Men's Nationals in 2023, for the first time in more than 20 years. WMMNA have made successive finals at both Mixed and Men's Nationals which is a testament to the work that has been done at regional level.

Peter previously held a number of roles within NZMMNA and now returns as VP.

Peter is a Secondary School teacher and Dean at Sacred Heart College in Lower Hutt.



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NZMMNA BOARD 2024 – 2026

John Kingi – Secretary



John has been involved in netball since 2012 – when he first attended Men's Nationals in the Under 23's grade.

Originally from Tāmaki-Makaurau but now based in Pōneke with his partner. John brings more than 8 years experience as a Board member, as well as 10 years involvement with his club Northern Stormers.

John brings a legal and policy skillset to the Board, while being very experienced and proficient with governing policies and procedures having drafted the existing NZMMNA constitution and many of our existing policies.

Outside of netball John works as a Chief Advisor at a Crown agency focusing on Māori policy and Treaty of Waitangi obligations.

Byron Sanders – Treasurer



Byron has been a core member of the resurgence of Dunedin Men's Netball. A key member of the team that won the B Grade National Titles in both 2019 and 2024, latterly as Captain. Byron brings a strong commitment to developing more opportunities for Men's and Mixed in the deep south.

He joined the NZMMNA Board for the first time in 2022 as Secretary and has remained with the current board as the newly elected treasurer.

Byron is a trained educational psychologist and is a Manager with the Ministry of Education.



NZMMNA BOARD 2024 – 2026



Alana McLeod-Young – Member's representative

Alana joins the NZMMNA Board for the first time as the member's representative and hails from Murihiku in the deep south.

A frequent management member and supporter with the former Southland association, Alana is excited to increase engagement and participation with members and ensure communication is increased to and from the Board.

Alana works in the energy and utilities sector and has been involved in club and regional netball in Southland.



Elliot Clark – Policy and Constitution officer

Elliot is another first time Board member and also a current member of the NZMMNA Net Blacks.

After spending time in the Australian netball system in Perth, including winning a national title with the West Coast Thunder in 2023, Elliot made the move home to Wellington. Elliot was a member of the Wellington Men's Open Team who helped break a 20 year drought in the Open A grade at Men's Nationals, bringing home the 2023 Men's Title.

Elliot will bring good work ethics, experience and policy writing to developing and updating NZMMNA's suite of policies while ensuring constitutional adherence.

Elliot is a Policy Advisor at the Ministry for Business, Innovation, and Employment.



NZMMNA BOARD 2024 – 2026

Independent members



Murray Lockwood

Murray has over 35 years' management experience in the building/construction and related industries. He is the CEO of MSC Consulting – a leading engineering consultancy. Murray was introduced to NZMMNA through a review of the ongoing operations, and has accepted an interim appointment as an independent board member. Murray spent 9 years as a board member and then chairperson of Netball Northern Zone and has extensive experience with high performance sport governance.



Fran Scholey

Fran is no stranger to netball, having spent 5 years as CEO of Netball Central Zone. The current Chief Executive for Special Olympics New Zealand, Fran is an experienced and dynamic leader, with a demonstrated track record in working alongside stakeholders and volunteers to achieve collective results. Fran brings a range of skills to the NZMMNA Board across policy, strategic planning, and sport oversight particularly in the high performance area, which will be invaluable. Fran has accepted an interim appointment as an independent board member.



Clare Frankhouser (Co-opted member)

Clare is the General Manager of Hamilton City Netball Centre – and is a co-opted member of the Board to lift the policy and governance skills of the Board. Clare is a strategic thinker who has a passion for the not-for-profit sector and uses her skills to develop communities involvement in sports. Clare relishes tackling challenges and finding ways to overcome perceived and real barriers and create change through identifying opportunities.



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2025 CALENDAR

NZMMNA DOMESTIC EVENTS SCHEDULE

17
APRIL

6PM: NZMMNA SGM
NGĀ PUNA WAI
CHRISTCHURCH NETBALL

18-21
APRIL

MIXED NATIONALS

NGĀ PUNA WAI
CHRISTCHURCH NETBALL

16
SEPTEMBER

6PM: NZMMNA AGM
RODNEY GREEN ARENA
HAWKES BAY

17-20
SEPTEMBER

MEN'S NATIONALS

RODNEY GREEN ARENA
HAWKES BAY



NEW ZEALAND MEN'S & MIXED NETBALL

Board updates

Board wānanga

The Board held a two day wānanga in Wellington. Following the working group recommendations accepted at the 2024 AGM, the Board has agreed to a number of actions to implement in 2025. Two meetings will be held, one at Mixed Nationals and another at Men's National's 2025 to implement key decisions.

Board subcommittees

The Board has agreed to establish the following subcommittees:

- Finance and funding – Chaired by the Treasurer and tasked with identifying greater funding opportunities for the association and ensuring that the financial affairs of the association are in order.
- National Tournaments – Chaired by the Secretary and tasked with overseeing Mixed and Men's Nationals.
- High-performance – Chaired by the President, to oversee the high performance programme and approach. The Board will act as the High-performance subcommittee until further notice.

Strategic plan refresh

The Board has committed to developing a new strategic plan and vision for NZMMNA. A consultative process will begin in early 2025 with opportunities for our member associations, life members, players, and broader communities to provide input into this process. A draft plan will be presented at Mixed Nationals 2025.

Member communications

The Board will be communicating through a formal mail out each quarter. A new delegate page has been established, overseen by the member's representative. Life members will also be engaged more regularly for their views and input into the affairs of the association.



Board updates

2025 high performance approach

Following the completion of the 2024 international season, the Board has agreed to undertake a full programme review and refresh in 2025. The intention is for a new approach to high-performance to be developed across 2025 and announced for launching in 2026. While this work is underway, the Board will maintain oversight of the high-performance programme and have agreed to a number of immediate changes including the establishment of two high performance squads for 2025.

These squads will be:

- **Open Men's Squad** consisting of the top 24 athletes from across the country. This pool of athletes will be eligible for selection to the Net Blacks, the New Zealand Mixed team, and any age teams if eligible. The open men's squad will be selected following a selection camp in early March 2025. Up to 40 triallists will be invited in early January to this selection camp. Final decisions on the squad will be made on recommendation of the coaches of the Net Blacks, New Zealand Mixed, and Fast 5.
- **Youth Men's Squad** consisting of 48 of the top youth athletes, numbering 16 athletes identified for each of the age group brackets (Under 23's, under 20's, and under 17's). The youth men's squad will be selected following a selection camp in early March 2025. All existing age eligible players will be invited to trial at this selection camp. Final decisions on the squad will be made on recommendation of the coaches of the under 23's, under 20's, and under 17's coaches .

As a consequence of these decisions, there will not be a New Zealand A team selected for the 2025 season.

The Fast 5 tournament for 2025 has not been announced, and the approach to this team will be confirmed once details of the 2025 tournament are finalised.



Board updates

Entry fee increases 2025/2026

Following a review of entry fees for our national tournaments, we are announcing an increase in entry fees from 2025 onwards. These increases reflect the higher costs to hire venues, the greater number of courts required to host tournaments as participation has increased, and general increases in costs due to inflation and other pressures.

Accordingly, from Mixed Nationals 2025 onwards, the following increases will be applied:

- Opens and Masters teams: \$600 per team (2025), \$650 per team (2026)
- Unders teams: \$400 per team (2025), \$450 per team (2026)
- Associate members/invitational teams: \$750 per team (2025), \$975 (2026)

Mixed Nationals – positioning changes

The Board has agreed to make a change to the existing gender positioning rules for Mixed Nationals 2025 as a trial. This change will mean that each team in each grade will be able to determine whether they wish to field four male, or four female, identified players in line with the Diversity and Inclusion policy. This is a change from the existing rules which allow for a maximum of three male players only. NZMMNA is agnostic as to whether a team chooses to play three or four male or female identified players.



Wishing everyone a safe festive season and happy new year

Ngā mihi o te wā kirihimete me te tau hou pākehā

