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**MINUTES OF THE 63rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019, AT THE MANA CRUISING CLUB AT MANA, KAPITI COAST, WELLINGTON, COMMENCING AT 9 AM**

**PRESENT:**

NZSFC President	B Gutsell	Waikato Delegate, Bowentown Delegate
NZSFC Vice President	P Campbell	
NZSFC Vice President	Ian Steele	
Secretary	H Pastor	
Akitio BC	R Beales	
Ashley SFC	J Bruce	
	M Connor	Zone 7 Representative - Canterbury proxy
Bay of Islands SC	Andrew Johnson	
	J Troup	
Big Fish FC	P Appleyard	
Cape Egmont BC	R van der Fits	
	T Goodin	
Clevedon GFC	L Avenell	Zone 2 Representative – Manukau Sport delegate proxy
	Y Wells	
Counties SFC	S Harper	
	D Burns	
Doubtless Bay	Evan Mackay	Houhora Representative Proxy
Hauraki Gulf SFC	P Stewart	
Hawkes Bay SFC	A Smith	
Hokianga BGSFC	L Pattinson	
	S Percy	
Kawhia B&AC	D Taucher	
	C Hickman	
Marlborough Rec Fishing	J Barclay	LegaSea
Manukau Sport Fishing	S Woolford	LegaSea
Maraetai Beach BC	I Twist	

Marsden Cove FC	G Ellis	
Matarangi SFC	S Arnold	
Mercury Bay GFC	W Harris	
	A Proctor	
Mt Maunganui SFC	V Fulton	Zone 4 Representative
	R Lucas	
New Plymouth SUC	I Steele	Zone 6 Representative
	P Saunders	
NZ Land Based	Scott Bradley	
	Richard Baker	Life Member
Raglan SFC	S Hart	
	K Barry	
Tairua Pauanui SFC	W Maher	Zone 3 Representative
	R Scott	
Taupo BC	M Pate	
Tauranga SFC	D Nielsen	
	A Milne	
	D Stewart	
Tautuku Dunedin & Haast	Brett Bensemam	
Te Aroha AC	S Cox	
	R Cornes	
Te Kaha SFC	R Lucas	Zone 8 Delegate & board Representative
	D Murie	
Waihau Bay SFC	C Elmiger	
	C Fraser	
	B Muir	
Wairarapa SFC	E Beetham	
Warkworth GFC	S Macindoe	Life Member – Co-opt Board Member – LegaSea
	Cam Rathe	Delegate
	D Adams	
Wellington S&AC	D Pye	
Whakatane SFC	D Davey	
	M Reynolds	
Whangamata OSC	B O’Neill	
	K Lynch	
	P Keogh	
Whangarei DSAC	P Saul	Zone 1 Representative
	B Saul	
Whangaroa SFC	K Mowat	
	T Lay	
Whakatakataka SFC	T Wylens	
	B McGarry	
World Sports Fishing Fed	L Pogoni	
	R Shelley	
NZ Marine Research	J Romeril	Chairman
Blue Water Marine Research	J Holdsworth	
Board Member	D Sieling	Co-opted member

Life Member	H Webb	
IGFA	M Hemingway	IGFA and Life Member Representative
	T Hill	
LegaSea	P Battaerd	
LegaSea	S Yates	
LegaSea	T Rea	
J Yeoman	NZ Angling and Casting	
NZ Fishing News	M Dixon	
Invited Guests	Allan Davidson	

**Meeting with Minister Nash.**

Minister Nash arrived at 9am and had an hour discussion and question and answer time. Items discussed were the Tarakihi situation and Motiti and other general points.

The minister agreed that as a result of the questions asked, he will undertake to;

1. Ensure the Hauraki Gulf Forum has at least Recreational representative. minutes after leaving the meeting he asked for NZSFC to nominate a representative for the HG forum.
2. Question the current state of The Motiti island reef closures with his Crown law representatives.

**Meeting opened – 1000 hrs**

**WELCOME**

Bob Gutsell, President, welcomed the Delegates, invited guests and sponsors to the 63<sup>rd</sup> NZSFC AGM in Wellington. Thanks to Mana Club for supporting our AGM and to Craig Boyes and the Wellington Surfcasting and Angling Club for the organisation with the transport arrangements. Bob talked about our progress and how recognises the priority for the council to show added value for our members. Our focus going forward to provide more value for members clubs and their members.

**APOLOGIES:**

John Chibnall	Life Member	Annette Hall	Doubtless Bay
Roz Nelson	Life Member	Ian Carrick	Southern SFC
Larry Dyer	Life Member	Peter McCormick	Big Fish
Peter Eggeling	Pegasus Bay GFC	Phil McCarthy	Te Aroha BC
Peter Garrett	Mangere BC	Roy Hoskin	Whangamata OSC
Terry Creagh	NZ Marine Research	Mark Scaif	Ashley SFC Don
Bellingham	Houhora BG & SFC	Ben Arkle	Piha Deep Sea
Grant Dixon	NZ Fishing News	Grant Blair	NZ Fishing Media
Wayne Bicknell	Hawkes Bay FC		
Gary Whittaker			

Moved that the apologies be accepted

Carried

**MINUTES SILENCE:**

A minute's silence was acknowledged for those members that who passed away over the last year.

**LEGASEA AGM:**

**Meeting opened: 1100**

The LegaSea AGM was chaired by Peter Campbell. The LegaSea Minutes to be circulated separately. See attached.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NZ SPORT FISHING COUNCIL**

Meeting opened 11.30 hrs

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed.

Minutes moved Peter Saunders, seconded Kelvin Mowat – carried

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

**PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:**

The Presidents report is attached and was spoken to by the President.

There was a discussion with regard to the CEO. This position is needed. Scott has been working for NZSFC to fill a gap between the council and the clubs. Thank you, Scott, for all your hard work. Most funding will be coming from regional and national sporting organisations for this position and the board doesn't feel there will be a conflict interest. LegaSea and the team will work with the CEO to help.

This is not a control position and the CEO will not be trying to tell clubs what to do. The role will be to talk to clubs, understand the clubs and advise the board of issues/needs the clubs may have.

A question was raised, and discussion was had regarding the relationship manager v the CEO.

**BOI** – how long will it be to get funds from Sport NZ as their funding strategy has just been released. BG advised that they have a less focus on high performance this year and more on the drowning strategy. He is confidence that we will get funding.

**BOI – Andrew Johnston** suggested an increase of fees to cover the salary rather than funding. Will the CEO be able to get the funding? BG advised that if the right person is employed, they will be able to manage this.

**BG** - Two other points. We have put the nationals' software on hold for this year as it will be expensive and will look at funding options. The other point is this month we celebrate 10 years since the first Hiwi the Kiwi goes Fishing. It has been great that this has been so successful. Now we face the questions, where do we go from here and how can be grow this. The Minstrel has also advised that he is wanting to retire next year and NZSFC is actively looking for someone who will be suitable to follow in his footsteps.

Moved that the Presidents report be accepted – Bob Gutsell – Seconded Peter Campbell –  
Carried

## **ANNUAL AUDITED STATEMENTS:**

Peter Campbell addressed the delegates and highlighted the key elements of the 2018/2019 Audited Accounts. Attached.

### **Income**

The fundraising section were grants received. Donations from LegaSea were \$140,600. Affiliation fees are up a little this year. Last year the AGM was quite expensive, but donations assisted with this.

Problems are being had with the distribution of funds from fuel cards as they cannot allocate what clubs it should go to and how much. After a discussion it was agreed that a survey be sent to all clubs asking their opinions on what to do with the money. The board would like the clubs to make this decision.

### **Expenses**

Wages have increased due to Helen's hours being increased to 40 hours.

Insurance has been taken up for public liability insurance. Depreciation was increased by website upgrade.

This year the full payment went to NZMRF.

As there were no questions the financial accounts, it was moved that the 2018/19 Audited Annual Accounts be accepted

P Saunders/Warren Harris  
Carried

## **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:**

The following nominations were received for 2019 Council office positions in accordance with the Constitution.

Auditor Tim England Chartered Accountant

Moved Peter Campbell/Phil Appleyard – accepted

Patron: John Chibnall

Nomination Peter Campbell/Kelvin Mowat – accepted

Nominations were held for the following: -

**President:** Bob Gutsell

Nominated Lewis Avenell Seconded David Wallace

**Vice Presidents** Peter Campbell nominated Bob Gutsell Seconded Lewis Avenell

Ian Steele nominated Lewis Avenell Seconded Bob Gutsell

These were duly ratified

**Records Officer:** Pete Saul

Pete Saul was asked if he would continue to be the Records Officer. Pete accepted.

nominated P Appleyard seconded E Mackay – accepted.

## **Board Representatives:**

Zone One Pete Saul

Zone Two Lewis Avenell

Zone Three	Warren Maher
Zone Four	Vance Fulton
Zone Five	Wayne Bicknell
Zone Six	Ken Barry
Zone Seven	Mark Connor
Zone Eight	Ross Lucas

### **IGFA Representative/Life Member Representative**

Mark Hemingway

As there was only one nomination for each position, it was moved that the nominations received be accepted.

Phil Appleyard/ Richard Baker – Carried

### **BUDGET:**

Finance Committee Chairman Peter Campbell presented the draft 2019/20 Budget to the Delegates, highlighting the key points for discussion. See attached.

*E Mackay – Zone 1* asked if we could have a actuals v budget available after each quarter. This was agreed.

“It was moved that the 2019/2020- Budget be accepted.”

P Campbell / W Mayer – carried

### **AFFILIATION FEES:**

**The 2017/18 Affiliation Fees were set at the 2016 AGM at.**

\$9.00 per Senior member plus a \$2 donation per member for the NZ Marine Research Foundation.

\$4.50 per Junior member plus a \$1 donation to the NZ Marine Research Foundation

“It was moved that the Affiliation Fees remain the same for the 2019/2020 Financial year.”

P Campbell / W Harris  
Carried

**Update on the Minister’s visit.** The Minister stated that he has spoken to the Conservation Minister and advised they will receive a nomination for the advisory committee. He has spoken with Crown Legal and is feeling he has been poorly advised. Council will send a thank you to the Minister.

**First Delegates introduction.** All the first-time delegates were given time to introduce themselves.

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS & POLICY DOCUMENTS**

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#### **Notice of Motion #1**

NZSFC to modify the required time periods for notices

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

Board Proposal:

14.10 Any changes considered to the Councils Fisheries Management Policy Document, Fishing Rules and Regulations and Charter can be made by the Board and ratified at the General Meeting before becoming effective.

24.2 Any proposed motion to amend or replace the Constitution shall be signed by the proposer or seconder of the zone from the eligible members and given in writing to the Secretary/Executive Officer at least 60 days before the AGM or SGM at which the motion is to be considered and accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons for the proposal.

24.3 At least 55 days before the General Meeting at which the Constitution change is to be considered the Secretary/Executive Officer shall give to all members written notice of the proposed motion, the reason for the proposal, and any recommendations the Board has.

**This motion was put and passed unanimously**

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## Notice of Motion #2

NZSFC to modify the voting structure of the board

Proposer: Bob Gutsell

Secunder: Lewis Avenell

Board Proposal:

11.1

- (a) Up to eight members being an Executive/Regional Delegate from each of the Geographic Regions and Zones to the board from the Member Clubs. (one vote each)
- (b) The President, and the two Vice Presidents (one vote each).
- (c) IGFA and Life Member representative and the Immediate Past President (one collective vote). This only applies to the Immediate Past President for the first year as Immediate Past President.
- (d) Co-opted board members that may from time to time be appointed by the board. The number of co-opted directors shall not exceed 4. (one vote each)

- 11.2 Co-opted members term of office shall be at the discretion of the Board. A co-opted Board member does not have to be a member of a Club.

After a discussion it was noted that controls are in place to ensure that the clubs are running the Council.

*P Saul – Whangarei* – feeling is that non-elected board members should not vote. Co-opted members stated that they fully support the board and that if they do not have a vote, they therefore do not have any responsibility.

*K Barry – Raglan* – suggested that the co-opted members should have a collective one vote. After much discussion the motion was put.

**This motion was carried with 74.172% in agreement.** Please note that the Gisborne card had mistakenly been counted as voted and the vote has been adjusted accordingly from 76% to 74% percent in favour.

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### Notice of Motion #3

NZSFC to modify the definition of a meeting Quorum.

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

Boards proposal:

14.9: A quorum at any General Meeting shall be a minimum of two thirds (2/3) of the Voting rights (as per section 10) entitled to be present.

[This would include: One (1) collective life member vote and One (1) collective IGFA Representative Vote]

To modify the quorum to 2/3rds of the voting rights was discussed. S Hart – Zone 5 – suggested we change the proxy vote. It was recorded that a member of the club must currently be present for a proxy vote. S Hart suggested an amendment to the motion regarding the proxy.

A motion was put to change the motion to include the proxy vote – this was not carried.

**The motion # 3 as it stands was voted on and passed unanimously**

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### Notice of Motion #4

NZSFC to remove clause 21.3 of the constitution

Proposer: Warren Maher

Secunder: Lewis Avenell

Current Constitution

21.3 No Geographic Region or Zone shall contain more than 25% of all incorporated club's membership.



*W Mayer – Tairua/Pauanui* – spoke to this motion. He was in agreement to remove clause 21.3 of the constitution. He advised that it will not affect the running of the committee or the council.

**This motion put and was passed unanimously.**

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## **Notice of Motion #5**

Addition of a “National policy on rock lobster fisheries” to be included under section 5.9 of the NZSFC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT POLICY DOCUMENT

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

National policy on rock lobster fisheries

### **Goal**

To restore rock lobster abundance in all regions of New Zealand

### **Objectives**

1. Ensure that the vital ecosystem services provided by healthy populations of rock lobsters are restored.
2. Ensure the social, economic and cultural importance of non-commercial fisheries for rock lobster is widely recognised and allowed for.
3. Ensure that rock lobster abundance and availability can provide for the foreseeable needs of current and future generations.
4. Achieve a cooperative, balanced approach to management of commercial fisheries and excellent stakeholder engagement.

### **Strategy**

1. Improve data quality and monitoring tools to track rock lobster abundance and ecosystem health.
2. Promote a range of spatial management tools that will ensure widespread ecosystem health.
3. Promote the use of commercial fishing effort limits (pot limits) to help prevent overfishing.
4. Remove the concession allowing undersize rock lobster to be landed by commercial fishers.
5. Improve reporting and validation by installing IEMRS and cameras on commercial boats.
6. Restructure the National Rock Lobster Management Group to include a wider range of interests and expertise.
7. Assist research into recreational harvest estimates and trends in the fishery.
8. Take an evidence-based approach to the effectiveness of management initiatives such as telson clipping.

Fisheries Management committee advised that they would have a policy document that can be updated and reviewed as we go along.

It was noted that the Rock Lobster Fisheries already have a policy on this. S Hart – Raglan – requested no 6 to include the word part. J Barclay advised that he wanted to wait and see if they will be a part of it until they see how it will be run.

**This motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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### **Notice of Motion #6**

Update Fisheries Policy document, Replace section 5.13 Southern Bluefin Tuna

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

Boards proposals:

Southern Bluefin Tuna Policy

#### **Goal**

To achieve the responsible development of a high value recreational fishery for southern bluefin tuna in New Zealand.

#### **Objectives**

1. Ensure that stock abundance increases in line with the southern bluefin tuna management plan and New Zealand's international obligations.
2. Ensure the social, economic and cultural importance of non-commercial fisheries for southern bluefin tuna is widely recognised and allowed for.
3. Achieve a cooperative, balanced approach to management of commercial fisheries and excellent stakeholder engagement.

#### **Strategy**

1. Distribute information on best practice fishing techniques and fisheries management obligations for southern bluefin tuna.
2. Promote a daily bag limit of 1 fish per person in the North Island and 2 per person in the South Island.
3. NZSFC clubs will encourage fishers to weigh or report southern bluefin tuna that are kept and tag fish that are released.
4. Represent the views of recreational tuna fishers in fisheries management and government forums.

John Holdsworth spoke to this. We need to be seen as a leader in this new fishery. There are commercial interests that don't want to see the recreational fishery increase. This policy will help guide us through this process.

**The motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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### **Notice of Motion #7**

Update Fisheries Policy document, stronger support for Marlin policy

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

Boards proposals:

## 5.1 Marlin

- a) The sale, trade or transshipment of any marlin within NZ no matter where sourced, be prohibited by law

Reasoning:

Strengthen resolve to support Highly Migratory Species (HMS) in and around New Zealand Waters

Discussion: The change in the document will include the words “sale, trade or transshipment” into clause 5.1. Questions were raised with regard whether this will affect those who want to take home their marlin bill. S Hart – Zone 5 – felt this was currently allowed and do we need a law change. L Avenell – FM – advised that we were not talking about a law change at this stage and that we were talking about an update to our Fisheries Policy.

R Baker – LM/Board Member – proposed an amendment to add the word “commercial” before the word “sale”.

An amendment to the motion was moved

“Sale, commercial trade or transshipment or any marlin in New Zealand” be added to clause 5.1 a) so the clause would read

***“The sale, commercial trade or transshipment of any marlin within NZ no matter where sourced, be prohibited by law”***

Moved R Baker – Seconded B Gutsell – carried

**The amended motion was put and carried unanimously.**

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## Notice of Motion #8

Update Fisheries Policy document, Replace section 5.5 Swordfish

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

National policy on broadbill swordfish

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council

### Goal

Maintain and enhance the world class sport fishery for swordfish in New Zealand

### Objectives

1. Ensure that swordfish abundance is maintained in New Zealand and across the wider region.
2. Ensure the iconic status of swordfish as a premium international sport fish is widely recognised and allowed for in New Zealand.
3. Maintain catch rates of large swordfish (over 200 kg).

4. Avoid local depletion and serial depletion of areas.

**Strategy**

1. Effective and timely management response to low abundance in New Zealand waters.
2. Learn from international experience with serial depletion and effective management responses to local depletion.
3. Monitor the size structure and total landings of swordfish catch weighed by NZSFC clubs.
4. Encourage sport fishers to tag and release swordfish under 90 kg that are in good condition.
5. Negotiate catch spreading and gear separation with commercial fishers to avoid overfishing on the most accessible areas to sport fishers.

Discussion: This formalises the recommendations. It encourages a research project to track commercial fishing and marks the council's position on swordfish.

**The motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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**Notice of Motion #9**

Update Fisheries Policy document, New Section 3.4 Catch Shares

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

**POLICY: Catch shares**

Catch shares are a defined, fixed proportion of the total available catch in a fish stock. Catch shares are allocated annually to each fishing sector via a quota scheme. Total harvest of each sector is managed within, and measured against, the allocated share. Penalties apply for excess catches. In New Zealand catch shares are allocated to commercial fishing interests via the Quota Management System. Public fishing interests are provided for by legislation and Ministerial discretion.

The catch shares are allocated to commercial interests after the Minister has firstly set the Total Allowable Catch, and then set aside allowances to provide for public interests in fishing and the marine environment. The allowances can vary, reflecting the expected annual mortality associated with non-commercial fishing, both Maori customary and recreational, and other fishing related mortality.

Catch shares for recreational and customary fishing would result in a demand from commercial interests that the amount of fish caught would be exactly measured. Currently systems are employed which are reliable indicators of the recreational catch

The recreational harvest estimation methodologies developed in New Zealand over the last 20 years offer remarkably accurate information on public catch. These catch estimates get more accurate each time they are run

**Goal:** To ensure public fishing is adequately provided by the Minister of Fisheries and not subject to the Quota Management System or fixed catch share scheme.

**Principle:**

1. Fishing interests are best provided for by having access to an abundant fishery and productive and a productive marine environment.
2. Scarcity of fisheries resources increases competition between sectors and fuels the debate to impose catch shares on public fishing.
3. The Minister remains the sole decision-maker when allocating fisheries yields, as he or she is the only voice that has statutory responsibilities for acting in the national interest. It is appropriate that allocations for cultural, recreational, tourism, conservation and commercial users are balanced against the national interest, and always deliver our kaitiakitanga [guardianship] obligations to those who follow.

**Objectives:**

1. Ensure public fishing remains outside of the Quota Management System or any fixed catch share regime.
2. The allowances set aside for non-commercial fishing, prior to TACC being set by the Minister, adequately provide for the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of all New Zealanders.
3. That fish stocks are maintained at or above 50% of unfished biomass to provide for public fishing and support ecosystem function.

**Strategy:**

1. Promote the need to maintain fish stocks at a minimum of 50% of its natural biomass state as a means to providing for public interests in fishing and the marine environment.
2. Promote the maintenance of well-informed Ministerial decisions to 'allow for' public fishing outside of the Quota Management System.
3. Elevate public awareness and understanding of the nature and extent of commercial and non-commercial, Maori customary and recreational, fishing interests.
4. Advocate for the restoration of depleted fisheries to:
  - a. better provide for public fishing; and
  - b. to reduce the perceived need for catch shares to be applied to public fishing.

Discussion: *John Holdsworth – Blue Water Marine and FM* – queried principle 2 – would like it reworded slightly. After an extensive discussion it was agreed that the motion would be taken away and reworded and the FM committee will bring it back later in the meeting to be discussed.

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**Notice of Motion #10**

Update Fisheries Policy document, New Section 3.5 Peak Body

Proposer: Lewis Avenell  
Secunder: Bob Gutsell

**POLICY: Peak body for recreational fishing interests**

A peak body has been promoted as a vehicle for providing an effective, unified recreational voice at the decision-making table. There is already a strong recreational voice 'at the table' however, that voice is ignored when it contradicts the intentions of fisheries managers. This refusal by fisheries managers to listen and give respect to alternative views does not justify the need for a peak body representing recreational interests. The voice of recreational fishers needs to be heard and given respect. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council is the most organised representative recreational fishing organisation in Aotearoa.

**Goal:** To provide the leadership to advocate for and protect the fishing and environmental interests of members and future generations.

Statutory Obligations:

Section 12 of the Fisheries Act 1996...

*Consultation*

1. *Before doing anything under any of [sections 11\(1\), 11\(4\), 11A\(1\), 13\(1\), 13\(4\), 13\(7\), 14\(1\), 14\(3\), 14\(6\), 14B\(1\), 15\(1\), and 15\(2\)](#) or recommending the making of an Order in Council under [section 13\(9\)](#) or [section 14\(8\)](#) or [section 14A\(1\)](#), the Minister shall—*

*a. consult with such persons or organisations as the Minister considers are representative of those classes of persons having an interest in the stock or the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned, including Maori, environmental, commercial, and recreational interests; and*

*b. provide for the input and participation of tangata whenua having—*

*(i) a non-commercial interest in the stock concerned; or*

*(ii) an interest in the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned—and have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.*

*(2) After setting or varying any sustainability measure, or after approving, amending, or revoking any fisheries plan, the Minister shall, as soon as practicable, give to the parties consulted in accordance with subsection (1) reasons in writing for his or her decision.*

**Principles:**

1. All New Zealanders maintain the statutory ability to lobby government and decision-makers on fisheries and environmental matters and have their views impartially considered.
2. No organisation funded by the government, regardless of where the funds are sourced, will have the ability to change government policies on the basis of merit, or issue proceeding for Judicial Review.

**Objectives:**

1. Continue to provide the necessary leadership to promote and protect recreational and environmental fishing interests in New Zealand.
2. Ensure any submissions to external agencies are well informed and made in the interests of members and future generations.
3. Ensure there is broad understanding that establishing a peak body will require creating a voice that is claimed to represent all recreational fishing interests, regardless of membership rules etc. Those most vociferously advocating for a peak body also advocate for catch shares to be allocated to recreational fishing, thereby integrating public fishing interests into the Quota Management System, forgoing the statutory protection of public fishing interests requiring a Minister to provide for their interests.
4. Ensure widespread understanding that a peak body will over time require an impost or licence to be applied to recreational fishing participants.

**Strategy:**

1. Oppose the establishment of a government funded peak body and avoid having the public voice subsumed by a handful of people.
2. Maintain and build on the close relationships that have been developed with a range of representative organisations over many years.
3. Ensure the hard earned and treasured status of 'trusted source' to other organisations is maintained, by continuing to provide well informed submissions, engagement and participation in all relevant fisheries management and environmental forums.
4. Actively support LegaSea in reaching out to other organisations and the wider public, to better inform them and build alliances.
5. Actively support the need for healthy debate and different perspectives to be tabled in fisheries management discussions, as these can contribute to balanced decisions based on the merit of the submissions made.

Discussion – It was noted that there was a problem with a group claiming they have the main voice when they do not have the information and are not handing on the information. A peak body needs to be representing all other groups.

*J Barclay – FM* – felt that there were some additions we could make. *R. Baker – Life Member* – advised that they do not support government funding of recreational fishing bodies.

After a lot of discussion, it was agreed that this motion was also to be taken away and reworded and the FM committee will bring it back later in the meeting to be discussed.

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**Notice of Motion #11**

NZSFC to modify the definition of a proxy vote.

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

Boards proposals:

14.12 Any Executive/Club Delegates unable to attend any General Meeting may appoint another member of his or her Club or an Executive/Regional Delegate to be their proxy, provided a proxy form is signed by the Executive /Club Delegate and delivered to the Secretary/Executive Officer at least 24 hours prior to the Meeting.

Reasoning:

This creates the ability for clubs who are not in a position to send a member for voting and quorum to be counted.

Discussion: All members were in agreement with this motion.

**The motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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### **Notice of Motion #12**

NZSFC to modify the constitution to retain Tax Exemption Status

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

New Sections:

Personal Benefit Clause

17.13 No member of the organisation or any person associated with a member, shall participate in or materially influence any decision made by the organisation, in respect of the payment to or on behalf of that member or associated person of any income, benefit, or advantage whatsoever. Any such income shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arm's length transaction (being open market value).

24.5 Tax Exemption Status

(a) No addition to or alteration of the Object (section 2.0), personal benefit clause (section 17.13) or the winding up clause (section 22.0) shall be made which affect the tax-exempt status

(b) The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.

Reasoning:

IRD require these changes so NZSFC will keep their income tax exemption status (attached letter)



**This motion was put and passed unanimously..** It was noted that this should be sent to all clubs to make sure they have it in their constitutions. Board agreed and a notice will be sent out.

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### **Notice of Motion #13**

Addition of a “Pink Maomao” to be included under section 5 of the NZSFC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT POLICY DOCUMENT

Proposer: Scott Macindoe

Secunder: Lewis Avenell

#### **New Section**

The NZSFC support the addition of pink maomao to the ‘Sale of Reef Fish’ schedule which reads ‘No person shall sell or possess for sale any species of fish taken from the Auckland fishery management area that is specified in the following table (Appendix 1)’

Given the low productivity and increasing demand for pink maomao a bag limit of three pink maomao per person be adopted for the Auckland Fisheries Management Area. These to be included within the amateur bag limit of 20 mixed fin fish per person.

Reasoning:

Pink maomao (Mātā, *Caprodon longimanus*) is widespread in the northern North Island waters from the Three Kings Islands to East Cape, occasionally along the East Coast as far south as Cape Palliser.

The pink maomao has escaped being introduced to the QMS. As far as a search of MPI/Fisheries NZ is concerned it might as well not exist. No stock assessment or evidence of care one way or the other. Nor is pink maomao on the list of species banned from commercial harvest/sale in the Auckland Fisheries Management Area - please see Appendix 1

The pink maomao has been a welcome bycatch for anglers, although quite infrequent given its quite selective preference for deep, clear good current flow waters off the north east coast. It is a prized catch for experienced, capable spearfishermen, living at a depth that makes it a challenge. Please see Appendix 2 for more detailed information.

Of more recent times the pink maomao has come to be appreciated by discerning anglers and consumers, particularly for Asian cuisine where the ‘whole fish’ cooking style, bright colour and top eating qualities are sought after.

It is a low productivity fish with no stock assessment. Basic age and reproductive information are uncertain. It is unlikely to qualify for any meaningful research investment given the small quantities caught

commercially. Given the uncertainty of catch and apparent increase in demand it is felt that a precautionary stance ought to be adopted for the management of this species.

**This motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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**Fisheries Management Committee Report – Lewis Avenell - Chair**

See report attached. L Avenell spoke to his report.

L Avenell advised that a royal commission was still one of our goals and that they would email to delegates the new changes.

*K Barry – Zone 5* – suggested that we send out the positive information as well. Advising clubs on clubs/areas doing well and about the snapper rebuild. He felt that his area was a good start and could be used as an example / case study. It would be good to document the protected zones and see how they are working.

It was moved that the Fisheries Management report be accepted – Bob Gutsell / Peter Saunders – carried.

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**Motion # 9** – at this point motion # 9 was brought back to the meeting for approval.

It was agreed that principle # 2 be deleted. This was moved by J Barclay and seconded by L Avenell – carried.

**The first amendment to the motion was accepted.**

Secondly it was suggested that the word minimum be substituted for the word “target”. There was discussion around this wording.

It was moved that the word “minimum” be substituted for the word “target”. Moved J Barclay seconded L Avenell – carried.

**The second amendment to the motion was accepted.**

Therefore, the motion # 9 as amended by the first and second amendments was voted on.  
**The motion was put and passed unanimously.**

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**Notice of Motion #10 – Updated and resubmitted**

Update Fisheries Policy document, New Section 3.5 Peak Body

Proposer: Lewis Avenell

Secunder: Bob Gutsell

**Policy: Peak body for recreational fishing interests**

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council will work with national and local organisations and groups advocating for improved fisheries management and a healthy marine environment.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council has earned its place as a respected, longstanding national sporting body representing recreational fishing interests in New Zealand. A true Peak Body would be

made up of a strong group of willing participants, including NZSFC, who get mutual benefit from such a coalition.

**Goal:** To provide the leadership to advocate for and protect the fishing and environmental interests of members and future generations.

Statutory Obligations:

Section 12 of the Fisheries Act 1996...

*Consultation*

1. *Before doing anything under any of [sections 11\(1\), 11\(4\), 11A\(1\), 13\(1\), 13\(4\), 13\(7\), 14\(1\), 14\(3\), 14\(6\), 14B\(1\), 15\(1\), and 15\(2\)](#) or recommending the making of an Order in Council under [section 13\(9\)](#) or [section 14\(8\)](#) or [section 14A\(1\)](#), the Minister shall—*

*a. consult with such persons or organisations as the Minister considers are representative of those classes of persons having an interest in the stock or the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned, including Maori, environmental, commercial, and recreational interests; and*

*b. provide for the input and participation of tangata whenua having—*

*(i) a non-commercial interest in the stock concerned; or*

*(ii) an interest in the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned—and have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.*

*(2) After setting or varying any sustainability measure, or after approving, amending, or revoking any fisheries plan, the Minister shall, as soon as practicable, give to the parties consulted in accordance with subsection (1) reasons in writing for his or her decision.*

**Principles:**

1. All New Zealanders maintain the statutory ability to lobby government and decision-makers on fisheries and environmental matters and have their views impartially considered.
2. The ability to provide strong independent representation is compromised if an organisation is funded by the government, regardless of where the funds are sourced.

**Objectives:**

1. Continue to represent our members and provide the necessary leadership to promote and protect recreational fishing interests in New Zealand.
2. Ensure any submissions to external agencies are well informed and of a professional standard.
3. Ensure there is broad understanding that a peak body will require cooperation and representation of all recreational fishing interests, regardless of membership rules
4. Ensure widespread understanding that a peak body will require sustainable long-term funding, most likely from an impost or licence to be applied to recreational fishing participants.

**Strategy:**

1. Oppose the establishment of a government funded peak body and avoid having the public voice subsumed by a handful of people.
2. Maintain and build on the close relationships that have been developed with a range of representative organisations over many years.

3. Ensure the hard earned and treasured status for NZSFC of 'trusted source' to other organisations is maintained, by continuing to provide well informed submissions, engagement and participation in all relevant fisheries management and environmental forums.
4. Actively support LegaSea in reaching out to other organisations and the wider public, to better inform them and build alliances.
5. Actively support the need for healthy debate and different perspectives to be tabled in fisheries management discussions, as these can contribute to balanced decisions based on the merit of the submissions made.

**The amendment to the motion was put and carried.**

**The amended motion #10 was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.**

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#### **LegaSea Report – Sam Woolford LegaSea Lead**

The LegaSea team has grown and developed as a team. 4 new people have been engaged with a focus around fundraising. We have attended 64 events and had articles in over 100 publications. Angela is responsible for fundraising with Bree helping and has increased fundraising by 20% so far. Benn Winlove is employed in digital communication. Jess Beetham is a grant seeking specialist and LegaSea is searching for a project manager next year.

Fish Care is expanding with 823,00 articles in either print or digital media. 17,000 people engaged at community events. Has an Ocean Youth programme at Kelly Tarleton's and has 4 appointed Ambassadors. The next step is to expand media present and have product endorsements. It is also intended to develop the programme into a year 9 social studies unit.

Kai ika is going well with 45,000 kg of fish parts collected since 2016. A new purpose-built filleting station has been purchased and will set up in Wellington supported by Royal Wolf. Cost only \$1.25 a year for the container.

Barkers have been very supportive with their new range of shirts / tee shirts and caps. \$20,000 of apparel at cost. Koparepare wine in conjunction with Whitehaven Wines is going well. Clubs are encouraged to stock the wines as sales help LegaSea.

Si Yates spoke to the community support and sponsorship. Partners in our LegaSea programme fund the operations. Other donations are given to NZSFC for fisheries management, education and research.

LegaSea Lager was launched last year, unfortunately it hasn't gone well, and MOA are not supporting it any longer. We need support and uptake from vested interests as we are no longer in production but have some left to sell.

*G Tauper – Zone 5* – asked if promotional material / posters / detail leaflets could be available. He will contact LegaSea for information.

*W Mayer – Tairua/Pauanui* – He found that LegaSea lager cans were hard to move and the feedback was that bottles were much better.

*E Mackay – Zone 1* – suggested a promotion aimed at clubs. LegaSea will look into this.

Sam Woolford gave recognition and thanks to the FM team and the effort from NZSFC and thanked the contractors for their support.

### **IGFA REPORT – Mark Hemingway**

Mark attended the IGFA Oceania Regional meeting in Cairns in October last year.

The need for IGFA to review itself in today's fast-moving technical environment was discussed and how can they improve things for anglers worldwide

From the review results it was identified that IGFA have let themselves down in a number of areas:

- Have got behind with technology, both fishing wise and especially communication / social media.
- Empowering and engage/communicate better with IGFA reps esp outside of USA
- Haven't communicated well with the public online, (a survey suggested a 90% neg comment result 12 months ago, however this has recently been turned around to 50% positive comment with subtle changes by Nehl and the way that social media messages are delivered)
- Large gaps in areas of conservation support, eg Fresh water, 80% of USA anglers fish in fresh water
- Membership has been static or in slight decline in the past 10yrs
- Lack of female angler member support
- Very little youth angler support, development and fishing experiences initiatives

Nehl Horton (IGFA President) has a focus to transform and modernize IGFA to better deliver on their vision and mission

The new initiatives include:

- Conserving gamefish and promoting responsible, ethical angling
- Apply science to make informed conservation decisions
- Hire full time social media person
- Strengthen communication to public and IGFA reps worldwide
- New model for engagement outside of USA consisting of 9 worldwide Regional councils.
- Education - Teaching 100,000 kids to fish in locations around the globe to help build a new generation of educated, ethical and accomplished anglers.
- Development funding – Review membership statuses with a focus on consistency.
- Establishing an International Game Fish Angling Day (IGFA Day) on June 7, 2019, as a platform to reach new anglers, educate them about ethical angling practices and activate them as ambassadors for the sport and advocates for game fish conservation.
- Launching three major signature research initiatives – two of them focused on freshwater science – to better deliver on our commitment to game fish conservation.
- Re-establishing the IGFA as a leader in recreational angling competitions focused on outstanding angler achievement, not cash prizes.

One initiative that has already seen huge benefits is from moving the museum from Fort Lauderdale to Springfield, it has seen 1.6million people pass through it in its first year compared to 20k per year (of which most were free entry from schools) in Florida.

IGFA are currently holding a series of meetings seeking feedback on the proposals.

As part of an initiative to teach 100,000 kids to fish in locations around the world, The International Game Fish Association (IGFA) have launched its new Passports to Fishing kits. The IGFA Passports to Fishing kits provide turn-key “fishing clinics in a box” to the organization’s international network of supporters and partners. Each kit includes everything needed to execute this highly acclaimed youth education clinic, including: educational station materials, IGFA signage, 20 rods and reels and basic fishing tackle for saltwater and freshwater fishing applications. In its first year, the IGFA will develop and distribute at least 50 IGFA Passports to Fishing kits to 20 countries on six continents.

The concept of Passports to Fishing clinics is relatively simple and is specifically designed for young anglers and their families. Upon registering at the event, participants receive an IGFA “passport” and then rotate through the various educational stations to learn basic tackle, knot tying, conservation, casting, safety, and environmental stewardship. After completing each learning station, the passports are stamped. The if practicable then a wharf/jetty or shore-based fishing experience can take place.

M Hemingway has a couple of these fishing kits for Kids. The fishing committee are looking into organising a similar session for NZFSC and clubs.

#### **RECORDS REPORT**

##### **Pete Saul – Records Officer**

There has been an issue with regard to the time it takes IGFA to respond. Time delay is largely due to the fact that IGFA is a volunteer organisation and the approval process is done by a group who meet irregularly.

*S Hart – Raglan* – asked whether notification of a record can be sent to the club as well as the angler. It was agreed that this was a good idea and would be actioned.

*D Nielsen – Tauranga* – Asked whether we could again as IGFA if they could approve our mats. This will be done but it didn’t seem like they would budge on this issue.

P Saul advised that the problem with a lot of records is that they are left too late to get actioned. Clubs should advise their members to get their applications in as soon as possible.

*A Milnes – Tauranga* – asked whether there had been any update on fluro carbon - P Saul advised that it has been checked and found that it is not consistent.

#### **BLUE WATER MARINE RESEARCH – John Holdsworth**

John has presented NZ data on Striped Marlin stock assessment to the SPC pre assessment workshop using catch, length, weight, tagging, satellite tag tracks, catch-per-unit-effort, DNA from NZ Sport fishery. The decline in average weight since 1952 is attributed to

The SW Pacific striped marlin stock is overfished, at about 20% of unfished spawning stock biomass. Total biomass is estimated to be about 7500 tonnes. Total catch in 2017 was 1130 tonnes for the SWPO. Better estimates of movement to identify mixing rates across parts of the model region Length, weight and sex information by fishery. Collection of otoliths for ageing to help resolve future research should focus on resolving the uncertainty surrounding natural mortality, and growth.

#### **Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch 2019**

MPI Project SEA2018-40 to estimate amateur harvest. Ramp survey at Waihou Bay covered 57 days. Compiled NZSFC club weigh station records, charter boat reporting and fisher knowledge, plus S111 - Use 1 October fishing year... incomplete due to the fishing year dates.

Survey interviews recorded 118 SBT and 24 of these (20%) were not weighed, scaled up to total catch. Survey estimate will be about 14.5 t. Collected 80 otolith pairs from donated heads this year, very useful samples

*S Hart – Raglan* – asked whether the paper had been published and John advised not as yet. Winner of the competition – Leith Wietzel from Lower Hutt with a kingfish is the winner. John will contact him.

### **RESCUE FISH – JOSH BARCLAY**

FM has been leading research as to an alternative to the QMS. The first part of the project was to determine why the status quo was no longer tenable.

Identification that stock is in trouble and we still cannot get change happening. This should be done naturally.

1. Lack of abundance
2. Failure to rebuild stocks
3. Inability to act cautiously, constant drive for maximum catch
4. Aggregation of Quota
5. Reduction of small-scale fishers and communities
6. Lack of ability to use input controls (control methods)
7. Lack of regional, fine scale controls
8. No return on resource ownership
9. Lack of funding for science

Horizon Research have done extensive research about what the people. It showed that there is a problem, that the people want change, that the government should do more, that Maori want reform.

Barry Torkington spoke about how far we have gone to date. He advised that the remit that was passed at last year's AGM gave the team the ability to go ahead. They have done research all over the world and spoken to many experienced scientists and communities that are also struggling with this. Found that if you go on a process of reform it is important to have a set of principles.

1. All fisheries laws will conform with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
2. The living marine resources of Aotearoa New Zealand remain under the control of government and cannot become the private property of private companies or individuals or sold abroad.
3. All fisheries must be biologically, economically, and socially sustainable. The legislation will prevent private sales of licences or fishing rights.
4. To the greatest extent possible, commercial fishing rights will be granted in line with the principles of a market-based system. *Commercial fishing permits will be tendered and those offering the highest resource rental will be successful.*
5. Catches will be landed in New Zealand and processed here for added value.
6. Only New Zealand owned and registered companies, or private New Zealand citizens, paying taxes in New Zealand and complying with all relevant employment and maritime law will be able to participate in New Zealand's commercial fisheries.
7. In the Territorial Sea there will be complete fleet separation. That is, only vessel owners will be eligible to own and operate a permit. There is no vertical integration permitted.

On the trip they visited and spoke to economists, ecologists, fisherman, politicians in Canada, USA, Iceland, Denmark and the Faroe Islands to find out how this could work. This proved that they all have the same problems as is happening here. Iceland was unable to make a move and is still struggling. British Columbia is not going well - owner operator fleet almost gone

The team landed back in NZ with ideas and with a strong conviction that we won't get abundance without reform. The steady erosion of ecological base is not the way. There is no pathway to redemption in the face of the current system and success going forward will mean replacing the system.

A video was then shown.

Scott Macindoe advised that the team is sorted and have support and talented people helping with the reform. We have engaged with the Minister and have had three meetings with the Policy Director of MPI. The team has been working hard to prove why the status quo is no longer tenable. There is lots of work to do with political leaders and Maori. There is no justification at all for NZ giving away 400,000 tonnes of fish for free each year.

*Jeff Romeril – NZMRF* – advised these were great principles and objectives but what is now planned to spike the bubble of the commercial. Seafood industry adverts have been ramped up. Reply - the industry needs the support of Maori to continue. Current TACC shareholders will have to be bought out.

*Richard Baker – Life Member* – his thoughts on the video were that it did not give a solution. We need to appeal to the public. The problem definition needs to be worked through. B. Torkington – the video was designed for the AGM. A full documentary will be available when we start the campaign. There is no point in talking to people about reform until they accept that there is a need for change. Feedback is important and we need to establish a need for change. It was discussed that the public will accept the change of the fishery and we need to get people to understand the truth behind the marketing campaigns.

*S Hart – Raglan* – advised that their fishery is doing well. She doesn't want this to cause their fishery to be opened up and getting others taking over what they have. Doesn't want to open up the Treaty rights.

*S Woolford – LegaSea* – let's see the Treaty partners get together to get this sorted. There is a huge lack of governance over fisheries. Raglan has an exclusion zone and therefore protection at this stage.

*E Mackay – Zone 1* – felt that in order to make this acceptable it will have to be on main TV. How are we going to get the channels to play it? Sam Woolford advised that Netflix want it and it is suitable to chop into small video clips for good for YouTube. At present we are in discussion with other film makers.

*A Johnson – BOI* – asked what will happen now. What are we going to do going forward?

J Barclay advised that all the proposals and details will be shared shortly. There are a number of solutions to the problem. We need to get rid of property rights, but when talking to the involved parties we don't want to be adamant that we have all the solutions.

*T Rae – LegaSea* advised that this is a large process. We need to identify all the problems and what we want – then finally show how we can get there. It is necessary to take away the problems and design principles and recognition of stake holder engagement – this is essential. It was noted that there is a difference between deep water fisheries as opposed to in shore fisheries. The 12-mile limit has become very important.



## **NZ MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION REPORT**

The NZ Marine Research Foundation Annual Report was tabled and spoken to by Chairman Jeff Romeril. See attached. Jeff advised that it has been a very quiet year for the foundation. The auditor has been changed and this has worked very well with the accounts filed on time and available at the AGM. At present there are 6 trustees, but John Chibnall has advised that he would like to stand down, so the Foundation is looking for a new trustee.

Jeff thanked the council for allowing Helen to work with them.

“Moved that accounts and report be accepted”.

J Romeril / B Gutsell  
Carried

## **WEIGHMASTER BOOKLET – Mark Hemingway**

Mark Hemingway presented a draft of the Weighmasters booklet. The committee has worked on sections that have caused problems in the past with the hope that this will give consistency at the weigh stations. It is still a work in progress, but it was been circulated to the committee for input. D Nielsen advised that they would review it and he will report back.

Once the final changes have been made the booklet will be distributed to all clubs to use and will be updated annually.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Club of the Year**

It was noted that this trophy has been put on hold. Information received appears to be false. The board is dealing with the issue.

### **Master's Games Fishing**

Brett Bensemann advised that they are running a Master's tournament in Dunedin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2020. This is being run by Tautuku Sport Fishing Dunedin and Haast club. It is also their 50-year anniversary and they will be organising an event up north as well. All monies raised will go back into the community.

### **Affiliation of Clubs**

It was suggested that we contact some of the old clubs that used to be members and welcome them back into the organisation. B Gutsell advised that he intends to contact these clubs and visit them – invite them to an afternoon and educate them as to what we are now doing and how we can help.

*H Webb – Life member* suggested things that would encourage members to join such as weighing fish and claiming records.

People can weigh fish and get a record without being a member at present.

Distinguish between a courtesy weigh or non-members weigh. Must be on certified scales L *Avenell - Clevedon* - weighing non-members fish will help promote the sport of fishing and therefore try to be more inclusive.

*Pete Saul* Whangarei - Whangaroa charge a fee that can be deducted if they join.

*John Holdsworth* - can we work out a way to get anglers who did not want to join a club and try to get anglers to record fish that wouldn't otherwise be weighed.

This will strengthen our value proposition

**2020 AGM** – the AGM delegates were encouraged to support next year's AGM.

Expressions of interest for 2020 and 2021 have been received from the Bay of Islands And Maraetai. Ian Twist from Maraetai offered to host the AGM in 2021.

Andrew Johnson Bay of Islands Swordfish Club – spoke re the offer to hold the 2020 AGM in the Bay of Islands. Paihia has plenty of accommodation and the clubrooms are available both in Paihia and Russell. There are lots of opportunities for partners activities.

It was moved that “the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club host the 2020 AGM”

B Gutsell / P Campbell carried

It was moved that “Maraetai Boating Club host the 2021 AGM”

Moved B Gutsell / M Connor – carried

**MEETING CLOSED:**

The meeting was declared closed at 3.00 pm, Saturday 21st September 2019

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_