



MINUTES OF NZGTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Friday 22 October 2021

Southland Gun Dog Club clubhouse, Erskine Property, Allison Road, Taramoa 9879, Southland

Meeting opened 7.24pm

WELCOME

Graeme Palmer (acting as Chair on behalf of NZGTA President, Warren Jellyman) welcomed all attendees. An apology was expressed to those attending for the unfortunate last-minute change of venue due to unforeseen circumstances.

ROLL CALL

Attendees including delegates and additional guests:

Graeme Palmer

Warren Jellyman (online)

David Wilson

delegate for Southland Gun Dog Club

Lauren Wilson

delegate for Western Southland Gun Dog Club

Terry Wilson

delegate for South Otago Gun Dog Club

Maree Wilson

delegate for North Otago Gun Dog Club

Peter O'Neill

delegate for Sth Island Working Spaniel Club

Neville Alexander

delegate for Waimate Gun Dog Club

Sonya Tamblyn

delegate for Canterbury Kennel Association

Ian Ferguson

delegate for Rotorua Gun Dog Club

Mike Weir

delegate for Tasman Districts Gun Dog Society

David Richardson

delegate for the Brittany Club

Nicola Johns

delegate for Canterbury Gun Dog Club

Pete Southee

delegate for Central Otago Gun Dog Club

Jan Southee

John Sutherland

Robyn Weir

Robyn Finlay

APOLOGIES

K & V May; K Anderson; G Blankley; B Johnson; R & J Giles; P & M O'Connor; M Dickey; S Williams; K Parnell

BEREAVEMENTS

Graeme Palmer called for a period of one-minute silence to be observed to honour the respected triallists the Association has lost in the past year;

Ray Bates; Pam Hogarth; Lex Ross

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Motion proposed to accept the previous NZGTA AGM Minutes as a true and correct record;

MOVED: Terry Wilson

SECONDED: Sonya Tamblyn

RESULT: **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS AGM

No matters arising from the previous Meeting.

NZGTA - PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR 2020/2021

Motion proposed to accept the NZGTA Presidents Report as a true and correct record;

MOVED: Peter O'Neill SECONDED: David Richardson RESULT: **CARRIED**

No matters arising from the NZGTA Association Report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Graeme Palmer informed members that the NZGTA Financial Report for 2020/2021 was unable to be audited prior to this AGM due to circumstances beyond the Association's control. The financials are thereby presented to the membership in the current unaudited, but reviewed, state which the Association believes to be a true and correct record, subject to official confirmation. An audit will be undertaken as soon as possible after the AGM.

Warren Jellyman noted that there appeared to be one minor \$4.00 discrepancy raised, which is still showing on the balance sheet. It was also noted that a printer used by the Association has been written off/depreciated.

Motion proposed that the NZGTA Financial Report for 2020/2021 be accepted as a true and correct record (*subject to confirmation by audit in due course*);

MOVED: David Richardson SECONDED: Robyn Finlay RESULT: **CARRIED**

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PATRON:	Ken May; RC Ruffe-Thomas
PRESIDENT:	Warren Jellyman
EXECUTIVE:	North Island: Adrian Olney – sole nominee South Island: Peter O'Neill; Graeme Palmer; Howard Halliday
SECRETARY/TREASURER:	Karen Parnell
FIELD TRIAL SECRETARY:	Karen Parnell

Graeme Palmer extended thanks to the outgoing Executive Team.

It was noted that a recruitment drive for the additional Nth Island Executive membership will be required as it was not permitted to elect new members from the floor unless the nominee is present at the AGM or has accepted the nomination in advance of the AGM.

It was agreed that names may be put forward for consideration – of note, Bill Taylor, nominated by Peter O'Neill.

Graeme Palmer advised members that one of the first tasks for the incoming Executive Team will be to fill the two outstanding Nth Island positions.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2022

NTH ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP:	No applications received to date
SOUTH ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIP:	No applications received to date
NEW ZEALAND CHAMPIONSHIP:	No applications received to date

It was highlighted that no individual Clubs have yet been approached to put forward an application.

Graeme Palmer advised members that one of the first tasks for the incoming Executive Team will be to discuss the upcoming Island and National Championship events and identify potential candidates.

REMITTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Graeme Palmer advised the members present that one anomaly has been identified in the NZGTA Rule Book relating to the percentage threshold for Remits to pass, protocol for which is currently 75%.

Graeme Palmer has taken time to research back through the records (to 1974) in conjunction with a former Association Secretary, Maree Dickey, to try and establish when the threshold changed from 66.67% to 75%. Because there is a lack of any evidence (Remit or guidance) in the NZGTA records to confirm when this change occurred the Executive have decided to put the matter to a Vote tonight. Following the result of the Vote, the Rule Book will then need to be reviewed and updated.

Graeme Palmer posed the question – does any member wish to change the voting system tonight?

Discussion continued.

It was agreed that (due to the fact that members have only a recollection of a change occurring and not sufficient proof), for the purpose of this AGM current protocol will be followed. Members will therefore honour the 75% threshold for Remits on this occasion.

POINT OF ORDER: Voting as delegates (12)

The following Clubs voting by Proxy (5):

*Horowhenua Gun Dog Club
South Auckland Gun Dog Club
The Pointer & Setter Club
The Working Spaniel Club
Waikato Gun Dog Club*

REMITTS

(Voting threshold: 75% required for Remit to pass)

REMIT 1. Proposed by WAIMATE GUN DOG CLUB

Reg. Gen. 9. Dogs on Leash

That the following sentence be added to the current regulation:

No e-collars will be permitted at any Field Trial event conducted by any club affiliated to the NZGTA.

Rationale:

E-collars are a training device, and there is no reason for any dog in attendance at a field trial event to be wearing an e-collar. The Executive should ensure there is no choice about this for clubs, but a ban across the board for all affiliated clubs.

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: IN FAVOUR: 13 OPPOSED: 4 ABSTAINED: 0 RESULT: **CARRIED**

RECOMMENDATIONS

(Voting threshold: 66.67% required for Recommendation to pass)

RECOMMENDATION 1. Proposed by CANTERBURY GUN DOG CLUB

Reg. Gen. 4. Retrieve Trials

Reword and reformat Reg. Gen. 4. (paragraph layout changes only); move the time keeping regulation in to a single statement; addition of wording for time to be taken to the pick-up of the bird.

Delete the following regulations:

Reg. A.B. 20. Timing

Reg. Ret. 11. Timing

Reg. Span. 20. Timing

Rationale 1.

In replacing **Reg. A.B. 20. Timing; Reg. Ret. 11. Timing; Reg. Span. 20. Timing;** with one general regulation, it avoids doubling up of identical regulations.

Rationale 2.

For the inclusion of the additional wording 'Time allocated must be to the pick up of the last bird retrieved'. Traditionally, the timing of dogs competing in retrieving trials has been when the last bird has been picked up by the dog. Allocating time to when the dog delivers to hand may disadvantage dogs that are slower runners or swimmers but are technically completing a good job. Dogs which mess about on the retrieve can still be penalised accordingly.

Judges who use time to delivery to hand, rather than to pick up, can be perceived by competitors as getting the time wrong.

The competitor with a dog that does a good job in marking, finding and picking up the final bird can be very disappointed when they are disqualified before the final delivery.

The regulations clearly show that the responsibility of the judge is to set a trial, where slower dogs are not disadvantaged because of type or breed. If competitors complete a trial, they are more likely to leave satisfied than if their dog has picked up all birds but are subsequently disqualified during the final retrieve.

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: IN FAVOUR: 11 OPPOSED: 5 ABSTAINED: 1 RESULT: **CARRIED**

RECOMMENDATION 2. Proposed by CANTERBURY GUN DOG CLUB

Increase of distances for blind retrieves.

Change the wording of each of the following regulations:

Reg. A.B. 13. Retrieve Distances

Reg. Span. 13. Retrieve Distances

Reg. Ret. 4. Retrieve Distances

Rationale:

Practically in the field, distances to blinds would be to at least the same distance of a mark, or greater. Generally, these birds are wounded and will glide longer distances than marks or are shot to the same distance as a normal mark, but the dog is out of sight due to being in a blind or retrieving other birds.

Gundogs should be able to complete a blind retrieve to at least the distance of a marked retrieve. For retrievers this distance is potentially further. Our gundogs and training methods have become far more capable in the past decade and dogs are now capable of greater distances for blind retrieves.

Recommendation 2. (A)

Change the wording of **Reg. A.B. 13. Retrieve Distances**

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: IN FAVOUR: 10 OPPOSED: 3 ABSTAINED: 4 RESULT: **CARRIED**

Recommendation 2. (B)

Change the wording of **Reg. Span. 13. Retrieve Distances**

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: IN FAVOUR: 9 OPPOSED: 4 ABSTAINED: 4 RESULT: **CARRIED**

Recommendation 2. (C)

Change the wording of **Reg. Ret. 4. Retrieve Distances**

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: IN FAVOUR: 11 OPPOSED: 2 ABSTAINED: 4 RESULT: **CARRIED**

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. New Zealand Championship – Organisational capability

Neville Alexander acknowledged that there are considerable challenges running a New Zealand Championship event, and that it may be necessary to conduct a review to ascertain the future of trialling. The question was asked whether a working group should be formed to approach the NZGTA membership for feedback. It was noted this was not the first time this had been raised, and the NZGTA Executive are aware of the issues. One concern is that the Executive do not have visibility over the entire membership, only via Club Secretaries, and therefore re unaware whether membership is growing or declining. It was noted that a number of Clubs have either reduced in size substantially or had the need to close due to lack of resource, support and/or funding. The weight is currently too heavy on certain Clubs, and this is not sustainable long term.

Discussion took place with regard to the potential to run more trials over a block of time (one week or more) to enable more effective use of resources and time/energy. It was agreed that ideas from the membership should be collated together and considered by the NZGTA Executive sooner rather than later. It was agreed that this matter would be further discussed by the Executive at the earliest opportunity.

2. Use of Firearms – Public perception

Mike Weir raised a point that the NZGTA need to consider how the public perceive the use of firearms in our sport, acknowledging that the membership does not want to remove them from use at gun dog trials. The Executive, on behalf of the membership, should consider alternative options for use at events (for example pyrotechnic devices, starter pistols, primers for zingers or a bumper boy) in case in future the option for Clubs to use firearms is removed (via legislation). If a firearm is in view of the public during any gun dog trial, there is always the risk that this activity will be reported to authorities. It was highlighted that legislation is much changed now and the NZGTA must consider the responsibility involved.

Mike Weir highlighted that there is the option to remove firearms completely if Clubs really want to, and potentially it could enable more focus to be placed on the handling of the dog without the distraction of the gun. It also could be of benefit to those members who may not be as confident, or want to handle, a firearm.

Discussion continued.

Motion proposed that the NZGTA Executive will look in to the use of guns in the sport in the 2021/2022 year

MOVED: Mike Weir

Ian Ferguson moved to amend the motion;

Motion proposed that the NZGTA Executive will look at alternative options to use instead of firearms at gun dog trials

MOVED: Ian Ferguson SECONDED: Terry Wilson RESULT: **CARRIED**

Graeme Palmer put this motion to a Vote.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS:

Graeme Palmer announced the members of the Sth Island and Nth Island Teams competing for the Inter-Island Trophy at the 2021 NZ Gun Dog Field Trial Championships:

South Island Team

All Breeds Heel Retrieve
Retriever
Spaniel
Pointer & Setter
Reserve

David Wilson / FTCH Blazing Barrel of Ernlea
Sonya Tamblyn / GFTCH Vitesse Dancing Brave
Pete O'Neill / FTCH Windarra Zelda
Lisa Terry / FTCH & CH Rotwild Reckless
Sue Sinclair / Brynderin Lincoln Te Waihora

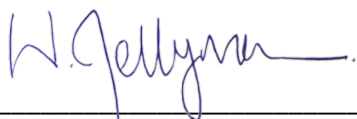
North Island Team

All Breeds Heel Retrieve
Retriever
Spaniel
Pointer & Setter
Reserve

John Batley / Rakanui Kowhai
Boyd Norwood / Rakanui Taupo
Joe Fritchley / GFTCH Moifaa Rose of Viewpoint / FTW Claisfearann Broc
(No competitors from North Island attending)
John Batley / Rakanui Hawea

No further matters for discussion.

MEETING CLOSED: 8.33pm



Signed by President