

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 2008 NEW ZEALAND ALPINE CLUB COMMITTEE**  
held on Saturday 24 May 2008 in the Home of Mountaineering, Raycroft, Street,  
Christchurch. The meeting opened at 10 a.m.

The President, Phil Doole, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

**1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES**

**1.1 Present:**

Phil Doole (President)	Geoff Gabites (Executive Committee Chair)
Gillian Crombie (Hon. Treasurer)	Jocelyn Douglas (Hon. Secretary)
Judy Reid (Past-President)	Allan MacLachlan, (Auckland)
Steve Burrows (Central North Island)	John Jordan (Taranaki)
James Wright (Wellington)	Chris Short (Nelson/ Marlborough)
Grant Piper (Canterbury/Westland)	Ian Rogers (South Canterbury)
John Hamilton (North Otago)	Paul Prince (Otago)
Kyle Begg (Otago)	Vonnie Crawford (Southland)
Tony Clarke (Accommodation)	Paul Day (Australia).

**1.2 In Attendance:**

Brian Alder (Overseas Climbing)	Kristen Foley (Rock Climbing)
Pete Barnes (Recreation Advocacy)	Ollie Clifton (Executive Officer)
Chris North (staff)	

**1.3 Apologies:**

Phil Tree (Canterbury/Westland)

**2. APPOINTMENT OF CONVENORS**

It was moved that:

***“Tony Clarke be appointed as Accommodation convenor in accordance with Rule 16(d).”*** Phil Doole/Judy Reid Carried

It was moved that:

***“Chris Short be appointed as Instruction convenor.”***  
Phil Doole/Grant Piper Carried

It was moved that:

***“Peter Barnes be appointed as Recreation Advocacy convenor.”***  
Phil Doole/Vonnie Crawford Carried

**3. ELECTION of Life Members and Honorary Members**

It was moved that:

***“The Club confirms the election of George Band as an Honorary Member.”***  
Phil Doole/Grant Piper Carried

A resume of Richard Price's connection with the mountains and the Club was circulated.

It was then moved that:

***“The Club elect Richard Price as a Life Member of the Club.”***  
Phil Doole/Ian Rogers Carried

**4. MEMORIALS FOR SIR EDMUND HILLARY**

Phil Doole spoke to his paper on possible memorials for Sir Edmund Hillary.

During discussion, views against the naming of a highway and the renaming of a peak were expressed.

It was moved that:

***“The CCM adopts items one to six in the paper prepared on memorials for Sir Edmund Hillary as a statement of its position on possible memorials, with deletions in item six so that item six now reads ‘6) Naming mountains – there were strong individual views for and against this, with the weight of Section views being against the idea. My conclusion is that the Club should not be initiating any proposals for naming or re-naming NZ mountains. The Club should also not support the re-naming of other mountains or peaks (including the three peaks of Aoraki/Mt Cook, Mt Sefton and so on), but could support the naming of an unnamed peak if of sufficient stature.’ “***

*Phil Doole/Geoff Gabites Carried*

It was noted that this motion is a reflection of what Sir Edmund would have wanted.

## **5. FMC AGM and FORUM**

Phil Doole summarised our relationship with FMC over the recent past and noted that this year there would be a vote for the President of FMC. Phil asked the questions:

- how should we appoint our delegates to the FMC AGM?
- who makes nominations for the executive of FMC?
- how do NZAC's nine votes get delivered?
- who should we vote for?

Because the four delegates chosen to attend the FMC AGM need to be made very aware of how the Club wants them to vote, it was suggested that the Executive Officer or a Club Committee member should be one of the delegates.

After discussion on the merits of each Presidential nominee it was moved that:

***“The CCM supports the nomination of Rob Mitchell to the role of President of the FMC.”*** *Otago Section/Grant Piper Carried*

It was moved that:

***“(a) Sections can nominate for all positions on the FMC Executive without reference to the CCM except for the position of President.  
(b) Delegates to FMC General Meetings will be appointed by the Executive Committee.”*** *Phil Doole/Ian Rogers Carried*

## **6. MINUTES from the NOVEMBER 2007 CCM**

It was moved that:

***“The minutes of the November 2007 CCM be accepted.”***  
*Phil Doole/Vonnie Crawford Carried*

## **7. ACTION POINTS and RESOLUTIONS from the NOVEMBER 2007 CCM**

**Action Point 3** regarding balancing the budget without relying on donations needs further clarification.

**Action Point 11:** HQ should read Executive Committee. It was noted that Sections need to provide their reports to the Club AGM a month before it is held.

It was then agreed that the Club AGM and next CCM be the weekend of the 18 October 2008

## **8. RULE CHANGE TRANSITION**

No issues to be discussed.

## **9. OVERSEAS CLIMBING**

Brian Alder elaborated on the recommendations listed in his paper.

### **Part 4: Grants for the Current Period**

It was moved that:

***“The Club approves the grant to Pat Deavoll of \$1000.”***

*Phil Doole/Grant Piper Carried*

***“The Club approves the grant to Todd Windle and Steve Eastwood of \$1500.”***

*Phil Doole/Kyle Begg Carried*

Ian Rogers expressed concern about the number of times Pat Deavoll had received a grant from the Club. Brian advised that she does contribute back to the Club and that she is not preventing others from receiving grants.

Paul Day requested clarification on a number of issues. In response Brian said that work needs to be done on ways to establish certainty that grants are being used for their correct purpose. He also advised that there is income other than from donations; and that the current balance is \$12,715.

### **Part 1: Fundraising**

Kyle Begg asked that Otago be listed as one of the major Sections.

A discussion on the proposed fundraising lectures determined that staff time on this needed to be quantified.

It was moved that:

***“The Club supports the four recommendations under point one of the Overseas Climbing report.”*** *James Wright/Grant Piper Carried*

(These four recommendations cover donation/bequest requests in the Climber and on the subscription form, fundraising lectures, and a joint expedition with Daniel Joll).

### **Part 2: Grants Structure:**

A general discussion was held on the mention of ‘must be under 30 years of age’ and at the exclusion of any mention of Club membership as criteria for getting a grant.

It was moved that:

***“The Club accepts the new grant structure as recommended under part two with the changes noted.”***

*Jocelyn Douglas/Paul Day Carried*

(The changes were that ‘must be <30 yrs old’ be replaced with ‘preferred that < 30 years old’ and that ‘NZers’ in both places be replaced with ‘NZAC members’.

### **Part 3: Promotion/development of Elite Climbing**

It was moved that:

***“The Club accept the recommendations of part three point one in principle.”***

*Phil Doole/Geoff Gabites Carried*

Brian Alder has started planning for this recommendation to hold an Overseas climbing seminar.

### **Part 5: UIAA**

A general discussion was held on the UIAA recommendations. It was agreed that John Nankervis would be the best person to attend the UIAA General Assembly. The Australian Sport Climbing body has withdrawn from UIAA so NZAC is the only national body from Oceania that is a member. Therefore it is likely that NZAC will be on the Management Committee.

## **10. RECREATION ADVOCACY**

It was moved that:

***“The Club endorses the recreation advocacy paper as a general indication of the process by which the Recreation Advocacy subcommittee operates in terms of the Club rules and proposed membership awareness initiatives.”***

*Phil Doole/Judy Reid Carried*

## 11. BOLTING

It was moved that:

***"The Club acknowledges the issues and potential effects of bolting in alpine areas, and supports the formation of a small working group to formulate a NZAC position/guidance note, reporting back to CCM in due course."***

*Paul Day/Tony Clarke Carried*

## 12. WASTE DISPOSAL

It was moved that:

***"As an interim measure, Rodney Garrard be appointed as a member of the Recreation Advocacy Subcommittee with a brief to undertake and coordinate environmental issues in consultation with the Convenor and Executive Officer."***

*Judy Reid/Grant Piper Carried*

***"The Club accepts recommendations 1(a) and 1(b) with 'must' replaced with 'should' and '2008' replaced with '2008-2009'."*** *Chris Short/Ian Rogers Carried*

(These recommendations cover removal of human faeces from the alpine environment and collaboration with other climbing organisations to ensure the availability of the latest information and the availability of the necessary tools).

## 13. FINANCIAL REPORT

Gillian Crombie presented these reports and in particular noted the following:

- the deficit for the year to February 2008 is \$80 399. This represents the worst case scenario.
- The Mt Aspiring agreement gave a very poor result but this could partly be due to timing.
- A significant amount of depreciation has been included.

It was asked why the Call Account is shown as including the Aoraki and Westland Club Hut Fund .

**Action point:** Clarification of exactly what constitutes the Club Hut Fund and what is actually in the Club Hut Fund is needed.

It was noted that the Banff donations from Sections were not all tagged for the Club Hut Fund.

## 14. CLIMBING CAMP

The proposed camp for summer 2008-2009 is in the Matakaitaki Valley with Richard Pearson being the coordinator.

A report on the Hopkins climbing camp noted that the camp was excellent as were the camp managers.

It was moved that:

***"The Club 2008-2009 climbing camp be in the Matakaitaki Valley."***

*Chris Short/Jocelyn Douglas Carried*

## 15. BUSINESS PLAN and STRATEGIC PLAN

Specific comments made were:

- the website work is not yet completed and is a major project going forward.
- fundraising for Unwin to date has been disappointing.
- Brian Alder considers the Business Plan covers far too much and should focus on a few major projects only. It is difficult for staff to work with and projects need to be more achievable. However despite that, a lot has been achieved.

Phil Doole summarised a few key points:

- The deficits result from expenditure increases across all portfolios not being matched by increased income
- All of the portfolios rely on membership subscription income to some degree (refer pie graph)
- Cash was also required to fund capital expenditure proposed for the website upgrade and HOM mortgage repayments.

### **15.1 Membership Survey**

Many of the recommendations coming out of this survey have been incorporated in the draft Business Plan.

It was asked if 'post only' is the best way to send the survey as this is very costly, and also whether the survey needs to be carried out annually.

It was also asked how realistic it was to expect that hut fees and subscriptions to not increase.

### **15.2 Convenor's Minutes**

These give some background to how the Business Plan was developed.

### **15.3 Instruction**

Chris Short presented his report.

It was asked whether youth climbing should be under instruction.

It was also asked what would be cut if \$4000 needed to be cut from the budget. The response was the Youth camp and the subsidy on the instructor course (in the hope that Sections could partly subsidise this). It was also suggested that the first aid courses do not need to be under instruction.

**Action point:** Chris North and the Instruction Convenor are to undertake further work on the goals and budget.

### **15.4 UIAA and Expedition Fund**

It was agreed that the budget be left as is for these.

### **15.5 Events and Activities**

It was expected that if a National Speaker Tour, as proposed, was held, there would be a split of profits between Sections and the National Club. However if this tour did not run, there would be no money coming into the budget. This proposal would need Section support.

The South Canterbury Section would like to run the Wanaka Film Festival in South Canterbury.

Brian Alder commented that we should be concentrating on our core purpose – huts and publications. Should we be putting as much effort into extra activities for not necessarily a very good return?

As a result of discussion on the three proposals, the National Speaker tour, the Wanaka Film Festival and the Overseas Expedition fundraiser, it was agreed to drop the idea of a National Speaker tour and ask Sections whether they would be interested in taking on the Wanaka Film Festival and /or an Expedition Fundraising lecture.

It was agreed to include a budget item of \$3000 for the Expedition Fundraising lectures.

### **15.6 Rock Climbing**

Kristen Foley reported that there would not be any impact on the budget.

The main objective of the Rock Climbing subcommittee is to provide bolts and the bolting fund. It was noted that the bolts are not actually sold to members at cost, and also that there

have been many applications to the bolting fund this year. Some Sections stated they would be willing to support the bolting fund financially.

### **15.7 Other Activity Items in the Budget**

It was noted that the Annual Report does not need to be available to everyone as a hard copy. This could be asked on the subscription notice.

Paul Prince commented that the budget does not give a clear enough indication of where items in the budget are coming from, for example, what can be attributed to administration time. It was agreed that it would be valuable to have a rough cut of staff time on each budget item.

It was agreed to increase the Banff income by \$4000 (for National office administration), and that \$2000 would be taken off the expected Banff donations income.

Phil Doole noted that while we still have the \$50 000 SPARC grant next year, there is no guarantee this will continue.

### **15.8 Accommodation**

Ollie Clifton advised that, apart from Unwin, base lodges have financially done very well this year. Not so the other huts. It was therefore concluded that we should try and minimise the maintenance on these 'other' huts. The Club also needs to raise awareness of the availability of base huts.

A question about hut fee payment compliance was asked. It was felt that this is no different than before but that there are to be fewer people in the high alpine huts.

It was noted that the \$25 000 insurance budgeted item is not as low as expected.

It was also noted that Banff donations are not included in the accommodation income.

It was clarified that that funds being spent on Unwin are not being spent on the parts which may be demolished.

Paul Day suggested the high huts could have a higher hut fee for members as there is no competition.

**Action point:** The Accommodation subcommittee is to be asked to consider the possibility of increasing high hut fees for members. If the subcommittee decided to do this, this would need to be confirmed at the next CCM.

Tony Clarke went over the options for the toilet and bunkrooms at Unwin as provided in the Unwin report. Option A is refurbishment, option B is rebuild and option C is rebuild plus a mezzanine in the common room. The Accommodation subcommittee emphasis will now be on fundraising and aiming for option B. Tony pointed out that that when the bunkrooms are knocked down, we could find that more work than expected will need to be done.

Recladding of common room will occur next summer if funds are available.

### **15.9 Publications**

The last three years have been production focussed and the next three will be sales driven. It was noted that some reprints have been delayed.

Brian Alder suggested that the Club should spend about \$20 000 less on the Climber and NZAJ.

**Action point:** The Publication subcommittee is to consider the possibility of spending less on the Climber and NZAJ and this would need to be linked in with a Strategic Plan Review.

### **15.10 Capital Expenditure**

It was noted that there may be a need to seek quotes for work to be done on the website as it seems there is a big range in possible costs.

**Action point:** Executive Committee to review costing for website upgrade before committing to a specific proposal

#### **15.11 Administration Costs in Budget**

Geoff Gabites commented that the Club may need to consider staff vs volunteer work; that staff pay rates are average and that as two staff members have been employed by NZAC for seven years we may need to consider that there could be staff turnover. He noted that a letter from the South Canterbury Section thanking the staff for their assistance with organising the last climbing camp was a huge morale boost for them.

The Business Plan was accepted but the draft budget still showed an approximate loss of \$14 000, and it was agreed that the budget should be balanced (ie, the deficit reduced to zero).

Changes suggested and adopted were:

- no change in website capital budget but spread depreciation over five years instead of two and a half years to gain a saving of \$3000
- cut \$5000 from huts expenses and/or increase income
- cut \$6000 from Publications and/or increase income

It was moved that:

***“The Business Plan and Budget for the 2008/09 year be adopted with the agreed changes.”*** Phil Doole/Kyle Begg Carried

#### **17. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**17.1** The draft Accommodation policy was left on the table. Any suggested changes are to be emailed to Tony Clarke.

**17.2** Phil Tree's paper on Section levies was discussed.

It was moved that:

***“ Section levies to be paid to each Section be set at \$500 plus \$8 per member.”***  
Ian Rogers/Vonnie Crawford Carried

It was agreed that this be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008. Note that the individual Section levy of \$10.00 per member does not change.

**17.3** Chris Short is to be the ONZ contact instead of Judy Reid.

**17.4** Proposals for the NZAC Volunteer of the Year, and NZMGA were to be circulated to section reps for feedback post CCM.

**Phil Doole thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions during the day**

**Meeting closed 5.15p.m.**