

# MNZ Board Report

Prepared by President B J (Jim) Tuckerman



It is with great pleasure that I present my first Annual Report to the members of Motorcycling New Zealand Inc. on behalf of the Board.

Last year's AGM saw a 'New' look Board voted in with a mandate for "Change". The campaign that led up to the vote, had been hard and well fought, and there were those who did not particularly like the change choosing to resign their positions, while there were others who resigned to leave the way clear for the 'New' group.

The first six months of my Presidency was an interesting time. The Board because of its new make-up was in a position to consider MNZ in a different light.

It was considered imprudent to continue with a business model which had 40 odd percent of the organisation's turnover being paid out in salaries, leaving little to support the 'Sport' after paying administration costs.

The Board commissioned HR Consultants (Directioneering Ltd) to assess MNZ's business requirements and make recommendations on the best structure for MNZ moving forward.

They returned a report which recommended down sizing MNZ's Office by two positions that of Chief Executive Office and Administration Manager, which resulted in Paul Pavletich and Jill deThierry leaving MNZ's employ.

MNZ's Office has been subsequently re-organised and is working extremely efficiently and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Vicky, Jannine, Bonnie and Emma for their patience during this time of 'Change' and their continued enthusiasm for our 'Sport' on a daily basis.

During the last year the Board has been working steadily to move MNZ into an era of 'Best Practice'.

What the newly elected Board was faced with was a situation where MNZ was operating with a working model which did not align with the 'New' Constitution introduced on January 1, 2008 and set about to address this, with the forming of Commissions, Special Commissions and Standing Committees. By doing so the Board is endeavouring to get more people involved in the decision making process.

Under these Commissions and Committees, the Board is seeking to review all of MNZ's major Championships.

We have also made some serious inroads with our friends at the Accident Compensation Commission (ACC) and the Labour Department regarding recreational riding, through the hard work put in by Recreation/Leisure Commissioner Paul Searancke and our Project Manager for the venture, David Yardley.

Paul and David will be giving a full presentation and review of the outcomes during the AGM weekend.

The Board has also taken a long hard look at many of the procedures being used to administer our 'Sport', some of which have not been reviewed from as far back as 2005.

Over recent years MNZ has had its modus operandi questioned by some very learned people from organisations such as Coroner's Courts and the Sports Disputes Tribunal. Over the years quite a few recommendations have been made and many of these have fallen on deaf ears.

The Board has put systems in place to review and change many of the procedures to ensure

they are sound, robust and deliver at all times 'Natural Justice'.

One of the leading directives was to create a complete Officials Training Programme, not just for Stewards, but all Officials from flag marshals right the way through to Clerk of the Course, with each position receiving the appropriate certification.

In addition we have re-started a Coaching Coaches Programme to enable MNZ to have certified Training Programmes nationwide. A pilot programme is currently being run in the Tasman area at the top of the South Island and is being supported and endorsed by SPARC, ACC, Tasman Regional Sports Trust and MNZ.

We have also been working rigorously on re-establishing "Key" relationships such as that between MNZ and the Motorcycle Industry Association and MNZ and its FIM Oceania partners.

Along with several other MNZ representatives, I have attended two MIA meetings and the MIA members have indicated that being informed and communicated with, is all they ever asked for.

Regarding Australia/Oceania, we have had two successful meetings with our Australian partners and I believe our Continental Union (Now Called FIM Oceania) is working well.

We have staged a successful 2010 Oceania Motocross centred on Junior competition at Pukekohe during March.

We have also had a very successful Junior Speedway training camp, along with teams competing in both Enduros and Trials all across the Tasman.

The next step being looked at is Junior Road Race coaching.

#### **FIM**

In October, I was privileged to represent MNZ at the FIM Biennial Congress in Geneva. It was my first visit to an FIM conference; however I was greatly assisted by the Oceania President, Darryl Hiddle from Australia. His direction and introduction to the correct people was invaluable.

The Success of the "World Junior Motocross Championships" was known worldwide, with everybody I talked to commenting on it. New Zealand is well and truly on the map.

While in Geneva, I had a meeting with Giuseppe Luongo (of Youthstream the promoters of the FIM's Motocross Championships) who is keen to bring a round of the FIM MX1 and MX2 Championships to New Zealand. To that end the Taupo Motorcycle Club is currently seeking funding to make this happen.

While in Geneva I took the opportunity to discuss potential closer relationships with the members of the Asian Continental Union.

Unfortunately, the economic downturn has dramatically reduced these options, but with the election of Stephan 'Macky' Carapiet as President of FIM Asia, these opportunities may be more forthcoming.

We also bid for the 2012 ISDE and the 2011 Speedway 1000cc Sidecar Championship; unfortunately we were not successful in either case.

However, following on from discussions at the congress, the promoter of FIM's Speedway Grand Prixs, BSI/IMG in conjunction with Tourism BOP, are at present working very hard to obtain funding to bring a World Speedway Grand Prix to New Zealand.

This past year has had its ups and downs, the culmination of which will be the "New Look" AGM weekend, with not only the usual 'Workshops' but a number of seminars on SUBJECTS which are beneficial to all Clubs.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who spend every weekend administering our 'Sport', without who NOTHING would happen.

I personally, would like to thank Carmen Davidson, Dave Craig, Kevin Goddard and Paul Stewart for their support over the last 12 months. Without their enthusiasm for the Sport and drive to make things better, I would have been faced with an impossible task

Yours in Motorcycling

B J (Jim) Tuckerman  
President  
Motorcycling New Zealand Inc.