MINUTES OF THE SWIMMING TARANAKI INC. BOARD MEETING,

Tuesday 8th April 2025.

Start time 7pm, at Safety Solutions, 121 Molesworth St, New Plymouth

PRESENT: Daniel Hancock, Paul Rust, Paul Feltoe, Mariano Garcia Nani, Louisa Parker.

APOLOGIES: Kim Treweek

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REGISTER: None to anyone present.

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th March 2025 were read and accepted.

Paul R/Paul F **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING: none

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE: No further updates. Contacting Sport Taranaki to be put on the May agenda.

POLICIES/GOVERNANCE: Louisa to bring to the next meeting as currently no further progress on policies being updated.

HEALTH & SAFETY: None

FINANCIAL REPORT: As attached:

Profit and Loss Financials for the past month
FC Financial Summary
Summer Series financial summary
Move that the financial report as circulated is taken as a true and correct record and Flannagan Cup Financial Report, Summer Series Financial Report be passed and approved.

Daniel/Paul R **CARRIED**

TECHNICAL REPORT: As attached.
With the changes being made at SNZ, Cath can no longer assess potential officials. SNZ have taken back this role to how it used to be run years ago.

Move that the Technical Report as attached is accepted.

Paul R/Daniel **CARRIED**

RECORDS OFFICER REPORT: Tracey will get these to us asap.

TRANSFERS: Kaia Prince from Hawera to Aquabladz

TARANAKI EVENTS:
The Summer Series – Louisa has sent out questionnaire to clubs. Posted on FB with photos and done accountability for Taranaki Foundation. No feedback yet from clubs. It would be ideal to get these swimmers into competitive swimming and attending carnivals.

TO ACTION: Louisa to send reminders to get feedback and to also apply for more funding for these events next year.

Masters Games 2025

31entries. Financial report will come after we are invoiced by Stratford Pool and received entry fees from Sport Taranaki. Swimmers included 6-7 from Feilding, a couple from Taihape and some from Levin as well as local swimmers, all of whom are keen to bring more friends next year. Everyone enjoyed the event, particularly the social part at the end. Late entries were a problem initially, but this should not occur next year. ST keen to be involved with this event in 2026 and will encourage more people to attend whenever possible.

NATIONAL EVENTS:

The Distribution of Funding at National Events

Mariano discussed how at Aquabladz, swimmers need 3 events before they can attend a national event. This includes times for the relays.

It was agreed that funding should only be given for swimmers who qualify for national events and stay with the team at the organised group accommodation.

However, it was felt that ST didn't want to discourage those swimmers who may only get one or 2 qualifying times and that we should support swimmers in these situations.

The Swimming Taranaki board want to highlight that this is not ideal and all swimmers should be aiming to get at least 3 times and stay with the team when attending national events.

Div 2

We received $6000 from The Bobby Foundation. This will be divided between all the regional swimmers (from Aquabladz and Stratford) who stayed at the team accommodation (14 swimmers). This will give each swimmer $428.57. The Hawera swimmer who did not stay in the team accommodation will be given half the amount of funding that those other swimmers received. This will be a contribution from **Swimming Taranaki** and will be on a pro rata basis calculated by how many days this swimmer attended the Div 2 competition.

NAGS

It was decided that the $ $4,469.57 worth of funding from Pelorus Trust will be divided among **swimmers** from all clubs in Taranaki attending NAGS and staying at their team accommodation. This is 10 from Aquabladz and 3 from Stratford. The amount per swimmer will be $343.81.

There will also be a contribution made to swimmers by **Swimming Taranaki** (not Pelorus) who are not staying with the team which is 2 from Aquabladz and 1 from Stratford. This will be half of the amount of funding given to the team swimmers at the accommodation and will be on a pro rata basis calculated by how many days these swimmers attend NAGS.

Mariano keen to emphasise that this is not a 'reward' to these swimmers with only one or two times and that in all circumstances they should be encouraged to make at least 3 times and stay with the team in the accommodation organised.

Opens

Meila and Jaiah from Stratford Flyers are the only swimmers who are going the 'Opens' swimming competition. Louisa to apply for funding from TET as both these swimmers

are from the Stratford area. Accommodation is booked at the AUT Millennium for 5 people.

Resolution for Funding from TET

It was resolved that Helen Louisa Parker will apply to TET for funding towards accommodation costs for the 2 swimmers from Stratford Flyers Club who will be competing at the 2025 Apollo Projects Open Swimming Competition at the Sir Owen Glenn Aquatic Centre from 21st May – 25th May 2025.
The amount to be confirmed once we have received a quote for the costs of their accommodation.

Paul Rust/Paul Feltoe **CARRIED**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Accommodation and unity at national events as a region as per letter from Aquabladz

Aquabladz have complained that too many people have been contacting the accommodation booked for national events (by Chris Whitehead from Aquabladz last year for the region). Aquabladz say they have built a rapport with these venues over time, and in their letter they claim that the venues are becoming frustrated by "the confusion with roles and responsibilities". Mariano also said that the team cultures were different for each of the clubs and the Aquabladz was keen to adhere to their own working styles without having to collaborate.

Funding as a Region

The preferred accommodation for Aquabladz is considerably more expensive than any other accommodation at these national meets. The advantage of being next to the swimming venue is not significant enough for funding providers to overlook the cost. When applying for funding to these national events, other clubs from our region are providing lower quotes for accommodation for the same event, and for the same duration. The disparity in costs is clear and judging from the funding decisions and results lately it would seem they are not sympathetic to paying funding for expensive accommodation when a lesser priced venue is clearly available to swim clubs from the same region. One quote for accommodation for the entire region has proven to work better since there is no disparity.

Mariano also commented that the organisers at Aquabladz were frustrated with the timeframes for applying for funding. Louisa pointed out that there are certain criteria that need to be provided before she can even begin to complete an application for funding. This is required from the clubs and the coaches. There is also a specific time frame that needs to be adhered to for these quotes which is always outlined to the clubs and coaches for each application.

Given the reluctance of Aquabladz to continue staying as a region, the idea of uniting as a region instead of 3 clubs is not working out and perhaps too much was expected. The board continues to advocate bringing swimmers from around the region together for

events where they can forge friendships whilst supporting and encouraging each other. This was particularly successful at the Junior/Intermediate Swim Camp this year.

Paul R suggested that ST need to respond to this letter outlining that the board is happy to separate accommodation once again but due to the disparity in the costs for accommodation this will continue to disadvantage the swimmers in our region.

TO ACTION: Louisa to send a letter to Aquabladz explaining how the funding applications for the region are compiled and what is required from each club.

Changes to SNZ Constitution
Paul Feltoe attended this zoom meeting concerning the changes to the Constitution which was passed very quickly. One objection but was late but was noted. They then moved to the resolution which was passed.

Calendar for 2025 – 2026 Swimming Year
As attached.

- We haven't received dates for national comps 2026 yet. These should be out soon and once they are we will fill in more ST carnivals around them for next year.
- 27th June – 14th July the Stratford Pool is closing, and they will not guarantee that it will be ready for the later option for Winters,

It was suggested that the West Coast Champs date be added to the calendar which is a good meet for the younger kids and not a long travelling distance. This used to be well attended. This could be a possibility for all clubs in the region to attend.
Also, the Manawatu champs or the Palmerston North meets (which is not a huge distance to travel either)
TO ACTION: Louisa to find dates and add to the calendar.

Paul Rust announced that he is leaving NZ for Australia in early July this year. He will continue to be available for ST meetings on zoom until the AGM when we can find a new board member to replace him.
We wish Paul, Danelle and the Rust family all the very best for this move and would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of time, energy and enthusiasm Paul has put into being on the Swimming Taranaki Board and both he and Danelle to the sport in general.

Meeting closed at 8:42pm
Next Meeting: 7pm, Tuesday May 13th at Safety Solutions.

Signed as a true and correct record: **Date: 08.04.25**