

2019 / 2020 Board

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Dear Members -

The NZDG Board has met several times to discuss how to re-write the NZDG Constitution (as promised in an earlier Bulletin to Members). This document lists the main policies for the revised Constitution, as so far agreed by the Board.

Note that the revised Constitution is not "owned" by the Board, it is "owned" by Members (and will be put to them for approval at a Special General Meeting). We very much welcome feedback from Members on the revised Constitution (for example by way of the feedback form on the NZDG website).

Text in [square brackets] is for information only, not forming part of the re-written constitution.

PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION POLICIES:

1. "Purposes of the Association" will be re-written and condensed (reducing from 17 long bullet points to say 7).
2. The many clauses relating to sports federations and associations (including WFDF, NZFDA etc.) will be deleted, and replaced with a simple clause allowing NZDG to join such organisations. [As and when a New Zealand Flying Disc Association - or similar - is needed, it will be a separate incorporated body, not NZDG itself.]
3. NZDG Board Members should be 18 years or older at the time of election [mainly for reasons of legal capacity]. This does not exclude members under 18 from active participation (e.g. in non-executive roles).
4. Each board role will be adequately defined.
5. Elections to the Board:
 - (a) Competitive elections will be held for each board role. [The practice under the current Constitution, whereby the Board is elected, and they then decide among themselves how to apportion Board roles, will cease.]
 - (b) Where an election is unopposed (1 candidate), there will be a yes/no vote by members.
 - (c) Where there is more than 1 candidate for a given position, a competitive election will be held for that position.

[The Board is looking at the best option for elections according to the above parameters. The main option being considered is preferential voting (single transferable vote), with allowance being made for candidates to stand for more than one position (in order to minimise the loss of keen and popular candidates from the Board). Elections would be held in a set order (e.g. Chairman first, Secretary second, etc.). Once a candidate is elected to a position, he/she would be eliminated from any subsequent ballot(s). Simpler than it sounds.]
6. Voting at Annual and Special General Meetings will as far as possible be by e-voting (remote voting), to encourage high participation by our far-flung membership. This will include not only the election of officials, but also other motions put to Members at Meetings. This removes the need for written/signed proxy votes (which clause shall be deleted).
7. Obligations of Members shall be set out in the Constitution.
8. The need for Sub-Committees to be approved at Annual General Meetings will be deleted.

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9. Membership shall be opened to people who do not play on the NZ Tour (provided they can show a connection to disc golf). [Terms (e.g. annual fees) yet to be proposed and agreed.]

10. Clauses will be put in the Constitution allowing the suspension and expulsion of Members.

Paul Deacon

Chairman