



**CNZ Road & Track AGM Workshop  
22 May 2021**

**Discussion Notes**

**Workshop Started 12:10pm**

**Present**

Council – Mike Sim (MS), Erin Criglington, Steve Hurring, Mark Ireland, Olivia Spaans, Brad Tilby, Andy McKay, Garry Bell

Patron – Bruce Goldsworthy

Auckland – Alex Cutler, Brendan Patterson, Russell Scott

WBOP – Ian Brown, Graeme Bell, Bev May, Dave May, Stephen Cox

WCNI – Ron Cheatley, Nick Spark

ECNI – Ivan Aplin (also there as CNZ Board Member)

Canterbury – Dennis Parker (Zoom) Fi Bennett (Zoom) Steve Woods, Rachelle Spencer

Otago – Joe Chapman

Southland – Patrick Harvey

CNZ – Tony Mitchell, Rebekah Cullinane, Jacques Landry, Janette Douglas

Workshop started at 12.10pm

**Welcome & Introductions**

MS welcomed everyone to the workshop, and introductions for those present

Noted that in addition to the two remits, Council also had 3 items to table for discussion.

**Remit 1 – Regarding Membership Fees, (Canterbury)**

Dennis Parker spoke to the remit

Concerns about the process, the record of discussion with CNZ and the poor notification out to the membership.

Noted there were no processing fees in 2020, but there were in 2021, and there was no warning about this.

Comments:

The transaction fee was “neither here nor there” in dollar terms, not had any negative feedback from members. However, Auckland would support the remit.

Note that the fee to join a second club seems unreasonably high and this was a step change from the 2020 fees

Would like to ensure that the transaction fee is not increased.

*CNZ - There was a robust discussion with Council, but CNZ had agreed that a fee increase would not be appropriate in current circumstances. Previously, CNZ had absorbed the transaction fees as part of their supplier agreement, but the change to the new supplier meant that the fees were applied at the time of each transaction instead. The fee includes such things as credit card fees and the cost of hosting the club on the platform etc*

It is still the existing fee, plus the transaction fee, which admittedly is high. Wondered if it had been benchmarked at all, as part of sourcing the new supplier?

Agrees that there was poor communication between Council and Members, and says this is a wider issue in that regard, than just the membership fees.

There had been no pushback from Tokoroa members, but felt there was a general apathy from clubs about rejoining, again noting the lack of communication and consultation.

Fees are a separate issue to the membership structure, it's the latter that needs addressing. All platforms have cost, accept it and not had any pushback from members

I had queried the transaction fee with the CNZ office, but had never got a reply. But noted that all businesses have transaction fees

Agrees with comments re communication, need Communication to clubs, not just Centres. Noted that membership of Ramblers is now just those who race, membership used to be double what it is now. The casual and supporting members have all gone elsewhere.

Otago were the same as Ramblers, membership is now just racing members, no casual riders.

Auckland were the same as Ramblers, membership is now just racing members, no casual riders

What does the licence offer, there are very few Open races now, the competitive cycling scene is now mostly private promoters, not clubs.

*Council noted to the meeting that the Membership Structure is being discussed later. Council has noted that Communication is clearly a significant issue, need to work on the channels for that*

*CNZ – we are trying to build value of the structure and membership. The next 3 to 4 years is all about CNZ working to deliver that.*

*Council - There was a robust discussion between Road & Track and CNZ about the 2021 fees.*

**Canterbury – Summary** – Much better communication (about the process and the discussions that take place) and engagement would be a significant step in addressing their concerns. Happy with the discussion and that it will be raised further as part of the membership options discussions at the Hui.

## **Remit 2 – Organisation Structure - ECNI**

Ivan Aplin spoke to the remit and presented a discussion document.

Wants the document to go to Clubs, not Centres, for feedback from the wider membership.  
Realistic to assume that Centres will not vote to get rid of Centres, but there is also a lot of history that we don't want to lose as part of any change.

4 Centres have held the lions share of the vote at AGMs, so many clubs feel they have no opportunity to provide feedback or have engagement with Council or CNZ.

Comments:

People feel they have no input that can effect change at CNZ, so people are no longer engaging.  
People don't know that Road & Track Council exist or if they do, how it differs to CNZ.

*CNZ - There is a definite influence from the Member Organisations, but clearly that engagement and influence is not being communicated back out to the members.*

A lot of club members in his club would not know what Centre they are in. Some ride for different centres (either Southland, MSC or Canterbury) at Championships

My experience of Centres is that that they are often made up of people who are working for their own ends, rather than for the wider benefit of the sport.

Its unknown by members who does what or controls what. But that is not an issue exclusive to CNZ.  
The existing structure is sound, the issue actually lies with the application of it and the behaviours.  
Understanding both of those is how to effect change.

A lot of clubs are Masters driven, the focus is on that rather than on Junior development, this is one of the real issues. The management structure of most clubs also dominated by Masters.

The clubs in Canterbury realised that a Centre is a place where change at the Regional/National level can be effected. They would like Road & Track to conduct a review.

*CNZ – Spoke about the new AUSCycling model, where voting is direct from Clubs to the National Federation. The old State model has been dismantled. We might be able to look at how they manage that.*

Spoke to the history of Centres and the wider organisation. The Centres lost relevance once the Team Time Trials were dropped, the current structure has really only been retained due to the Track Nationals. Direct Club to Council communication and pathways would be better. Its time to change.

*Council - need to think about where we want the organisation to be in 20 years, not just looking at what we do today. Schools are getting big numbers, but they all drop out of the sport after leaving school. Noted that Trade Team members are currently required to join a Club and a Centre, another barrier. Also need to consider E Sports, Teams, Cyclocross, not just the existing clubs and Centres.*

If the Centre vanished, there would be nothing to provide a wider strategic direction for cycling in Auckland. Each of the three clubs could end up competing for the same members. Need to make sure there are pathways for development of riders.

Many different models operating around the country, a survey from members to find out what works and what doesn't will help shape the future model.

Review needs to have people put aside their personal preferences, its about what is best overall for the sport.

*Council – Great feedback, these are definitely what we have to consider and plan for the future.*

**ECNI - Summary** – Happy with the discussion and happy for the matter to continue through to the Hui for further planning.

### **Council Item 1 – Track Review Presentation**

Erin Criglington presented to the meeting a summary of the findings from the consultation on the Combining of the Track Championships.

Option 2 had the widest acceptance.

Island Rotation - very important that this continues.

Comments:

Majority have supported it, should go with it

Likes the concept of having the Masters Champs together with the Omnium Champs, but timing may need to be looked at, as October is not ideal.

Need to consider the length of the event as well.

HP had wanted October for the Madison/Omnium

Any new format has to be locked in for 5 years before any further review

Looking for growth, but then that could also push the programme out well beyond 5 days for the Senior/Junior/Para Champs.

Easy enough to adjust the qualifying times or limit the entries per event (to eliminate heats).

Noted that people had mentioned “2<sup>nd</sup> Tier” events, concerned about the confusion over the winner of the U19 and Senior Age Group Road Nationals, where people believe that they were a “National Champion”.

*Council – Only one National Champion (from the Elite Champs), it was clarified to the participants of those grades, but agreed that needs to be looked at, possibly a rule that you can only ride at one Championships. 2020 an unusual year due to the HP team being home in NZ all season.*

If Whanganui was successful in getting a roof, we need to factor in rotating the Champs through all three facilities. If it went ahead, Whanganui might be ready by 2024

Timing of events has to consider those areas that don't have a covered velodrome, in order for those athletes to be able to train.

Qualifying times probably now need to have separate times for Indoor and Outdoor.

Parents not happy for their kids to be out on the road, so track is a good area of the sport to encourage rider growth.

Timing of Champs is critical for Junior riders, U15/U17 need to be outside school terms. Having their events across weekend would also reduce the impact for schooling.

### **Summary**

Next Steps – Option 2 to be signed off by Road & Track Council

- Detail planning to be done (programme, timing of events)
- Implementation for the 2022 Champs
- Formal notification of adoption of Option 2 to be sent out to clubs as soon as it has been ratified, so that riders can prepare and Centres can start planning Centre Champs

### **Council Item 2 – Road & Track Strategy**

This is a high level view of the sport leading to the future, it is a proposal only, that has yet to be formally discussed by Council. This will happen in July  
Brad Tilby spoke to the presentation.

Comments:

Biggest problem is CNZ itself, in regards to Womens racing. Had training camps when Dynamo events were on, or told their riders to use it for training only. It's become too hard, won't have a womens category in 2022.

Noted that the social grade for women is booming.

Womens trade teams and pathway options are needed to encourage post-school racing for women. They thrive in the schools team environment, but then get lost if they want to continue beyond schools.

We need to encourage more womens schools teams to become involved in club racing, to give those riders and same teams some racing in the club scene.

### **Council Item 3 – Membership**

Mike Sim – What structure do we need to encourage membership growth and widen the value we can provide?

Comments:

Triathlon changed their model where people can join the Federation direct and at no cost, to build numbers. "Fees" end up being paid through participation entry fees, so a more pay for play model.

Need to clarify, are people joining Road & Track or CNZ? Confusion around club vs licence amongst membership. What is the value CNZ adds? Need to increase the non-championship riding members, that is where the growth potential is.

We are talking about the culture of the past, need to create a culture and an organisation for the future. Definitely need more tiers of membership, for club racing only riders, supporters etc.

Fees are a challenge. Learnt from Rowing, where the Maadi Cup is the pinnacle event, but there is a massive dropout rate after leaving school.

Clubs could consider lowering their club fees too – income can come from entry fees at races. Do clubs need a big income?

Questions about what the upcoming Hui was about – format, input, feedback etc. Suggested we talk to cycling clubs that don't belong to CNZ to get their views, likewise, lapsed members.

Also need to talk to cyclists who are not licenced or members of clubs.

Workshop ended at 2:40pm