

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER 2010 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2011

Introduction from the President

At this time of year a lot of people celebrate and make resolutions for the coming year. I'm not one to make New Year's resolutions but I am one to celebrate. I celebrate the highlights and reflect on the lowlights of the previous year and look forward to the coming year with all the opportunities it brings.

In 2011 Archery New Zealand saw a change in Board members as new convenors were elected, and a postal ballot reconfirmed Alan Logan as Treasurer and Frances Ross was confirmed as President. As half the Board was now female this achievement was recognised by New Zealand Olympic Committee as being the biggest change in the affiliated National Sporting Organisations administrations. Postal ballots were submitted direct to members as requested at the AGM using both email and standard postal formats. New Zealand Olympic Committee General Assembly and the launch of New Zealand's 2012 Olympic Campaign were some of the events attended providing the opportunity to connect with other National Sporting Organisations and discuss relevant issues, seeing our members compete on the international stage – these are among the highlights of my 2011 year.

Whilst everyone's daily lives continued our hearts dropped and all eyes turned to Christchurch in February as we came to witness the destruction we'd been so thankful had not occurred in September 2010.

Opting not to contest the CQT was quite possibly the hardest decision the Board tackled this year. Board and administration positions being vacated presented us with challenges and the passing of Terry Hamilton, staunch supporter, much loved friend and self-proclaimed Hobbit of the Association comprised the lowlights.

Somewhere in amongst all of this Archery New Zealand undertook a rebranding exercise.

As with every New Year 2012 provides us with opportunities and as President I look forward to being a part of the Trans-Tasman event which is going to be held in Rotorua in April. However it is not just 2012 that the Board need to look forward at but beyond this and how we as an Association can increase our membership, raise our profile nationally and continue to represent New Zealand on the international stage in the years to come.

ANZ Board

The Board held four, two-day meetings in the calendar year. The major items of the year were the strategic plan, re-organising the selection procedures and policy, an overhaul of the constitution and rules and consideration of how to deal with the results of the postal ballot of motions from the 2011 AGM.

The French wireless timing system was used for several tournaments including the Indoor Nationals. Two control boxes were ordered so there is one set in each island.

The old system was offered for sale and one set has been sold. Discussion is taking place for the other set.

An application for Olympic Solidarity funding to establish an effective Coaching Commission was unsuccessful.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan was accepted by the Archery NZ AGM in January 2011, and has been an active document ever since. At the 2012 National Championships, the 2012-2017 version will be presented and discussed. It is an updated document of the 2011-2016 document, acknowledging changes in the sport mostly coming from external sources such as the change of FITA to World Archery (WA), and the upcoming change to the name of SPARC. The 2012-2017 version is also prepared in keeping with the new Archery NZ rebranding.

Selection Panel

The three members of the Selection Panel (Convener Vice President Patrick Biggs, Coaching Commission David Croskery, the then High Performance Manager Shane Switzer who subsequently resigned) have been very busy this year, preparing selection criteria for a number of events. They had meetings via Skype as required. The year covered by this report started off in October 2010 with the XIX Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, India, where a large team of compound archers – along with officials – represented New Zealand in both teams and individual competitions. Into 2011, archers were selected to attend international events including World Championships at both senior and youth level. We have also had archers going to various legs of the World Cup. Into 2012, the Selection Panel will continue to work in a similar way, though it is likely there will be some personnel changes.

Treasurer's Report

The financial statements of the Association are presented as a separate report at the AGM.

Athletes' Commission

It has been such a busy first year as the Athletes' Convener with the re-branding of Archery NZ, new International uniforms, new website as well as all the other decisions and discussions that go with the role.

Anne Mitchell, Michael Caulton & Stephen Florence were appointed as District Representatives to act as a mouth piece for the archers in their respective districts and the Athletes' Convener.

I thank them all for their efforts this past year.

As discussed at the Athletes AGM last year, there is a need to include the 70m ranking rounds in the Archer rankings. Patrick Biggs has now completed these formulae and the new ranking system will include the FITA rounds, 70m and 50m Ranking Rounds for the respective disciplines and for those who shoot off shore, the international results will also be included. RMT's will no longer go towards the ranking scores.

A main focus of the Athlete Commission is to improve the communication between the ANZ Board and the archers & clubs. Remembering that this is a two way goal it is my opinion, and the opinion of those that have provided feedback, that we have definitely improved this in general over the past year. We managed to secure \$15000 of funding for the Senior Team to travel to the World Championships in Turin, Italy but unfortunately did not get funding for the Youth Worlds in Poland (this time). It will become practice to apply to funding agencies for the Youth & Senior World Championships and for the Trans-Tasman.

My only regret over this past year is that we did not manage to qualify any archers for the 2012 Olympic Games. Trying to meet the NZOC's selection criteria on this was unachievable this time but we hope that we will have archers at Rio de Janeiro in 2016.

The shooting highlight of the year would have to be the outstanding efforts of Rachel Hughes and Elizabeth Randle at the Youth World Championships finishing 7th & 17th respectively.

JAMA

Overall it has been a good year for JAMA archers. The numbers seem to be increasing in the postal shoots, and scores entered are improving. It would be good to see some of these archers progress to tournaments over the next few years.

At the JAMA AGM archers will need to decide if the age groups will remain as per 2011, or we will change to adopt the Australian new ages.

Archery in Schools

This has been running for the last 2 years, and a few new schools have joined. Some districts have been very quiet, with no entries from their areas.

In 2012 Archery NZ will be working to get Archery recognised as an official College sport. Thank you to those clubs and schools who have taken part.

Youth World Archery Champs – Poland August 2011

Two archers were selected to attend this tournament, Rachel Hughes and Elizabeth Randle. They were accompanied by Team Manager Sandy Hughes.

With a total field of 560 archers from 56 countries around the world, the competition was really tough. Both Archers performed really well in the cadet women's compound division, from 38 archers they ranked 15th and 18th respectively. They each got a bye in round 1, then, faced each other round 2, Rachel advancing. Rachel eliminated 2 other opponents before being eliminated in the quarter finals. Rachel finishing with a 7th ranking and Elizabeth with a 17th ranking.

Trans-Tasman

April 2012 is the date for the next Trans-Tasman, to be hosted by Rotorua. The team will be announced at the Nationals in Masterton.

The archers have had a busy few months getting qualifying scores, especially those who may be moving up a division next year.

A discrepancy was discovered in late November 2011 between New Zealand and Australia in the age groups. NZ has decided to align with Australia in this regard, as it is easier for our archers to shoot with shorter distances than for theirs to shoot longer distances.

The Management Team for this event are: Team Manager – Mike Ashburn, Assistant – Sandy Hughes, Coach – David Croskery.

Judges' Commission

The 2010-2011 year saw a decrease in the number of judges with the resignation of Keith Martin due to work commitments and the retirement of Tony Kemp. It was with regret these were accepted and I wish to extend to them both our thanks for all their efforts on behalf of the archers. Both, in their way, made significant contributions to the Judges' Commission.

However, the resignation of Keith both as a judge and as the Convener of the Judges' Commission meant that the Commission worked in limbo until August. During this time Ann Powley as the Administrator maintained the Commission so that its functions continued with no impact on the archers. In August I took over as the Acting Convener until a new Convener is elected at the AGM in January 2012

The Commission now has no International Judge due to age restrictions imposed by World Archery. It needs to grow its number of Continental Judges and is below its recommended number of National judges. This is not currently detracting from the effectiveness of the Commission. However it is through International Judges that National Judges learn the World Archery standards, thus having at least one International Judge is important to the learning and competency of the Commission.

The Judges' Commission was fortunate to receive funding to run a training seminar this year in Auckland to train judges on the new timing equipment and to upskill judges on teams' events and rule changes. Such training certainly improves the knowledge and skills of the judges. A personal reflection is that New Zealand judges certainly compare very favourably when compared with international standards.

One concern that is raised regularly by judges is the uniforms archers wear at major tournaments. The current rule is whites, club uniform or an international shooting uniform, with restrictions, as appropriate. Yet judges continually see mix and match uniforms, training squad uniforms and sponsors tops on the line. World Archery has taken a strong line on uniforms. Perhaps this issue should be aired by the Athletes Commission? The primary functions of judges at tournaments are to ensure all archers compete on an equal playing field and to educate. Thus policing uniforms does not fit well with these functions. Thus if archers would conform to Archery New Zealand rules it would be much appreciated by the judges.

Coaching Commission

David Croskery was voted onto the Board part way through the year as there were no other coaches wanting to put their hands up and at least this way the coaches in the country had a voice on the Board.

He has been in contact with various coaches and archers around the country over the last few months seeking the general consensus on what to do with coaching.

At present the current structure is incomplete and not working. He has contacted coaches from USA, and Australia and from what he is told their systems are more organised than ours but still not working correctly.

There is a proposed level 3 examination with model answers sent in by Bernie Fraser which looks good but it is no use having a level 3 if we haven't got an adequate level 2.

Carole Hicks sent through a copy of the Oceania coaching system which looks easy to follow and is fairly straight forward, so it may be worth further investigation, or maybe we need to look further at what FITA/World Archery has to offer.

The Coaching Commission over the years has never functioned as it should. There are no easy fixes and really until there is a way to have all the coaches working together in a system that is easy to follow and administer then it never will. David is certainly keen to hear any ideas but at the end of the day it needs to be a joint effort with input from coaches from all around the country.

Archers' attitudes to coaches need to change. Many archers expect coaching with no thanks given to the coach.

High Performance

The number of skilled and available coaches in the country is decreasing. We are now down to one high performance coach when the system was set up for four which in effect means the high performance programme is there on paper but nothing else, so what do we do?

The expectations' of the high performance archer exceeds what the high performance programme can provide.

A new structure needs to be agreed upon by the coaches. This will take a lot of work to set up and implement, the work will have to be divided between the coaches as it will be too much for one person.

Coaching is a vital part of ANZ but unless we can find a way to support our coaches and help them then we will not retain them for long.

Membership

Affiliation has gone very smoothly with 321 fully affiliated members which is well ahead of the situation at this time last year.

Comparative figures for 2011 season and 2012 season are as follows:

Please note that 2011 figures are for a full year and 2012 to 20 December.

Group	Male		Female		Total	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Administrative	5	6	4	6	9	12
Life	3	4	3	3	6	7
Masters 65+	14	10	2	1	16	11
Masters	36	39	5	11	41	50
Senior	117	83	42	40	159	123
Junior	21	14	6	10	27	24
Cadet	32	26	3	7	35	33
Intermediate	54	18	19	11	73	29
Cub	15	20	7	4	22	24
Kiwi	11	5	3	3	14	8
	308	225	94	96	402	321

One problem which is starting to appear, particularly with the newer clubs is members sending in their affiliation directly to the Registrar rather than through their Club Secretary.

Rebranding

In this modern day and age we are continually assaulted with advertising via audio and visual images and logos. In order to be recognised and stand out amongst and alongside our fellow national sporting organisations the Board of Archery New Zealand opted to undertake a rebranding exercise.

The rebranding exercise that Archery NZ undertook has incorporated a new uniform (consisting of a black shirt) for athletes representing NZ internationally; a new logo as chosen by our members; new website (created by Smokey Lemon) and new look for The Archer magazine and stationery incorporating the new font and colours.

This new cohesive image provides Archery NZ with a solid platform / foundation from which we can meet one of our objectives and move forward to raise our profile not only within New Zealand but also internationally.

The new rebranded look for Archery New Zealand was launched with a Rebranding Shoot scheduled to coincide with the release of the new-look website on the first weekend of November. Prizes for the shoot, a St Nicholas round, were generously donated by Jeff Howard from Easton Archery. Thanks to Easton Archery and most of all thanks to everyone who helped us celebrate this launch by taking part in the shoot.

Now that we have a united image to present to the world we need to market archery as an attractive, enjoyable sport at all levels.

International Tournaments

This year the emphasis of SPARC funding was on those likely to win medals at the London Olympic Games in 2012 and unfortunately Archery had no such applicants.

The focal point of the international season was the World Target Championships held in Turin, Italy in July. For the first time for some while a full men's recurve team (Stephen Florence, Robert Peterson and Yiftach Swery) was entered with the objective of earning place(s) for London. The other members of the team were Anne Mitchell, Mandy McGregor and Stephanie Croskery, women's compound and Shaun Teasdale and Steve Clifton, men's compound. Carole Hicks managed the team assisted by Chris Gorman. Unfortunately the tournament will be most remembered for the terrible food and poor transport to and from the grounds.

Initially three recurve archers were placed on the NZOC "long list" for Olympic Games' selection - Stephen Florence, Robert Peterson and Yiftach Swery with Shane Switzer and David Croskery on the support staff "long list". Following the results of the World Championships and Shanghai World Cup, all of these names were withdrawn. It had been made clear by NZOC that none of the archers would be selected even if any place(s) were won for New Zealand as no-one met the over-riding criterion of achieving at least a top 16 place in London, based on the recent results and World ranking.

Other international tournaments at which New Zealand was represented included the World Cup stage 1 in Porec (Shaun Teasdale and Stephen Florence) and stage 3 in Shanghai (Shaun Teasdale, Steve Clifton, Robert Peterson, Stephen Florence, Anne Mitchell and Barbara Scott). Shane Switzer was the coach of the team.

The World Youth Target Championships were held in 2011 in Legnica, Poland. New Zealand was represented by Rachel Hughes and Elizabeth Randle, both cadet women compound archers. The team was managed by Sandy Hughes. It was unfortunate the two Kiwis met in their first round of match play but Rachel Hughes went on to reach the quarter finals and finished a highly credible 7th, one better than the previous Championships.

National Outdoors Championships

The 2011 Championship was again at St Paul's Collegiate in Hamilton. The ground was excellent and the tournament went smoothly. The initial organisation was by Steve Millward who, due to work commitments, departed the country prior to Christmas, leaving Les Jones to continue leading the small group of mostly Auckland-based people with assistance from the Kemps.

A more streamlined approach to the judging of who would be the recipients of the various Maid Marion and Robin Hood trophies enabled fairly efficient identification of which class the arrows belonged.

National Indoor Championships

The Indoor championships were held in the North and South Island venues as agreed by the AGM 2011. Dunedin hosted the South Island and Manawatu the North and Trevor Kennerson kindly co-ordinated the tournament.

Ranking Administrator

For the period from October 2010 to the end of September 2011, the activities of the ranking administrator have been to continue to provide an up-to-date ranking list as close to the start of the following month as possible. This has not always been possible. The data for 2010 and into 2011 is available on the Archery NZ website.

The major change in the ranking has been the plan from the 2011 Archery NZ AGM to incorporate the results from 72 arrow rounds into the ranking. This has taken a large part of 2011 to do, mostly in terms of generating the vast conversion table as a reference for those who interested in seeing how the system works! Of course, the new system only came into effect in October 2011, but the new format was introduced with the April 2011 rankings, paving the way for the conversion of 72 arrow scores to 144 arrow scores with extra required columns.

Finally to the organisers of all major tournament and RMT events, please see the results are sent electronically to the Ranking Administrator after every event, it makes life easier for everyone, as competing archers can see their results immediately, and scores do not get left out. The Ranking Administrator continues to monitor international events though.

Website

As part of our rebranding project, and thanks to the team at Smokey Lemon and with assistance from Tony Walker, Archery New Zealand has a new-look website. Scheduled to be launched on the weekend of the rebranding shoot the Smokey Lemon team and Tony Walker put in some long hours behind the scenes leading up to this date to enable us to achieve this deadline.

Whilst some of the functions of the new website were not activated at the time of launch the feedback and comments on the new modern look to date have been very positive.

There has been an amazing amount of work completed on the website thus far and yes there is still more required and to be achieved. Your patience and constructive feedback during this next phase will be gratefully accepted and much appreciated by those who are involved.

Final Comments

The year has been very busy for the Association with the re-branding of the Association and its resources, the updating of the Constitution and Rules, establishment of criteria for selection, regularly seeking financial support for our international teams, putting together a comprehensive programme when seeking Olympic Solidarity support for the Coaching Commission. Creating the nomination criteria and negotiating the contract with NZOC was a considerable learning curve for the Board and thanks are due to Kereyn Smith, Secretary General of NZOC for all her help.

SPARC is now funded on a different basis and the Minister of Sport requires greater detail from all sports receiving and/or seeking funding. It is important that clubs provide the detail requested. Our manager at SPARC, Jo Cheatley, has been most supportive as we work our way through these changes.

In 2012 there will be a move to resolve the issues surrounding the structure of the Association, to work with other organisations to achieve greater cooperation between all those who shoot bows and arrows,

The Board thanks all the club and district officials who give up their time to support and promote archery as a sport for all and wishes all members of Archery New Zealand a safe and successful 2012.

Carole A Hicks

National Secretary