

11 September 2020

<Club address>



To all FMC member clubs,

Notice of General Meeting

Notice is given that a General Meeting of all Clubs will be called on Saturday 17 October 2020 to:

- elect a new Patron; and
- ratify five rule changes listed in the enclosed document.

The meeting will only proceed if New Zealand is at Covid-19 Alert Level 1 on the above date.

Date: Saturday 17 October 2020

Time: 11.30am

Location: Miramar Links Conference & Function Venue, Stewart Duff Drive, Miramar, Wellington

The General Meeting will be followed by refreshments.

A General Meeting voting and attendance form and a voting guide are included with this letter.

Your club's attendance will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Danilo Hegg

Executive Officer, Federated Mountain Clubs

Nominated to be FMC Patron: Les Molloy

Les Molloy was born in 1943 and grew up in Silverstream in Upper Hutt. His scientific career was in the Soil Bureau of DSIR. From 1985 he was closely involved in the establishment of the Department of Conservation (DOC), where he was subsequently Director of Advocacy and later involved in visitor services (especially visitor centres and park maps) and conservation interpretation. After taking early retirement in 1997, Les worked as a natural heritage consultant to DOC and the World Conservation Union (IUCN).

His early outdoor trips were in the Tararua Ranges before moving on to most backcountry parts of NZ over the following 50 years. The mountains of NW Otago were his foremost interest, especially the exploration of the Olivine Range and the protection of Red Mountain from mining (both eventually incorporated into an enlarged Mt Aspiring NP in 1989). Les was also closely involved in gaining our first Wild and Scenic River protection – for the Motu River in the Raukumara Range. This combination of recreational and scientific activity enabled him to write seven books on New Zealand's natural heritage (including wilderness); these included: *The Ancient Islands* (1982), *Fold of the Land* (1988), *Wild New Zealand* (1994), *Landforms: the Shaping of New Zealand* (2002), *NZ's Wilderness Heritage* (2007, revised and re-published in 2014), and *Nature Heritage Fund: celebrating 25 years* (2016).

FMC involvement

Les is a life member of Massey University Alpine Club and is a past member of the Wellington Catholic TC, Hutt Valley TC, and NZ Alpine Club. He was first elected to the FMC Executive in 1971 and for the next 15 years was an executive member or North Island vice-president. From 1978 to 1983 he was FMC's nominee to the National Parks Authority (the 'NP & Reserves Authority' from 1980); and from 1973 to 1986, FMC's nominee to the NZ Geographic Board. He authored FMC's first regional recreational plan, *Outdoor Recreation on the West Coast* (1979).

Les was convenor and keynote FMC speaker at FMC's 50th anniversary Wilderness Conference (1981) and compiler of the proceedings of the conference (1983). Subsequently he was convenor and FMC nominee to the government's Wilderness Advisory Group (1982-85) which worked to implement the wilderness policy and establish some of the 10 wilderness areas advocated by FMC.

Later FMC involvement included: Editor, *FMC Bulletin* (1984-6); member Tongariro/Taupo Conservation Board (2002-8); keynote address to FMC's 80th Jubilee Conference 'Forever Wild' (2011).

International mountain involvement

Since 1981, Les has been a member of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, specializing in the evaluation of natural World Heritage. This has enabled him to travel to many mountainous regions of East Asia, Central Asia and Siberia. As a consultant, he has advised several Asian governments in their protection of some outstanding mountain regions, including: Japan (Shirakami, Yakushima, Shiretoko); China (Wuyishan, Meili xue shan, Hengduan shan, Tien shan); Pakistan (Karakoram); Tajikistan (Pamir); Russia/Mongolia (Sayan, Altai); South Korea (Mt Hallasan); Taiwan (Chungyang Shanmo); Far Eastern Russia (Sikhote-Alin).

FMC Rule Changes to be presented to Clubs for approval

(See the current rules at www.fmc.org.nz/rules)

1. THAT Rule 4.4.2. be amended by replacing the words “on the Executive” with “any vacancy in the position of President, Vice President or on the Executive”.

This is a machinery amendment to make it explicitly clear that if the position of President or Vice President became vacant then the Executive would have the power to appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

2. THAT Rule 4.4.1 be amended by inserting between the words “Clubs” and “before” the words “the details of which will be advised to Clubs”.

This is a machinery amendment to clarify that Rule 4.4.1 requires that Clubs be told before 30 April how the election of executive members will be conducted but that the closing date of the ballot cannot be earlier than 10 May [Rule 4.4.4(c)] thereby guaranteeing clubs a minimum of 10 days to exercise their ballot.

3. THAT Rule 4.4.3 be amended by replacing the word “Executive” with the words “Management Committee”.

This is a machinery matter. When the rule was written the Executive always met in February. In recent years the Executive might meet in February or March and leaving the appointment of the Returning Officer to March is too late for the other election deadlines.

4. THAT Rule 4.4.4 (c) be amended by deleting the words “in the following year”.

This is a machinery amendment. The words “in the following year” are not required and could suggest the year after the current year in which the elections are being held.

5. THAT Rule 8.2 be amended by replacing the words “1st March in each year to the end of February in the following year” with the words “the 1st of January to 31st December”.

Consequences for FMC to change to a 31 December end of Financial Year:

It aligns the financial year with the general approach that FMC runs. FMC winds down as Xmas approaches and regards February as the start of the new year – January being a holiday month.

It enables FMC to invoice schools at the start of the school year. At present we delay sending invoices to schools until the end of February so that their subs are received in the year the sub applies to.

It has no impact on the due date for Club subs and so has no impact on clubs.

It enables FMC to invoice Clubs and Associates as soon as the year gets underway and assuming the due date is left the same gives clubs a month extra to pay.

It will ease FMC cash flow which is, at the moment, restricted in February as club subs don't start to come in until March. Hopefully some clubs will start and pay in February.

It will enable FMC to pay greater attention to planning. Decisions over subs for the following year would be made at the last meeting in the previous year. It is at the last meeting of the previous year where FMC should be focused on plans for next year. Ideally the budget planning would take place at the last meeting of the year.