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AGM minutes from 2012

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of New Zealand Inc.

Held at the Massey Athletic Club Hall, Massey,
hosted by the Auckland Swiss Club on 3 June 2012

The meeting opens at 2pm.

1 Welcome

Roland Schütz, the Society president, welcomes everyone to the AGM of the Swiss Society of New Zealand and thanks the Auckland Swiss club for hosting the event.

The Cowbell Competition is very important – and he is pleased that the Wellington club has won it, though only just, with Ausjassen.

The president asks all Society members to sign the attendance book. If you take part in the discussion, please tell us your name and the club you belong to and speak loud, so that everybody can hear you.

2 Apologies

From the Auckland club: Sid Melville, Fidel and Berta Good

From the Hamilton club: Beatrice Leuenberger, Anita and Walter Zuber, Richard Wehrli

From the Taranaki club: Irene Biddle, Walter and Myrtha Seifert, Othmar Hebler, Marianne and Adrian Drummond, Zeno von Hospenthal

From the Wellington club: Max and Rosina Fuhrer

Paul Amstalden moves that the apologies be accepted and Herbert Stäheli seconds it.

3 Appointment of Scrutineers

Mark Kiser nominates Herbert Stäheli, and Rinaldo Rust seconds it. Marcel Rüedi nominates Adrian Blaser, and Heidi Wilson seconds it.

4 Minutes

The minutes of the previous AGM, held in Wellington on 5 June 2011, were printed in the May 2012 Helvetia. Copies of the minutes also lie on the tables. The president allows a few minutes to read them, then Peter Canziani moves that these minutes are a true and correct record, and Adrian Blaser seconds it.

5 Obituaries

Sadly, a few Society members have passed away in the past twelve months. They are from the Auckland Swiss Club: Elfie Holzgang, Joan Schwarz. From the Hamilton Swiss Club:

Robert Blättler, Mary Flühler, Leoni Oettli, Ernst Rust, Hans Schurmann. From the Taranaki Swiss Club: Berta Zimmermann, Colin Wilson, Berni Meier, Doreen Schuler.

Would everyone please stand for a moment's silence in remembrance of these past members and friends - thank you.

6 President's Report

Roland Schütz is pleased to pass the Swiss Society on to the Auckland Club, as the Wellington five years' term is coming to an end. It was an honour, but also a big commitment. He also thanks Max Fuhrer, who was vice president, and acknowledges the work of the Helvetia team who had produced the Helvetia always on time. He then points out that the Swiss Society and the Swiss clubs are there to conserve and promote Swiss tradition and culture, and to support each other in an emergency. Marcel Rüedi moves that the report be accepted, and Herbert Stäheli seconds it.

7 Editor's Report

Trudi Brühlmann is relieved that the publication of the Helvetia now goes to Auckland. Publishing a Helvetia every second month would have been much more fun; doing it every month was sometimes a bit of a struggle.

She thanks Heidi Amelung for her great work and her dedication to always produce an attractive, well presented Helvetia, and for all the other work Heidi did behind the scene. She also apologizes for mistakes in the Helvetia and thanks the readers for being so polite about them. A big thank you goes to the advertisers for their support and to the club secretaries, who always send their contributions in on time and forward address changes. It makes life much easier.

She moves that her report be accepted, and Marcel Rüedi seconds it.

8 Treasurer's Report

Heidi Amelung explains the figures on the balance sheet. The financial situation looks positive; we made a donation to the Red Cross Christchurch Earthquake Appeal. The subscriptions don't quite cover the printing and posting of the Helvetia, but there is additional money from interest and from advertising.

The Helvetia was printed for the same price for all five years, and the printing team was always reliable and helpful.

As we are not asking for grants, an auditor is not needed. Heidi Amelung thanks John Alderdice who checked the accounts for us. Heidi moves that the report be accepted, and Rinaldo Rust seconds it.



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AGM minutes from 2012 cont.

9 Delegate of the Swiss Abroad's Report

Othmar Hebler is overseas due to a family emergency. His report will be printed in the July Helvetia. He will represent New Zealand at the 89th Auslandschweizer-Kongress in Lausanne, 17th – 19th August.

10 Rifleman's Report

Mark Kiser reports that the competitions for the medals have gone well. Compiling the results is a major exercise, but the medals should be ready for distribution on 1st August. He thanks Marianne Drummond and Walter Seifert for their help. He moves that his report be accepted. Marcel Rüedi seconds it.

11 Setting of Helvetia Subscriptions 2012/2013

Heidi Amelung suggests that the Helvetia subscriptions should stay the same, i.e. \$25. Marcel Rüedi moves it, and Mark Kiser seconds it.

12 Election of Officers

The Swiss Society needs a new team, a team from Auckland.

President: Tanja Latham-Zurbrügg, moved by Heinz Leuenberger, seconded by Adrian Blaser

Vice President: Marcel Rüedi, moved by Henry Werffeli, seconded by Peter Canziani

Treasurer: Carmen Fitzi Gordon, moved by Marcel Rüedi, seconded by Herbert Stäheli

Secretary: Tanja Latham-Zurbrügg, moved by Mark Kiser, seconded by Edith Hess

Editor: Susie Wood; Susie says she can only accept if the Helvetia will be published every second month instead of the present 10 issues per year; moved by Heidi Wilson and seconded by Renate Meyer

Rifleman: Ernst Lanz, moved by Hans Iten, seconded by Henry Werffeli.

13 General Business

13.1 Rules for Society Competition

Marcel Rüedi has rewritten the rules for Jassen, and the old and the proposed new rules were published in the February Helvetia.

For Jassen, the proposed new rules are accepted. Hans Iten would like to do Schieber in the Medal Competition. The assembly agrees to leave it up to the individual clubs how they want to play. In the Cowbell Competition, Schieber is played.

In the Steinstossen/Kugelstossen discussion, it is argued that the traditional Swiss sport is Steinstossen, not Kugelstossen, but it is agreed that women should have a lighter stone. The proposed new rules are accepted. The Stein/Kugel has to be thrown over the shoulder; that should go without saying, but this will be formulated in the new sports rules, just to make sure. The rule that the marked line must not be overstepped before the stone hits the ground will have to be observed more carefully in the future. Marcel Rüedi will send the new rules to all the clubs.

13.2 Club Reports

Taranaki: The Taranaki president Othmar Hebler is overseas; Leo Zehnder reads Othmar's report. The club has 270 members. Participation in the club's events is strong, especially in shooting, fondue and in the picnic with up to 400 guests! The club has a strong, active committee.

Auckland: The Auckland president Marcel Rüedi reports that the club has about 150 addresses, mostly couples and families. Jass has become popular and attracts all ages. Samichlaus is always very popular and had an audience of over 60 children. Shooting is getting stronger, too. The Market Day was again a highlight in the club year – all possible thanks to a dedicated committee.

Hamilton: The Hamilton president Herbert Stäheli reports on very successful card evenings, with an average of 40 players, and successful events such as the picnic and 1st August at lunch time rather than in the evening. The fondue is another big event. He praises his hard-working committee and the many other helpers.

Wellington: The new Wellington president Murray Simons reports that the Wellington Swiss club is much smaller than the other clubs, with only about 60 addresses; nevertheless, the events are always a great success. He especially mentions the 1st August Fire on the Beach that attracts Swiss who otherwise don't come to functions. The Wellington Club has an informal young mothers' group, and the committee members are mainly people from the next generation. The Fondue Evenings, the National Day Dinner and Christmas are the other main functions.

14 Date and Venue for the Society AGM 2013

The Hamilton president Herbert Stäheli invites everybody to Hamilton for the Swiss Society AGM on Queen's Birthday weekend 2013.

15 Meeting Closure

The meeting closes at 4 pm. The president Roland Schütz wishes everybody a great evening and then a safe trip home.

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