

## Report for AGM on Trans-Tasman 2017 Lake Mulwala Australia.

Pre Departure:

Quite a few learnings from this year to take forward for anyone coming in i.e. I have put together a manual on how, when and where to start!

Fundraising: We ran a raffle over Bridge to Bridge which was good but did drag on a bit. The auction at Nationals was great, huge thanks to Ben Warren for a lot of the auction items and everyone else that contributed. In total we raised \$3946.48 from the raffle, BBQ's and auction. Thanks to Nick and Chrissy De May for putting on the BBQ at Mercer, New World Morrinsville for supplying all the food at Mangakino and Bungle for bringing the BBQ. Also a big thankyou to Terri and Wilson's carpet court for their sponsorship. We were also lucky enough to receive a grant from North & South Trust towards airfares of \$2467.00

Uniforms: Florence organised these this year in Wellington and although a bit late in the planning they came together and looked good. Next time we will be asking for sponsorship from a printing company and also put all logos on front or back instead of on the arms as this will save printing costs.

Accommodation: If you ever go back to Mulwala, the camp ground is the perfect place to stay, it is conveniently located right next to the boat ramp and function centre. Close to a good size town for supplies and coffee!

Airfares: Need to confirm the travelling team as soon as possible and book the airfares when they come up on special. A fair bit of mucking around and late notification of attending and responding made the tickets more expensive than they need to be. In the ideal world the team is chosen in Feb, Grant applied for, airfares and insurance booked by March.

Departure: Good flights for Auckland departures at 8.50am on the Thursday, took a while to get everyone ski's into oversized luggage, breakfast and through customs with a few of us being the last to board the plane! Good time to fly as it gave us time to go to the Victoria Markets before heading to Mulwala, although it did make for a long day.

Vans and Trailer: Although these were booked through Avis they seemed to have a lot of problems locating the vans, trailer etc and then after an hour and a half we finally went to leave but then one of the vans oil light came on so that meant another van change! Was a very long winded process but seemed to be nothing that we could do to speed this up.

Activities: Friday morning started with a run and exercise session and then there was a trip to the supermarket. We then went across the road to the park (opened for us) so we could have a round of mini golf, dodgem cars and round cars which was a lot of fun. The afternoon was spent sorting gear and dinner prep with the boat draw being held next door at the Ski Club.

Skiing: Only a few decided to have a run in the mornings and our team was well organised for the 8.30am start, unfortunately the boats and drivers weren't as organised and didn't get on the water until after 9am with briefing set at 9.30am so was a pretty tight time frame, this happened both mornings.

Once racing was underway the drivers were very good and seemed happy to tow our kids, they were approachable and great to deal with. All the kids skied really well.

Boat Draw, Presentation and Dinner: Boat Draw was a little unorganised and hard to hear. They were about an hour late getting it underway and then made changes to the draw after the presentation, they didn't seem to know which boats were actually going to turn up. Introducing the drivers happened on Saturday morning as not all of them were there on Friday night.

Presentation on Sunday night was also very late getting underway and the dinner was a bit average, we certainly do a better dinner. The lateness had a lot to do with the adding up of points which was a bit of a balls up and huge thanks to Brad for stepping in by phone and email to help them sort it out. They have some big divisions within their organisation and this came to a front over time keeping and points adding up. It was sorted in the end, thanks to Brad but they also wouldn't let us do it our way when we offered on Saturday morning.

Thanks Skip for coaching, Raewyn for helping the Aussies with points, observers for doing a good job and keeping the kids safe.

Overall it was a fantastic experience and all the kids and adults that attended had a great time.