Christiania Ski Club Annual General Meeting 2026

Thursday 19 November at 6:00pm
Venue: McMeekan Centre, Ruakura Research Centre, Hamilton

MINUTES

Attendees: Steve & Rom McLennan, Ross & Jenny Muir, Doug Downs, Bart van der Bijl, Andrew & Charlie Hart, Bryan Clements, Shane Clements, Mark Young, Tony Hancock, Matt Holcroft, Gary Verberne

Welcome

Apologies: David Glenn, Tracey Jones, Sean Young *(proxy to Mark Young)*, Nick Plant, Rebecca Rosie, Anthea Clements *(proxy to Bryan Clements)*

Confirmation of 2025 AGM minutes
Moved: Mark Young **Seconded**: Bryan Clements **CARRIED**

Adoption of President's report
Moved: Shane Clements **Seconded**: Bryan Clements **CARRIED**

Adoption of Treasurer's report and club accounts (Balance Sheet, Cash Summary, P&L) for the year ending 31st October 2026
Moved: Steve McLennan **Seconded**: Gary Verberne **CARRIED**

Subscriptions and fees for 2027 (GST incl.)

- Annual sub for Senior members: $300 (currently $200 plus the $200 work party levy)
- Annual sub for Tertiary members: $150 (currently $0 plus the $200 work party levy)
- Annual sub for Veteran members: $150 (currently $100)
- Annual sub for Junior members: $55 (no change), and nil for children under 10 (no change),
- Annual sub for Associate members: $40 – Senior associates only (no change)
- Life, Life Subscription and Veteran Life Subscription members: nil (no change)
- Work party levy: discontinued (currently $200)
- Committee is given the discretion to:
    - set or waive joining fee.
    - set or waive early payment discount for subs.
    - apply a late payment levy.
    - reduce or waive a sub in cases of hardship.
    - reduce a sub by up to $100 for members in an ongoing volunteer role recognised by the Committee.

(Note: nightly accommodation rates are set by the Committee at the February planning meeting.)

Conflict of interest: Committee members declare an interest in the discretion to reduce subs for members in ongoing volunteer roles, as the Committee decides who qualifies and Committee members are likely to.

Why are we proposing changes to subs?

The club has made a loss for six years in a row, and our funds have fallen from about $119,000 in 2022 to about $79,000. The lodge is busy, with about 680 bed nights in 2026 against 600 in 2025 and 457 in 2024. Our membership is the problem: paying seniors fell from 58 in 2024 to 49 in 2025 and 2026.

With the $200 work party levy, a senior pays $400 a year. That is well above other clubs on the mountain, where about $300 is typical. The Committee proposes a single $300 senior sub and an end to the levy and its refunds, so most seniors will pay $100 less. The Committee may reduce the sub by up to $100 for members in ongoing volunteer roles. Work parties carry on, and new senior members will be expected to do one in their first two years.

The change costs about $3,000 a year on current numbers. The Committee will review nightly rates in February, and every lapsed senior who rejoins adds $300.

Moved: Steve McLennan **Seconded**: Gary Verberne **CARRIED**

Appointment of Financial Reviewer of Club accounts year ending 31 October 2026 – Graham Haines
Moved: Steve McLennan **Seconded**: Shane Clements **CARRIED**

Appointment of Club Solicitor for 2027 – Rodney Lewis
Moved: Steve McLennan **Seconded**: Bryan Clements **CARRIED**

Election of Officers – nominations received to date:

- President: Steve McLennan
- Vice President:
- Secretary: Gary Verberne
- Treasurer: Kerry Jones
- Club Captain: Vivian Oskam
- Deputy Club Captain:
- General Committee: Mark Young, Rik Fisk, Shane Clements, Nick Plant, Tony Hancock, Lynne Keary

Moved: Steve McLennan **Seconded**: Gary Verberne **CARRIED**

General Business:

- **Overview of WHL proposal to use clubs as an accommodation provider** – Gary Verberne - WHL, the operators of Whakapapa, have been working with the Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association to explore ways to attract more visitors to the mountain. One idea being considered is offering club accommodation as part of a ski package, a full mountain experience that would introduce skiers and snowboarders to club life. A working group has been set up to work through this and other initiatives, Vivian Oskam represents Christiania. There's lots of details to be worked through but we see this as great opportunity to reach potential new members, and we welcome this closer working relationship with WHL.

  WHL have also made their very attractive 2027 Super Early Bird Season Pass offer available to new and lapsed club members until 31 January. This is a fantastic incentive for people to join, or return, to Christiania.

- **Derby** – Gary Verberne – The Christiania Derby has been a focal point in the club calendar for many years. This year the decision was made to not run Derby as "over the past few years it has been affected by bad weather, lack of snow, and limited interest in participation." *(Bunkum #3)* Given the club's current membership levels, and lower interest generally in racing, it's highly likely that Derby is put on hold for the forseeable future.
  It was acknowledged that club life has changed over the years with fewer families participating in regular ski programs. We hope efforts to revitalise the membership reverse this trend and we can, at some stage, return to a successful and well attended Derby.

Meeting closed: 7.00