

Annual Conference 2021

The decision has been made by Executive to run conference as an online AGM, with the three constitutional change papers only on the afternoon of Tuesday 5 October.

The proximity of the most recent outbreak to I&O has meant thinking long and hard about both the health and safety implications of running a face to face conference, as well as the 'news headline' implications. In order to plan and run a successful conference we needed a degree of certainty as to how the event will operate. There are challenges that are associated with regions of New Zealand being at different alert levels. Additionally, we have concerns about asking members to travel to regional hubs.

What will it look like?

Rule 56 of the constitution outlines exactly what must be done:

56. (i) The Annual Conference shall be held each year during the September/October vacation; the time, date and place of such meeting to be fixed by the Executive.
- (ii) At this meeting the following substantive business shall be transacted:
- (a) The adoption of the Annual Report of the Executive for the then current Association year.
 - (b) The adoption of the Annual Balance Sheet and Statements of Accounts.
 - (c) The appointment of Auditors for the then current financial year.
 - (d) The determination of the Annual Subscription for full members and other classes of members.
 - (e) A declaration as to the election of the President the Vice-presidents and the members of the Executive.
 - (f) A decision or a recommendation if thought fit as to the date and/or place of the next Annual Conference.
 - (g) The consideration of remits from Regional Organisations for discussion at the Annual Conference.
 - (h) Any business which may be brought forward and for which special notice is not required.

The three constitutional papers have also been included. These papers are:

- A Māori Vice-President

- Proposed Constitutional change
- Proposed Constitutional change II

How to Register

The event will run with a small top table in National Office in Wellington. If the event needs to go fully online (ie Wellington moves to alert Level 3 or 4) then the top table will run from people's homes. There will be multiple tiers of log in.

- Delegates will be able to log in and have voting and speaking rights
- Observers will be able to log in and have speaking rights
- There will be streaming on YouTube as usual, with the stream coming down if we move into committee.

Delegations will be determined the same way they always have by regions. The registration process will be different – we are asking Regional Secretaries to complete a spreadsheet (sent directly to them) with details for those attending.

Issues and Organising Conference 2022

An online forum would not easily allow the type of debate that we are used to at an Annual Conference. Instead, the plan is to include the remaining papers (as appropriate and updated if needed) as white papers at I&O in 2022, at which point vaccination rates will be higher and we are less likely to end up in a lockdown. While I&O isn't a decision-making conference, it would allow the robust debate needed on some of these issues. Further work would need to be done on some of the papers as they will be out of date (for the NCEA paper and the claims development paper the landscape has already shifted significantly due to this lockdown). This would also allow discussion about the papers, to inform decisions about papers going to Annual Conference 2022.

We have also increased the size of the booking for I&O so that more delegates are able to attend. Members of Executive and Te Huarahi will be funded centrally to attend.