

# Volunteer Salmon Hatchery News Letter.

## Edition 44, October 2023.

Welcome to our News Letter. Over the winter we had the busiest time for our Hatchery operations. We thank the few who volunteered their time and labour in looking after our fish at Bells Pond, this involved checking the feeders, refilling the feeders, recording hatchery data on each visit, doing ground maintenance inside and outside the compound, vacuuming the raceway , to those that gave their time thank you. **It would be appreciated if more could actually help out.**

We also thank the team of volunteers that looked after the incubation side of the operation at Welcome Stream. The winter is the very busiest time. This involves the hands on work , Harvesting of eggs and Milt as well as the fish husbandry and placing the fertilised eggs into the incubators, changing filters, administering Hydrogen peroxide (to eliminate fungal and bacterial infections) checking water flows and sorting the dead eggs from the live eggs with the aid of a submersion bath to eliminate hours of tedious work individually removing the dead eggs. Once the fish have hatched -placing them into troughs for rearing and feeding. To those volunteers involved in this tasking you ensure our operation continues from one season to the next, Thank you all. **To those that wish to help out at the incubation shed please contact Mike Hutchinson Ph 03 4313934 or Peter Anderson 03 4260423, this is an inside operation and any assistance is appreciated.**

Also thanks to the 24 volunteers who helped in the fin clipping of 5600 smolt at Welcome Stream. Your assistance was appreciated. But it has to be said, that without the 12 volunteers who turned out from the Glenavy North Mouth Fishing camp to assist, whom all were residents from other areas , the turn out of the local fishermen was very dissappointing. Over 120 email requests, to the local fishermen were sent out. The job was done. Thanks to those that assisted and thanks to the children who also assisted.

Thanks to the 10 volunteers who joined the “ Polar Bear lub”, and helped in fin clipping 1300 fish at Bells Pond. It was a truly bitter day, the temperature was only 5 degrees and there was a frigid southerly blowing. The wind chill would have broght the temperature down to 2 to 3 degrees. Fingers and hands got very cold , immersed in water. Our sincere thanks to those that volunteered and in particular to the 4 female volunteers who braved the elements. A very big thank you.

To the team of volunteers ,who numbered between 8 and a dozen ,who helped on the five occasions that our brood stock was harvested for eggs and milt . The assistance given in netting and testing the brood stock for ripeness , and dispatching and making ready the fish for transport to the incubation facility was appreciated. Seeing some of the volunteers handling large Salmon and the joy and smiles associated with this was amaizing. Thank you to the team that made themselves available on each occasion.

To the five or six volunteers who assisted in trimming -cutting -splitting and delivering firewood for sale you are the **unsung heros of our organisation.** Between you, over \$14,065 has been raised so far this year. All our members are indepted for your efforts. With that being said it is very dissappointing that not more members actually bother to assist in our fundraising.

As can be seen , there is a lot of work and labour required for our organisation. It is a **volunteer organisation** and without volunteers it will not work. Please help out and put in a small amount of your very valuable time, for the express purpose of promoting our organisation. We are always looking for people to offer to assist. If the offer is made it is easy for us to make contact and ask if you are available.

We must acknowledge our major sponsors, Meridian Community trust fund contributed \$5,000 towards the costs of a surveyor and the engagement of a solicitor for the obtaining of an easement on our Bells Pond site. Waitaki Irrigators collective sponsored \$2,500 towards the cost of fish food, as did the Morven Glenavy Irrigation company. Oceania/Yilli Dairy Ltd sponsored \$1,500 towards our fish food costs. The assistance given to us by these organisations is acknowledge and appreciated. We must also acknowledge the assistance and support given to us by Mt Cook Alpine Salmon Ltd, from whom we are continually asking for advice and assistance.

To the following members who made donations to our organisation since the last News letter, Glenavy Fishing Camp- north mouth ( Logs), Chris Main ( Several) , John Reid , J.M & M Chatwin, D Mckenzie, N & L Dovey, Geof Korver, The Wednesday Wanderers (Oamaru) , Ken Laraman (Trees), Barbara Badcock and Steve Brand ( Substantial), our organisation acknowledges the donations and offers our sincere thanks as these contributions greatly assists us in running a sucessful Salmon Hatchery.

As a result of raising our own brood stock we have somewhere between 30,000 and 35,000 smolt in the Welcome Stream Facility this season. Hopefully the bulk of these will be released into the Waitaki River after fin clipping in May next year.

This year we released 6,900 fish into the Waitaki and hopefully a good percentage will return . 5600 where released into Welcome stream and 1300 where released from Bells Pond.

The fin clip fish that returned to the Waitaki last season was an all time high. 14 fin clipped fish where reported to our organisation. 9 where included in the draw for five by \$100 sports vouchers and the sucessful anglers where **Bayden King, Bryan Minty, Eric Parker, Brett Duffy, and Norm Bennett**. Congratulation to the winners and to those that missed out, thank you for reporting the fish caught as this gives us an indication of our success. Using a "Fish and Game" formula , we had a return of approximately 42 fish to the Waitaki. Our hatchery provided approximately 9% of all the salmon caught by anglers in the Waitaki. This is reflected in three of our 13 sucessful anglers , if it was not for our fish , they would not have caught a salmon.

Along with everything else the price of fish food has gone up. This year it has cost our organisation \$17,300 for our fish food which will last to approximately February 2024 before a new allocation is delivered.

A reminder to all our members , we are still collecting used vehicle battreys as a fund raiser. It is a very easy way in which members can contribute to our project. Just ask around amongst your friends and associates. Any batteries donated can be left at our collection point in Glenavy or else please contact a committee member or the Secretary who will arrange a pick up if required. To those that have dropped of batteries, anonymously, at the pick up point thank you.

Our main fundraiser is firewood. We have been lucky enough to have been donated a large number of blue gums. ( Ken Laraman) These are still standing. On occasions, help is required to remove the slash, ring the trees, split the rings using a log splitter and to arrange the sale of the firewood, which is available at \$80 per meter. It has to be remembered that this is green but if correctly stored when split will dry relatively quickly. Please place an order for delivery. 03 689 3883. We must acknowledge the assistance of Michael Purdon in felling a number of these gums when required.

Recent changes is legislation will affect our society. The Incorporated Societies Act 1908 has been replaced by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and comes into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Incorporated Societies have until October 2026 to re -register line with the change in legislation.

Incorporated societies have been sorted into three categories.(a) Small societies that is having an income of less than \$50,000 per year on average,(b) Medium societies – having an income of \$50,000 to 2,500,000; and (c) large societies over \$2,500,000 income per year.

We fall into the “Small Society” bracket. As we have a relatively modern constitution, we have not too much to do to comply, but we will have to add a section to our constitution along with every other incorporated society. This will have to be completed at our next AGM in March 2024.

This section relates to **Dispute Resolution Procedures**. And this section is **mandatory in a constitution**.

**I am hereby advising members of the proposed change in our constitution .**

### **Dispute Resolution Procedure**

#### **(1) How a complaint is made.**

1. A member or an officer may make a complaint by giving to the committee (or a complaints sub committee) a notice in writing that -(a) states that the member or the officer is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the societies constitution ; and (b) sets out the allegations to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation is against; and (c) sets out any other information reasonably required by the society.

2. the society may make a complaint involving allegations against a member or an officer by giving to the member or officer a notice in writing that - (a) states that the society is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the societies constitution ; and (b) set out the allegation to which the dispute relates.

3. The information given under sub clause 1 (b) or 2(b) must be enough to ensure that a person against whom an allegation is made is fairly advised of the allegation concerning them, with significant details given to enable them to prepare a response.

4. A complaint may be made in any other reasonable manner permitted by the societies constitution.

#### **(2) Person who makes a complaint has a right to be heard.**

1. A member or an officer who makes a complaint has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined.

2. If the society makes a complaint - (a) the society has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined ; and (b) an officer may excuse that right on behalf of the society.

3. Without limiting the manner in which the member, officer, or society may be given the right to be heard , they must be taken to have been given the right if- (a) they have a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing ( If one is held) ; and (b) an oral hearing is held it the decision maker considers that the oral hearing is needed to ensure a adequate hearing ; and (c) an oral hearing ( if any) is held before a decision maker; and (d) the member's, officer's, or society's written statement or submission (If any) are considered by the decision maker.

#### **(3) Person who is subject of a complaint has a right to be heard.**

1. This clause applies if a complainant involves an allegation that a member, an officer, or the Society ( the Respondant) - (a) has engaged in miss conduct ; or (b) has breeched or is likely to breech, a duty under the societies constitution or by laws or the incorporated Societies Act 2022 ; or (c) has damaged the rights or interests of a member or the right or the interests of members generally.

2. The respondant has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is

determined.

3. If the respondent is the society, an officer may excuse the right on behalf of the society.
4. Without limiting the manner in which a respondent may be given a right to be heard, a respondent must be taken to have been given the right if -(a) the respondent is fairly advised of all the allegations concerning the respondent, with significant details and time given to enable the respondent to prepare a response; and (b) the respondent has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held) ; and (c) an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that the oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; (d) and oral hearing ( If any) is heard before the decision maker; and (e) the respondents written statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

**(4) Investigating and determining dispute.**

1. The society must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving or becoming aware of a complaint made in accordance with its constitution, ensure that the dispute is investigated and determined.
2. Disputes must be dealt with under the constitution in a fair, efficient , and effective manner.

**(5) Society may decide not to proceed further with complaint.**

1. Despite the clause “ Investigating and Determining dispute” above, the society may decide not to proceed further with the complaint if – (a)the complaint is trivial ; or (b) **the complaint does not appear to disclose or to involve any allegation of the following kind-**
  - (i) that the member or officer has engaged in material misconduct ;(ii) That the member , an officer, or the society has materially breached , or is likely to materially breach, a duty under the societies constitution or by law or the incorporated Societies Act 2022. (iii) that a members rights or and interests or members rights or interests generally have been materially damaged; (c) The complaint appears to be without foundation or there is no apparent evidence to support it; or (d) the person who makes the complaint has a insignificant interest in the matter; or (e) the conduct , incident, event, or issue giving rise to the complaint has already been investigated and dealt with under the constitution; or (f) there has been an undue delay in making the complaint.

**(6) Society may refer complaint.**

1. the society may refer a complaint to - (a) a sub committee or an external person to investigate and report ; or (bi) a sub committee, or a arbitral tribunal, or an external person to investigate and make a decision.
2. the society may, with the consent of all parties to a complaint, refer the complaint to any type of consensual dispute resolution (for example, mediation, facilitation, or a Tikanga-based practice).

**(7) Decision makers.**

A person may not act as a “Decision Maker” in relation to a complaint if two or more members of the committee or a complaints subcommittee considers there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person may not be - (a) Impartial ; or (b) able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.

With the above included in our constitution we will be fully compliant. This proposed ammendment to our constitution will be moved at our next AGM, and voted on.

**Recommendation is that it is adopted.**

This news letter is sponsored by **Oamaru Sports and Outdoors**, please if you can , obtain your sporting goods from Richard and his team.

