

## Board Communiqué – November 2009.

ITFNZ Instructors and Members

November marks the rolling of two new initiatives, we have completed the “branding” discussion process and attached is the Boards decision paper, there is still much to do in rolling the brand out into the marketplace, and this will be forthcoming in the next few months

The second is, with thanks to SPARC & NZ Community Trust, our ability to appoint a paid part time executive officer. Interested then please go to the ITFNZ web site or email me at [boardchairman@itfnz.org.nz](mailto:boardchairman@itfnz.org.nz)

We have also been continuing work on the development of a new structure, first raised during the regional seminars we have taken the feedback received so far and produced papers at board level for discussion, we have also been in direct contact with our masters to gain an insight into how an advisory panel might ‘look after’ our art

Going back to October, I had a really enjoyable time meeting many members at the recent, well run National Tournament in Christchurch. My thanks to the team for all their efforts, especially for making, not only myself and fellow Board members, but the rest of our ITFNZ community, so welcome.

The only negative aspects of our discussions at Board level over the last few months have been in regards to our current financial situation, caused by reduced external funding, loss of sponsors and continual increases in operating costs.

To try and redress this imbalance, whilst also keeping apace with the Boards desire to introduce new initiatives, An example of which is the new and excellent Mini kids Program. The hard decision has been made to increase both our annual registration fees and gup grading fees, the actual increases will be conveyed to instructors over the next few weeks, in time for implementation in 2010

Also over the next few weeks the Board will be issuing a discussion document calling for submissions on the proposed Strategic Plan, this will be followed in the New Year with one on the proposed structure.

The AGM date has been set for Sunday 18 April 2010

Our national Team is about to wing their way to Argentina, remember to bookmark our web site and keep apace of their progress, and show your support by either emailing them or posting messages on <http://itfnz.org.nz/events/tournaments/worlds2009>

In addition to the team; competitors, management, coaches, officials, supporters and Master Davidson, Mr Lourantos is leading a delegation representing WC2011, he is being supported not only by members of ITFNZ, but also representatives from the Wellington City Council and Tourism New Zealand.

To finish I would like to extend a vote of thanks to Master McPhail who invited me to be the guest of our 4<sup>th</sup> dans and above, at recent 2009 Stripes 1 to 1. I was made very welcome and relished the opportunity not only to share some of my own thoughts on our organisation, but to also sit back and absorb some direct feedback from our seniors who have invested so much time and effort to date.

Regards

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