

RMCA Newsletter March 2024

RMCA council election

We are pleased to welcome Phill Thomass (RSC) and Debbie Evans (Ngauruhoe Ski Club) onboard as RMCA councillors following the RMCA election late last year.

RAL receivership and liquidation

RMCA is very concerned that clubs are facing a second winter season with a high level of uncertainty about the operations of the RAL ski fields. After the Covid disruption and the poor season of 2022, clubs are looking for assurance that the ski fields will be operating this season and that season passes will go on sale well before the season starts.

To date we have not received any official updates on the state of RAL's liquidation. Nor did we receive a response from MBIE to our request for an update in September 2023 and have written to the Minister for Economic Development, Shane Jones, asking for an update. That letter is attached.

Late last year DoC called for submissions on an application by Pure Tūroa Limited to maintain and operate Tūroa ski. Submissions closed in early February and hearings took place at the end of February.

We have had informal discussions with RAL management and are heartened to hear that work is underway to prepare for the winter season ahead including summer maintenance, planning for school groups and events, and staff recruitment. This is positive news, and we are optimistic that ski field operations will continue at Whakapapa and Tūroa.

Club maintenance

We received a query concerning grease traps and have followed this up with DOC. They advise that grease traps were cleaned in January. If you have any queries about this, you can email DOC on tongariroskiclubs@doc.govt.nz

Many clubs will soon be undertaking their annual summer work parties. DOC has procedural guidance that must be followed in Tongariro National Park. This includes current forms for permits for lodge maintenance, vehicle and helicopter use etc.

Current procedures and documentation are available on the Department's Community Services [web page](#)

If you would like to share resources, such as a helicopter, with another club you can contact each other via the [RMCA Whakapapa Clubs Community Noticeboard](#)

Incorporated Societies

Most clubs are incorporated societies. On 5 October 2023, a new incorporated societies Act came into force. The 2022 Act modernises the laws and the way societies need to operate. This means existing societies will need to reregister under the 2022 Act if they want to remain as an incorporated society.

Existing incorporated societies can apply to reregister under the 2022 Act any time from 5 October 2023 to 5 April 2026.

For more information see the [Incorporated Societies page on the New Zealand Companies Office](#) website.

Club contact details

We've had a poor response to our request for club emergency contact details. Having up-to-date contact information is crucial if there is an emergency on the maunga.

For those who haven't already done so, please email Sheryl secretary@rmca.org.nz your club's president and secretary names, email, and phone numbers and who to contact should there be an emergency on the mountain. Please also let us know if your club lodge no longer has a landline.