



National Amateur Body Builders' Association. Inc

NABBA® New Zealand

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2013 Presidents Report

What an amazing year, with a lot of hard work and dedication from the NABBA Executive, the Judges, the athletes and all the volunteers and supporters, that were a part of 2013.

We have had many great athletes on our stages throughout the year. Across all classes and levels, we have seen exceptional talent and presentation. We can also reflect a definite increase in competitors over the past year. This can be attributed to a number of factors, however there are definitely notable changes, and increasing 'trends' in the health and fitness industry worldwide, and as an extension of that there is growth in interest and participation in our sport of bodybuilding worldwide, and for us in New Zealand.

I say this every year to our NABBA Executive/Area Reps, but it is always relevant to express my appreciation. You are all great ambassadors for our sport of bodybuilding, and a true asset to NABBA NZ. I feel that, all our Area Reps stepped up another level with their shows in 2013. You all run your shows with different elements that make your shows unique. We receive a lot of positive feedback from competitors, and that is a reflection of how you run your shows. And this is also seen in the increasing numbers we see from year to year at your event. You continue to deliver professionalism and integrity as representatives of NABBA New Zealand. So thank you to the Area Representatives, your role is a crucial one and we do appreciate all you do throughout the year.

It was a full 2013 Competition Calendar with twelve events through the year in New Zealand, plus four International events. We had twenty-one NZ Representative Athletes in 2013 competing at International events. NABBA New Zealand presented strong teams in the Philippines, Cyprus, Turkey and Germany. It is an honor for athletes to represent NZ, and we are always proud of the quality and integrity of our athletes. The International scene is competitive, however our small country 'holds its own'. At the Asia Pacific Championships the NZ Team attained; two 1st placings, two 2nd placings, two 3rd placings and one 4th place. At the World Championships; one 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and a 7th placing. And at the Universe Championships a highly commendable 3rd and 6th placing, also two 7th placings, an 8th, 9th and four other representatives unplaced. Congratulations to all those athletes that competed internationally representing NZ.

The 2013 New Zealand National Championships was a huge event. It was the largest bodybuilding event to ever be staged in New Zealand. It was a magnificent showcase of our sport of bodybuilding, and a reflection of the growth of the sport in New Zealand. Needless to say with that many athletes, our time was tested. It was a very long day for many athletes, and also the Judges, volunteers and supporters. A great team effort carried through what was a very long, but successful day of bodybuilding, from all involved. Congratulations to all those that competed. It should be recognised as a great achievement in your competition year to compete at the National Championships. And I extend further congratulations to all those athletes that attained National titles in 2013, and our 2013 National Champions, whose names go on record as the best of the best in 2013.

Our NABBA New Zealand Judges performed well throughout the year. The number of athletes competing at Regional events saw a steady increase in 2013, thus the Judges have a longer day and bigger classes to work through. As much as this is a challenge at times, I am happy with the accuracy our Judges have consistently attained. There was also an increase in Judges, Judging at more shows; this is ideal, as it does improve a Judge's experience and ability. We had four successful Judges Courses in 2013, and it is a positive outcome to have fourteen new Judges. The Personal Trainers Course that runs alongside the Judges Course, has not been utilized as I would like to have seen. We may need to come up with a more direct approach to get more Personal Trainers taking the course as an opportunity to be better educated to direct their clients accordingly.

I extend my gratitude on behalf of NABBA NZ and our Area Representatives, to all the sponsors that have supported us in 2013. We appreciate your support, and we could not run these events without your assistance. We are looking forward to another great year ahead, and look forward to working with you in 2014.

A big thank you also goes to Keith Jolly at Muscle Imaging, who has a busy year covering our many events around the country, and producing quality photos and DVD's.

This year we carried out a NABBA NZ Survey, to gather a wider range of feedback from athletes, volunteers and supporters of NABBA NZ. We have received a lot of positive feedback, as well as some constructive feedback – all very valuable information that will be reviewed at the NZ Congress, to help us improve our performance in 2014. Thank you to all those that took the time to give us their feedback and thoughts. And thank you also to Suzie for administrating the survey.

The NABBA website was upgraded at the beginning of 2013. We are happy with the development, it is more user friendly, and still a first point for all official NABBA Information. The upgrade has also made the site more flexible for our web-tech to work with. The Regional Pages are still a good way to promote Regional Sponsors, and to make people aware of Official Info.

We have also set-up a NABBA Facebook Page, thank you to Jason and Vanessa who pushed for this initiative and got it going. It has been very successful. It is an immediate and efficient marketing tool. We had 5,000 hits on the publication of the 2014 Calendar on Facebook, so it is clearly a very powerful marketing and publicity tool. We do have to remind people that all questions etc. should be directed to their Area Reps, or NABBA HQ, as we don't want to encourage Facebook as a 'chat' point – but this can be controlled.

We bring together the NABBA Executive every year for the Annual Congress. This is a time to reflect back on the challenges and successes of the year gone by. It is also a chance for us to discuss, plan and prepare for our direction and focus in 2014.

“Where do we want to be?”

- A unified organization
- A National Association listening to what athletes want
- A NZ Executive working at a strategic level
- A bodybuilding Association with strong membership and participation

This year marks our 25th NABBA New Zealand National Championships, so we are excited to celebrate this milestone at the 2014 National Championships. We are hosting the event back in Palmerston North, where the first ever NZ Nationals were held. I am looking forward to another busy and exciting year ahead.

To all those involved in NABBA New Zealand, thank you for your support and involvement, I wish you all a great year in 2014.

Yours in Sport

Jim Pitt

NABBA NZ President