

## 2021 CL SIG AGM, Chairman's Report for 2020

In common with everything else, CL flying in New Zealand was impacted by Coronavirus this year. We lost the Taranaki and Rotorua rounds of the NI stunt series and of course the world Championships scheduled for Poland in August were rescheduled to August 2021. As I write this in mid-December 2020, they still seem to be on track to be held, but who knows?

2022 is *also* scheduled to be a WC year and Kevin has already been contemplating about the necessary trial programme and calling for ideas on how they could be run.

We must also thank Kevin for his persistence in ensuring that previous world champion contestants receive their appropriate MFNZ awards for representing NZ overseas. From my perspective MFNZ seems to have been very tardy in not giving CL fliers their due awards for a number of years. Kevin has made considerable efforts to document the outstanding awards and prod MFNZ into action. They *were* meant to be awarded at the 2020 Nats but that did not happen. Hopefully they will be presented at this year's Nationals.

During this year there was email discussions about a possible CL trans-Tasman event with Australia. At one stage it looked like it was going to be linked to the Nationals here. Then, of course, CV got in the way and the idea has been shelved until stable international travel becomes a reliable reality. The stunt series calendar does show alternative dates for the Taranaki Championships in case the TT happens so we need to decide on this soon.

This seasons stunt series has got off to a good start with two meetings in the bag. The Auckland meeting held at the NSMAC had excellent weather and by all accounts was a great day. This year there is also a round in Gore for those who are keen to travel.

The 21<sup>st</sup> midwinter combat meeting was rescheduled to USA Independence Day (July 4) to beat the end of the Auckland CV lockdown. As a tweak to the rules this year the use of electric starters was allowed once the match was underway. This innovation was introduced on the premise that Combat should be about Combat, not pitting, and it had good support.

The TMAC combat meeting held in November were also successful. Grass team racing at Mercer has also been impacted by CV and also poor weather, which makes a change!

During the year on behalf of the SIG, Bryce Gibson, and myself nominated Andrew Robinson initially for The Macdonald Memorial award, and when that was unsuccessful, for a Hall of Fame Award which was also unsuccessful. It was disappointing to have the adjudicators decline both nominations, when in our view, Andrew would be a truly worthy recipient of each of them.

Your committee are prepared to stand again for the same positions in 2020, however if any member wishes to become involved please speak up at the appropriate time.

I myself have decided to step down to make room for some fresh blood who is more active in flying, so we need to select a new chairperson.

Thank you for your support during my tenure.

David Thornley