Minutes of the Thirty-Second Annual General Meeting of
Summerfruit New Zealand Incorporated, held via Teams on 7 November 2025

The AGM was called to order at 12pm.

Attendees
14 members joined by Teams from across the country.

The Chair, Trudi Webb, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending so they can have a say on industry matters and on the administration of their organisation.

Apologies:

- Craig Hall - SNZ Board
- Russell Faulkner - SNZ Board
- Jerf Van Beek – SNZ Board
- Blair McLean – SNZ Board
- Roger Brownlie – The Orchard HB Ltd

Proxies received:
The following 42 proxies were received by Summerfruit NZ within the time period specified in the constitution and provided to their holders in attendance today:

- Caythorpe Farm Ltd
- A B McKay Family Trust
- Wainui Cherry Orchard
- VA & AJW Barber LTD
- Hillman Orchard
- Cherry Pies Ltd
- Cherrybank Orchard
- Sunhaven Cherries
- Lake Terrace Cherries
- Sugarloaf Cherries
- Strode Road Orchard Ltd
- Felton Road Pond
- Rebekah Grey-Bird Family Trust
- H&T Partnership
- Paddon Properties Ltd
- L & B Brinsdon
- Amisfield Orchard Ltd
- Andy Little Family Trust
- Molyneux Orchard
- Strathaven Farm
- Little Orchard Trust
- Lake Dunstan Cherries

- Cherry O
- Rosies Orchard
- The Little Lamb Ltd
- Pisa Holdings
- Amisfield Farm Partnership
- Moore Contracting & Horticulture Ltd
- Sarita Orchard Ltd
- Rippon Cherries Ltd
- The Orchard HB Ltd
- SJ Allen Properties Ltd
- Camelot Fresh Fruit Company Ltd
- Kawarau Orchard
- Rippongood Cherries Ltd
- Weaver Horticulture
- Westham Cherries Ltd
- 45 South
- JP Exports
- Advanced Horticulture
- Malmuzza Holdings Ltd (Parkburn Management Ltd)
- Quantum Orchard Ltd
- Locharburn Cherries
- Altitude Cherries Ltd
- Rivercrest Farm Trust
- J&P Cherries Ltd
- Skeggs Group Treasury Limited
- El Pedregal
- Pisa View Cherries
- Smiths Way Cherries
- MP3 Ltd
- Panmure Orchards Ltd
- The Big Cherry Co Ltd
- JR Webb & Sons Ltd

Obituaries:

- Roger Georgieoff (life member)
- Keith Bennetts
- Bill Pattrick
- Ken Graham (life member)
- Peter Fogarty
- And acknowledging any obituaries we were not aware of

The Chief Executive, Dean Smith, outlined the agenda of the meeting and reminded attendees of Teams and online voting procedures using the Vevox app. He noted that provisional results would be announced during the meeting. Full final results would be published on the Summerfruit NZ website and referred to in Prunings.

The Chair explained that Resolutions 1 to 6 are Producer Member only votes. Votes are allocated using the planted hectare vote allocations recorded by Summerfruit NZ.

Resolution 1 - Confirmation of the previous minutes

It was moved that the minutes of the AGM of Summerfruit New Zealand held on 1 November 2024 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.
Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 1 - Minutes	55	0	4	405	0	4	**Carried**

Chair's report

The Chair reflected on the year growers have had and that Summerfruit NZ is well-positioned for the future due to a clear strategic framework, stronger member engagement, and improved Board and management capability.

- A 2023 governance review highlighted the need to shift focus from day-to-day operations to long-term strategic planning for growers.
- Over the past year, the Board and management refined the strategic framework, reaffirmed big-picture goals, and set core operational pillars to guide priorities and actions.
- A Board Capability Framework was introduced, followed by self-assessments to identify strengths and training needs; discussions began on future Board composition and reintroducing the Board Observer role.
- Six operational pillars were established: Biosecurity & Right to Farm, Innovation/Research/Technology, Market Development, People, and Finance & Administration, each supported by strategic imperatives for clear focus.
- The August 2025 commodity levy referendum achieved 96.31% grower support, following extensive consultation; management is preparing the renewal application ahead of the current order's expiry.
- Summerfruit NZ remains committed to delivering day-to-day essentials and long-term projects, acknowledging growers' passion and staff dedication, and striving to be a high-performing organisation that adds value to the industry.

CEO's report

- The first year under new leadership has seen strong engagement with growers and stakeholders, reinforcing the organisation's commitment to supporting the industry.
- The season presented mixed challenges:
    - Hawke's Bay experienced an early start with excellent pre-Christmas quality but later faced supply imbalances;
    - Blenheim had its best season in years despite early rain;
    - Central Otago encountered frosts, wet and windy conditions, and some wind damage, though overall growing conditions were favourable.
- Cherry exports surpassed 5,000 tonnes for the first time, a significant milestone for the industry.
    - Export markets remain highly competitive, particularly in China, where increased Chilean supply highlighted the importance of quality and market diversification. Collaboration with Government to maintain and enhance market access remains a priority.
- A targeted domestic campaign, "Summer for Everyone, Everyday," ran across YouTube, Meta, and TVNZ On Demand, achieving over one million views and supporting the ongoing partnership with the 5+ A Day Charitable Trust.

- Workstreams were delivered within the six operational pillars of the refreshed strategic framework, ensuring alignment with strategy and clear annual planning.
- Seasonal labour availability improved, but growers continued to face margin pressure due to rising input costs and stagnant pricing.
    - The organisation will focus on accelerating tools and initiatives to improve efficiency and quality, applying a strong commercial lens to all workstreams, and advocating for government settings that support productivity.
- Acknowledgement was given to the Board, growers, and the Summerfruit NZ team for their guidance, insights, and commitment throughout the year.

2024-25 Financial Report

- The organisation strengthened its financial position in 2024/25. Levy revenue exceeded forecasts due to strong sales volumes, while expenditure remained within budget, adding $354,000 to reserves and lifting total equity above $3 million.
- Operating costs rose 9.5% from planned investments in R&D, oriental fruit fly response, and an additional staff role, bringing headcount to four.
- Reserves provide a buffer against revenue volatility and biosecurity risks. With this strong position, the organisation will accelerate R&D investment and pursue longer-term innovation projects, focusing initially on rootstocks and pest and disease management. These initiatives will be developed with member consultation and funded through reserves to ensure transparency and alignment.

Resolution 2 – confirmation of Summerfruit NZ Annual Accounts

It was moved that the Annual Report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2025 be accepted.

Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 2 - Accounts	57	0	2	405	0	2	**Carried**

Resolution 3 - Appointment of auditors for 2025-26

It was moved that the Board appoint BDO as financial auditors for the 2025-26 year.
Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 3 - Auditor	58	0	1	408	0	1	**Carried**

2025-26 Forecast Income and Expenditure

The CEO reported that the projected revenue for the year is $2,210,000, including levy income of $1,770,000 and additional income from cost recovery fees and over $200,000 from conference revenue.

Total budgeted income of $2,210,000
Total budgeted expenditure of $2,430,000

This forecast expenditure would give a overspend/deficit of $214,000.

Resolution 4 - Levy Order 2026-27
It was moved that the levy rate for the Commodity Levies (Summerfruit) Order 2020 for the 2026-27 year shall remain:

- 1.5% (plus GST) for peaches, nectarines, plums, apricots and the hybrids thereof;
- 0.75% (plus GST) for cherries; and
- 0.5% (plus GST) for processed fruit excluding fruit sold to Heinz Wattie's Ltd for processing.

Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 4 - Levy rate	58	1	1	447	1	1	**Carried**

Biosecurity Report

The CEO noted that biosecurity remained a major focus during 2024–25:

- Represented the industry on the governance group overseeing eradication of two Oriental Fruit Fly incursions in Auckland.
    - Total response cost was $3.8 million; $1.2 million invoiced to industry; Summerfruit NZ share was just over $42,000.
- Signed a sector-specific operational agreement with Biosecurity New Zealand to formalise readiness and response investment.
- Implemented a Biosecurity Reserves Policy; $402,000 ringfenced for biosecurity reserves (50% of GIA fiscal cap liability).
- Continued participation in GIA governance and council meetings to represent industry interests.

Resolution 5 - Reconfirming the Biosecurity Levy rate for the 2026-27 year.

It was moved that the Biosecurity (Readiness and Response—Summerfruit Levy) Order 2019 rate shall remain at 0.05% for summerfruit for both the 2026-27 levy years. *Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board*

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried / Not carried**
Resolution 5 - Biosecurity rate	60	0	0	449	0	0	**Carried**

Resolution 6 – Authorising the Board to adopt a director remuneration structure based on an independent review

It was moved that: The Members of Summerfruit New Zealand Incorporated approve and authorise the Board of Directors to adopt and implement the mid-range of the Director remuneration structure (including honoraria and meeting fees) as recommended by the independent review conducted by the Institute of Directors. *Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board*

- SNZ's director compensation had been below industry and market benchmarks.
- IoD conducted a review and recommended aligning fees due to growing complexity, regulatory demands, and personal risks for directors.
- Society Rules permitted honorarium and meeting fees without requiring member resolution, provided payments were reasonable.
- The Board voluntarily sought member support for transparency, despite not being required.
- The proposed hybrid model included a base fee for all directors and meeting fees for attendance; the Chair would receive a higher base fee but no meeting fees.

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 6 - Director renumeration	57	2	2	399	2	49	**Carried**

Resolution 7 – Changes to the Summerfruit NZ Constitution

It was moved the Summerfruit New Zealand Incorporated rules be amended to adopt the changes proposed in the notice of Annual General Meeting that was emailed to members on 22 October. The proposed changes included the following:

- Changes to enable the dissolution of the Summerfruit Exporter's Committee
    - recognition of SEC objectives, annual market monitoring, HEA exporter interests, new export membership fee, use of reserves, and at least two exporter board positions.
- Additional amendments proposed: removal of associate member voting rights and unused group associate membership category.
- A new clause allowing written resolutions in lieu of AGM or SGM.

Moved by the Summerfruit NZ Board

Results

	Number of voters FOR	Number of voters AGAINST	Number of voters ABSTAIN	**Votes FOR**	**Votes AGAINST**	**Votes ABSTAIN**	**Carried/ Not carried**
Resolution 7 – Constitution changes	64	0	0	64	0	0	**Carried**

General Business

It was raised by a member that an in-person AGM would be preferable.

The meeting closed at 1:20pm

ENDS