



**National Amateur Body Builders' Association Inc.**

**NABBA**

**New Zealand**

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## 2009 President Report

The 2009 NABBA New Zealand National Championships were the 20<sup>th</sup> Nationals under my Presidency. From our humble beginnings offering one class for men and one for women, and less than twenty athletes competing at our very first National Championships it was with pride that I watched such a high caliber of athletes competing at our highest level, across the diverse spectrum of classes we now offer. The show highlighted the large progress we have made and developments we have seen within the sport over these past twenty years.

Congratulations to all those who competed throughout the country, at our Regional Events in 2009, and indeed those who went on to compete and represent their Regions at the National Championships.

I largely attribute these developments to the combined efforts of our many Regional Representatives who form our Executive Committee. These people volunteer their time, providing support, commitment and passion for the sport of bodybuilding. This has been a crucial factor in the growth of the sport throughout the country.

In many areas of the sport of bodybuilding we have pioneered new initiatives and developments over the years, with the introduction and development of new competition classes within the sport, broadening the opportunities and possibilities for a wider spectrum of athletes to be competitive in the sport. New Zealand introduced the Athletic Class, Men's 50+ and 60+ Classes, Senior Women's Classes in Figure and Physique, and the Shape Classes. This really shows the high caliber of athletes in New Zealand, who have attained such high standards to showcase the various classes not only in New Zealand but on an International level.

Our athletes in New Zealand have shown a drive and determination to compete at the highest level, traveling around the world to compete at World and Universe Championships. For such a small nation New Zealand athletes have attained a reputation for providing strong teams, with many International Titles being attained over the years; twelve Universe Champions, ten World Champions, four Asia Pacific Champions and twenty Oceania Champions. Not to mention the many, many athletes that attained Placings in the top six at these International events.

On closing, I draw back to the 'grass roots' of NABBA in New Zealand, and wish to express my appreciation to our current Executive Committee, the individuals working tirelessly in their respective regions, promoting the sport, running events, generate interest, forming teams, and creating opportunities in their areas. Often forgotten is the fact that these representatives volunteer their time and energies out of a passion for the sport, and without them NABBA in New Zealand would not be what it is. So to our members of NABBA; old, new and prospective, the 'key' is to support these people; they do what they do in the interest of the sport and the athletes.

I look forward to a positive year ahead in 2010