

Report on the Survey Re: The Constitution

Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora

Table of contents

Introduction	3
Questions	3
1. What age group do you fit into	3
2. Do you know we have a Constitution?.....	4
3. Have you read the Constitution?	5
4. Can the Constitution be improved?	6
5. If you said 'Yes' to Question 4 please say what can be improved. If you have no comment, please write NIL.....	7
6. Should we have a Constitution review?.....	9
7. Do you have any further comments?.....	10
Attachment no. 1	12
Attachment no. 2	18

Introduction

There were 438 visits to the survey. Some people may have visited the survey site a number of times and some may have started the survey but not completed it.

The Survey was opened on 1 May 2023 and was initially set to close on 26 May 2023, and the closing date was extended to 30 May.

This report contains only those questions to which answers were given.

The opening paragraph to the survey read:

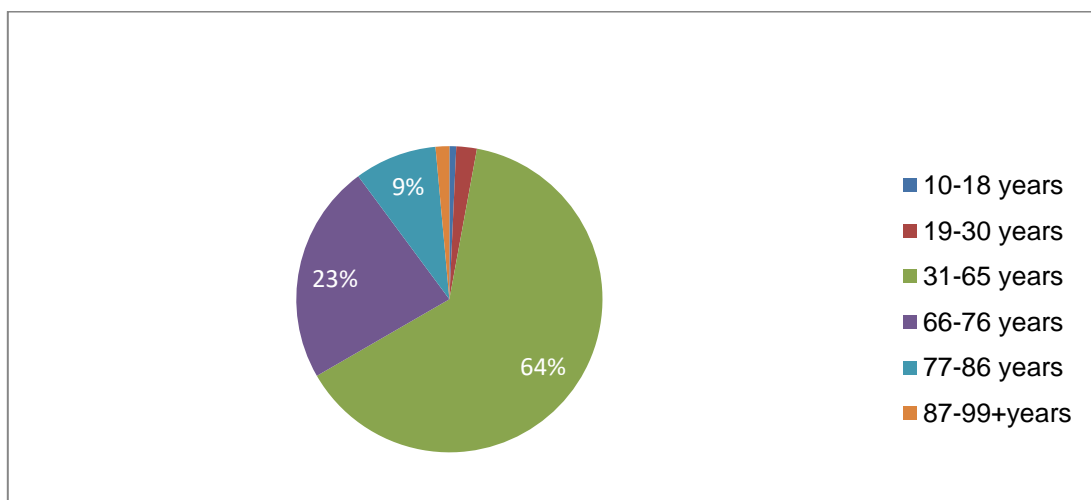
Tēnā koe You have received this survey because you are a member of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora (The League). The National Executive is conducting this survey to get members whakaaro about the Leagues Constitution, and if there is support for a review of the Constitution. The survey closes at 5pm on 30 May 2023. Once the survey closes the results will be circulated to members for your perusal

Questions

1. What age group do you fit into

Answer	%	Number
10-18 years	0,72%	1
19-30 years	2,17%	3
31-65 years	63,77%	88
66-76 years	23,19%	32
77-86 years	8,70%	12
87-99+years	1,45%	2

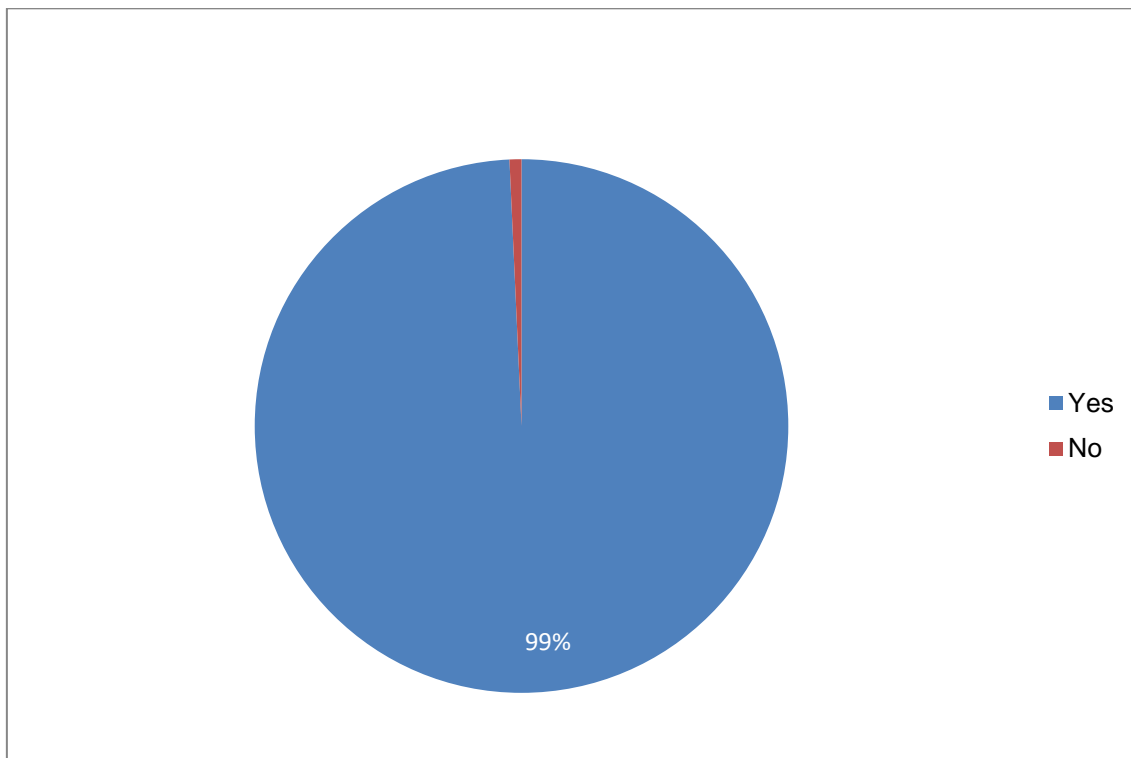
Completions: 138



2. Do you know we have a Constitution?

Answer	%	Number
Yes	99,28%	137
No	0,72%	1

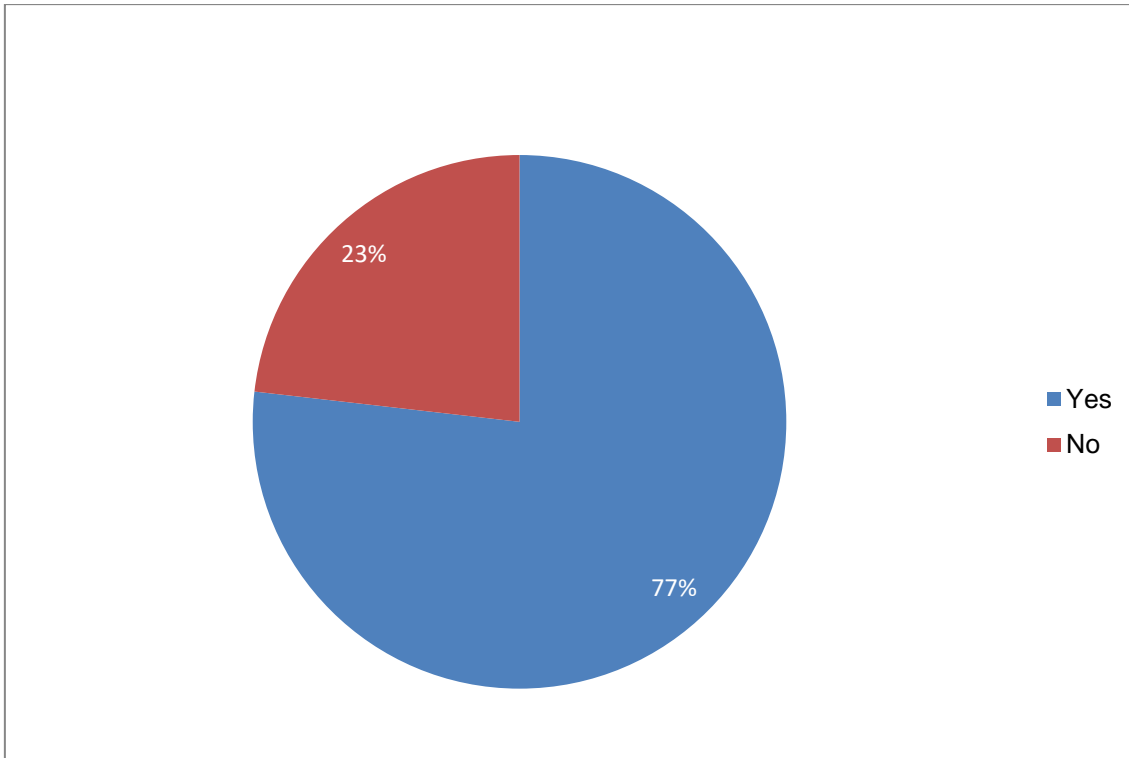
Completions: 138



3. Have you read the Constitution?

Answer	%	Number
Yes	76,81%	106
No	23,19%	32

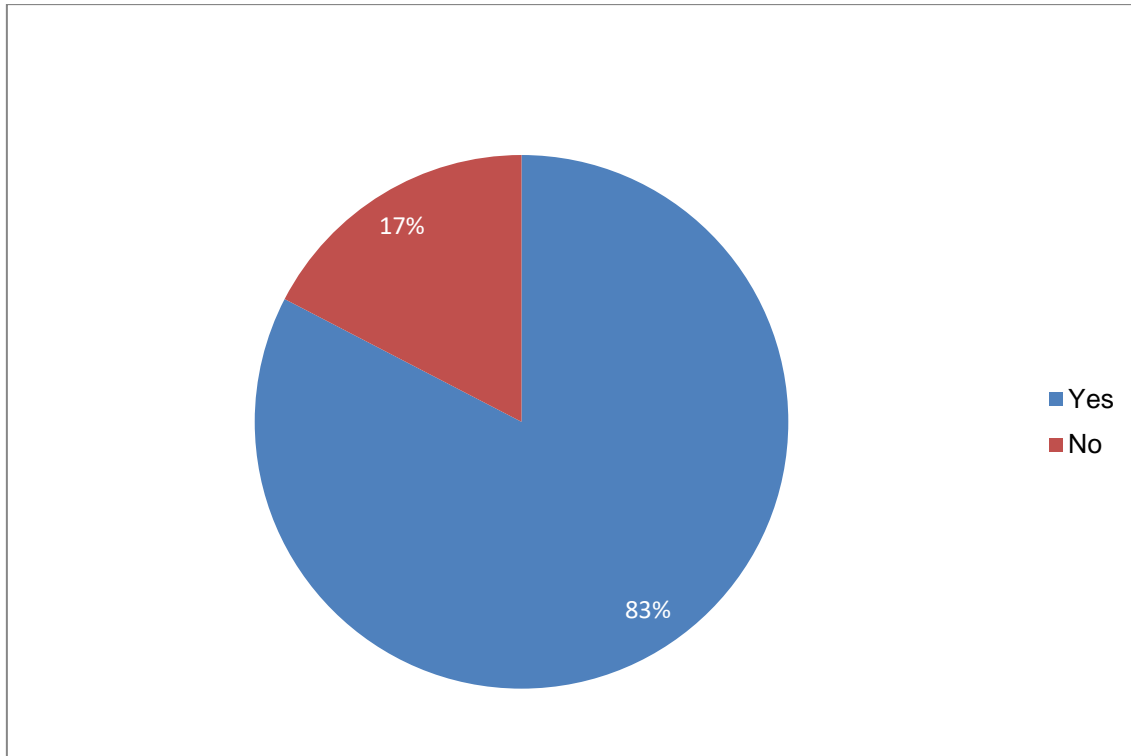
Completions: 138



4. Can the Constitution be improved?

Answer	%	Number
Yes	82,61%	114
No	17,39%	24

Completions: 138



5. If you said 'Yes' to Question 4 please say what can be improved. If you have no comment, please write NIL.

Answer	%	Number
NIL	38,41%	53
Anything can always be improved. It becomes stagnant or irrelevant otherwise	1,45%	2
We had a conversation a while ago about some aspect of the constitution that was concerning someone but unfortunately I have forgotten exactly what was said. But surely it would be good to review it and see if it is all still appropriate	1,45%	2
Always room for improvement	1,45%	2
Use of words, better understanding of words. Some words you need a dictionary.	1,45%	2
The language needs to be updated, the objects revised, the handbook able to be updated whenever Constitutional changes are made. The Constitution should be reviewed every five years and not parts changed every year.	0,72%	1
Gnullar Mia Peka has had to write and had approved a constitution to meet WA rules and regulations. Gnullar Mia constitution does not align to the official NZ MWWL constitution due to differing Country requirements. Since joining this branch this matter has highlighted this situation. In seeking guidance I have raised this issue with MNP and further to this MP Gnullar Mia has called a zoom meeting for the executive to discuss. This may impact also on other international peka	0,72%	1
Some of the language is unclear e.g., use of the word ADOPTION '(4) The Audited Accounts shall be submitted for adoption at National Conference.' - use clearer language Needs to be better alignment between the Constitution and the Handbook EG in the Handbook for Regional and Branch levels it states 3.1.4 The newly elected President and the Executive Committee do not take office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting (implied at end of Regional AGM). BUT CONSTITUTION SAYS (iii) to elect a Regional Area Representative to represent the Region on the National Executive Committee, confirmation of which is to be made at National Conference.	0,72%	1

STANDING ORDERS should be part of Constitution - in same doc - AND THE numbering of each section should align with the numbering of the Constitution		
How can our Constitution be more engaging/relevant for our rangatahi	0,72%	1
Change too often for the sake of change. With the Standing Orders, it us good	0,72%	1
Be treviewed	0,72%	1
Prue Kapua updated the constitution when she became National President, it was improved greatly and we as members appreciated her visiting regions to have our input. If the Constitution needs to be improved again that the same process happen.	0,72%	1
More accessible language Opportunity to review to be in line with current and future needs of the League	0,72%	1
Simplified language Clear and concise Easy to understand	0,72%	1
Just that it is regularly updated	0,72%	1
membership to be more involved when making changes	0,72%	1
Make the constitution relevant to this time in age.	0,72%	1
Quor	0,72%	1
Define the role of national executive Where does operations fit and who looks after the operations. Make it clear in our constitution so our members can understand.	0,72%	1
The Objects could be revised to be curently relevant	0,72%	1

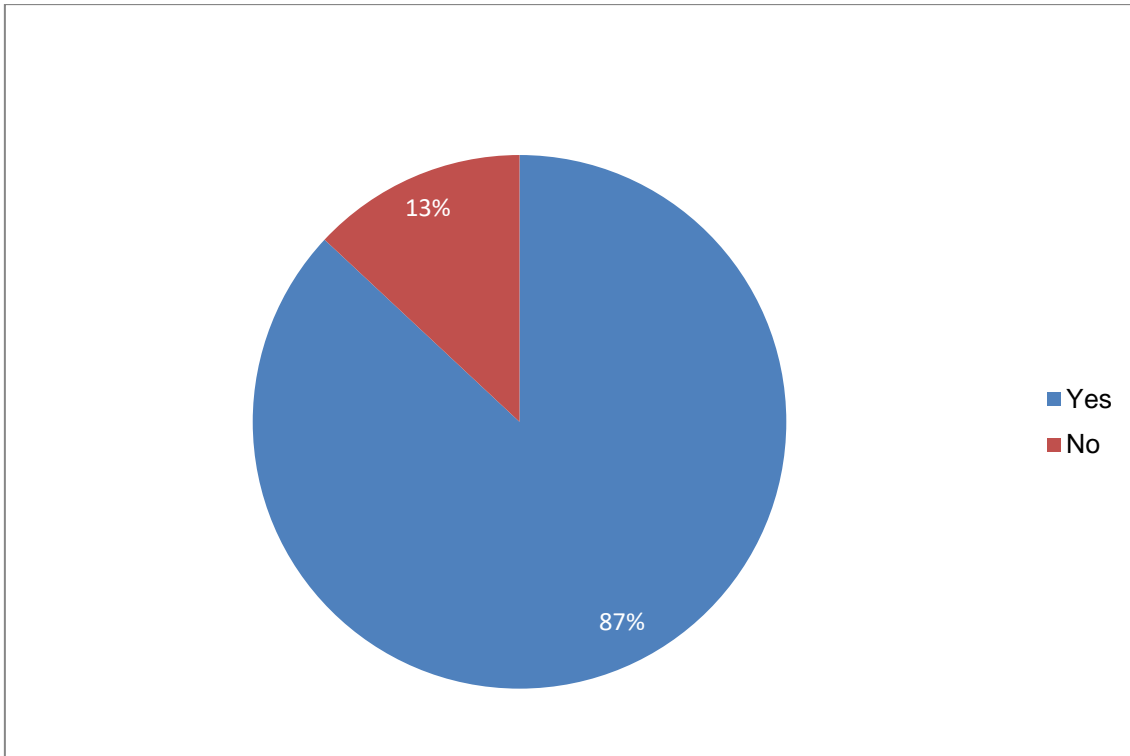
All the answers are in the report attachment no. 1

Completions: 138

6. Should we have a Constitution review?

Answer	%	Number
Yes	86,96%	120
No	13,04%	18

Completions: 138



7. Do you have any further comments?

Answer	%	Number
No	27,54%	38
NIL	19,57%	27
Kao	4,35%	6
No not at this time	1,45%	2
Just that i will try to get hold of the constitution and read it.	1,45%	2
No further comments	1,45%	2
With 4 international peka attending NC it will be appropriate to have more direction spelt out in our constitutions i.e. NZ and Australia constitutions. Each state of Australia may need to have their own constitution like WA, Queensland, NSW etc	0,72%	1
Happy to look at other views and consider	0,72%	1
I found it difficult to follow, if I'm not someone who understands what or why a constitution is in place for ? I wouldn't understand what's required of me.	0,72%	1
Be great to have an Interactive online tool to allow members to learn the constitution	0,72%	1
Not sure when the last review was?	0,72%	1
last review was done by National Executive then sent to the branches for comments ,hence some changes were overlooked and members didn't realise the consequences this would cause at the next National Conference	0,72%	1
Our consti	0,72%	1
The constitution has its essence in the foundation of the league. If changed changes the wairua and intent. Times have changed drastically over the years, but the foundation must stay strong.	0,72%	1
Up	0,72%	1
Yes there should always a review in some form but over the years the constitution has put us at National Government Level which is a great achievement on it's own.	0,72%	1
The review would allow new members to participate and understand the MWWI	0,72%	1
Not at this stage	0,72%	1
Karekau	0,72%	1

<p>I personally think that reviewing a constitution in it's entirety is needed, to ensure that how we lead, support and advocate in various areas are still within our guiding principles.</p> <p>One question I do have is in terms of : (4) (c) and (5) (c), it states the the Nominees must be a resident in Aotearoa/New Zealand and of Maori descent. What happens in the future if a woman who is not of Maori descent, but is an active member in a Peka wishes to stand for one of these positions?</p>	<p>0,72%</p>	<p>1</p>
---	--------------	----------

All the answers are in the report attachment no. 2

Completions: 138

Attachment no. 1

Answers to the questions: If you said 'Yes' to Question 4 please say what can be improved. If you have no comment, please write NIL.

Answer	%	Number
NIL	38,41%	53
Anything can always be improved. It becomes stagnant or irrelevant otherwise	1,45%	2
We had a conversation a while ago about some aspect of the constitution that was concerning someone but unfortunately I have forgotten exactly what was said. But surely it would be good to review it and see if it is all still appropriate	1,45%	2
Always room for improvement	1,45%	2
Use of words, better understanding of words. Some words you need a dictionary.	1,45%	2
The language needs to be updated, the objects revised, the handbook able to be updated whenever Constitutional changes are made. The Constitution should be reviewed every five years and not parts changed every year.		
Gnullar Mia Peka has had to write and had approved a constitution to meet WA rules and regulations. Gnullar Mia constitution does not align to the official NZ MWWL constitution due to differing Country requirements. Since joining this branch this matter has highlighted this situation. In seeking guidance I have raised this issue with MNP and further to this MP Gnullar Mia has called a zoom meeting for the executive to discuss. This may impact also on other international peka		
Some of the language is unclear e.g., use of the word ADOPTION '(4) The Audited Accounts shall be submitted for adoption at National Conference.' - use clearer language Needs to be better alignment between the Constitution and the Handbook EG in the Handbook for Regional and Branch levels it states 3.1.4 The newly elected President and the Executive Committee do not take office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting (implied at end of Regional AGM). BUT CONSTITUTION SAYS (iii) to elect a Regional Area Representative to represent the Region on the National Executive Committee, confirmation of which is to be made at National Conference. STANDING ORDERS should be part of Constitution - in same doc - AND THE numbering of each section should align with the numbering of the Constitution		
How can our Constitution be more engaging/relevant for our rangatahi		
Change too often for the sake of change. With the Standing Orders, it us good		
Be reviewed		

<p>Prue Kapua updated the constitution when she became National President, it was improved greatly and we as members appreciated her visiting regions to have our input. If the Constitution needs to be improved again that the same process happen.</p>
<p>More accessible language Opportunity to review to be in line with current and future needs of the League</p>
<p>Simplified language Clear and concise Easy to understand</p>
<p>Just that it is regularly updated</p>
<p>membership to be more involved when making changes</p>
<p>Make the constitution relevant to this time in age.</p>
<p>Quor</p>
<p>Define the role of national executive Where does operations fit and who looks after the operations. Make it clear in our constitution so our members can understand.</p>
<p>The Objects could be revised to be curenly relevant</p>
<p>More information on online activities and accessibility</p>
<p>yes, in having the constitution book updated and available to purchase at National conference. my copy is 2018 but is in printed form not booklet.</p>
<p>Incorporate te reo Maaori</p>
<p>I have not read The Constitution thoroughly, but there are loopholes in parts and could possibly be improved</p>
<p>Need time to consider</p>
<p>Be more us! The Constitution is written in a very Pakeha"fied" way, we don't have to remain colonised, make the language and the general feel be more us.</p>
<p>Needs to reflect how we best give effect to our current role.</p>
<p>Kia ora. The creed came via Bishop Manuhuia Bennett 1976 National Conference at Otautahi. The following year it was accepted at 1977 National Conference at Kaitaia The League Waiata was composed by The Rev. Te Uira Manihera known as Uncle Dave to his Whanau. Colleen Te Arihi Manihera</p>
<p>Its old fashioned, needs to be brought into the 21st century</p>
<p>Age range for a youth group 18 -30 maybe 35 pea Also years of service for some members is from a young age of 15 and the life membership does not start till 18 maybe a constitution change</p>
<p>Establish tikanga around separation of governance and operations for transparency.</p>
<p>Our creed, to reflect the objectives, and future of the League. The National VP to be elected every 3 years.</p>
<p>XVI Finance</p>

XXII Recess
Add Nga Pu Korero Mo Apopo Whakataetae into the Constitution as part of the National Conference event.
Acknowledge Overseas Branches in the constitution.
Update the creed to reflect the role of MWWL in the current environment of today
It should be reviewed, as our Te Hapara constitution was reviewed in 1915, that we know of.
Update some of the section and make the language more relevant today
It can be updated to better reflect today's society and its needs.
should be reviewed to ensure remains relevant
Relook at our Standing Orders perhaps need to be up-dated to reflect the passage of time and relevance Add compliance regulations around our Charitable Status
Use appropriate macrons or double vowels
This was discussed at our monthly hui We can understand the need for the constitution to be written in the manner that it was, at the time the League needed to ensure it was taken seriously and the way to do that was to speak the language of the time. However, now that our leaders have issued a statement in support of co-governance, we should look to have our constitution read as though it was written for te ao Māori, not te ao Pākeha.
The whole constitution needs updating
An entire re-write - Some of us have spent our entire Life membership having to deal with the complexities of the Constitution ait needs to be made more user friendly and simplified
Change our rangitahi ages and junior
Everything can always be improved. I haven't read it as I have not yet received a copy.
update to reflect our current world, generation and environment
Signatories ? Do we have a General Manager? XV1 (8)
The Creed needs to be updated with regards to the language used.
It needs to sit in the context of our current world and technology
No comment
Area Rep?..whats the procedure..is there a person that has stepped in to relieve an we have not as yet placed our vote..is that in the constitution?
There's always room for improvement. We need to keep abreast of the times and the technologies available to us.
By holding Wananga with the membership across each rohe to kirerorero about the constitution making it a living , growing and developing document

I have no specific improvements to note, it's been several years since we completed a review of the constitution, and I would suggest it's good to regularly review, however I don't believe it's necessary to apply wholesale changes, sometimes simple enables us all to participate with our variety of approaches and interests.

I was annoyed when I saw the different remits from the last conference tinkering and changing our constitution with 'buzz phrases' such as 'transformational leadership'. What does that even mean, you know, any interaction has the potential to be transformative, feed a hungry person they are no longer hungry, that's transformative, but support and provide people with the opportunity to ensure they have sufficient resources to eat everyday may be what's actually needed. We could all be congratulating ourselves on the wrong measure, ie: that we alleviated the hunger in the first instance. Which makes me wonder when we imbed words like that in our constitution how do we measure our effectiveness against this type of idea.

Rather than wholesale changes, it helps when those in leadership roles within our organisation are fully conversant and operating within our constitution and applying it equally across all situations.

The accessibility of the constitution could be improved. I couldn't find it online to refresh my understanding.

More context around the actual meaning of some words in the constitution so that they are relevant

The constitution needs to be inclusive of attendance on line and having a definition of "present" to mean online on a Zoom or teams type application. Also need to ability to vote on line.

Those in Te Waipounamu have the most to pay for attendance at national conferences and have branches with small numbers of people.

The definition of “present at a meeting” for participation and voting purposes should be clarified to include presence by online access. It would be good to enable access, participation and voting by the new technologies so that those with less money or physical ability can be part of our league.

From the MWWL website, we have downloaded the Constitution and the Handbook that was revised in 2019. Why is there both a Constitution and the Handbook?

Can the MWWL Website also include Information about Branches?

N

I would like to see National Executive investigate the possibility of including an appropriate age for Rangatahi to be able to sit on an executive committee.

As I read the constitution the starting age for Rangatahi is 10.

allowance for the manamotuhake of rohe and their branches operate independently and still belong to a National organisation

The values need to be updated so that everyone knows what the constitution states the obvious protocols for each rohe

ki roto i te reo
The constitution is open to interpretation creating differences across branches/regions. Include a tikanga process to resolve issues and review the clauses to ensure relevant to our current and future direction.
Some of the language is ambiguous. There are some clauses which appear to contradict itself
With new generations entering the group better understanding around what the constitution means today and for the future needs to be included, marketed, and communicated well within our groups
Place this on all documentation and online presence.
i have a copy of the Constitution, dated 2019, there might be a more up to date one but this is the one i will comment on.!) review the voting for executive members, president and vice president,2) review the electing of vice president, instead for annually, elect for a period of 3years,(continuity) should Nga Pu Korero O Apopo be an item for Constitution??
The constitution needs a complete overhaul to ensure the league remains relevant
clear information on the structure of the MWWL (A diagram too?) and clear explanation of the role of Nat Exec as governance with Job Description .Same for Regional Exec positions.
out of date clauses that i dont understand
I think some areas need careful scrutiny so that no branch or region can manage to circumvent what has been written as part of our constitution.
<p>The constitution should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - written with te reo me tikanga māori with te reo pākehā translation - reviewed for clauses and references that are no longer relevant e.g cheques no longer used, listing correspondence is time-consuming as emails generate so much more correspondence and using a generic branch email keeps it all recorded in one place that can be accessed and viewed by the executive. - there are clauses that do not fit with tikanga māori or the objectives of the league e.g. dismissing members. - the numbering system is outdated - make it simple e.g. 3. Objects 3.1, The main object... 3.2 To effectively... - the constitution should be forward focussed - supporting branches and regions to hold contracts and assets that can enable the branches to be resourced to carry out projects and services for their hapori, hapu, whanau. - the processes for new members, remits and for voting of National executive should be reviewed, including using digital systems.
I think the whole book needs revisiting, page by page and changes made following that. It also gives New Members an insight and understanding of why the constitution exists
The language used in the Constitution is often hard for our younger members to understand/connect with.
There is always things to improve on - nothing is perfect.

Process if a Branch wish to change their name, Process to follow when an Area Rep vacates that position before a Regional AGM,
For your consideration: Include the preamble of the treaty under introduction - Te Tiriti o Waitangi. IV Definitions (3) to include non paying honorary members as members.
Nil I have not read it.
Most of it needs to be updated

Completions: 138

Attachment no. 2

Answers to the questions: Do you have any further comments?

Answer	%	Number
No	27,54%	38
NIL	19,57%	27
Kao	4,35%	6
No not at this time	1,45%	2
Just that i will try to get hold of the constitution and read it.	1,45%	2
No further comments	1,45%	2
With 4 international peka attending NC it will be appropriate to have more direction spelt out in our constitutions i.e. NZ and Australia constitutions. Each state of Australia may need to have their own constitution like WA, Queensland, NSW etc		
Happy to look at other views and consider		
I found it difficult to follow, if I'm not someone who understands what or why a constitution is in place for ? I wouldn't understand what's required of me.		
Be great to have an Interactive online tool to allow members to learn the constitution		
Not sure when the last review was?		
last review was done by National Executive then sent to the branches for comments ,hence some changes were overlooked and members didn't realise the consequences this would cause at the next National Conference		
Our consti		
The constitution has its essence in the foundation of the league. If changed changes the wairua and intent. Times have changed drastically over the years, but the foundation must stay strong.		
Up		
Yes there should always a review in some form but over the years the constitution has put us at National Government Level which is a great achievement on it's own.		
The review would allow new members to participate and understand the MWWI		
Not at this stage		
Karekau		
I personally think that reviewing a constitution in it's entirety is needed, to ensure that how we lead, support and advocate in various areas are still within our guiding principles. One question I do have is in terms of : (4) (c) and (5) (c), it states the the Nominees must be a resident in Aotearoa/New Zealand and of Maori descent. What happens in the future if a woman who is not of Maori descent, but is an active member in a Peka wishes to stand for one of these positions?		

Constitution should be reviewed periodically.
Recommendations from the National Exec ensuring transparency and consultation before changes are made.
The MWWL needs to be modernised; it lacks currency.
Kaore. Nga mihi
A review of MWWL is required, reviewing the constitution would be part of that review
Ka pai kia kaha
Thank you for opportunity to participate in Survey
Provide an opportunity to compose a new League waiata.
I have read some of the constitution but just like policies & processes I think it is good to review while ensuring that the fundamental basis of the League is not lost.
There also needs to be a review of Standing Orders
We also need to review the trophies our tamariki have other skills that are not represented in the trophies list
The review will help new members to understand and refresh us older members.
Awesome Kaupapa just needs to be made more addtractive for our rangatahi
Just making the constitution more clearer and easy to understand so no confusion which leads to issues and court cases
I think a review is in order, I query is the information contained still relevant in todays times?
Review and we all submit remits regarding the constitution areas that raise our concerns
Just to re-iterate I would be reluctant to see wholesale changes made to our constitution, changes should only be recommended when they support or simplify our mahi. I think it's important any changes suggested should be wrapped up in a clear and concise rationale for the recommendation.
Lets bring fun, pleasure and joy back into our organisation rather than using the Constitution as a weapon against each other often for self gain
It should be reviewed every few years to ensure we are up to date.
Rangatahi (Junior) Taiohi (teens) Pahake (senior members) age groups to be reviewed
NO COMMENT NEWER MEMBER
No, the constitution has kept the league at the Government level and the League have done tremendous work over the years.
I strongly believe the league has a place to play in our future but it needs to become relevant to our future generations and easily able to respond flexibly to circumstances e.g. COVID, electronic votes, meetings, etc. Also wonder if lobbying needs a strategic direction and League plan and even something like position statements (know that is pakeha but) on topics that most member organisation contend with.

No, this survey has an issue
No...would like to know more about Area rep an re voting etc
We have had a review which was completed in the time of the National President Pru .
I'm sure that the constitution does need updating in some parts just to keep up with the times But always be mindful it still needs the original kaupapa Mauriora
Kāore
The Constitution was reviewed in recent years, so a full review is not necessary. But some clarifications are needed to make it more fit for the next 20 years.
No. Thank you for this survey and member consultation.
I now this has been a remit from several branches/regions. However it would be great if National Executive consider holding the annual conferences bi-annually. It is getting harder for our branch members to attend yearly, due to the high cost of living.
It would be great to understand the changes of the government legislation and align the constitution to meet the partnership between the govt and the Wahine Maori took I te ora -
ki mau ki to tatou mana maori motuhake hai kawana ia tatou
Would be good to have a transparent process with the regions and their branches.
Kia kaha!
Nik
The intent can remain the same modernise the language!
Ive been looking at the Handbook to, this might need to be reviewed at some stage as well. with technology being a big part of our league communcation and management, emailing and social media, our rangatahi probably more efficient here than some of us, do we need to some where Constitution or Standing Orders have some guidelines noted as well??
The whole operation of the league needs to be reviewed to ensure we are relevant to contemporary issues
when will this happen
Who will do the review should it go ahead?
The review should include the rStanding Orders, and the remit process too. Limiting the time and number of speakers for remits is not conducive to inclusive, transparent kōrero before decisions are made., especially when speakers are using te reo māori which can take longer than te reo pākehā.
We only need a constitution review if the wording for "present" needs to be specified or wording needs to be changed to ensure that League business can carry on during disease, disaster or trauma like instances. Voting on line and online applications, live streaming need monetary input. We need to save time and money to ensure this goes ahead. We have already started doing this type of activity without this being legally specified in the

constitution. If the wording needs to be adjusted to include these above referred to aspects then yes please go ahead and get this changed.

We also need somewhere for branches eg Te Waipounamu to place online information. Is its possible to have regional spaces on the Māori Womens Welfare League website that only regional branch members can access. We have a very large region. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Absolutely awesome news more in keeping up with the changes happening "I Roto I Tenei Ao Hurihuri."

Nga mihi

It should be reviewed so Rangatahi can pass on information to next generation.

Need a clear process to follow when reviewing the constitution; how often; by whom; ...

I hve 2013,2015,2019, now 2022 Constitution Books whats there to improve on,

Completions: 138