

LOWER WAITAKI IRRIGATION COMPANY LTD

SPRING NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 2016

Rules of Operation – please take the time to read your copy of the Rules of operation as there have been some amendments made to bring them up to date with Policies that the Board have adopted. The rules and Company policies can be viewed and downloaded on our web site at www.lowerwaitakiirrigation.co.nz . under Scheme info – shareholders section. Shareholder password is **wa1tak1**

Spray Irrigation Notification - in conjunction with the installation of pump flow meters and the setting up of the telemetry network the Company have developed an online water ordering system which was trialled last summer with a selected group of irrigators and is a simple way to notify the Race operators of start and finish times. This is a necessary step to better manage race flows due to changing demands with the transition from to borderdyke to spray irrigation. This will not apply to all spray irrigators only those on selected races. The Race manager will be in contact with those required to participate and will offer assistance to get started.

Irrigation rosters for the new season have been distributed and there have been some changes to the roster due to further conversion to spray If for any reason you have not received a roster please contact the office. You must give 24hrs notification prior to season start up, the txt message service will resume once demand comes on.

The INZ conference held in Oamaru back in April was heralded as a huge success in promoting the local North Otago district in general with visitors coming from all over the country. Lower Waitaki received some good exposure with conference field trips touring the valley visiting Ferry Road, Bortons pond and local farms. Technology and precision irrigation was a strong focus of the conference.

Soil moisture monitoring

You may have recently received a flyer from Boraman consultants regarding on farm monitoring, we would like to reiterate that Lower Waitaki Irrigation have developed a comprehensive telemetry network in the area using the Boraman aquacom equipment over the past few years and encourage shareholders to utilise the asset. There could be significant cost savings to LWIC shareholders whom are considering installing ground soil moisture sensors due to the existing network. Installing soil moisture monitoring on farms with light soils under spray irrigation can significantly **reduce your overseer results by up to 30%**, irrigating only when required will also result in power savings and increase yields. Contact Dave Boraman at dave@boraman.co.nz for more information.

Farm environmental plan audits are underway and you should have completed and returned your Overseer documentation to Irricon in preparation for the audit.

Take a kid Fishing – The Company will be once again sponsoring the take a kid fishing day and the thanks goes to the Eckhold family for their hard work and dedication to make this a fantastic annual event that many will be looking forward to.

Health and Safety

With changes to health and safety legislation the Company can't emphasis enough on the present dangers that exist around irrigation infrastructure. Please ensure all staff and farm visitors, particularly children are aware of the dangers. There is a link to the Irrigation canal water safety video on our website please take the time to watch this with your children.

Obituary Sid Hurst

We were sad to hear of the recent passing of Sid Hurst whom was a prominent figure in the local community and played a pivotal role in the Lower Waitaki Irrigation Company. Our condolences go out to the extended Hurst Family.