

# Distilled Spirits Aotearoa (NZ) Inc

## NEWSLETTER



September 2021

- **Membership**: - Our current number of members stands at: 83 Members and 65 Associate Members (includes 11 pre-commercial distilleries).  
A very warm welcome to our newest Members:  
**Black Collar Distillery**

And our new Associate Members:

**Barrel Brokers Australasia PTY LTD**  
**Anton Paar New Zealand Limited**

Thank you to those who have already paid your 2021/22 membership fees, we have again sent out reminders for the last few this week. If anyone is in hardship, or you have any questions please let us know.

- **DSA Code of Conduct**  
At our latest Committee meeting the DSA Committee agreed to prepare a Code of Conduct for DSA. We have now completed this and it has been formally adopted as at 17 Sep 2021. The Code is attached to this email, and we ask everyone to please read this. The link to the document is also on our website on the [New Membership Application](#) page.

Having a Code of Conduct is a positive step for our Association, it demonstrates high standards of practice and a regard to our industry's reputation. This is especially important as we continue to grow in numbers, and we have increasing recognition across industry and government circles. Send us any comments or questions.

- **2022 NZ Spirits Awards**  
At this stage **3-6 May 2022** has been planned for the judging of the 2022 NZ Spirits Awards and **17 June 2022** for the Awards dinner, so put this date into your diary now.  
If anyone knows of any clashes for the Awards evening – let us know.



- **Volunteers for Working Groups**  
We've had a great response to our call for volunteers to join our Working Groups for our key areas this year, and we would like to recognise the teams below:

**Excise relief** (Soren) - Look at avenues around excise relief or rebates to help our emerging industry.

Soren Crabb – 1919 Distilling  
Marcel Thompson – Still Magic  
Jenny McDonald - Dunedin Craft Distillers  
Lacey Bourne – Dr Beak

**Distillery Safety Standards** (Antony): Industry standard document that could become a Worksafe guideline / document to help new distilleries.

Antony Michalek - Curiosity  
Andrew Lewis - Humdinger Gin  
Wayne Chowles - Kaimai Brewing and Distilling Co

**New Zealand Rum Definition (Matt):** Follow the same process as Whisky to define a consensus definition for NZ rum.

Matt Bridge – Lunatic & Lover  
Soren Crabb - 1919 Distilling Limited  
Ben Leggett – Elemental Distillers  
Julien Delavoie – No8 Distillery  
Janet Charteris - LWF Distilling  
Robert O'Connell - The NZ Rum Co.  
Wayne Chowles - Kaimai Brewing and Distilling Co  
Jonathan Mclean – Black Collar Distillery  
Elliot Elliot McClymont – Blush Gin Ltd  
AM - Drew Walker  
AM - Luke Upfold - Line44  
AM - Steve Nally - Hokonui Moonshine distillery

It's not too late if you also wish to join one of the groups - Let me know.

- **Spirits Normalisation Working Group**

DSA has joined a Spirits NZ working group on Spirits Advocacy/Normalisation. The group wants to see spirits normalised in NZ culture, for example that spirits are:

- As available as beer and wine at any occasion/event.
- Properly described (by brand) and on all drinks menus in bars and restaurants and at events.
- Just as much of a consumer choice to have with food as wine (and beer).

The first steps are underway to identify the key barriers and opportunities (eg perceived cost/ complexity/ understanding premium aspects and alcohol content compared to beer and wine). The Group would like to see spirit offerings become standard, where consumers will demand them if they are not represented.



- **New Associate Member business profiles**

We have two updated profiles on our DSA website:

[Barrel Brokers Australasia PTY LTD](#)

[Liquid Processing Equipment Ltd](#)

Let me know if you would also like your business profile loaded to the website

- **The next label changes**

We have known for several years that the Pregnancy label was only the start of some sweeping changes proposed for alcohol packaging. For Pregnancy, businesses have three years from 31 July 2020 to implement the requirements for mandatory pregnancy warnings on alcohol packaging.



As a reminder, here are some useful links from the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*:

[Q & A on the Code requirements for pregnancy](#)

[Pregnancy warning labels downloadable files](#)

The next label changes - energy content, added sugar and content claims will hopefully also align with the 31 July 2023 pregnancy deadline. We understand FSANZ wants to combine three different energy "questions" into one approach. This would see energy content, added sugar and content claims worked into one set of changes focussed on obesity (not harmful consumption). It may mean a Nutritional Information panel (NIP) is required, especially if spirit has added sugar. We'll let you know as we hear more.

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- **Associate Member advertising opportunities**

Contact me if you would like more info on placing an adverts at the end of our newsletter.

Cheers  
Sue



Dr Sue James – Chairperson  
Distilled Spirits Aotearoa (NZ) Incorporated  
Certificate of Incorporation: 2716891  
Registered office: 16d Sunley Street, Westown, New Plymouth 4312, New Zealand  
Telephone: +64(0)21 222 9881  
Email: [chair@distilledspiritsaotearoa.org.nz](mailto:chair@distilledspiritsaotearoa.org.nz)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/distilledspiritsaotearoa/>  
Web: [DistilledSpiritsAotearoa.org.nz](http://DistilledSpiritsAotearoa.org.nz)