

NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS No. 39 – 11 OCTOBER 2011

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

The Union has filed a new Notice of Strike Action to take effect from 0800 hours 26 October 2011.

The Notice is identical to that already in effect apart from that applying for Weekend Training for Black Watch.

This now reads (on and from 26 October 2011):

“Weekend training other than training conducted by dedicated Trainers”

The present Notice of Strike Action remains in effect.

The Notice of Strike Action as filed as above is reproduced:

NOTICE OF STRIKE ACTION

To: The New Zealand Fire Service Commission

And to: The Chief Executive of the New Zealand Fire Service

And to: The Chief Executive, Department of Labour,
Unisys House, 56 The Terrace, Wellington

You are hereby given notice of a strike.

The period of notice is 14 days.

The nature of the strike is:

1. A ban on the use of any computer keyboard or computer mouse by any Union member other than Union members employed in the Northern, Central and Southern Communications Centres or employed on Black Watch or any Union member who is responsible for rostering while that member is carrying out rostering responsibilities or any Union member using a computer keyboard or computer mouse for the purposes of recording overtime worked or claiming wages or allowances.
2. A ban on all work by Union members on Red, Brown, Blue, Green or Yellow Watch (except those employed in the Northern, Central and Southern Communications Centres), other than responding to emergency incidents and restoring appliances to operational readiness.
3. A ban on the acting up into Executive Officer positions by any Union member.
4. A ban on annual testing of breathing apparatus sets except at Fire Stations with breathing apparatus testing facilities.
5. A ban by Union members on Black Watch on the following work:
 - Building Risk Assessments – 408/409.
 - Fire Reports.
 - False alarm administrative advice.
 - F.A.I.P. visits and presentations.
 - Advice to national and local government.
 - P.P.M. Projects.
 - CAPEX Projects.
 - Attendance at Fire Service conferences and seminars.

- Attendance at non Fire Service conferences and seminars.
- Training forums.
- Weekend training other than training conducted by dedicated trainers.

The strike will commence at 0800 hours on Wednesday 26 October 2011.

The strike will be continuous.

The strike will occur at all Fire Stations, Regional Offices and Training Centres in New Zealand (but excluding the Northern, Central and Southern Communications Centres).

Nothing in this Notice applies to Union members that are part of Recruits' Course RCTPH 1106 or who are engaged in work associated with that Course while so engaged.

Derek Best, National Secretary
New Zealand Professional Firefighters Union Incorporated
11 October 2011

Signed on behalf of all members of the New Zealand Professional Firefighters Union Incorporated who are covered by the bargaining initiated by the New Zealand Professional Firefighters Union Incorporated by notice dated 19 November 2010.

C.A. NEGOTIATIONS

The Union and Fire Service representatives will meet again with the assistance of a Mediator from the Labour Dept. on 19 October 2011.

Members will be updated on any developments as soon as practicable after the meeting.

DIESEL FUMES – DISCIPLINARY ACTION – AGAINST SSOs

A Judicial Conference was held concerning this matter on 16 September – this is in effect Mediation held with the assistance of a Judge of the Employment Court.

Agreement was reached at this Settlement Conference to resolve the dispute and this settlement has subsequently been ratified by the affected members.

The key matter for the Union was for the record of the warnings given to be removed.

The outcome of the Settlement Conference and its subsequent ratification is to the Union a sensible resolution to legal proceedings that had an uncertain outcome.

NZPFU