

Draft Minutes – Annual General Meeting Novotel Sydney 25 May 2010

Attendance Table

Dave Smith - **PRESIDENT**

Brad Turner **CEO**

Susan Bostock – **MINUTE TAKER**

Greg Jack	NSWPC	Ray Williams	VTPC	L Rochow- Williams	SQPC
Nicole Hannan	NSWPC	Janine Hayes	VTPC	John Godwin	SQPC
Dick Petters	NSWPC	Bill Blezzard	VTPC	Giselle Godwin	SQPC
Ralf Jaeger	NSWPC	Paul Murphy	VTPC	Mike Dyer	SQPC
Adrian Lloyd	NSWPC	Andrew Mulholland	VTPC	Gary Myors	SQPC
Rory Hatchett	NSWPC	Ralph Hamilton - Presgrave	VTPC	Russell Ravenscroft	SQPC
Peter Duff	NSWPC	Nigel Brennan	VTPC	Al McVinish	SQPC
Terry Wahlen	NSWPC	Frank Smith	VTPC	Luke Oliver	SQPC
Guy Taylor	NSWPC	Elaine Hare	VTPC	Leanne Critchley	SQPC
Glenn Armstrong	NSWPC	Cameron Davey	VTPC	Sonya Bruss	SQPC
Shane Walsh	NSWPC	Carsten Boeving	VTPC	James Evered	SQPC
Graham Hill	NSWPC	Jo Chitty	VTPC	Garry Rickwood	SQPC
Theo Thomas	NSWPC	Graham Lee	WAPC	Jodie Prime	SQPC
Leigh Shepherd	NSWPC	Tim Castle	WAPC	Tibor Glesk	SQPC
Warwick Jones	NSWPC	Ellen Coenra	WAPC	Phil Allen	SQPC
Fiona McEachern	NSWPC	Graham Cook	WAPC	Brett Newman	SQPC
Michael Vaughn	NSWPC	Shirley Cowcher	WAPC	Jason Cooke	SQPC
Glenn Hogan	NSWPC	Darren Forfar	WAPC	Dave McEvoy	SQPC
Greg Hays	NSWPC	Mick Murtagh	WAPC		
Tim Joyce	NSWPC	Greg Puttick	NQPC		
Ian Robertson	NSWPC	Col Taylor	NQPC		
		Paul Osborne	NQPC		
Allan Gray	SAPC	Doug Irvin	NQPC		
Curtis Morton	SAPC	Jonny Goss	NQPC		
Phil Thamm	ACTPC	Faye Cox	NQPC		
Neil Fergie	ACTPC	Max Wallace	NQPC		
Trevor Collins	NTPC	Adam Davies	NQPC		
Ian Carver		Jack Cross	NQPC		
		Brent Findlay	NQPC		
		Karl Eitrich	NQPC		
Ken Hill (apologies)					

The President declared the Meeting open at 9.20am.

The disclosure of Federation Board Members interests was discussed and it was noted that the Pecuniary Interests table should in future, be included in the Annual Report.

The 2009 AGM Draft Minutes were put to the floor for acceptance.

Motion:

That the Draft Minutes of the 2009 AGM be accepted.

Jason Cooke, Ian Robertson ACCEPTED

The President spoke to his message as presented in the Conference papers.

Relocation of the APF National Office

The relocation from Canberra to Brisbane is now complete; all should know the history behind this move by now. At this point in our history it has been the right thing to do but of course only time will tell however we are confident it will be good for all.

Team Advancement Company

Over time the Team Advancement Company has been boosted by donations however it is no longer growing. Last year the Federation had a great trading year and was able to give substantial dollars although it would be good to find ways to boost that. Encourage members to make a mention in their will to boost the Team Trust.

Parachute Protection Company

PPC is set up to hold financial reserves in various forms. This is done to separate the APF's financial resources so if we are threatened, we actually have the means to rebuild the APF. This arrangement works well and serves multiple functions, protecting the interests of the Members and the longevity of Parachuting in Australia.

Australian Skydiving Association

The President discussed the prospect of APF entering discussions with ASA with a view to possibly having all of skydiving in Australia coming under one administration organisation. By way of background, this prospect was canvassed by CASA when issuing Instrument 405/09 to cover aircraft operations in support of parachuting and their desire to deal with one organisation and issue just one instrument for the whole of the industry.

This was the catalyst for the HBoM discussing the matter and its recommendation to the Board that APF open dialogue with ASA on the subject.

This prompted several members to express their views on the possibility with at least one vehemently against and several others more circumspect about the prospect. Due to the obvious interest in this subject further discussion was deferred until later in the meeting.

Board Composition and size

We have addressed this forum before and the subject has been debated for years. If you are inside the Board or close to the Board you would be aware of the issues that face the Board in its current size and composition.

Subsequently it was decided recently to canvass current serving Board of Directors for a personal view on this subject - there were 13 respondents.

Results of the Survey as presented in the Conference Papers were reviewed.

1. Should Councils have one Board representative in place of two?

Result – 9 for, 3 against

2. Voting system – one vote per Board Member as opposed to voting by number of members registered to your Council area

Result – 12 for nil against

3. Council amalgamation

Result - was opposed

4. Subsume the HBoM back into the Board

Result – 10 for, 2 against

The attendees were advised that only the members can make a change to the Constitution. The President asked for a show of hands in support of the four topics listed above with the following results:

1. *Result – 75% voted for*

2. *Result – 80% voted for*

3. *Result - was opposed*

4. *Result – 75% voted for*

It was further commented that the support for the suggested changes (Q 1, 2 & 4) demonstrated by the membership at this meeting, now provides the confidence to proceed. In relation to Question 3, council amalgamation, it was decided not to proceed any further.

The concept of a smaller board and 1 vote per person with a second person sitting in on Board Meetings would enable them to learn how the Board works before assuming a position.

A member raised the comment that every member of the APF Board should be voted in by the general membership.

Financials

The Pauline Richards fund was established in order to remember her. The money was sent to the APF and if there is no objection these funds would be rolled into another fund.

There was no objection.

Motion:

That the Financials as presented in the Annual Report be accepted.

Ralph Hamilton-Presgrave / Trevor Collins ACCEPTED

Elections

Nominations for President: Dave Smith

Janine Hayes / Graham Lee ACCEPTED

Question was raised - do we need a vice president? We have not had a need over the past few years and therefore not necessary.

Board composition, size and functions

The discussion again returned to the topic of Board composition and size with the following points being raised:

How often have we reverted to using our votes over past 10 years?

Response – twice only

Instead of Council's nominating a Board member (2 at moment) BoD members are supposed to represent the interests of the entire membership and Board decisions should be for the best thing for all jumpers not just that council area.

If it became a smaller board with each member carrying portfolios, should it become a remunerated position? This might have to be considered as people have to neglect own businesses to attend to APF business.

Important thing to consider here (collegic system or otherwise) – selections should be based on skills of the individual – not a popularity contest, should be seeking a person with best skill sets.

We will commence a trial basis.

Changes may not fix the board issues.

Allow postal voting and allow all members the chance to vote should they choose to do so.

ASA – one skydiving organisation in Australia

The President reopened discussion on ASA and gave a suggested plan of approaching the matter of bringing all jumpers together under one organisation. It would firstly involve a voluntary audit of ASA, followed by dialogue and involvement by VTTC and administrative oversight arrangements. As was mentioned, there are APF members who are members of both organisations. In the end it was agreed by members that this not be given a high priority.

The President thanked the APF office and Board of Directors for their efforts.

Also noted that the annual report mentions regular Instructor News-sheets however over the past 12 months it has not been distributed regularly however it is expected that this publication will now be back on track.

Voting at AGMs:

The President advised he had been approached by a member to update the voting system at AGMs such that proxy voting be permitted as much as public companies do to allow members to allow: 1) postal votes on resolutions, 2) to allow members to give their proxy to the President, as well as what we have now - 3) voting in person or 4) giving their proxy to another member to exercise. The President agreed to sponsor these changes at the 2011 AGM.

More time will be allocated for the AGM in future.

President declared meeting closed 10.30am
