



Polocrosse Association of New South Wales Incorporated

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Minutes

2016 HALF YEARLY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Saturday, 15 October 2016

VENUE: Dubbo RSL "Jacaranda Room" Wingewarra Street, Dubbo

8:30am Sub Committee Meetings – No subcommittee meetings were held

10:25am Council Meeting Commenced

ATTENDEES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Zone</i>
David McKillop Di McKillop	Central West
Melissa Davis John Forsyth	Hunter Valley
John Grills Phillipa Grills	Northern New England
No Delegate	North West Plains
Toni Davidge Dinah Hayes Wendy Barlow	Southern Highlands
No delegate	South West Riverina
Charlie Grills Sandra Weston	South West Slopes
Cameron Hill Narelle Spinks	Western District

MEMBERS

Simon Turnbull	Sara Grills	Belinda Smith	
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APOLOGIES:

Sam Halsted	Laughlin Ross	Tracey Stevenson	Kevin Stevenson
Elissa Koch	Sam Amey	Rachael Amey	Libby Ward
Gary Stevenson	Greg Davidge	Ray Davis	Marg Garnsey
Jason Smith	Murray Thomas		

A minute silence was observed for all the Polocrosse players that passed this year.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS General Meeting

BUSINESS ARISING

OPM – Change to the Selection Policy – The change of wording was re-handed out. There were discussions in relation to the intent of the Policy, and that it is not intended to stop the people that are doing the right thing from representing the state. In all cases, if selectors are unsure of a player they should bring their concerns to the Board. It was unanimously agreed the change be adopted.

Minutes of the previous minutes be adopted

Moved Arch Anderson

Seconded Charlie Grills

REPORTS

President – Moved as presented (attached)

Moved Arch Anderson

Seconded Toni Davidge

Treasurer – NO REPORT

Coaching Director - Moved as presented (attached)

Moved John Forsyth

Seconded Charlie Grills

Chrisite Hunt should be commended for all the work she has undertaken in her position to date.

In relation to survey completed by players from the Nationals, it was disappointing to see such a lack of replies (28 in total) and it is hoped in the future that more players will take part in these types of initiatives. They are strictly confidential and the responses help guide what needs improvement and what is working well.

Chief Umpire Moved as presented (attached)

Moved Wendy Barlow

Seconded Dinah Hayes

Uniform Officer – NO REPORT

Junior Development Officer Report - moved as presented (attached)

Moved Sandra Weston

Seconded John Forsyth

Horse Welfare Officer – moved as presented (attached)

Moved: Sara Grills

Seconded: Sandra Weston

In addition to the report, Sara Grills felt that the score sheet needs to be edited to add a section where, if incidents occur they can be noted on the score sheet including the cause of the incident. Score sheets are still being completed incorrectly, or not with all details completed. Umpires and scorers need to ensure that they are correct before handing them in.

Outcomes: The SEO will make additions to the score sheet to include the suggestions above.

Sub Committee Reports – No reports

Board Report - Moved as presented (attached)

Moved Arch Anderson

Seconded Sara Grills

NOTICES OF MOTION

No Notices of Motion were received

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Western Districts – A letter was received from Western Districts as to concerns on how State Events are currently run. The Board covered many of these issues in the Board report on ways they can be improved in the future.

We need to ensure that the rules are followed but also that common sense prevails in unusual circumstances. It was suggested that Clubs running State events have a contingency plan in place in the event of extreme weather.

Outcomes: SEO to reply to Western Districts as to their concerns and the Guidelines PANSW will be putting in place to hopefully alleviate these issues.

Letter from Mary Frear – Was received thanking the PANSW Board and selectors for the Junior event run at Cubbaroo. She also thanked the Coaches for all their hard work and reiterated what a wonderful event it was to encourage Juniors in the sport.

Letter from Albury Club – A letter received from Albury Holbrook Polocrosse Club thanking NSW, its Board members and the Polocrosse Community for all their support and assistance for the National Championships. As a thank you they made a contribution to NSW Polocrosse in the sum of \$10,000.00. It was suggested that these funds be made available to Clubs by way of \$1,000.00 grants to help with improvements of their playing fields.

We thank Albury Holbrook Club for their generosity for which we are extremely grateful. We will start putting processes in place to offer grants to Clubs.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1. Review of the Zone Affiliation Fees** - At the meeting at the start of the year the issue of zone fees was raised with regards to the equity of a flat rate across all zones regardless of size, note

the number of players in zones ranges from 45 to 378. The Board was asked to examine alternative options and now presents those options for the council's consideration/discussion.

Option 1 – leave at a flat rate

Option 2 – distribute fees across clubs and zones (increase Club from \$72 to \$120 and decrease zone fees from \$715 to \$450. This would equate to approximately \$9000

Option 3 – Distribute fees across zones, clubs and membership fees. This is essentially option two but with a lower rate for zones and or clubs offset by an increase in individual membership fees. (This would be in addition to any other CPI increase in membership fees)

Discussions took place as to the merits of each option and to which option was most equitable for all Zones.

It was moved that Option 2 be adopted from 2017.

Moved Sara Grills

Seconded John Forsyth

CARRIED

Players fees for 2017 - It was agreed that players fees needed to reflect the amount needed by the State to run each year. It was agreed that an increase of the CPI was fair and reasonable.

Funds paid to PAA - Albury Holbrook Club raised concerns as to the PAA and where the funds provided to them go. They had raised funds for the National team to travel to South Africa and asked for a statement of how those funds were distributed. Nothing has been received.

There was general discussion of PAA Budget process and need for clarity and transparency of how funds are spent.

Outcomes: PANSW will raise issues of concern at upcoming State Conference with view to asking PAA to adopt a Budget process, to increase transparency.

2. **2018 Fixtures List**

With Nationals being held in Perth in October 2018 there is a need to consider the State Fixtures list prior to the Nationals.

Outcomes: A timeline was drafted to include the selection of Coaches/Managers and Teams together with the change in state events to aid the preparation of teams for the Nationals. This was presented to Council for their consideration. There were no objections to the timeline.

The issue of the Junior Classic clashing with Barastoc in 2018 was raised. Sara Grills advised that there needs to be at least 2 weeks between these events to allow players wanting to take part in both being able to do so and also Coaches whom regularly take part in both to do so. She had had discussions with Les Fraser to this effect who said that he would see what he could do. However came back to setting the Barastoc date the week before the Classic in 2018. Note the Junior Coaching commences at the start of the week before the Competition. Having a week in between this events does not allow much time for travel to the events as well as the horse welfare issue of horses having to travel long distances and working at high levels at both events.

While not ideal a week after the Junior Classic may be possible for attendance at both, but certainly not the week before.

Outcomes: Arch will get in touch with Les Fraser to try and come up with a solution to being able to run both events successfully.

2017 State Fixtures

As advised in the Board Report Warren have been given conditional approval to Host the Zone Championships.

We still need hosts for 2017 Club Championships.

3. Running of State Events

- Draw Committee
- Divisions

Please see the Board report, which covered these issues. It was agreed that these steps were a good start to ensuring the State run events happen as seamlessly as possible.

4. Sub Junior Grades

At the Club Championship it became apparent that the grading of Sub-Junior players is inconsistent. Sub-Junior gradings need to be re-instated to allow these State competitions. Unfortunately not all zones completed this in time for the Zone Championships. There was also an issue with the database downloading Open grades for some junior and sub junior teams.

Outcomes: It is suggested that the Junior, Sub-Junior Selectors and Grading Officers meet at the Albury Junior Classic in 2017 and discuss the grading's together to achieve some bench marks / agreed standards .

The SEO will contact the database company and see if it is possible for a J (Junior) or S (sub-junior) be put in front of the grading when it is downloaded off the system so that it is easily ascertained which grade has been downloaded.

5. Follow up report from Melissa Davis on the Paramedic Policy

Melissa gave a summary of the new Paramedic policy and after a few teething issues in the beginning of the season, the remainder of the season ran quite smoothly.

Club Secretaries are reminded that when they are putting together their carnival invite, they need to write the name of the Paramedic provider on the invite.

The State is encouraged that we now have a range of accredited service providers and competition between these companies should keep them cost effective.

Zones are encouraged to approach Paramedic Service Providers to see if they can offer them a bulk rate for entire zones.

In 2017 a Safety Committee Audit Sheet will be handed to all Paramedic Providers at carnivals. The purpose of this document is to capture data on the number of incidents that occur at carnivals, the type of incidents etc. This information will be provided to the Safety Committee for auditing to ensure the ongoing health and safety of all players/officials/spectators etc.

6. **Masters Women at Barastoc** –We have been informed that there will be no Masters Mixed or Masters Women's teams at Barastoc in 2017. It was noted there are a significant number of Women Masters in both Qld and NSW still playing at a credible level. NSW needs to encourage participation of Masters Women at major events. These members are often critical in managing and running our sport. We need to encourage them to remain active participants. **Outcomes: Chris Bourke will** look into getting a Masters Women's competition at Barastoc or in NSW.

7. **Masters at Silver Stirrup/ Junior Classic** Bruce McClartey from South Africa is coming to coach at Junior Classic. South Africa are also wanting to bring a masters team to play against a NSW team. It will be a requirement of the Team they play against to **provide**

the team with horses. Billets will also be sought for the Juniors and the Masters from South Africa.

Outcomes: Arch will get in contact with Bruce to see if they are able to bring a Masters team and clarify if they are bringing a Masters Womens and/or mixed team.

8. **Pay and Play on the day** – Sara Grills expressed the need for there to be a membership that allows players to pay a nominal fee and try out Polocrosse the same day. This would help when Clubs are running other events, to enable them to promote Polocrosse and offer it to potential new members to give it a try.

Outcomes: PANSW are attending a State Conference meeting in Tasmania in November. PA NSW will raise issue with Conference and seek other States support for the concept of Pay and Play membership. PAA have resisted this proposal in the past.

9. **Promotion Materials**

Lucy Grills is working on a NSW Polocrosse Brochure and would like to develop a show bag to be able to hand out to promote our sport and provide potential new players with information on our sport.

Outcomes: PANSW is supportive of Lucy's initiatives and requested Lucy to provide a quote on developing them.

Meeting closed: 1:49pm

Annual General Meeting and Yearly Council Meeting suggested date: 18 February 2017.