



BOARD REPORT

NSWPA BOARD MEETING – Friday 25 September 2015

Meeting Commenced 10:43am

Attendees:

Laughlin Ross (President), Cathy Bennett, Arch Anderson, Chris Bourke, Anthony Kirk and Melanie Kelly (SEO/Minutes)

- Minutes from last meeting.
- Business Arising

PANSW Funding

A reminder to all clubs that Applications for NSW Funding need to be submitted to the State by the end of January. This will enable the Board to consider all the Applications for Funding on their merit. Outcomes of successful funding will be advised at the AGM in February.

State Draw Committee

Andrew Rose has resigned from his position. The Board would like to introduce a state draw committee. The State Draw Committee will comprise members of the NSW polocrosse community who are recognized as having significant experience and expertise in developing effective competition draws. The Chair of the Draw Committee will be appointed by the Board, members will comprise representatives from each Zone, or individuals identified by the Board or Chair as having significant skills in this area. EOIs have been sought for these positions. We have received 2 responses so far, we need to encourage more nominations and select a chair.

Outcomes/Actions: Expressions of interest will again be sent out to the State to identify members from across the State to establish a new committee.

Sydney Show

There have been issues in the past with the dates set for the Sub Juniors to take part in the Sydney Royal Easter Show, normally overlapping with the Albury Junior Classic. At this stage we believe it will take place on 28-30 March 2016, which is the day after Barastoc concludes.

Outcomes/Actions: The State Office will write a letter to RAS to confirm dates for the show in 2016.

A suggestion was made that we look at displaying our Senior Polocrosse at some bigger country shows, similar to the Mudgee display, which was received quite well

Sponsorship Guidelines

Guidelines for National and individual sponsorship have been added to our OPM. We remind anyone seeking sponsorship to ensure that they are familiar with those guidelines.

9th Chukka

The production of the 9th involves a considerable amount of work and takes the SEO from performing other duties.

Outcomes/Actions: PANSW to contact Lucy Grills to see if she is interested in assisting with or taking over its production.

Western Districts Team to WA

PANSW has been advised that Western Districts have been invited to send a team over to WA.

Outcomes/Actions: State to contact Western Districts as to details of this event

World Cup Levy

At the PAA AGM it was agreed that each State would incur a levy to help the set up running costs of the World Cup. These levies were to be refunded to the States if the World Cup returned a profit.

Outcomes/Actions: Anthony to draft letter to PAA seeking that in the event the levies are not repaid in full that the PAA reimburse the balance.

Intermediate Development Teams – This year the PAA has trialled competitions for Intermediate Development Teams, through events in various states. No reports or feedback has been received from the PAA in relation to these events.

Outcomes/Actions: PANSW to write a letter to PAA as to these development teams seeking feedback on the program and where they see it heading in the future so that we can incorporate it in our forward planning.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Reconfiguration of Treasurer - Since Anthony has taken over the role as treasurer he has worked hard at making the financials more transparent for members. Laughlin thanked Anthony who has done a splendid job with the financials and he should be complemented on his work done to date. This was echoed by the rest of the Board. Anthony advised that the day to day transactional activities take away time from his Board Member duties. He does not feel that he has the capacity to do the two jobs to the best of his ability. He has suggested that a book keeper be retained on a trial basis of 12 months. Anthony would oversee the book keeper as part of his portfolio. Anthony would also be responsible for preparing a budget together with the Bookkeeper. A suitable person from within the polocrosse community has been identified.

Outcomes/Action Anthony will speak to the person about taking on the position for a trial period for 12 months for an honorarium of \$2000.

Nationals 2016

- **Budget** – The Darwin Nationals cost PANSW approximately \$2600 per team. At this stage, until we receive figures from Albury as to entry costs etc it is too early to look at a detailed budget however we expect it to be in the ball park of \$30,000.
- **Sponsorship** – PANSW has indentified potential sponsors and has drafted sponsorship rates for State and Team sponsors. This needs to be managed so potential sponsors are not approached by numerous different groups. Cathy Bennet will take on the Chair role for the sponsorship portfolio and will work with Mel. Libby Ward needs the details of the sponsors by the end of this year, to keep the costs of shirts down to a minimum.

Outcomes/Action PANSW to write to indentified sponsors to seek sponsorship for the State as soon as possible.

- **Seamus McKillop (Vet) and Peter Wornes (human chiropractor)** – PANSW once again would like to obtain the services of both Seamus and Peter Wornes. Both of them did a good job in Darwin. Both these services will be provided free of charge to PANSW Nationals players. If anyone else needs their services this will be at the cost of the person involved

Outcomes/Action PANSW to liaise with Sara Grills as to what she thinks is an appropriate remuneration for their services. When contacting both Seamus and Peter, we will advise that as part of the remuneration, we will require a feedback report on treatments they did over the course of the Nationals so that we can use this information for future events.

- **Vern Wakefield** – Vern has come on board with PANSW as a horse chiropractor. Vern's services will be available to all NSW team members, however the cost will be incurred by the person requesting the services.
- **National Vet** - after the Darwin Nationals, a report was prepared by the National Vet as to the treatments, horses vetted out, cause of injury etc. PANSW felt that this was an extremely valuable document, however were advised that it was not to be distributed throughout the state.

Outcomes/Action PANSW to write to PAA requiring a report from the Nationals vet that is able to be distributed throughout the membership. This should outline issues such as number and cause of injuries treated, numbers of horses vetted out from each state.

Barastoc prior to Nationals – It is more than likely that Barastoc will be used as a hit out for Nationals teams prior to the Nationals. There is a concern, that as it is so close to the event and the travel needed for some horses in such a short period of time, that it will have a detrimental effect on the horses. It is suggested, that the teams be allowed a pool of horses, that they are allowed to use over the course of the event.

Outcomes/Action PANSW to write to Les Fraser with NSW proposal . Once the format of the competition is agreed, expressions of interest will go out to the State as to availability of players.

Manning of gate at Nationals – A letter was received from Albury in relation to the manning of the entry gate at Nationals. It is the feeling of the Board that the logistics of the job is large and could be difficult to meet due other playing and Nationals commitments. Also believe the man power required would be larger than that proposed by Albury. It is suggested that this may be better being contracted out to outside community groups .

Outcomes/Action PANSW seeks input from Council as to whether they feel we would get

the necessary commitment from Zones and Clubs to take on this role or whether they agree that this should be outsourced.

Database Contract – The new database contract as drafted by the PAA was forwarded to Jim Colquhoun Senior for his advice. We still have not received that advice. Currently the database contract is run on a month to month basis. Anthony advised the importance of having a signed Contract and we need to seek Jim’s advice in relation to this. PANSW Board feels that the terms of the older contract were sufficient with the change to the fee structure as agreed by PANSW and PAA

Outcomes/Action PANSW to seek advice from Jim Colquhoun Senior as to whether he feels that the older Contract with the new fee structure is more appropriate than the new contract drafted by the PAA, together with the issues of not having a signed Contract and working on a month to month basis.

2016 Fixtures – The final 2016 fixtures and events list should be out to Zones and Clubs by the end of next week.

- Cassilis will host Club Championships
- Burradoo will host Zone Championships

Thank you to these Clubs for expressing their interest in hosting these events

Break 12:43

Recommence 1:43

Agenda for Council Meeting- The Board went through the agenda for the Council meeting. Umpiring issues were discussed at length. Narrabri also forwarded a letter to PANSW in relation to umpiring issues for which we thank them. Certain options were discussed which we will discuss with Council.

Sydney Intermediate Weekend – Despite the weather leading up to and during the Sydney Intermediate weekend, it was still considered a success. Sydney cancelled their Club carnival but did run games for the National and State Intermediates, whom had already travelled for the event. Due to being unable to run their Club Carnival to help offset the cost of running the State Fixture, Sydney Club was left out of pocket.

Outcome/Tasks PANSW will request a letter from Sydney Club, setting out the out of pocket expenses that were incurred as a result of them running the weekend for the Intermediates. The Board will then consider a reimbursement of funds lost.

Coonabarabran Horse Expo- This event attracts many younger players from all over the State, a lot of whom are experiencing Polocrosse for the first time. Laughlin feels we need to support this effort more than what we have in the past. It is a great opportunity to grow the sport and take advantage of having so many people in the one spot that get a taste of Polocrosse. It was suggested that we need to have a trade site there to provide further information on NSW Polocrosse. We could look at options including having a couple of televisions set up, with one running the new Polocrosse DVD produced by the PAA and another running information on PANSW such as clubs, contacts, website details etc.

Outcomes/Tasks Mel to look more in to a proper trade stall, possibly in conjunction with Western Districts and suppliers such as Graham Bennett for the next Coonabarabran Horse Expo.

Correspondence from Jo Scard and Andrew Meares. - Jo Scard and Andrew Meares were the State sponsors of the 2014 Nationals. They have offered their services for the Albury Nationals and suggested a daily Newspaper type article could be produced covering the days events as well as photos throughout the event. This would go out via the Newsletter, on the website and on the Nationals website if they approve. The content and photos would be proofed by the SEO prior to distribution each day.

Outcomes/Tasks Mel to liaise with Albury to ensure that this does not conflict with their ideas for Nationals. Contact Jo Scard to acknowledge and thank for offer of support.

Subcommittee Meetings - Attendance at subcommittee meetings are very poor. It is suggested that we take advantage of the new Pragmatic telephone conferencing system to facilitate subcommittee meetings throughout the year. It was agreed that it become mandatory for all subcommittees to have a teleconference 4 to 6 weeks prior to the AGM and half yearly Council meeting. The Chair of the subcommittee must then attend the council meetings to present the report. A proforma will be drafted to be completed by the Chair of the subcommittee.

Outcomes/Tasks Discuss with Council and propose All subcommittees be advised of this proposal and provided with the proformas for their use.

South African Tour - There has been a request from South Africa to tour to Australia to play the NSW Men's Senior Team sometime after the Nationals 2016. All horses would be provided by the NSW team.

Outcomes/ Tasks Arch will look at the logistics and provide further info in the future.

Disciplinary Issues – Lengthy discussions took place on current disciplinary issues. Further information has been required by PANSW from the PAA. Discussions also took place with Sam Halsted, State Director of Umpiring and the Board supports him in his role and the decisions he has had to make in relation to recent disciplinary issues.

Outcomes/Tasks: Liaison with PAA. .

Meeting closed: 6:36pm