



Polocrosse Association of New South Wales Incorporated

Tel: 0407 207 649

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Minutes: Council Meeting 24th February 2018

Meeting commenced after AGM and lunch break at 1pm

Meeting acknowledged the passing of Graham Spackman and Cath Lillibridge and a minutes silence was observed.

Apologies were received from the Annual Award winners, these awards will be done at local levels.

1. Minutes from previous Council Meeting – as circulated were accepted

Nil Business Arising

2. The Board Report from Friday 23rd February was circulated. Detailed discussion of Board Report was dealt with under the relevant Agenda items.

3. PA NSW Motions on Notice

2. *All Zones should hold their AGM before the Half Yearly State Council Meeting. The half yearly meeting will be held in Sept - October each year.*

The half yearly meeting will be the main working meeting for the association, with reports from the previous playing season.

The AGM will be held in February each year, prior to commencement of the playing season. Note: the AGM should be late enough to allow the Annual Audit to be available.

After Council discussion the **Motion was withdrawn**. The timing of Zone meetings needs to conform to requirements of financial year and audits. But each Zone and Club should be holding at least 3 meetings per year.





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However, it was agreed that the Half Yearly Council meeting should be in October where possible and the AGM prior to start to the playing season, but late enough to enable the audit to have been undertaken at end of FY (31 December).

PA NSW Motions

3. The conduct of the Club Championships shall be revised to encourage greater participation and promote this competition as a key event on the playing calendar.

There was significant discussion on this Motion. It was agreed the disappointing participation in 2017 was due to a number of factors. Issues raised included consider having “Open” as opposed to “Men’s” competition, have ability for pool teams to compete and all Club members participation to contribute to overall Club points.

The Board will give further consideration to the format and points for these Championships prior to this year’s Club Championships.

4. Both Club and Zone Championships shall be selection carnivals. The Selection Committees for each Division should nominate one other weekend as a selection or squad weekend.

Note: all players eligible for a respective Division should be eligible to attend squad weekends where players are being coached and teams are being selected.

Motion Carried

5. NSW to introduce a policy were by higher graded players should only play in the 2 position when playing in lower graded teams. (Proposed revision to the OPM circulated).

Motion Carried. OPM to be so revised. Details attached.





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6. *PA NSW to establish a new position of Director Player Safety, Welfare and Risk Management. The tasks to be undertaken by this position will include, but not limited to, manage the Paramedic Accreditation system, the Induction program, identify and develop resources for player welfare including mental and physical health, and risk management.*

Above motion was discussed and supported in the AGM.
Mel Davis to be approached and offered the position.

Zones could assist in identifying individuals who could become members of a Welfare committee to support the Director.

4. Correspondence

a) Dunedoo – concern re playing fees and breakdown of costs

Board clarified the changes in insurance, ie the 2017 Insurance provider advised PAA in mid- December they would no longer cover our sport. PAA therefore sought cover from previous provider – Marsh. NSW will continue to pressure PAA to provide clarity of fees and insurance as in previous years.

Discussion of cost of other States fees, it was acknowledged that Qld is able to subsidise their Juniors and members due to their significant assets, ie cattle enterprise.

b) NWP – concerns with communication from PA NSW

Board is aware of the ongoing issue and is working to address communication. Corey Ireland outlined work being done to increase the potential use of the database. There was also interest in further enabling and empowering Zones. We need to promote a culture of self help and increase SEO availability.

Board response:





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1. SEO Office hours Tuesday afternoon, 12 - 4 pm, Thursday morning, 9am – 1 pm. Retaining a degree of flexibility for other work and emergencies.
2. Fortnightly newsletter – E mail through data base, Website and subsequent Facebook.
3. Looking to increase database access to empower Zone Secretaries for player and team registration

c) Sara Grills concerning transparency and process in all levels of our sport, and at PAA level in particular.

There was significant discussion of need for members to be informed of process and decisions and rationale. Membership sought clarification of access to Minutes of PAA and All States Meetings.

Agreed PA NSW seek clarification of ability to distribute PAA Minutes. Also write to PAA seeking increased clarity and transparency. The lack of clarity in PAA and insurance fees was also noted.

5. All States Conference

A summary of the issues coming out of the All States Meeting in Perth in November and taken up with PAA was discussed:

PAA Fees – break down – *still requesting from PAA, will follow up at AGM*

Insurance Forms and full information were placed up on the Websites

NUC reformation – *meeting to be held with State reps*

Remove PAA player transfer fees – *to be discussed at NUC*

Meeting of State Grading Officers at Nationals - *agreed*

Data Base access – give greater access to Officials - *work in progress*

Grading should not be used at teams for Nationals – *Not supported by PAA*

National Calendar of events - and have several years out – *Not supported*

Divisions at Nationals – include Junior Mixed and allow Tri State teams – *accepted*





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6. Nationals Preparations, State Team Weekend

State weekend will be held in conjunction with Gulgong Carnival at end of August. Opportunity for the State 'Team' and individual teams, coaches and managers to come together.

Whether players are seen on their nominated horses or not is up to discussion with the relevant Coach, and will differ for different teams and players.

Look to having motivational speakers, a structured program. Details to follow.

NSW Active Kids Program

PA NSW will honour valid \$100 vouchers. Exact process still to be determined. Need to clarify given use of a national data base.

Sponsorship for State and Nationals Campaign

Board is working toward securing a major sponsor for the sport over next few years, including the Nationals Campaign. Individual teams are also encouraged to consider potential sponsors.

Meeting Closed 4 pm





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Attachment : OPM Proposed Addition

PART 5 PA NSW PLAYING GUIDELINES

FAIR AND SAFE COMPETITIONS

5.1 The priority for all PA NSW Hosted events is to provide fair and safe competition for all polocrosse players. Tournament Hosts, the Draw Committee, Umpires and all players have a role and responsibility to ensure competitions are safe and fair.

5.2 The tournament Draw Committee will need to consider placing pool players in appropriately graded teams, and or allow some players to double up to make up full teams for a competition. At times Clubs may also need to place a highly graded player into a lower graded team.

5.3 Where a player is graded significantly higher than the team in which they are placed, they should play in the 2 position.

A guideline for what constitutes 'a higher graded player' is if a player's grade is equivalent to 50 % of the total of the other 5 players they should play in the 2 position.

For example: A 5 Grade Player in a team whose total points for the other 5 players is 10, should play in the 2 position. A 7 Graded Player in a team whose total points for the other 5 players is 14 should play in the 2 position.

It is the role of the Draw Committee and Senior Tournament Umpire to advise the relevant Club and player of this guideline and ensure this determination is enforced. Failure to comply with this directive will result in disqualification of the team.

