

Australian Dragon Boat Federation

Annual General Meeting – Minutes – 19 Nov 2017



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| Date | 19 November | Time | 10:00am (AEDT) |
| Place | Novotel Brisbane Airport 6-8 The Circuit Brisbane Airport QLD 4007 | | |
| Chair | Vic Fazakerley (VF) | | |
| Minute taker | Angie Aston (AA) | | |
| Attendees | | | |
| AusDBF Vic Fazakerley (Acting Chair/Technical Director) Angie Aston (Administration Director) Melanie Cantwell (Technical Director) Michelle James (Finance Director) Rex Tindal (Development Director) | State Members Sue Bowen (DAA) Ross Boyce (DBQ) Gio Cercone (DBNSW) Barbara Clarkson (DBWA) Julie Davidson (DBTAS) Danielle Ferrari (DBQ) Nicola Frowen (DBNSW) John Holland (DBSA) Laura Hughes (DBWA) Chris Kelley (DBSA) | Sharon Knights (DBSA) Janine Lette (DBQ) Judy New (DBQ) Jo Parry (DAA) Kirsty Sheppard (DBACT) Mark Slater (DBQ) Adrian Stephens (DBV) Lucy Warhurst (DBNSW) | |
| Visitors/Nominees: Belinda Chung (NSW) Zillah Dunton (NSW) | Blair Gamble (QLD) Tanya White (NSW) | | |
| Apologies | | | |
| Brendan Breen (DBTAS) Alan Clark (DBACT) Laura Hughes (DBWA) | Kristin Priest (WA) - Nominee Geoff Roberts (NSW) - Nominee | | |
| Agenda Topics | | | |
| Item | Description | | |
| 1 | AGM Minutes of 11 December 2016 The minutes of the previous AGM meeting on 11 th December 2016 were accepted as follows: Moved: Janine Lette, Seconded: Gio Cercone, carried. | | |
| 2 | 2017 Financial Report / Audit Michelle James, AusDBF Finance Director, presented the audited AusDBF Financial Report for 2016/2017. Members were encouraged to ask questions at the meeting or to contact her subsequent to the meeting. The Financial Report was accepted as follows: Moved: Adrian Stephens, Seconded: Barbara Clarkson, carried | | |
| 3 | AusDBF Annual Report 2016 <u>Directors Reports</u> Each of the AusDBF Directors were invited to comment on the past year. Comments made or issues raised as follows: Vic Fazakerley (Acting Chair) Vic congratulated the Albury Organising Committee for the 2017 National Championships, noting that, in spite of the unfortunate weather conditions, everything ran smoothly, the competitors/spectators were happy with the arrangements, volunteers were plentiful and the | | |

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| | <p>officials were well in control.</p> <p>Vic also noted the changes in Board membership and the resulting Board vacancies which, in addition to the resignation of Jo Grant, and the change to the World Championships to two campaigns instead of one, made it difficult for the Board members to be as responsive or efficient as they would have preferred.</p> <p>He also congratulated Serghei Cucsă, the other coaches, and all the managers, including the General Manager, for the success of the Australian team both in France and China.</p> <p>Vic also referred to the plans for the 2018 National Championships noting the meeting held the previous day between AusDBF and the DBQ Organising Committee to look at the impact of the Commonwealth Games and how to showcase this sport, and also the ramifications of bringing forward the date of the National Championships.</p> <p>Vic's final comment as the outgoing Acting Chair was a suggestion that the AusDBF Board needs to take on a more strategic role which should also include the resurrection of the Oceania group, noting that Fiji is now expressing interest.</p> <p>Rex Tindal (Development Director)</p> <p>Rex referred the meeting to his report in the Annual Report, in particular the work undertaken with the Level 1 and 2 Coaches course, noting that 150 have attended the course, with 126 having passed their accreditation.</p> <p>He also pointed out that AusDBF has been undergoing an accreditation process as a result of the collaboration with ASC. An email from Maggie Boyce describing the work done by Dangerous Minds was read.</p> <p>Rex reported on the challenges faced by the Auroras with the splitting of the World Championships to two venues. However, as the competition in France provided for 24 countries to compete with the Juniors, they experienced the best racing opportunities possible. The resulting 61 medals awarded to the Australian team were the largest number ever received, a significant achievement.</p> <p>Rex will continue to work with the Development people in each of the states.</p> <p>Vic Fazakerley (Technical Director)</p> <p>Vic thanked the race officials who attended Nationals in Albury Wodonga.</p> <p>He also reported that 58% of exemption requests were approved.</p> <p>As nearly 80% of officials in Australia are at Level 1, and, with five courses held this year, 54 more officials were accredited as Level 1. There is a need to upgrade them by having them attend more events.</p> <p>Vic pointed out the changes made to the Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing, in particular the notation regarding Club Crew World Championship acceptances, and the clarification regarding crews marshalling 2-3 races prior to their race.</p> <p>Michelle James (Finance Director)</p> <p>The meeting noted Michelle's report and the emphasis put on the importance of paying Early Bird fees on time. She also raised the method for clubs to allocate race fees across their club.</p> <p>Angie Aston (Administration Director)</p> <p>Angie thanked the State members for their patience and support this year particularly with the number of Board vacancies and the loss of continuity with Jo Grant resigning in August. A new Admin/Finance role is being discussed and it is expected that the new Board will make a decision quickly.</p> <p>Melanie Cantwell (Technical Director)</p> <p>Melanie reported that her focus had been on preparing an EOI for Race Officials, Presenters and Officials, and she has also circulated an EOI for 2018 AusChamps officials. Melanie pointed out that since her previous time on the AusDBF Board, a number of things had changed, and, while she had been able to contribute with her experience as a previous AusDBF Board member and as an IDBF member; she had also been on a learning curve.</p> <p>The meeting approved the Annual Report as follows:</p> <p>Moved: Barbara Clarkson, Seconded: Janine Lette, carried.</p> <p>The meeting thanked Victor Fazakerley for his time spent on the Board and his contribution to the sport of dragon boating.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Election of Directors</p> <p>Before going to election, a question was raised regarding allowing the Board nominees to present to the Board. However, it was pointed out that not all nominees were in attendance and therefore not all could be given the same opportunity. In addition, there was no</p> |

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| | <p>allowance made for nominees to present and that is why each nominee was asked to provide a biography about themselves. Nominees were told they were welcome to attend the AGM but had not been informed they would have an opportunity to speak. The meeting noted Adrian Stephen's comments that skills should be the pre-eminent determinant for selecting/electing Board members.</p> <p>In future, an opportunity to present to the AGM could be considered as a strategy, and also the Board may prepare a list of skills required on the Board, and ask potential nominees for a list of skills/qualities that they may bring to the Board.</p> |
| | <p>Noted the vacancies as follows: Ordinary Director Role 2 year duration –vacated by David Abel Ordinary Director Role 2 year duration – vacated by Melissa O'Brien Ordinary Director Role 1 year duration – vacated by Lisa Horntvedt Ordinary Director Role 2 year duration – being vacated by Vic Fazakerley Ordinary Director Role 2 year duration – held by Angie Aston, and standing for re-election.</p> <p>Results: The Chair noted this was the first time so many nominations had been received, and the nominees were thanked for their interest and enthusiasm. Elected Board Directors were: Angie Aston Melanie Cantwell John Holland Kristin Priest Geoff Roberts</p> <p>The outgoing Chair offered his congratulations to all successful candidates and commiserations to those who were unsuccessful.</p> |
| 5 | <p>Members were invited to give a brief presentation on the recent activities of their Association such as: membership figures, events, topics of special interest, current activity, successes/failures. Each State was encouraged to submit any finished report to A Aston for filing with the Board papers.</p> <p>DBACT Membership: 623 members, 430 adults, 193 juniors, the vast majority of juniors are male Committee members: 6 new committee members Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • re-instated ACT Champs and will include age group racing • discussions being held with DBNSW re: sharing racing • a recent DA corporate regatta was well attended • progressing developments for a club home – draft drawn with architect • planning a corporate regatta but dates conflicted with earlier Nationals in 2018 • Sally Bromley, Alan Clark and Ursula Tonkin are all State coaches. • new Development Officer (Kate) – aiming to hold a 'schools' regatta • Chris Cheung ran a workshop with coaches – seeking a coach facilitator • reviewing sweeps' accreditation, • good influx of officials this year • looking forward to working with the NAP <p>DBQ Membership: 1400 members, (26 juniors, 75% females) Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have focused on governance, • built up a core group to deliver workshops • worked to support Hospital Foundation – raised \$50K – to be held 16 June 2018 • Now on Revsport database • Martin Pavelka working with Juniors – they compete against adults; • some clubs are holding sessions in their local schools • Qld State squad – a mentoring system for Lev 1 coaches • State titles to be held in Feb • Ross has taken on role of Chair of Org Committee; • now have a full Board complement <p>DBTAS</p> |

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| | <p>Membership: 230 & growing – received application for new club at St Helen's -80 members Committee members: 6 Board members as of Oct AGM (need one more) Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • challenge to recruit from the north of Tasmania, • State Titles on March long weekend – a stand-alone event & increasing in stature. • Australian Master Games held last month • Org Comm – 8 people, 400 paddlers – feedback was positive, good weather • There is no 4 Bridges Race in 2018. • Tassie's best year at AusChamps this year <p>Issue: St Helen's has built their own non-standard 10s boats using local communities – DBTAS needed assurance that they were committed to the TasDBF objectives and willing to take part in AusDBF races and race in/use AusDBF approved boats. one trainer – with 9 participants. 2018 doing a strategic plan</p> <p>DBV Membership: 900 members (5% increase) 2/3 M vs 1/3 F, 60% Country, 40% City Committee: good Board in place, some co-opted to suit skill needs ie: junior development. Activities/challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • targeting 3 major events – including a mid-summer LGBTI regatta in Feb, • Vic teams – currently processing/testing State team – difficulty getting Seniors teams. • Changed coaching structure. DA/SC have dominated the coaching stage, and they have put in place some newer coaches • conscious that coaches/officials need to be pushed to progress <p>Issue: Need to look at fee structure. Have been relying on previous profits (from 2012 AusChamps), want to be more self-sufficient and to develop an income stream. Hiring a fulltime employee. Extraneous issues – two accounts of bullying/coaching – this has split clubs, and long stayers have been pushed out. extraneous issues – 2 accounts of bullying and coaching – some has split clubs – some long stayers who were pushed out</p> |
| | <p>DBWA Membership: 448 members, of which 186 are new. Retention rate = 69%, Gender breakdown: 68% F, 32% M, Age breakdown: youngest 11, oldest 85 new clubs – Fury River Dragons and Bunbury Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have been pushed through for coaching accreditation. • 19 WA members in Auroras this year, thanks to Rex for training • grant received from government helped support the juniors. • Chungwa Cup held at Champion Lakes (an annual event) - 2000 spectators • looking to focus more time on Strategic planning <p>DBNSW Introduced Lucy Warhurst (CEO) and announced that Tamsin Glen is the new Board Chair. Advertising for two people (Strategic Planning & Risk Registers) All Directors must complete AICD course. Lots of focus on Governance, Strategy and Risk. Membership: 2765 members (highest number for 5 years – aiming to break 3000), no new clubs this year, Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State team – 330 applications received, and selection trials now underway • CNY event – 24/25th Feb • welcome to Andrew Blundell and Nicola Frowen – new Board Directors <p>DBSA Membership: 653 members (now on Revolutionise) – running a trial with age categories – trialing Open and Seniors Committee: JH stood down after 13 years, then moved to Exec Director) Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employing a Race caller, |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • min age 10, but drummer min age is 12. • 14 Lv1 coaches, • purchased a caravan to create a finish-line centre to travel around SA. • Sport is growing – corporate and local events. • Working with Scouts for the 2019 WW Jamboree, aim to hold a dragon boating event – and doing a badge <p>DAA Membership: 33 teams – 1200 members, some males, but mostly females Committee: 5 Board members but only 4 in place right now. Short of 5 members. Activities/Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pleased that a few DAA members were Auroras • Looking for more members – Women on Board, a National convention in Melbourne with reps from all member clubs, • Annual Festival in Cockle Bay – numbers were down but a successful event. • 20th anniversary in 2018 for DAA, working on comms for that event. • Florence – IBCP event – many teams going plus three composite teams from DAA. • Many groups have their own “come and try days”. • Formed an association with Outward Bound and participated in some events, taking people outside their comfort zones. • Continue to support/assist our clubs with their bullying. <p>Noted that ACT and TAS are not using RevSport.</p> |
| | End of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at 12:40pm |
| | General Members’ Meeting commenced at 12:40pm |
| 6 | <p>AusDBF Competition Regulations and Rules of Racing – updated – Vic Fazakerley The meeting noted VF’s explanation of amendments. Noted that IDBF are changing age cut off dates to end December. A new category (University/education) has been added but only at Club Crew Level, not at a Nations level, U24 Division will remain.</p> |
| 6.1 | <p>Chair of General Members Meeting In response to a query from GC regarding Chair of General Members’ meeting, the meeting noted the AusDBF Constitution Clause 11.5 b) point i: which states “If a General Meeting is convened and there is no Chair, the following may preside as Chair (in order of entitlement) - a Director (or other person) chosen by a majority of the Directors present”. Therefore, Vic Fazakerley was appointed Chair of the General Members Meeting.</p> |
| 7 | <p>AusDBF/IDBF – Rules of Racing – paper from DBQ The members noted JN’s explanation regarding this paper. Discussed the difficulty for State team paddlers whose club isn’t attending the Nationals. This also affects the club they choose to paddle with as it removes the equity. It’s better for clubs to support their own ‘super’ paddlers. Noted DBSA’s new initiative to ‘twin’ clubs (city vs country) Noted that paddlers are going to AOCRA – need to work out how to retain them. Discussed clause CR 4.3.1 which addresses border towns. Is it possible to establish a form of that wording into the rules so that at Nationals where their club isn’t competing, they can join both clubs? It’s a major issue for regional crews. In WA, there is no borrowing paddlers for a 10s boats; however, two paddlers can be borrowed for a 20s boat. MS suggested making AusDBF rules same as IDBF, with a specific timeframe, noted MC’s comments re: Reg 1. <i>Action: Agreed that Technical Committee will review the paper.</i></p> |
| 8 | <p>AusDBF Committee & Auroras – paper from DBQ Discussed what the boundaries would be regarding Board members being involved with Auroras. Noted that 2017 was an anomaly with 4 Board Directors being overseas at once. <i>Action: AusDBF to discuss how to alleviate.</i></p> |

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| 9 | <p>Junior Age Range within Competition Classes – paper from DBQ Discussed dropping minimum age to 8 yrs. Clause CR2.2 stipulates 12yrs of age. State members were canvassed for their suggestion/preference, taking into consideration disparity in growth ranges, safety issues (ie: cold water shock in TAS), state legislation re: PFDs, insurance, etc noted there are 45 juniors waiting to turn 12. The following motion was put forward: All paddlers with the exception of the drummer or steerer (sweep or helm) must be a minimum of 10 yrs of age to 18 years of age as at 31 December 2018 and must wear a PFD. Moved: Judy New (DBQ), Seconded: Barbara Clarkson (DBWA), carried. The States suggested a review be undertaken of who must wear PFDs, particularly Juniors. Liaise with states to encourage their juniors to wear PFDs. Ask each State to advise what they do regarding safety measures for juniors. RT will be point of contact. Implementation for AusChamps 2019. <i>Action: RT will pull together NAP information and will arrange a working group to review.</i></p> |
| 10 | <p>AusDBF Constitutional Amendment suggestion – Paper from DBSA This paper addressed eligibility to be a director. <i>Action: AusDBF Board to review.</i> State members were encouraged to provide feedback by 31st December. Noted that in some States each Director holds a portfolio, not President but Chair, or treasurer or secretary.</p> |
| 11 | <p>National Coaches Database – transfer from ASC to NSOs - update - Rex Tindal The meeting noted RT's update.</p> |
| 12 | <p>AusChamps Allocation Review Sub-Committee – update – Vic Fazakerley noted that the Charter was emailed to State members. <i>Action; States to nominate a member to sit on the Committee</i></p> |
| 13 | <p>Discussion on BC Category at Nationals – paper from DAA The meeting noted a number of members were contacting DAA about not getting enough teams for AusChamps. DAA has surveyed their members to find out the issues. DAA asked AusDBF to assist with composite teams but DAA understands it is their responsibility to arrange for their members to be available. MC outlined the categories for the National Championships and mentioned that BCS crews would be 10s crews. Also, as per IDBF rules, BCS crews must consist of survivors only Boats The meeting noted the expense of <i>transporting</i> boats from Albury and the decision to utilize standard boats for all races. IDBF fee The meeting noted and discussed the increased levy. DBSW suggested that AusDBF should be holding to a 5% increase. It was explained that the IDBF levy is non-negotiable.</p> |
| 14.1 | <p>General Business Noted the 'confidential' announcement from Ross Boyce regarding sponsorship from Sunshine Coast Council. It commences with 2018 National Championships but has implications going forward as well. Noted RB may not seek commission. Discussed the use of the funds. <i>Action: AusDBF Board to discuss and consult with members. RB to send something to the Board.</i></p> |
| 14.2 | <p>Query re: use of blood thinners. <i>Action: BC will look into it.</i> Maybe a sweep's decision?</p> |
| 14.3 | <p>NF – interested in ongoing communication with other States. Suggest putting together a Working Group. Noted there used to be a President's group which encouraged communication between States.</p> |
| 14.4 | <p>Incident Report and Injury Report – <i>Action: Check who uses this report for Rev Sport.</i></p> |
| | <p>meeting closed at 15:12</p> |