

**Australian Dragon Boat Federation
Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

Date: 8 April 2008
Venue: Sport & Rec Offices, Perth, WA
Present:

QLD	Blair Gamble Janine Lette Loretta Lewis Susan Doel
NSW	Eva Kessler (holding 2 votes for DBNSW) Christopher Alexandrou Melanie Cantwell
ACT	Kelvin Watt Louise Yabsley
VIC	nil
SA	John Holland Steve Clinch Jennifer Bould Julie Clinch
WA	Vic Fazakerley Barbara Clarkson Deb Ree Yvette Libregts
NT	Daryl Manzie (holding all 4 votes for DBNT)
TAS	Linda Reidal arrived during meeting
DAA	Michelle Hanton

Interested parties

Chris Wood
Liz Thomas
Joe Gomory
Sue Norton
George Bradilovic
Andy Chapman

Apologies: Linda Reidal (though arrived later)
Trevor Huggard

Proxies: TasDBF – Janine Lette (proxy returned to delegate upon her attendance)
VDBA – Jon Taylor

Opened: 5.30pm

PREAMBLE

Role Call

An attendance sheet was circulated and all present were asked to sign it.

During the announcing of delegates present, discussion was held at length as to whether or not TasDBF were Ordinary Members as previously they were Associate Members. Janine advised that TasDBF's Ordinary Membership status had been discussed at a number of AusDBF Board Teleconferences throughout the year with the understanding that once they had more than 1 financial sport club, they fitted the criteria for Ordinary Membership. Janine advised that they now had 3 sports clubs, plus the DAA clubs in Tasmania as per the DAA resolution accepted in 2005.

JT and John Holland stated that TasDBF must make application in writing to become Ordinary Members pursuant to clause 5.3 of the Constitution and they were not aware of this. Janine advised that an email had been received advising of their financial clubs and requesting Ordinary Membership. She pointed out that this was pursuant to 5.2 and determination of their application should occur now. Both JT and John Holland requested this email and Janine went online to locate the email. However, given the time constraints and the volume of emails to be searched, it could not be located. Janine then rang the TasDBF delegate who confirmed that she had sent such an email.

However, DBSA and DBWA advised that until further questions could be made of TasDBF, TasDBF should stay only as an Associate Members. As such, JT stated that TasDBF only carried 1 vote, which Janine Lette held as their appointed proxy.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES

MOTION (proposed by Christopher Alexandrou): To accept minutes as presented.

Seconded: Austin Chin

All in favour: carried

2. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS

Annexure A (also in 2007 Annual Report)

Christopher said that the travel had increased due to the Nationals being held in WA. Merchandise has not been a money spinner but something that may increase. Course fees breaking even but going along nicely.

Kel Watt asked about the Worlds profit – how much and what it is going to do. JT advised that when the account is audited, the money will be transferred to the AusDBF account.

Christopher said that going forward is that a budget is developed ASAP after election. Also need to employ a bookkeeper as the Finance Director should be just dealing with the budgets and general running of the Federation.

MOTION (proposed by Daryl Manzie): To accept the audited accounts as presented.

Seconded: Raymond Leung

All in favour: carried

3. LIFE & HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

Jon Taylor (JT) advised that pursuant to the AusDBF Constitution (clause 5.1(c)) we could have life and honorary members. As such, JT felt that it was time to nominate our first life members as follows:

1. Trevor Huggard
2. Raymond Leung
3. Les Williams

It was asked from the floor why JT was not nominated as a Life Member and he advised that he did not want to be given Life Membership whilst he was on the Board.

The basis of JT's nomination of the above is:

Background

All 3 nominees have been major contributors to the foundation and early development of AusDBF.

Trevor Huggard

Trevor served as the inaugural AusDBF President (1998-2004). Trevor attended the 1998 CCWC (Wellington) and the 2001 WDBRC (Philadelphia) representing AusDBF. Trevor is an ex-Lord Mayor of Melbourne and is a VDBA Committee Member of long standing.

Ray Leung

Ray has been involved with dragon boat racing for many years. Ray founded the Dragon Sports Association club in Sydney. Ray has served three terms on the AusDBF Board – 1998-2001 (Marketing Director), 2002-2006 (Cultural Director) & 2007-present (Marketing Director). Ray has previously represented AusDBF at the 1998 CCWC (Wellington), 1999 WDBRC (Nottingham), 2001 WDBRC (Philadelphia), 2002 ADBF Champs (Aioi, Japan), 2004 ADBF Champs (China) and 2006 ADBF Champs (Macau). Ray is a Grade 2 qualified IDBF Official and is Deputy Chair of the IDBF Cultural & Protocol Committee.

Les Williams

Les has been a fixture on the Canberra dragon boat scene for many years. He was the inaugural President of the re-formed Canberra Dragon Boat Association. Les was vital to the formation of AusDBF and served on the initial AusDBF establishment committee that developed the constitution, structure and responsibilities for the new national body for consideration by State/Territory governing bodies. Les served as the AusDBF Finance Director for three years (1998-2000). Les organised AusDBF National Championships in Canberra in 1998 and 2005. Les is an active member of the Canberra Griffins Dragon Boat Club.

JT stated that clause 6 set out how these people would be nominated and elected.

MOTION (proposed by JT): That the above 3 people be approved as life members.

General discussion was had. Kel Watt stated that as President of CDBA he fully supported Les Williams' nomination but that the relevant Member of the nominee should have input in the process as well. Daryl Manzie and Michelle Hanton both said that we needed to develop a process for the future as all present agreed that the AGM wasn't really the place to debate the nominations but to acknowledge the nominees' contributions to our sport.

Raymond Leung said that he was very honoured to be nominated and assured everyone that he did what he did for the love of the sport.

George Bradilovic stated that he found it difficult to accept Trevor Huggard's nomination given that he did not believe that there was much within Victoria that Trevor did.

A secret ballot was conducted. Results were: 23 for:7 against.
Motion carried.

ACTION: The Administration Director to draft letters to these people.

4. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ELECTIONS

Kel Watt asked whether there was a Returning Officer to conduct this process. JT stated that historically the President stood down and the Administration Director ran this part of the meeting. Kel Watt stated that the Associations Incorporations Act has very clear guidelines for incorporated associations to follow during elections.

JT then handed conduct of the meeting to Janine Lette in her capacity as outgoing Administration Director. Janine advised that AusDBF had agreed in its February Board Teleconference to request nomination prior to the AGM so that bios could be sent to its Members so that they could vote in an informed way. As such, a nomination for each Board position had been received.

At this point, JT interrupted and said that nominations would also be accepted from the floor. Kel Watt stated that what he read in the email requesting nominations was that there were deadlines. Accordingly, he was under the impression that there would be no more intentions if there were nominees in each position. Eva Kessler stated that her reading was that there was a deadline and that no nominations would come from the floor.

JT stated that he didn't think that the discussion in the teleconference precluded nominations from the floor and that he clearly disagreed with what Janine had done.

A heated discussion was held including the debate of the interpretation of the various Acts in which govern Boards and the election of those roles.

Kel Watt advised all present that JT personally rang him and said that he did not want him as President and that he would be getting another candidate to run against him. Kel stated that he welcomed competition but that JT's phone call was prior to the deadline of nominations. If JT wanted to get another candidate to run against Kel, then like everyone else there was a deadline to comply with.

Daryl Manzie stated that a motion should be made as to whether or not nominations from the floor would be accepted and voted on by the Members. All present agreed.

MOTION (proposed by Daryl Manzie): Regardless of any other form of nomination that may be accepted, that additional nomination of candidates for election as office bearers of AusDBF may be made at this Annual General Meeting in accordance with section 21.7 of the AusDBF Constitution.

And if the motion is seconded I seek leave to continue my remarks later during the debate.

Seconded: Vic Fazakerley

After further discussion, Daryl Manzie stated that what this discussion showed was that there was a strong need for a process so that everyone was involved. So a process needs to be put in place. Our past practice had been from the floor, but the Constitution indicated that such changes may be made by the Board. Daryl advised that we had to comply to the following sections of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 ('AIA'):

- s31 allowed alterations
- s32 set out how they were to be changed
- s33(2) stated that not later than 1 month lodge change to resolution
- s33(5)

Further, ss34, s49 and s50 of the Discrimination Act 1991 had been breached as both the nominated and the yet to be nominated had been disadvantaged by the publishing of the nominees

Further discussion was held on the legality of the Acts and how they were applied to this process. It was stated that we could argue the merits of how it should have been done but not how it was made.

JT did not want to go down the pathway of what the Board did or did not mean at the February Teleconference as there were clear different opinions. Kel Watt, stated that Daryl's proposed motion could be seen as temporary fix of the problem for tonight but it was clear that this needed to be cleared up for future meetings.

After all this discussion, a secret ballot was held. Results were: For: 21 Against: 8 Abstained: 4 (33)
Motion carried.

Janine Lette interrupted proceedings and welcomed the TasDBF delegate, Linda Reidal. As such, Janine stated that at the start of tonight's meeting, we all agreed that further questions were needed from TasDBF before they were accepted as Ordinary Members. Therefore, she asked the Members to commence the questioning of TasDBF:

- JT asked how many financial clubs they had and Linda advised that they had 3 sports clubs and 4 BCS clubs.
- JT asked whether they were incorporated pursuant to Tasmanian Legislation and Linda stated that they were and had a bank account. Linda advised that she had started a number of clubs previously in Qld and knew what she was doing.

No further questions were asked by the Members.

MOTION (proposed by Kel Watt): That TasDBF be accepted as a Ordinary Member of AusDBF.

Seconded: Melanie Cantwell

For: 30 Against: 0 Abstained: 1

Motion carried.

Janine Lette welcomed TasDBF as an Ordinary Member.

The meeting then progressed to the election of the Board for 2008.

Janine Lette confirmed that now that the delegate from TasDBF was present, she no longer carried its proxy and had returned the directed proxy form to TasDBF.

JT was asked whether he held a directed or blanket proxy. JT advised that he had not been directed as to how to vote at the AGM.

Daryl Manzie stated that it was his understanding that a proxy could not nominate a person but could only vote.

Position	Candidate	Nominee	Seconded	Vote
President	Kel Watt John Holland (declined) (floor nomination)	CDBA DBSA	DBNSW DBWA	Unopposed
Admin	Janine Lette	QDBF	CDBA	Unopposed
Finance	Loretta Lewis	QDBF	CDBA	Unopposed
Tech	Melanie Cantwell	DBNSW	QDBF	Unopposed
Marketing	Michelle Hanton	DAA	DBNSW	Unopposed
Cultural	Dr Richard Lim Raymond Leung (floor nomination)	DAA DBWA	QDBF DBWA	21 12
Development	Christopher Alexandrou	DBNSW	CDBA	Unopposed

JT thanked the outgoing Board for the work over the past 12 months and congratulated the incoming board. JT asked if Kel would like to take over conduct of the meeting at this point to which Kel advised that he was more than happy for JT to complete the proceedings.

GENERAL BUSINESS

National Fees

- A. Vic suggested that the fee structure be looked at and the Club would pay a fee (eg \$200) and then the paddler a fee (eg \$20). Eva said that this would be a definite timing issue as to when the non-refundable.

ACTION: All Members are to email their ideas to the Board.

- B. When crews have pre-qualified for WCCC should have to support that year's Nationals.
C. 2009 Nationals – see Blair's presentation
D. 2010 Nationals – normal course is NT but they don't have a course. The natural rotation would then be SA. Will give a progress report at mid-year meeting.

2010 Asian Dragon Boat Championships

Daryl Manzie confirmed that DBNT do not have a course so had to decline both Nationals and Asians for 2010. Accordingly, Australia needed to find a new host. It was stated by JT that it was rumoured that Perth would be hosting it however that had not been agreed by the outgoing Board and it would need to be put to the Members as to who would like to host it.

From the floor, EOIs were received from DBNSW (who handed out a tender document already prepared in anticipation), DBWA and possibly DBSA. As all Members may wish to tender for the hosting, it was decided that the incoming Board would distribute the EOIs to the Members.

National Database

Janine Lette advised that Eyede (the company who had been providing the National Database) had, 2 weeks ago, decided that it was no longer going to service it's Australian clients effective immediately. As such VDBA, DBSA and DBWA had been left without the facility to print their ID tags for the Nationals. Janine said that she had negotiated the printing of these by DBNSW and thanked them for doing this at such short notice.

Janine also advised that Eva Kessler had been liaising with Eyede and that it was with her great work that an agreement had been reached which ended up void due to Eyede's decision.

As such, EOIs would be sent out for a National Database to be effective from the start of the coming season.

Vote of thanks

Michelle Hanton thanked JT for his many many years of work and devoted dedication to AusDBF and our sport. All present agreed and showed by their appreciation with a round of applause.

MOTION (moved by Michelle Hanton): That JT also join Trevor Huggard, Les Williams and Raymond Leung as the first Life Members of AusDBF.

Seconded: Daryl Manzie

All in favour

Motion carried.

5. 2009 AGM

During 2009 Nationals being hosted by QDBF.

Closed: 8.50pm