

Australian/Victorian Biathlon Association Inc

Minutes

Annual General Meeting 2010

Meeting Opened: 11.15am

Members Present:

Paul Connor, Greg Anderson, Geoff, Debbie & Dyllan Harmer, Mark & Marg Burbidge, Irene Dunne, Toscha Stopar, Grant, Emma, Timothy & Jeremy Flanagan, Angela & David Cigana, John & Lachlan Porter, Ian Waller, Bob Cranage Neil Richardson. Dianna Stuart. Alan Hope, Jackie Kildea, Toni Hulme,

Apologies: Hamish McLean, Cameron Morton & Family, Neil Burbidge, Barry & Taylor Field, Paul & Lyn Cullen, Jackie Handley, Bob Scouten, Lindsay Bridgford, Giles & Dion Richardson, Steve Meehan, Geraldine & Hamish Blanch, Tony, Daniel & Isabel Walker, Bob Dunn, David Herd, Greg Paul, Garry & Alexander Lewis, Zac Zaharius, Jackson & Sue Bursill, Nick & Alex Almoukov, Rachel McKay, Aisliin & Leon Kildea, Laurie Jortika.

Minutes of the 2009 AGM

As tabled and taken as read

Attendees list amended with the inclusion of Dianna Stuart

Moved: Grant Flanagan, Seconded Toscha Stopar.

Correspondence:

Proxy vote form's received from: -Geraldine Blanch, Greg Paul, Mike Hart, Paul & Lyn Cullin, Rachel McKay, Robert Dunn, Steve Meehan, Barry Field, Geraldine Field, Bob Schouten, Gary & Lisa Jane Lewis, Susan & Jackson Bursill, Laurie Jortika, Zac Zaharius, Neil Burbidge, Hamish McClean, Greg Paul, Greg Glanville, Leon & Aisliin Kildea, Giles Richardson, Greg Glanville,

Presentation of reports:

President- Greg Anderson

Executive Officer- Paul Connor

Treasurer- Nick Fennessy

Reports accepted as presented

2010 Presidents Report Moved 1, Geoff Harmer, 2nd Alan Hope.
2010 Executive Officers Report Moved 1 Debbie Harmer, 2nd Neil Burbidge
2010 Treasurers Report Moved 1 Alan Hope, 2nd Geoff Harmer

Election of 2010-11 Committee

The control of the meeting was then handed over to Neil Richardson who moved a vote of thanks for the outgoing committee and work done over the past twelve months.

Seconded: By acclamation.

All positions were declared vacant and nominations called for the 2010-11 season.

Nominations:; Voting Positions

President - Greg Anderson, Zac Zaharius

Vice President - Bob Scouten, John Porter, Greg Anderson

Executive Officer - Paul Connor

Treasurer - Nick Fennessy. Emma Flanagan

Committee Members X 2 - Geoff Harmer, Ian Waller, John Porter, Zac Zaharius, Bob Schouten, Bob Cranage, Emma Flanagan

Non Voting Positions.

National Coaching Coordinator-Nick Almoukov

Equipment Officer- Geoff Harmer

Communications Officer-Emma Flanagan

Race Secretary –Toni Hulme.

Web Design and Marketing- Greg Anderson

Results of nominations from the floor are outlined below:

President: Zac Zaharius

Vice President: John Porter

Executive Officer: Paul Connor

Treasurer: Emma Flanagan

Council Members: Ian Waller, Bob Cranage

All executive board members having been duly elected were welcomed onto the committee for the ensuing year. The control of the meeting was then passed to the newly elected Vice President, John Porter in absence of the newly appointed President, Zac Zahairus.

Expressions of Interest were called for in the following non-voting positions. Results of nominations from the floor are outlined below:

Equipment Officer- Geoff Harmer

Communications Officer-Emma Flanagan

Race Secretary –Toni Hulme.

Web Design and Marketing - Greg Anderson

Athletes Representative – Alex Almoukov (subject to acceptance) & Irene Dunn

Prior to any appointment of the National Coaching Coordinator a open forum discussion was held over the objectives of the role, the complexity in performing the role and the time commitment required to fulfill the administrative duties associated with the role. All members present acknowledged the coaching already performed by Nick at elite level yet his long term absences from Australia due to his international commitments were seen as an inhibitor in performing the role of the National Coaching Coordinator to the full degree required, this was further conceded to by his nominator, Toni Hulme.

A further open forum discussion was held over the role and the formation of a sub committee to steer the coaching plans and development pathways for athletes and coaches alike. Outcomes of that discussion are as listed below.

National Coaching Coordinator-Paul Connor

Sub Committee to support NCC role, Nick Almoukov, Bob Cranage, Toscha Stopar, Barry Field (subject to acceptance)

1.15pm At this time General Business was deferred with a recess called while members enjoyed a lunch from the bistro.

2.00pm The return to business saw the Race Secretary make presentation of trophies to recipients from the 2010 Race Season with all recipients congratulated on their effort. Full list of recipients available via web site.

General Business

Due to time constraints, one hour was allocated for general discussion with constructive ideas/comments sought. A period of ten minutes was allocated to discuss each topic raised.

Moving around the table from right to left the following ideas/comments were raised,

Range Safety (MB)

Concern raised over Range safety in particular the movement of junior athletes carrying rifles to and from the immediate range area. Safe weapon handling to be reinforced to all athletes and coaches with time penalty a real consideration for any safety infraction during any event held.

Matter to be further address in Race Safety briefings and with Jury members

PC reported on slow progress of seeking exemption clause to the Victorian Firearms Act pertaining to Juniors carrying a firearm over the duration of any event held.

NSW Firearm Licences (JP)

New South Wales firearm licence holders are still subject to a number of qualifying shoots logged per year through an approved club. PC reported on progress of application to the NSW Police Minister to have ABA approved as a recognized club thus removing the need for NSW L/C holders to be members of two clubs for the purpose of participating in Biathlon.

Athlete Representatives (ID)

Irene Dunn offered herself as an Athlete representative for the females in the sport that may feel more comfortable approaching her to discuss their views on matters affecting athletes across the sport.

Unanimously supported and appointed.

Legitimate membership of the ABA (TS)

Toschas Stopar raised concerns of people joining or remaining members of the ABA simply for the purpose of maintaining a firearm licence. Anecdotal evidence shows some people have no active involvement of any form with Biathlon yet still pay membership as it is the cheapest form of membership to hold a firearm licence.

Executive board to review with consideration to refusing membership of adding a surcharge to such holders to either encourage them to become active or cease membership entirely.

Club and Associate Membership (BC)

Bob Cranage outlined a few ideas on increasing membership numbers through increased club/associate members that could incorporate schools, ski clubs or other regional groups interested in Biathlon.

BC to submit overall concept paper to Executive board for further consideration.

Grass root involvement (GF)

Grant Flanagan reported on Grass root involvement whereby their family have been instrumental in bringing up to 7 people into the sport through a network of school

children, ongoing education and the dedicated support of Tosch in coaching at MISC and Hawthorn.

Acknowledged by all present and future grass root development to be explored by Coaching committee and Exec Board input.

Target manufacturing (IW)

Ian Waller reported on his prototype target manufacture that duplicates the same functionality of imported targets yet at a reduced cost making it more affordable to aid ongoing development of the sport at various location.

Ian to confirm further details as a mock up model is finalized for use.

Interest shown by members for extra target installments at MISC, Wangaratta and Cooma ranges as an example.

Marketing (GA)

Greg Anderson outlined marketing opportunities he has taken up on which include the production of merchandise and apparel for sale via on line shopping through the ABA website. Items now being ordered by Overseas people and being sold well through the ABA membership base.

Greg was further congratulated o his initiatives to have the Online membership and race entry made available on PayPal

Trans Tasman interest (AH)

Alan Hope reported on a recent ski trip to NZ and the development stage of Biathlon in NZ and his interest in the ABA hosting Trans Tasman activities. Unfortunately the Admin of NZ is in disarray meaning the NZ winter games may only have Biathlon as a Demonstration sport in 2011.

PC further reiterated what AH said having been in recent contact with NZ members to discuss development and progress in Admin delays

NZ athletes and coaches to be invited here for our 2011 races once our race committee has settled calendar.

Improvement of facilities at the Hotham Range (TH)

Asking that a sub committee be formed to look at a range maintenance program which could see grass cut in and around immediate area of range. Ideally this would timed to coincide with the lead up to any training camps. Further budget to drawn up to identify key areas of priority for works that need undertaking.

Neil Richardson to look at a work party early new year. This may also coincide with three athletes likely to be training full time there until their departure for the University Games.

ADF have also applied for a capital works grant to assist ABA in ongoing works, outcome of application not due until early 2011.

Executive Board to discuss further and address matters raised.

2010 race calendar (TH)

Toni Hulme with assistance of Race Sub Committee (Angela Cigana Alan Hope and and ???) to send draft race dates through to Executive Board for further consideration and ratifying. BC proposed an approach to the ADF for a minor change in their Interservice dates,

Ian Waller to explore viability of same.

Athlete development plan (GH)

Geoff Harmer raised concerns over a perceived hiatus in the development plan of athletes at the international level of competition and support available to them.

Matter deferred to the Coaching Subcommittee and the NCC Coordinator to discuss at a future meeting most likely to be held early 2011 when all coaches return to Australia from overseas commitments.

The Vice President finally wished all coaches and athletes all the best in the upcoming European season with the following people representing Australia.

World Uni Games-Turkey, Neil Burbidge, Giles Richardson, Hamish Mc Clean supported by Bob Cranage.

World Youth/Junior Games-Cze Republic, Alex Almoukov, Dyllan Harmer & Lucy Glanville, supported by Nick Almoukov, Toscha Stopar & Geoff Harmer.

World Cups -Alex Almoukov supported by Nick Almoukov.

IBU development camp-Italy. Dyllan Harmer & Hamish Roberts supported by Irene Dunn.

Other athletes and coaches including Gabriella Cigana, Lachlan Porter, Damon Morton were also wished well in their training periods in Europe and Canada.

Meeting closed: 3.40pm