

Merewether SLSC

Minutes for The Annual General Meeting 10 July 2022

Due notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Merewether Surf Life Saving Club INC, was held at the Clubhouse, Corner Watkins and John Parade, Merewether Beach on Sunday 10 July 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Minutes:

10:07am: Annual General Meeting officially declared opened by Nick Newton, President.

I. Apologies:

Members Apologies: Life Members: Rob Dan, Charlie Bugbird, Graham Lott, Ross

Taggart, Brad March, Graham Walton, Evan Walton. John Adamson.

Dave Hoar- Chris Warren, Gemma McMillian, Emma Gale, Kris Wall, Matt

Fox, Craig Vanderburg, Phil Jobling, Tony Quinn, Karen Wallace, Dane

Miller, Brendan McNabb, Jamie Boswell.

II. Members in attendance.

Life Members: Nick Newton (P), Phil Mosgrove, Jeff Agland-Iain Kelso- Sue Paul- Peter Alcock, Anthony Robinson, Iain Kelso.

Active Members; Jamie Paras (S)-Mark Owen (T) Anthony Tietze (CT) -Scott Kirkman-Norm Rodgers-Sarah Bugbird, Garry Semetka (CC) Jan Roache (R) Penny Britz- Michael Spillane, Phil Kendall, Tim Coghlan, David Tietze, Nathan Wright (IRB C), Jason Steward,

Associates: Wayne Hogg, Rachael and David Soars, Glenis Powell, Peter Bernasconi

Guests: -Chris Paul – Mrs Gail Miller- Teigan Miller – Denise Izzard

III. Community Members: Linda March, Sheron Steward, Susan O'Loughlin

IV. One-minute silence for Deceased Members: In Memorial –

V. Life Members Robert Balks- Laurie Graham and Patrolling Member Colin Lippiatt.

VI. President's Address by Nick Newton.

Again, the covid issue disrupted our season start – for Garry and Gemma operationally this didn't cause too much concern as by now we have put in place some good planning and processes that we can utilise and react to however, it still did cause uncertainty on the number of members potentially available for the manning of our patrols.

Happily, this proved to be unfounded as we had strong attendance and our patrol numbers were excellent, remarkably so, given the surf and weather conditions we had to endure, causing a significant number of closed beach days.

More than I can ever remember, with most patrols only actively patrolling a few times, but even this didn't diminish the spirit of our patrolling members taking it all in their stride.

Our junior teams and members also had to react to covid requirements with a very delayed start to their season along with having to endure the same restrictions and surf conditions, however thanks to great leadership and managers they finished strong with another successful season.

Covid protocols also impacted on our club training with Anthony, Nathan, Tim and Richard along with the education teams having to work the training and assessments around ever-changing dates and times.

Although the actual training and CVA dates had been put in place well in advance the teams did a great job managing to work around the difficulties of a very fluid ever changing schedule resulting in our club "punching" well above our weight with member accreditations.

Then there was the weather the 'La Nina weather pattern continues to be with us, over the season we had some of the wettest, coolest summer days ever recorded. we also saw major flooding events from central QLD down to the NSW Central Coast,

Locally this resulted in calls for help and this was given by members of our call out teams working alongside SES members supplying IRB assistance and drone surveillance in the hunter and central coast areas.

The significant amount of rain and prevailing surf conditions has also impacted whole of beach operations with our beach being split in two owing to the loss of sand and exposure of rocks on the northern side of the Dixon Park SLSC

This issue has particularly impacted the council lifeguards with the ability to mobilise and position their jet ski with the limited assets they currently have available.

To assist we have loaned our SSV to our resident lifeguard(s) to enable council to keep their own SSV on the northern end of the beach for emergency response needs.

Surf Club security has been recently highlighted with four of the local six clubs being broken into and the loss of significant equipment.

At Newcastle the Club door was open and as there was no one in the Club at the time and the thieves just walked in took radios and other items and walked away unchallenged. As these criminals have not as been caught, please keep this in mind and assist us by keeping all the doors closed and locked.

Evan Jobling (IT Coordinator) has been working with our sponsor, AV Living to replace our security system and it is now in place and working, if you have an access band it will need recoding and requires returning it back to us tagged with your name.

The reprogramming will be performed by Garry in batches as he receives sufficient numbers. Penny and her Raffles Team Members were also severely impacted by the ongoing covid restrictions but still managed to raise a creditable \$2900.

Kris and Adrian continue to work on gaining sponsorships, of note were AV Living and recently with MODUS coming on board, additionally to this the Beach Hotel has just sold so we will be approaching the new owners to continue our ongoing relationship and history with the business.

To this is our own Colin (Covid Col) Lippiatt has come on board sponsoring the Club with producing a new improved and intuitive web site, something he has been working on tirelessly for the last six months.

We had a successful Surfest with some of the best conditions for a long time.

Thanks to Dave we continue to run a successful inclusion program with the HCC members, some of whom will be joining us for training as radio operators and we are hoping to have them with us on the beach next season.

We ran our two Samaritans collections and we have just completed another last weekend for the coming winter appeal. We had Kev and Dom attend another albert course with good outcome and learnings for both,

The official launching and christening by Linda March of our new IRB the Laurie March II.

Lauran Soars continued her junior competition coaching and training with good end of season results.

After two years we and our junior representatives were once again privileged in being able to join in the local ANZAC Day memorial service to honour those who have fallen.

Our function room is being well utilised with daily hire and Claire Hollingworth is doing a great job with managing promotions and gaining increased function usage, a recent change is Liam, who now has baby duties, has handed over the food management to Susan.

Again, a big thank you need to go to our regular volunteers working behind the bar helping to keep it all happening.

Unfortunately, we are still struggling with our coldie's events, although the requests by our members for food and entertainment have been met, actual member support for what is a club activity is still disappointingly very low.

There is a considerable amount of volunteered time and effort to put the coldies on, please support us in this event, it is your club!

During the week I attended the quarterly Branch President's meeting, basically a rap up of how we all went over the season, and I can't tell you how proud I am of the efforts of this Club.

When we look at the statistics for patrolling hours, equipment maintained on the beach, the training and assessing achieved, the awards gained, and the number of awards held by our members it is an incredible outcome well done to all as we continue to embarrass the bigger clubs with our achievements.

And, as always there a lot of gratitude and acknowledgement our sponsors are all on the notice boards so, please take note and support them - but to name just few: Nathan and Mark as FUNDA finance.

Dave Hoar with MONEY SAVER HOME LOANS

Susan Walton optometrist

Ross Taggart - Taggart Partners

Brendan McNab - McGregor and McGregor

Liam Benson – Zambreros

AV LIVING

Blue Water Stainless Steel

Juice Plus

Additionally, I need to thank the many members who everyday continue to undertake tasks or support our club in numerous and various ways, they know who they are and do so without seeking recognition and their efforts are much appreciated.

Finally, I was recently asked how I continue with being President, this question took me back a little as I hadn't really considered it, but I think like all before me I look up to the efforts of the previous Presidents and the support they had, and my answer would be the same as theirs - it's the group effort made by the committee working as a whole.

I think we are extremely fortunate to have such a great team managing the running and activities of this club on all levels, it's what makes us successful, and you could not ask for any better.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Nick Newton – Club President

Dignitaries/Hunter Branch Surf Life Saving Address - Chief Executive Officer Jenny HICKS.

Jenny introduced herself to the meeting and been in the role after replacing Rhonda Scruton. Jenny acknowledged and congratulated MSLSC on another successful patrolling season and Nippers Program.

Also, the Club's recognition in the emergency responses throughout the year including those members providing critical support with IRB and Drone services.

Merewether SLSC is one of those Clubs that works well and manages its members well.

Thank you once again and the best for the upcoming season.

Confirmation of Minutes of the AGM from the 2020 to 2021 Season

VII. **Moved: Anthony Tietze Seconded: Garry Semetka**

VIII. Matters arising - NIL

Presentation of Annual Report for the 2021-2022 Season

IX. Motion to adopt. **Passed**

X. **Moved: Norm Rodgers Seconded: Nathan Wright**

*Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements for 1st July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

I. Motion to adopt: Agreed - **Passed.**

II. **Moved: Phil Musgrove Seconded: Norm Rodgers**

Presentation of provisional Financial Statements for 1st July 2021 to 30 March 2022.

III. Motion to adopt: **Passed**

IV. **Moved: Garry Semetka Seconded: Phil Musgrove**

Treasurers Report: Mark Owen

I'll take this opportunity to thank Ross Taggart and Associates who have been attending to the Club's Financials for many years. Ross has since retired, and we have now gone over to Evolution Partners who manage the accounts for several Hunter SLSC.

We are currently addressing to strengthen our auditing procedures and creating more robust reporting system.

Presentation of Club Patrons, Vice Patrons and Honorary Positions

Title	Representative
Patrons	Mr. Tim Crakanthorp MP Member for Newcastle, John Adamson, Sue Paul.
Vice-Patrons	Mr. Evan Walton, Mrs. Susan Walton OAM, Mr Ross Taggart
Honorary Solicitor	Craig Doyle (McDonald Johnson Lawyers) The Junction
Honorary Members	Mrs Linda March and Mrs Gail Miller

Motion to adopt list of Patrons, Vice Patrons, Honorary Auditor and Solicitor

V. **Moved: Penny Britz** **Seconded: Michael Spillane**

2. Election of President for 2022-2023 – Elected Unopposed Nick Newton.

3. Election of Officers

Club Captain	Gary Semetka – Unopposed
Secretary	Jamie Paras – Unopposed
Treasurer	Mark Owen - Unopposed
Chief Training Instructor	Anthony Tietze - Unopposed
Registrar	Jan Roche - Unopposed
Director of Surf Sports	Trish Stallard - Unopposed
Board and Ski Captain	Kris Wall – Unopposed
Vice Club Captain	Gemma McMillan- Unopposed
Junior Coordinator Chairperson	Chris Warren – Unopposed
Youth Coordinator	Thomas Vanderburg-Nomination
Rookie Coordinator	Karen Wallace – Unopposed
IRB Captain	Nathan Wright - Unopposed
Boat Captain	Emma Gale - Unopposed
WH&S Officer	Nick Newton - Unopposed
Member Protection Information Officer	Kate Flint - Unopposed
IT Co-Ordinator	Evan Jobling - Unopposed
Publicity Officer	Sheron Steward - Nomination

Radio Officer	Norm Rodgers - Unopposed
Gear and Equipment Officer	Chris Warren - Unopposed
Merchandise Officer	Warren Sterling - Unopposed
Historical Officer	Tony Robinson - Unopposed

Honorariums for the 2022-2023 Season (unchanged from last season)

- President, Secretary, Treasurer - \$500
 - Chief Instructor, Registrar - \$250
- I. Motion to adopt ; Passed
- II. **Moved: Phil Musgrove Seconded: Garry Semetka**

Determination of Club Fees for 2022-2023 Season:

Membership Type	Fee
Senior Active & Cadets (registered on or before 31st October)	\$100.00
Senior Associates (Not patrolling)	\$135.00
Over 65's Associates	\$65.00
Junior Active member (1 st child)	\$95.00
Additional junior active members	\$75.00
Junior Associate (parent)	\$100.00
*Community Membership	\$55.00
Family Membership (1 adult, 2 children)	\$200.00
Additional family members	\$75.00
LATE membership fee (after 31 st October 2021)	\$35.00

- III. Motion to adopt the membership fees for the **2022 -2023 Season – Passed.**
- IV. **Moved: Jan Roche Seconded: Sue Paul**
- I. Resolution for Affiliation with Hunter Branch 2022-2023
- V. **Moved: Iain Kelso Seconded: Penny Britz**

General Business

Item 1:

Storage Fees for personal surf equipment – Horseshoe/Nobbys and Merewether.

President Nick Newton stated to the Membership of the ongoing fees and insurances with the storage of personal Surf equipment at Nobbys. That a storage fee be canvassed over the financial year for appropriate rates to be raised at the next AGM. The meeting agreed to allow the executive committee to further explore the rate proposals.

Item2:

Honorary Member Ms Linda March and Gail March acknowledged by the AGM and being honoured and recognised for their long standing and support giving to MSLSC over many years.

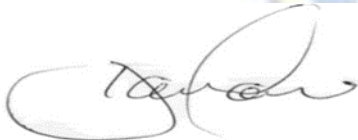
Item 3:

General discussion also raised with the encouragement for members to participate more at the Club with Coldies. A lot of time and effort is put in each Sunday to raise funds for the Club and to maintain regular contact.

No further business – **President Nick Newton** declared the meeting closed and invited all members to partake in lunch.

Meeting Closed: 11: 20pm.

As per minutes recorded by the Club Secretary/ to be adopted at the AGM 2022-2023.



Jamie L Paras JP
10 July 2022

