



52nd AUSTRALIAN CANOEING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2001

Hyde Park Plaza
38 College St, Sydney

PRESENT:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greg Kaeding	<i>President</i>
Jon Bisset	<i>General Manager (Non Voting)</i>
Robin Belcher	<i>Competition Director</i>
Gai Ness	<i>Special Projects Director</i>
Wennie van Lint	<i>Communications and Marketing Director</i>

STANDING COMMITTEES

Jim Murphy	<i>Sprint Committee Member</i>
Graeme Cartwright	<i>Canoe Polo Committee Member</i>
Bob Boocock	<i>Slalom Committee Member</i>
Jason Dicker	<i>Board of Canoe Education Member</i>
Ian Hume	<i>Marathon Committee Member</i>
Glenn Singleton	<i>Wildwater Committee (non-voting)</i>

STATE ASSOCIATIONS

Tony White	<i>Canoeing Victoria Member</i>
Mark Brebner*	<i>NSW Canoe Association Member</i>
Mark Priestley	<i>Queensland Canoeing Member</i>
Mike Holland	<i>Canoe Tasmania Member</i>
Mike Ashton	<i>Canoe NT Member</i>
Neville Hine	<i>Canoeing WA Member</i>
Derek Stevens	<i>Canoe SA Member</i>

IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Muir	<i>Wildwater</i>
Amanda Whittaker	<i>Australian Canoeing Staff (Minutes)</i>
Graham Halford	<i>NSW Canoeing</i>
Liz Fraser	<i>Australian Sports Commission</i>
Mathew French	<i>Wildwater</i>
Paul Sheppard	<i>Australian Canoeing Staff</i>
Peter Horne	<i>Australian Canoeing Staff</i>
Eric Ward	<i>Canoeing Victoria</i>
Nick Tucker	<i>Canoe SA</i>
Jason Wright	<i>Canoeing WA</i>
Roy Farrance	<i>Slalom</i>
Max Parsons	<i>Slalom</i>
Helen Brownlee	<i>Life Member</i>

*Mark was later replaced by Trevor Williamson

ITEM 1 OPENING AND WELCOME BY PRESIDENT

The President opened the meeting and thanked all members of council for their attendance at 9.50am.

A moment's silence was acknowledged for the recent passing of Garry Gardner.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received by the following people:

- Peter Vandeeper Education & Recreation Director
- Os Brownlee Life Member

It was noted that Peter Vandeeper had appointed Jon Bisset as his Proxy Delegate.

It was noted that Mark Brebner would be the member of Council appointed by NSW Canoeing until Trevor Williamson's arrival.

Liz Fraser from the Australian Sports Commission was welcomed.

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF THE 2000 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was moved that the minutes of the 2000 Annual General Meeting be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The motion was carried

ITEM 4 MINUTES OF THE 2001 MID-YEAR GENERAL MEETING

It was moved that the minutes of the 2001 Mid-Year General Meeting be confirmed as a true and correct record.

The motion was carried

ITEM 5 PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The President presented the Annual Report, including Audited Financial Statements on behalf of the Board of Directors.

It was moved that the Council receive and note the Annual Report and financial Statements as presented to the meeting.

The motion was carried

It was noted that the Slalom Committee were not happy with the information received since the finances had been finalised. The President noted that changes had been put in place since the audit had been concluded with its recommendations.

10.30am Trevor Williamson (New South Wales) arrived and replaced Mark Brebner.

ITEM 6 ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

It was noted that an additional resume page was attached to the Agenda for Mr Roy Farrance to support his nomination for Communications and Marketing Director.

Greg Kaeding (President) stood down from the chair and handed over the Wennie van Lint (Communications and Marketing Director).

Jason Wright and Eric Ward were appointed scrutineers.

It was noted that Wildwater Committee were ineligible to vote.

Election of President

Candidate Greg Kaeding.

Greg Kaeding was elected to the position unopposed.

Election of Communications and Marketing

Nominees Roy Farrance and Graham Halford.

Greg Kaeding noted that both candidates were suitably experienced.

Each nominee was offered the opportunity to speak and both declined. Neville Hine requested permission to ask questions of the nominees. Permission granted.

Graham Halford was elected to the position.

Election of Special Projects Director

Candidate Gai Ness.

Gai Ness was elected unopposed.

It was moved that the ballot papers be destroyed.

The motion was carried

ITEM 7 APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

The motion was put forward that Ken Osbourne of Walker Osbourne Chartered Accountants be appointed as Auditor for 2001/2002.

The motion was carried

ITEM 8 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES & STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Verbal Reports were presented by all Standing Committee appointed members of Council regarding their meetings over the previous two days. *See Appendix 1 of minutes.*

Verbal reports were presented by each State Association.
See Appendix 2 of Minutes.

It was moved that the reports be accepted.

The motion was carried

ITEM 10 MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY STATE ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Motion 1

That existing rule 12(b) be amended to so that it reads:

"The register of Members must be kept at the principal place of administration of the association and subject to relevant personal privacy guidelines, policies and laws, must be open for inspection, free of charge, by any Member of the association at any reasonable hour."

The motion was carried

Motion 2

That existing rule 16 (a) be amended so that it reads:

"The Australian Council is a strategic forum of the Association and in addition to those roles detailed in the Rules meets to:

- (i) inform the Board of significant membership issues;
- (ii) assist the Board to design or review the organisation's strategic direction;
- (iii) discuss nationwide issues;

provide feedback to the Board on the results of its governance decisions in practice at the member level."

The motion was carried

Motion 3

That existing rule 13 (e) be deleted.

The motion was carried

Motion 4

That existing rule 28 (c) (ii) be amended by deleting the words "No less than," by inserting the word "and" between Chairman and Secretary, and by deleting the words "and Treasurer."

That existing rule 28 (d) be amended by deleting the words "Where the position of Treasurer is a separate position, the Treasurer will be elected in even years."

That existing rule 29 (a) be amended by deleting the words "two members of the Executive" and replacing with "one of the Chairman or Secretary."

It was decided to move to amend the existing rules by replacing Treasurer with Financial Officer.

The amended motion was carried

Motion 7

That existing rule 28 (d) be amended by deleting the words "received by the Secretary of the Standing Committee" and replacing them with "received by the General Manager."

The motion was carried

Motion 8

That existing rules 28 (h), 28 (i), 28 (j), and 28 (k) be deleted.

It was moved to amend the motion delete the word bank and replace with "credit of the committee".

The motion was amended

The clause now reads:

current balance of the credit of the committee.

It was moved to amend the motion to not delete clause K as the committee does have the ability to call upon the finances of the committee.

The motion to delete H, amend I, delete J and leave K.

The motion was carried

Motion 9

That existing rule 36 (c) be amended by deleting the words "In the case of accounts established for the use of Standing Committees or special events, one signatory must be a member of the Board or Executive of the relevant standing Committee. In all other cases at least one signatory must be a member of the Board."

The motion was carried

Motion 10

That existing rule 41 be replaced with:

41. SERVICE OF NOTICE

- (a) For the purposes of this Constitution, a notice may be served by or on behalf of the Association upon any member (including a Member Body), Board member or other officer by delivering it to or sending it by ordinary prepaid post or by facsimile transmission to the member or officer at the last address or facsimile number notified in writing by the member or officer to the Association.
- (b) Where a document is sent in accordance with Rule 41 (a) the document shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed for the purposes of this Constitution to have been served on the person at the time which:
 - (i) the letter would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post; or
 - (ii) at the time and date recorded on a facsimile transmission report.

The motion was carried

Motion 11

That AC investigate a new membership model that allows for a system of flat fee membership for State Associations rather than the current capitation fee system

The motion was carried

Motion 12

That AC investigate a more flexible "National" membership structure that takes into account the needs of members and other client groups wanting to participate in all aspects of Canoeing.

The motion was carried

Motion 13

That AC ensure the governance structure of canoeing remains relevant given the changing sport environment by monitoring and continuing to implement accepted best practice in governance, seeking input from the ASC and other organisations.

The motion was carried

Motion 14

That Australian Canoeing develop a planning framework that aims to align the Strategic, Business and other plans of the Australian Canoeing and it's member bodies with all having common goals.

The motion was carried

Motion 15

That AC investigate the mechanism which would allow State Associations to offer pro-rata memberships to new first time members.

The motion was carried

Motion 16

That AC investigate an insurance option, that would allow schools to join as a 'single entity' but permit a changing group of students to be covered by the insurance policy on a week to week basis.

The motion was carried

Motion 17

THAT existing clause 16(b) be amended as follows:

- (b) The Australian Council is to consist of the following members:
 - (i) one members appointed by each State Association;
 - (ii) the President of Australian Canoeing;
 - (iii) a representative of the AC discipline Standing Committees; and
 - (iv) the General Manager, who shall be a non-voting member

The motion was withdrawn and Queensland Canoeing requested that it be discussed as a workshop item at the 2002 Mid –Year meeting.

Motion 18

THAT existing clause 26 be amended by inserting 'Council' in line one and deleting 'Board' as follows:

The Council may from time to time make by-laws for the conduct of the association. The by-laws shall be issued by the Board to all Member Bodies.

The motion was not carried

Motion 19

THAT existing clause 22 be amended as follows:

- (a) The Council shall appoint a Public Officer on recommendation by the Board who will be resident of the Australian Capital Territory;
- (b) Insert after; and

Insert new sub clause (iii) the new appointee will be advised to the Council and voted upon at the next Council meeting.

Motion withdrawn

Motion 20

THAT clause 25(b) be amended by the inclusion of new sub clause (h) & (l) as follows:

- (h) to appoint the Association's Auditor
- (i) to appoint the Association's Public Officer

It was moved to delete clause (i).

The motion was amended

The motion was carried

Motion 21

That whereby a state committee is represented at the AC Annual General Meeting he/she be subsidised for the cost by AC and not by the State sporting bodies as previous.

Motion withdrawn

ITEM 11 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

That the Council accepted the Board recommendation that membership fees for State Association members be \$400 for 2002/2003.

The motion was carried

It was noted that Neville Hine (Canoeing WA) and Mike Ashton (Canoe NT) were against the motion.

That the Council accept the Board recommendation that capitation fees be \$17.00 for 2002/2003, provided that if Insurance costs increase prior to the commencement of the 2002/2003 financial year the capitation fee will be \$17.00 plus the cost of the insurance fee increase.

Noted that insurance is an issue, quotes are not yet available for 2002. Concern was raised that this may be too far in advance.

The motion was carried

That Council accept the Board recommendation that the Annual Fee for Committees in 2002/2003 be \$0.

The motion was withdrawn due to no longer being relevant

ITEM 13 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL

That the 2002 Annual General Meeting be held in Sydney on the 20th October, 2002.

The motion was carried

The meeting was closed at 1.30pm.

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Greg Kaeding
President

Distribution: Board of Directors
Council Members
State Associations (Presidents and Secretaries)
Standing Committees (Chairmen and Secretaries)
Other Sporting Organisation Members

APPENDIX 1 – REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Sprint

As per report noted in the Annual Report.

A course writing session was held over the course of the weekend.

Although the revised committee positions will no longer include an official Treasurer. The Sprint committee will maintain a financial position on there committee.

Major concern in the coming year is Canoe 2002 and the financial guarantee. Terms of Reference still to be finalised.

Canoe Polo

Report provided as per Annual Report.

Graeme Cartwright remains chair.

It was noted that the Canoe Polo Committee are not happy with the current financial situation and require a more transparent financial situation.

As a result of the weekend's meetings the Canoe polo Committee now have financial controller being Duncan Cochrane.

A level 3 coaching course is being investigated.

Greg Kaeding (President) thanked the Canoe Polo committee and noted their financial concerns.

Marathon

As per report noted in the Annual Report.

Ian Hume was again elected into the position of chair.

The ICF Rules were adopted for marathon events within Australia with a set of local variations.

Major concern for the year ahead is 2002 Championships as it is the sole source of funding for the marathon committee it needs to be ensured that the same remuneration is guaranteed.

Work now needs to become more concentrated on the 2005 World Championships and the 2004 World Cup.

Wildwater

Glenn Singleton (Wildwater) expressed Wildwater Committee's concern at being able to report each year but not being given the opportunity to vote. When Wildwater and Slalom split one committee was given voting rights and the other not.

Point was noted and will be taken to the board for consideration.

ABCE

Jason Dicker was re-elected as chairperson.

The first batches of Australian Canoeing Assessors have been registered.

Instructors have the opportunity of upgrading their qualification when they wish or waiting for the old qualification to run out and then changing across.

Discussions have occurred in regard to international rafting and guiding and the rafting federation seem keen.

Auditing of National Training Providers has been investigated including what constitutes auditing and training auditors.

It was noted that there are significant potential financial benefits to states from running the Awards Scheme.

The pool lifeguard award is to be re-registered every three years.

Slalom

The Slalom Committee has done a reflection of its strengths and weaknesses which is included in the report included in the annual report.

The past few months has been a successful international program but it was disappointing to see the World Championships cancelled.

John Felton was elected into the position of chairperson. Peter Flowers remains secretary.

As was noted in Sprint and Canoe Polo committees there is no Treasurer position any more however a financial position will remain on the committee and Roy Farrance will retain this position. The slalom committee's disappointment in the financial was reiterated.

Bob Boocock noted that the slalom committee feel the sport is too small to split domestic and high performance and the committee wish to remain involved with high performance, selection and national teams.

Slalom as a discipline is strong and growing in New South Wales but needs to be addressed in other states.

APPENDIX 2 – REPORTS FROM STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Canoeing Western Australia

Neville Hine noted that although there was no written report to present Western Australia had a number of issues they wished to raise.

1. Progress on the whitewater park is proceeding with some beurocracy to be expected.
2. Attention is being paid to the development of the World Marathon 2005 venue.
3. Serious concerns exist with the Award Scheme however some of these have been addressed at the ABCE meetings.
4. Greatest concern is insurance. The WA Education Department now requires organisations to have insurance for \$20 million in order to take programs within the education department. This has seriously affected Canoeing WA's operational viability. 12 schools programs have been cancelled to date.

Options are to increase the public liability insurance or lobby the WA government either to decrease the requirements or get a blanket insurer to cover the additional excess required.

Not having the required public liability insurance is creating a major concern for Canoeing WA. Canoeing WA requested leave from the Pu8blic Liability component of the AC insurance policy. Request was noted however conflicts with clause 13B of the constitution. The matter requires urgently attention.

According to Canoeing WA the Options are:

- Release Canoeing WA from Public Liability component of policy
- Increase Public Liability of AC insurance

Concern raised with the second option is that it will significantly increase costs and hence capitation fees.

Greg Kaeding (President)noted the board's appreciation for drawing attention to this concern. The board are closely monitoring the situation and looking into insurances and various structures.

Jon Bisset (General Manager) noted that the insurance policy is being looked into. Quotes are being investigated. Jon also noted that Queensland Canoeing are in a similar situation and NSW Canoeing may be soon. Renewal terms of the policy are being investigated.

Total insurance is approximately \$60,000. Public Liability is about \$15,000 of that. Increasing the Public Liability component only will increase that to approximately \$30,000. Greg Kaeding noted that for states to go back to their individual policies prices would double again and to make clubs responsible for their own policies would again increase the cost. Combined policy was put together initially to save money for all involved. There is no reason why states can't put all their insurances through IEA, which should help keep their costs down.

The Federal Sports Minister is currently reviewing insurance for sports due to these issues and because some sports are being refused insurance.

The notion of insuring events only was raised however a large proportion of injuries occur in a normal club situation.

To increase the public liability now would cost \$7000, which the AC budget cannot afford.

Ac's last Public Liability claim was in 1992.

It was decided to put together a working group.

Neville Hine (Canoeing WA) stressed the gravity of the situation for Canoeing WA and requested a timeframe. Jon Bisset (General Manager) responded that to change the policy now would be a significant increase in cost and who would take the responsibility to pay for this? Otherwise investigations can be for the New Year.

Canoeing WA investigated the requirements and investigated the premium for themselves and can afford to pay the difference between capitation with and without insurance. Greg Kaeding President noted that the capitation fee has an insurance element however is bound by constitution. Jon Bisset (General Manager) will be in Perth on Wednesday so will discuss then.

Risk management practices need to be put in place.

Canoe Northern Territory

Mike Ashton (Canoe NT) briefly summarised the NT year in review.

Fluctuating numbers due to a transient population. Currently numbers are down. Polo numbers are especially low. Having a dragon boat club affiliate has increase numbers.

Sprint regattas are occasional.

The largest concern in the NT is the new Award Scheme. Concerns are in regard to the appearance of how the process is being handled. These concerns though are being resolved from the ABCE meetings and the transfer will hopefully be smoother than originally thought.

Canoeing Tasmania

Mike Ashton (Canoeing Tasmania) noted that in Tasmania things are going pretty much as per usual.

Slalom paddler Justin Boocok has returned home and Tasmania once again have an international paddler.

Junior development as a whole has been slow. Wildwater has strong development in junior ranks.

Canoe Polo has been dormant. It has been difficult to find a pool at a reasonable cost for an affordable price.

Freestyle has been popular. Individuals from Tasmania have been performing well in this discipline however this may be hindering the development of slalom.

The AC award scheme has been implemented in Tasmania. The Board of Canoe Education are also running education weekends which have been well attended so far.

New South Wales Canoeing

Trevor Williamson reported that New South Wales are currently facing serious problems. Numbers of paddlers are down, numbers of clubs are down. The main focus for the past 12 months has been working out where the association stands administratively. The accounts have been seen by the board for the first time in a while.

Enquiries are beginning to come in from potential new clubs and perceptions from members and ex members is improving.

A bimonthly newsletter (Paddles) has been introduced and is working well to keep people involved.

Concern was stressed in regard to only one type of membership on offer.

The NSW Board of Canoe Education has folded. Currently there is no BCE.

Concern was raised with the National Parks legislation in regard to dangerous sports. Drafts are being considered but no one knows what is happening. NSW Canoeing are keen to become involved in these discussions. Greg Kaeding (president) noted that Peter Horne and Paul Sheppard from the Australian Canoeing Office are working on the National Parks issue.

NSW Canoeing are keen to get businesses involved with Canoeing involved in the sport.

A multi discipline camp is being held at the Academy of Sport. Participants will be subsidised 50%.

Polo numbers have decreased. In the Sydney area only one pool is used and a 10pm finish on a weeknight is far too late to be conducive to encouraging juniors. It was recommended that NSW Polo work with the Australian Polo Committee to work out how to maximise competition.

Jason Dicker (ABCE) requested the status of the NSW representative at ABCE meetings if NSW has no ABCE. It was noted that Keith Albury attended the ABCE meeting on behalf of NSW Canoeing. Keith will remain the contact person for NSW education.

Canoe South Australia

Canoe SA have undergone some changes in the past 12 months. The new Canoe SA President is Jim Murphy, the new Development Officer is Ian Hume.

Canoe SA's strengths currently lie with Junior Sprint paddlers and Polo teams. Clubs are currently strong as well.

Disciplines active in south Australia are sprint, polo and marathon.

Queensland Canoeing

Currently the executive officer position is vacant. An EO has been appointed however has reneged from the position. Speaking with the office is not currently difficult with the education and development staff being busy. Income is still coming in but it leaves current staff with little time to do other work and they are often out of the office.

The AC Award Scheme is progressing. Mark Priestley (Queensland) acknowledged and thanked Lynne Wenban for her work and assistance.

It was noted that Queensland Canoeing have a sprint committee up and running again that are working hard and putting education programs in place. Peter George was welcomed.

Discussions have commenced with new Canoeing/Rowing course on the Sunshine Coast and trying to secure Qld Canoeing as a tenant. This potential move would allow tapping into the Sunshine Coast Market. It will be an international high-grade course and administration assistance will be offered at events.

Recent canoe polo events have been successful at Southbank. Donald has a CD of these events. This hopefully helps lift the profile of the sport.

Queensland Canoeing's largest concern is appointing an executive officer.

Canoeing Victoria

Wennie van Lint (Canoeing Victoria) spoke on behalf of Victoria.

Canoeing Victoria are coming out of a difficult few years. The association has been a divided force but this is changing course of late. The Executive Officer (Eric Ward) has done an excellent job. A number of people have been appointed part time to do specific jobs but are also assisting in other areas.

A number of schools have entered into programs however it is disappointing that they have been predominantly Melbourne based.

A pool program is being instigated in city and country pools. Expression of interest information has been sent out and some interest has been shown.

Numbers of members and clubs has decreased.

The Canoeing Victoria fee structure has been changed.

At a competitor level members play a flat fee. If a family membership is taken out juniors pay only the capitation that is sent to Australian Canoeing.

Paddler Magazine ceased circulation during the year as it was costing approximately \$7000 a year to keep running which was too expensive to maintain. An online version has replaced paddler and is working well for communication purposes.

Canoeing Victoria recently held a combined discipline meeting to discuss common problems and productivity.

Sanctioning events. The Canoeing Victoria Office has taken on the role of assisting with events. At a cost of \$2 per paddler the office assists with running events including multi sport.

A small loss of \$2000 was made in the 2000 – 2001 financial year. This loss is being caught up this year. The current budget is healthy.

A couple of significant volunteers were lost in recent years. Canoeing Victoria are wanting to try and encourage ex-paddlers to come and assist.

Wennie passed over to Tony White (Canoeing Victoria). The Victorian Boating Council has No Boating Signs displayed in some areas of the state. According to the strict interpretation any boat that you sit in is considered a boat. However a boat that you sit on is not considered a boat.

Trevor Williamson requested permission to put forward a motion in regard to increasing the public liability policy. Greg Kaeding noted that motions are to be put forward before the meeting. Greg Kaeding (President) noted that the board would commit to working on the problem expediently.