



ACT Rugby Referees Association

Minutes of the General Meeting 05 Mar 2022 The RUC, Turner

1. The meeting commenced at 1139. The President assumed the chair, welcomed all attending and paid respect to the first nation's people for which we use their land to conduct this meeting.
2. Members present at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) are below in *Table 1*, and apologies in *Table 2*.

Samuel Whittle	Matthew Huggins	Dennis Hughes	Peter Langford	Mitchell Egan
Peter Lawlor, OAM	Jim Phillips	Kevin Cullen	Michael Dowsett	Ben Reedy
Damien Mclachlan	Ivan Gavazov	Nye Konig	Allan Casey	Karl Hamlyn
Chris McCaskie	Jack Cunningham	James Willemsen		

Table 1 – Members present at General Meeting

Nicholas Stoker	Ian Schubert	Matthew Hogan	Mitch Dwyer	Caitlin Bokor
Dennis Beissner	Andrew Lawlor	Brenden McCormick		

Table 2 – Apologies for General Meeting

3. President's Report
 - a. 90 Registrations to date and expected to increase in the coming period, particularly the junior space.
 - b. Recruiting and retention is a season focus for the ACTRRA Executive
 - c. We have welcomed Omni Executive as a new sponsorship for a three year term. In addition they will sponsor the 2022 ANZAC day round jerseys for 23 April, (1st John I Dent round). All members will be offered a jersey which can double as a training shirt. Omni's sponsorship will fund an additional comms set.
 - d. Other sponsors who have remained onboard include Aulich, Canberra Consulting, Waitt Consulting and The RUC.
 - e. Steve Koh has come on as trainer for the 2022 season.
 - f. We have re-established the position of a Registrar, for which fellow member Karl Hamlyn is a welcome volunteer.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. It was regreted the budget could not be shown on-screen due to technology issues however, it will be sent to members in the near future along with the minutes.
 - b. Current financial situation is healthy with approximately \$68,000 at bank.





ACT Rugby Referees Association

- c. Treasurer explained the purpose of the term deposit of \$20K, for which has been quarantined for the purchase of on-field kit for the 2023-25 kit rotation.
 - d. Treasurer has accounted for payment of comms gear, a trainer, functions.
 - e. Only outstanding account is for payment of Omni Executive Anzac round jerseys.
 - f. **Question:** is the purchase of additional refereeing and coaching tools available. Treasurer noted that we have some current kit including SoloShot and the Sony Bluetooth system. Additional opportunities for tools are available upon request and should be forwarded to the Executive for consideration.
 - g. **Question:** who determines the expenditure of money? The Treasurer replied that the executive is responsible and answerable to the membership. The Business plan was put to question, for which the treasurer replied that the Business plan is aimed to guide our decisions, and that it is updated at executive meetings.
 - h. Treasurer report. **Proposed** Peter Langford, seconded Damien McLachlan.
Motion carried, no against.
5. MOPP
- a. MOPP is aimed to be signed in the next two weeks. Match payments have been agreed to stay the same as the previous year. However, we have a mechanism for this to change with the CPI.
 - b. Travel component of the MOPP has been heavily discussed. Michael Dowsett did an investigation into MOPP payments. The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) rate is used as it represents the only published ATO/ANOA rate that is calculated in a tax free environment and has an inbuilt annual review process.
 - c. For longer trips (above 500km travel total), a proposed accommodation allowance has been forwarded for discussion with Brumbies and other stakeholders.
 - d. **Question:** Is junior payments still paid at the ground? Answer is yes, there has been no change to this.
6. School Scholarship Program.
- a. Rugby Australia (RA) is no longer supporting this, and therefore has put the requirement onto ACTRRA.
 - b. The Executive is investigating a way for the association to support the two identified referees. This includes a how we're going to support these referees in the following years, in order to address retention.
 - c. **Question:** Why did RA drop their assistance with this? Executive does not know as no official statement has been received from RA. Executive will need to brainstorm ways to engage these members and all suggestions are welcome.
7. Other Business
- a. **Welfare and retention.** A question was asked as to what is being done above referee abuse and the mitigation of referee abuse and the retention of referees because of this.





ACT Rugby Referees Association

- i) The President has reinforced that there is a process and system in place to mitigate abuse, and where it continues in the junior space our senior members can be a source of visible support our junior referees. President additionally mentioned that various clubs have mentioned to there members that abuse of referees is not acceptable at any level.

Sam Whittle thanked the members of the association, and closed the meeting.,

Meeting closed 1210

