



ACT Rugby Referees Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

14 Nov 2023

Brumbies HQ

1. The AGM commenced at 19:02.

The President Sam Whittle assumed the chair and paid respect to the First Nations peoples on whose land we conducted this meeting. He welcomed all attending, with special mention to the Brumbies Rugby Representative, Mat Vowles.

2. Members present at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) both in person:

Mitchell Egan	Ethan Gumbrell	Brendan McCormick	Nicholas Stoker	Sam Whittle
Nathan Mass	Peter Langford	Jack Cunningham	Riley Byrne	Ivan Gavazov
Chris Cousins	Jacques Smith	Karl Hamlyn	Mat Vowles	Bryce Gorrell
Kevin Cullen	Dennis Beissner	Annie Dickeson	Damien McLachlan	Michael Dowsett
Matt Hogan	Peter Lawler	Jim Smith		

Table 1 – Attendees for AGM

3. Apologies received for the AGM:

Amy Kilmister	Benjamin Nelson	Rob Boyes	Craig Leseberg	Graham Cooper
Clair Greenwood	Brian Heaney	Damien McGrath		

Table 2 – Apologies for AGM

4. 2022 AGM Minutes.

4(a) Minutes had been circulated prior to commencement to the AGM.

Motion: The 2022 AGM Minutes be accepted. **Proposed:** Mitchell Egan, **Seconded:** Brendan McCormick. **Motion carried.**

5. Receiving of the Annual Report

5(a) All reports available have been circulated and assumed read.

5(b) President extended a huge thanks to Dennis Beissner for reconstructing the statistics for games recorded missing from 2010.

5(c) On page 6 of the Annual Report under *Recruitment*, it was suggested that the executive would deliver a report regarding the recruitment and retention drive prior to the AGM. The executive has received a final report only recently, and are planning on delivering this to the Association upon consideration shortly by the incoming Executive.





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5(d) Mr Dennis Beissner asked why there was a delay to delivering the report to the Association. The President advised that the delay was due to the Consultant delivering the report and plan much later, in approximately mid-October. VP highlighted that there were a number of factors influencing this, including the consultant being unwell for a period of time. The risk and impact of the delay has been actively managed by the Executive. VP indicated that the 2023 Executive considers it a good report to inform 2024 and will recommend a pathway to the incoming Executive towards circulating it to the Association.

5(e) Mr Peter Lawler identified that the Life members are not identified in the Annual Report.

5(f) The following items were raised to be altered in the Annual Report: Addition of the Life Members to the Annual Report, for this one and all the following reports.

Motion: Include Life Members in all Annual Reports. **Proposed** Sam Whittle, **Seconded** Peter Langford. **Motion carried.**

6. CCAG Report

6(a) CCAG asked if there were any questions from the floor. None taken.

Motion: Proposed as accepted. **Proposed** Karl Hamlyn, **Seconded** Riley Byrne. **Motion Carried.**

7. Welfare Report

7(a) Welfare Officer asked if there were any questions from the floor. None taken.

Motion: Proposed as accepted. **Proposed** Chris Cousins, **Seconded** Jack Cunningham. **Motion Carried.**

8. Brumbies Report

8(a) President asked if there were any questions from the floor. None taken.

Motion: Proposed as accepted. **Proposed** Sam Whittle, **Seconded** Ivan Gavazov. **Motion Carried.**

9. Treasurer's Report

9(a) President identified that the Association is in an exceptionally privileged position regarding financials, and thanked our sponsors for that. Additionally highlighted that the association has saved money due to reducing the amount of kit distributed.

9(b) Mr Dennis Beissner noted that there was an increase in Myob and "Miscellaneous" payments over the year. Treasurer identified that this was included within the Marketing items, web page construction, and MYOB fees.

Motion: The Financial Report for the 2022/2023 Financial year be approved. **Proposed** Peter Langford, **Seconded** Brendan McCormick. **Motion carried.**

9(c) Vote of thanks goes to GLR Accountants for their work as Auditor for the 2022/2023 Financial year.





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Motion: Appointment of GLR Accountants as Auditor for the 2023/2024 Financials.

Proposed: Peter Langford, **Seconded:** Riley Byrne. **Motion carried.**

10. Annual Subscription and Budget

10(a) Fees for 2024 subscription are to be \$0.

Motion: The 2024 subscription be \$0.00 for all members. **Proposed** Peter Langford, **Seconded** Nicholas Stoker. **Motion carried**

11. President asked for Vice President to escort Michael Dowsett outside of the room, and asked for Peter Lawler's (and the President's) nomination of Michael Dowsett as a Life Member of the ACT Rugby Referees Association to be considered by the quorum present.

12. Upon return to the room, Michael Dowsett was advised by the President that he had become a newly elected Life Member. Michael then thanked the association for nominating him in recognition of his service, and that he looks forward to being involved within that distinguished group.

Motion: That Michael Dowsett is elected a Life Member of the ACT Rugby Referees Association. **Proposed:** Peter Lawler, **Seconded:** Jack Cunningham. Michael Dowsett was unanimously elected. **Motion carried.**

13. Election of Patrons and Office Bearers

13(a) The following nominations were elected unopposed:

- i. Patron – Brendan McCormick
- ii. President – Nicholas Stoker
- iii. Vice President – Nathan Mass
- iv. Secretary – Ivan Gavazov
- v. Assistant Secretary – Damien McGrath
- vi. Treasurer – Peter Langford

Nick Stoker assumed the chair and thanked Sam Whittle for his guidance as President over the last four years, and thanked the members for their support as well.

14. 2024 Coaching Appointments.

14(a) President noted the ACTRRA had received a nomination for CCAG, and that expressions of Interest were still open for CCAG and CAG positions. He identified that the President, in consultation with the executive, will appoint someone to CCAG and the other positions within 60 days.

15. Any Other Business.

15(a) Damien McLachlan investigated the opportunity to purchase a fourth additional radio set, for the purpose of greater flexibility for use of the communication set, and





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through email to the Secretary. President indicated that this will be taken into consideration by the new Executive ahead of next season. He thanked Damien McLachlan for his efforts.

15(b) Sam Whittle thanked Annie Dickeson for her work and dedication this year to aid in ACTRRA's recruitment and retention, highlighting that ACTRRA is one association amongst a small portion that is growing. A round of applause was shared by all.

15(c) President highlighted the recent planning (working) group that was recently convened ahead of the AGM had been beneficial to inform considerations and actions for the incoming Executive on where and how to improve our practices for season 2024. He encouraged members present to assist with the Association in any capacity they may desire, notably through a range of sub-committees and other activities such as delivery of courses.

15(d) President thanked: the Patron for his guidance and the continued effort he puts in to the Association; and Mat Vowles on behalf of Brumbies Rugby for their work in supporting ACTRRA and we look forward to building on the strong relationship moving forward.

15(e) Mr Dennis Beissner thanked the departing ACTRRA Secretary for his work over the last three years. A round of applause was shared by all.

The meeting closed at 19:34.

