

Draft MINUTES

New South Wales Polo Association (Kyeemagh) Limited

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Held at
The Woollahra Hotel, Queen Street, Woollahra NSW 2025
Monday 24 October 2016

Joe Curran opened the meeting at 10.05am.

1. ATTENDEES

Club Delegates:

Arunga	Mark Tolhurst	Mudgee	n/a
Ellerston	n/a	Riverlands	Nicola Cole
Folly Lodge	Angus Graham	Scone	James Archibald
Garangula	n/a	Sydney	Peter Higgins
Goulburn	Eugene Marais	Timor	n/a
Gundalong	Angus Graham	Town & Country	Jeremy Bayard
Jemalong	Mark Maritz	The Northern Polo Club	Beau Blundell
Killarney	Fiona Fitzpatrick	Willo Polo	Mark Maritz
Kurri Burri	Katie Edmeades	Windsor	Rowena Rainger
Millamolong	Eugene Marais	Wirragulla	Beau Blundell

Kyeemagh Members/ and other Members of the NSWPA and Clubs

Dick Rodgers	Lindsay Jameson	Joe Curran	Ian McDuie
Sam Ballas	Adam Tolhurst	Marlene MacFarlane	Steve Philip
Col Aguirre	Simon Walker	Georgia Higgins	Julie McIntosh
Bruno Mascart	Marlene MacFarlane	Fiona Turney	Amanda Jansen
Anto White	Chickey Bray	Peter White	Sinclair Hill
Sam Hopkinson	Dick Doolin	Angus Munro	John Marshall
	Lindsay Nylund - presenter		

Chairman: Joe Curran (outgoing President) and Steve Philip (incoming President)

Executive Assistant: Suzie Ruse

2. OFFICIAL APOLOGIES

Official Apologies received from: Sam and Ant Barton, Glen Gilmore, Ben Osborne, Andrew and Michael Williams.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion: Beau Blundell moved that the Minutes of the previous AGM of 19th October 2015 be accepted as an accurate record.

Seconded: Richard Rodgers.

All in favour. Motion carried.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Sam Ballas, NSWPA Treasurer, read his report:

Sam noted the profit after income tax of \$18,433 for the 2015-16 financial year. There is currently \$245,000 in bank bills, \$42,000 in the high yield account and \$5,000 in the cash account.

- A NSW Sport & Rec grant of \$10,000 was successfully received.
- The advertising fees were up by \$1,300 as there were more advertisers for Season Guide.
- The Annual Memberships income was down by \$525 as there was no Test Match, and therefore annual membership price was reduced from \$55-\$35.
- Geebung Books sales totalled \$777 as Sinclair Hill bought the balance and there none left now.
- The other income of \$1,250 is a fee from Polo in the City.
- The Morton, Dudley & Hawkesbury Spring income was down on 2014-2015. This was due to fewer 8 goal teams. Overall Tournament fees vs expenses there was a small surplus of \$2,500.
- The Gross Profit is down compared to previous year which is mainly due to less tournament income.
- The admin expenses were up slightly on the previous year due to issues such as disciplinarys, the World Cup and Kurri Burri members not being able to play at Sydney Polo Club.
- The Coaching & Player Development spend was down by \$3,300 due to no junior development camps being held.
- Depreciation of the WPC Yards in 2015/16 – first used in February of \$1,500.

Sam Ballas

Treasurer, NSW Polo Association

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Joe Curran, NSWPA President read his report:

President's Report 2016

Welcome to the 2016 NSW Polo Association AGM. Thank you to all of you making the effort to come to Sydney so as to review the year, plan for next year and beyond and to vote in new Directors and various committees.

Vale

Sadly over the last year, we have lost a number of our members. Most recently in a tragic accident, Adam O'Regan, a former player and Secretary of Scone Polo Club for many years. Rob Tressider passed away in April 2016; he was a member of Scone, Windsor & Killarney Clubs and did a lot for NSW Polo insurance. Trevor Johnson (Kelvin Johnson's father) passed away in January 2016. He was a regular at Polo in NSW and was a very proud father of Kelvin. Roger Sawyer passed away in December 2015. He was a prominent and popular member of Scone Polo Club. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Adam, Rob, Trevor and Roger.

Directors

I would like to say a little bit about all the NSWPA Directors. I am going to start with our three departing directors, Ian McDuie, Beau Blundell and Eugene Marais:

Ian McDuie – Joe spoke about Ian later in the meeting as he arrived late.

Beau Blundell has been a director for 6 years. Beau has done an amazing job with coaching, player development, kids' polo, ladies polo and colts' polo. Beau is a keen polo player and runs a successful contracting business, owns group one winning race horses and has managed to squeeze in getting married and having a couple of kids too! Beau continues as the President of the Wirragulla Polo Club which runs a very successful annual tournament. Please put your hands together for Beau's contribution to NSWPA.

Eugene Marais has been a Director for 8 years, a Vice President for 3. Eugene sat on the Discipline Committee for a number of years and most importantly has been in charge of formulating the NSWPA Tournament Calendar. With Eugene's diplomacy skills he has been able to bring to the AGMs Calendars that are all but formed so as to make the AGM a less taxing affair. Eugene is also a prominent member of the Millamolong Polo Club which runs one of the best tournaments in the south. Please put your hands together to thank Eugene.

I would like to thank our other NSWPA Directors and I will just say a few words about each Director.

Steve Philip has been a Director for 5 years, Vice President for 3 years and a Director of APF for several years. Steve's legal background has been of great benefit to both the NSWPA and the APF. Steve was a driving force in the new NSWPA Constitution and has put considerable effort into the APF Constitution. Steve and I have been friends for over 30 years. Thank you for your support to me as Vice President. Thank you Steve.

Sam Ballas has been a Director for 11 years and Treasurer for 10 of those 11 years! I congratulate Sam particularly in my term as President for each of the annual results. As Treasurer, Sam has been very generous in terms of spending in important areas and at the same time keeping unnecessary expenses to a minimum. He has sat on the APF for a number of years, including as Treasurer. He also sits on the Discipline Committee and Safety Testing Committee.

Dick Rodgers has been a Director for 6 years. Dick has done an incredible job in the areas of insurance and discipline. In this litigious society we live in, insurance is a critical area. Dick has chaired the Discipline Committee in the last few years and in this difficult job has always been very fair. Thank you Dick.

Bruno Mascart joined the Board last year. He has wasted no time in being a valuable member of the Board. He has helped formulate the Hawkesbury 2017 Calendar, he is the President of Windsor Polo Club (which is going great guns), is an energetic player himself and has two keen children who also play. Thank you Bruno.

Adam Tolhurst has been a Director for 3 years and is showing outstanding qualities as a Director. Adam is one of the Directors responsible for Tournaments and has done a sterling job with the Dudley Cup and Hector King. Adam is the Club Captain of the Arunga Polo Club, runs a successful building company, is one of the leading amateur players in Australia and also managed to find the time to get married during the year. Congratulations Adam!

Sam Hopkinson has been a Director for 3 years and has made a significant contribution to polo in NSW. Sam oversaw the construction of the community polo yards at Windsor Polo Club, on the Dudley Cup Committee and gives a valuable international and professional perspective to polo in NSW. I am sure Sam will be a driver of women's polo in the future with two gorgeous young daughters!

Simon Walker has been a director for 3 years. Simon brings with him a huge amount of energy and passion and we are fortunate that we always know where we stand with Simon! Simon is a member of the Handicap Committee and was instrumental in returning the Dudley Cup to its former glory. Simon is an important part of the Goulburn Polo Club. Thank you Simon.

Glen Gilmore joined the Board last year and has brought with him a huge amount of Australian and international experience. Glen has been outstanding in terms of coaching and kids polo and very kindly with the support of Ellerston, hosted the Women's Polo Circuit Interstate Challenge in March 2016. I can't fail to mention that NSW won the final against a much more favoured Queensland team. Glen has also been very helpful in regards to rules and umpiring. Thank you Glen.

The Board recently nominated Billie Mascart to liaise with the Board regarding women's polo. I note women now make up approx 25% of our playing members and form an integral part of NSW Polo. Thank you Billie.

Suzie Ruse has been NSWPA Executive Secretary for 12 years now. She is an extraordinary talented woman who can handle all the interesting personalities in our sport and has made my job as President a pleasure. Suzie has assisted various sub-committees of the NSWPA and APF including the Handicap Committee, Safety Testing Committee, Discipline Committee, Player Development committee. I also note that Suzie has been able to secure 5 grants from the NSW Department of Sport and Recreation totalling \$50,000 during her role. Many thanks Suzie.

APF

On behalf of the NSW Polo Association I would like to thank **Amanda Jansen**, Executive Secretary of the APF for all her efforts on the Rules, APF policies and procedures and for being so helpful to myself Suzie. Amanda has a wealth of horse experience being a polo player and endurance rider.

I would like to acknowledge and thank **Tim Clarke**, President of the APF, who has brought great stability to the national body.

Handicap Committee

I would like to pay special thanks to the Handicap Committee for what they have done over the past three years during which time Dick Doolin has been Chair of the committee. Dick has shown great leadership in the role. I would like to thank all the handicappers for the games they watch and the work they do in this capacity. Having been on the Handicap Committee myself and Chair over some years, I well appreciate the amount of effort and time that goes into this important aspect of our sport.

Clubs

I would like to thank all the Clubs, their committees and office bearers who really drive polo in NSW. The tireless energy of so many of you who give your time to organise tournaments and chukkas, encourage new players. Thank you to the Clubs.

Safety

There is a degree of danger in all horse sports and polo is a particularly dangerous horse activity. I would like to thank all office bearers for their work in ensuring all players are registered before a tournament, the Event Checklist is completed and any incidents are promptly reported. I encourage you all to be vigilant in terms of potential risks involved and take immediate action where safety may be compromised. This may mean directing a spectator to move their car, put a dog on the leash and asking children to stay behind the safety lines, etc.

Whilst on the subject of Safety, I would like to pay particular thanks to Lindsay Nylund who has undertaken fall safety training in the Hawkesbury at Easter, Scone League and also recently at Ellerston. Lindsay is coming to address the AGM later this morning and I encourage clubs to promote fall safety to their members as a means of making polo a safer sport.

Horse Welfare

Horse welfare should be at the forefront of our minds at all times. Clubs should be proactive with regard to horse welfare issues. You only have to look at the state Government's ban and lifting of the ban on greyhound racing to know all animal sports are under the microscope. When tournaments take place in hot, humid weather, I encourage you to look at the APF Heat Policy which gives clear guidelines on action to take in these circumstances.

Safety Testing

With thanks to the APF, Safety Testing has been operating in the NSW over the past two years. Testing has been undertaken both in the Hawkesbury and at country clubs. I can assure you that in terms of keeping polo safe for participants and spectators, that safety testing will be continuing next year and beyond.

Rules & Umpiring

I would like to pay particular thanks to the NSWPA Umpiring and Rules committee established earlier this year, which is chaired by Anto White and was the members include Glen Gilmore, Sam Hopkinson, Adam Tolhurst, Simon Walker and me. Anto, a special thanks to you for your drive and vision in improving umpiring and to help with better interpretation of the rules so as to improve the standard of polo. Anto is kindly going to address the AGM later this morning to further discuss umpiring and rules.

Juniors

I would like to thank the Scone Polo Club for the work they have done with the Junior Polo School. I understand it has been running for 22 years and has had a profound impact on NSW and Australian Polo. A number of Australian representatives are graduates of this school and they include Rob and Jack Archibald, Alec, Will and Jasper White, Will Gilmore, Sam Gunn, James Lester, and even a few New Zealand representatives such as Tom Hunt. In addition a lot of girls have graduated from the Scone Polo School and gone on to represent Australia and NSW.

I thank Alex Warner for organising this year's polo school and all the coaches who donated their time. I would again like to thank Beau Blundell for being the driving force of junior development on the Board and Andrew Williams for all the coaching he has done around the state. It is worth making special mention of Adam Meally who coached at Riverlands for well over a decade and brought so many new members into polo. Thank you Adam.

Some of the highlights for the 2016 year were:

Scone celebrated their 125th Anniversary, which I attended – it was a wonderful event. I note it will be the turn of NSW Polo Association to celebrate 125 years in 2017.

The Dudley Cup was won by Garangula again against a very tenacious Sydney team. Congratulations Garangula. Garangula also won the Morton Cup over Town & Country. The Hector King was won by Marshalls. I thank Lindsay Jameson who tirelessly looks after trophies and results.

One of the highlights was the state of origin Ladies Tournament at Ellerston where NSW defeated QLD in a great match. Thank you to Ellerston Polo Club for hosting this wonderful event.

As you are all aware, Sydney Polo Club is hosting the 2017 14 goal FIP World Polo Championships. Congratulations to Sydney Polo Club and Peter Higgins for their winning bid and all the work they are currently doing. I am sure the polo community will embrace and support this wonderful event and assist with horses where possible. Peter is going to speak about the World Cup later in the AGM.

Thank you & looking forward

I have very much enjoyed the friendships I have forged with my fellow directors over many years. I thank you for having the faith in me to preside over the Association for the last three years.

I feel very confident in the current Board we have, and I am excited about the outstanding nominations for new directors for 2017. The NSWPA Board have the capacity to grow our sport and prosper into the future. I look forward to sharing a light lunch at the end of this meeting with you all and I thank you again for your support and all your wonderful contributions to polo.

Joe Curran President, NSW Polo Association

Joe introduced Sinclair Hill, NSWPA Life Director and former 10 goaler. Sinclair spoke, making comments on the healthy state of polo today and thanking those present for their work with the Association and Clubs.

6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT & DIRECTORS

Dick Rodgers took the chair for the elections:

President Nomination received from: Stephen Philip
No other nominations were received.
Stephen Philip elected as President for 2016-17.

Southern Zone Director – two vacancies. Two nominations received from Tim Boyd and Angus Campbell.
Tim Boyd and Angus Campbell elected as Southern Zone Directors 2016-2018.

Northern Zone Director – two vacancies. Two nominations received from Ben Osborne and Peter White.
Ben Osborne and Peter White elected as Southern Zone Directors 2016-2018.

Hawkesbury Zone Director – two vacancies. Three nominations received from Sam Hopkinson, Adam Tolhurst and Georgia Higgins.
A vote took place of the delegates of the Hawkesbury Clubs following short presentations from Georgia Higgins and Adam Tolhurst.
Sam Hopkinson and Adam Tolhurst elected as Hawkesbury Zone Directors 2016-2018.
Georgia Higgins was thanked for her nomination, excellent presentation and ongoing contribution to polo in the Hawkesbury.

It was agreed to continue with Samuel Skurnik & Co Pty Ltd as the auditors of NSW Polo Association.

Steve Philip, as President, took the chair.

Acknowledgement of departing NSWPA Directors, Ian McDuie and Joe Curran

Ian McDuie arrived at the meeting. Joe Curran said a few words about Ian:

Ian McDuie has been a Director of NSWPA for an amazing 23 years. He was President for three years and Vice President for three years. He has had many years as Director of the APF, formerly the APC as well as chair of the National Selection Committee. He was chair of the Discipline Committee for many years and has been a member of that committee for the last few years. Ian has done a lot for RAS Polo and has commentated there since 1980. Ian has been involved in the Scone Polo Club since 1982. Furthermore Ian has been commentating polo for around 50 years and his knowledge of horses and polo is second to none. Ian was instrumental in the establishment of the new NSWPA Constitution which is giving equal representation to each zone. On a personal note, Ian has been a great mentor to me in helping me to assume the Presidency at a relatively young age. I think it is appropriate for us to express our gratitude in the normal way.

Joe Curran

Ian McDuie spoke of Joe's contribution to NSW Polo – he was voted onto the Board in October 1997, on the Handicap Committee for many years acting as Chair of this Committee Oct 07, was 2nd Vice President from Nov 10 – Oct 13 and President Oct 13 – Oct 16. He has managed RAS Polo for many years, along with Ian. He was instrumental in developing the APF Safety Testing Policy and implementing safety testing in NSW. He has been relentless in his pursuit of making polo safer and more enjoyable, such as the rider fall safety and more consistent umpiring. He spoke of Joe's generosity in the polo community, for example in lending horses. Ian believes Joe leaves a legacy of improved player safety and rules and umpiring knowledge.

Steve Philip welcomed the new Directors to the Board and acknowledged those leaving and the contribution they have made:

- Eugene Marais on the Calendar
- Beau Blundell with his direct honest approach and work with player development
- Ian McDuie who has added a wonderful historic knowledge of polo and the Association
- Joe Curran for this passion and enthusiasm in his approach.

Steve outlined activities and events on the radar:

- The World Polo Championships 2017 at Sydney Polo Club
- An opportunity for NSWPA to bid for the Australian Open
- Umpiring including funding opportunities, training and keep working with Anto White
- Women's Polo and APF plans for a women's committee
- Masters Polo – Marlene MacFarlane added that Killarney Polo Club have a Masters Tournament planned in November 2016.

7. HANDICAP REPORT

Dick Doolin read his report:

This is my last year as Chairman of the NSW Handicapping Committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee of Vice Chairman Angus Campbell, James Archibald, Jock Mackay, Sam Hopkinson, Andrew Williams and Simon Walker.

I've had a lot of satisfaction from working with this current committee who have made the effort to cover every player in the state throughout the year. They have been unbiased and fair in their

decision-making. I believe there is total transparency amongst this committee, which is essential for any board or committee to develop and for the polo community to place their trust in us.

This year we have delayed the handicap meeting until after the Garangula Tournament, so the Southern Handicappers have had the chance to assess the high goal players as well as the international talent that come to play. International players played an integral role in many of the finals this year and we will use their handicaps, the club recommendations and those of the benchmark players, as decided by the APF Benchmark committee, when making our decisions.

We have seen many close results in tournaments from the high goal down, giving us a good indication that our handicaps are accurate.

We have been proactive in encouraging players to step-up to the next level and we are finding they are developing for the better because of this. We would like to see more high goal polo played throughout Australia and include even more Australian players. The only high goal in Australia, at the moment, is played in NSW, the northern country circuit has seen an evenly competitive 10 goal A Grade return for the first time in many years and we would love to see that get even higher. On a personal note I would like to see Test Match Polo return to NSW and see it played at a 20+ goal level.

As the outgoing Chairman, I would like to stay on as a handicapper as I believe it's beneficial to the incoming Chairman to receive the support and mentoring from the past Chairman. I have a lot of respect for the current committee and would like to see it unchanged.

I look forward to the 2017 season and pre-emptively congratulate any players whose handicaps are changing as they develop.

Dick Doolin
Chair, Handicap Committee

8. ELECTION OF HANDICAP COMMITTEE FOR 2017

The current handicap committee were prepared to stand again. There were no further nominations.

Steve Philip moved that the **Handicap Committee 2017 is:** Dick Doolin, Angus Campbell, James Archibald, Sam Hopkinson, Jock Mackay, Simon Walker and Andrew Williams.

Seconded: Beau Blundell.

All in favour. Motion carried.

It was noted the Handicap Committee are meeting for the annual review tomorrow, Tuesday 25 October and a list of provisional handicaps will be circulated to clubs as soon as available.

9. PROPOSED 2017 AFFILIATION FEES

Proposed Affiliation Fees for 2017, including APF Affiliation Fee & Insurance (Sam Ballas)

Full Player Senior	\$375
Full Player Junior (19 years and under)	\$165
Full Player Senior 4 Weeks from date of registration	\$245
Club Chukkas member (no tournaments or handicap)	\$120
Coaching Clinic / Polo School Participant (insurance only)	\$33
Proposed Club Affiliation Fee	\$1000

Social Member Fee

\$55

Note: these are same as 2015 and 2016. Fees increased by 10% on the APF portion as APF now registered for GST.

Motion that Affiliation Fees 2017 remain same as 2015

Moved: Peter Higgins

Seconded: Beau Blundell

All in favour. Motion carried.

10. INSURANCE UPDATE

Dick Rodgers said the national insurance policy was well publicised on the website. It includes:

- Public Liability
- Professional Indemnity
- Directors & Officers
- Personal Accident

In addition, NSWPA pays for Players to be covered by **NSW Sporting Injuries Insurance Scheme** which provides significant lump sum benefits for serious injuries (permanent loss of use) and death. More info: www.sportinginjuries.nsw.gov.au

Dick Rodgers thanked Clubs for remembering to:

- To ensure all players were registered on the national player database.
- To complete an Event Checklist before a tournament
- To ensure an Incident Report Form is completed in the event of an accident or incident.

11. APF UPDATE

Steve spoke of the Rules Update which includes information on heat policy and concussion. An APF 2016 Polo Rules Book has been mailed to every player.

The APF's new constitution is now in effect. Any state with 40% or more of the members gains an extra vote.

Ian McDuie spoke of the FIP funding for player development.
Funding for Junior Development

Prepared by Beau Blundell and Ian McDuie.

When Ian returned from the FIP Annual Conference in Dec 2015 he informed APF that there was substantial funding available for Junior Development.

Subsequently APF asked for submissions to be presented to FIP and a number of individual clubs and persons expressed interest. However, the application process essentially needs the support of an administrative body to be considered.

Subsequently, as the Director responsible for junior development, Beau had some discussions with Ian to determine what sort of approach might have a good chance of attracting funds.

Below is a very basic draft of a summary of the approach that they are suggesting, and as both Ian and Beau are retiring from the Board they are suggestion that this discussion paper be presented at

the AGM, so that delegates can consider what approach they feel the Board should take to attract this funding and possible funding that might be available from NSW Sports Commission.

A National sports development programme and how NSW might initiate it.

1. Establish a series of junior (under 21) workshop/coaching sessions in 5 or 6 zones within NSW based on where the most even numbers of potential participants are situated.
2. Initially 5 suggested zones are: - Northern NSW – Hunter Valley – Richmond – Southern NSW – Central western NSW.
3. Appoint an approved coach for each “zone”.
4. 3 workshop/coaching sessions be conducted at appropriate times (holidays etc.) in each zone. (6 days total)
5. Coaches be paid \$500 per day which equals \$3,000 per zone, a total of \$15,000.
6. At the final weekend, a zone team is selected that will participate in a State junior championship tournament, maybe to be played at Windsor at the same time as the Australian Open.
7. At this tournament a team is selected to play at the National Junior Titles – this would have to be organized in conjunction with APF.
8. From this tournament an Australian team would be selected to play in a potential series of Internationals against countries in the FIP Zone D. This would be organized with the FIP officials within our Zone, initially with Peter Prendiville and John Fischer.

This is obviously a draft idea but Beau is prepared to be part of a sub-committee if the Board decides to pursue this further.

12. RULES & UMPIRING UPDATE

Anto White summarised the changes in the most recent rules.

The Australian Polo Federation has updated the Rules of Polo to Hurlingham Polo Association 2016 field rules, which have for the first time been aligned with the rules of Argentina and the USA. In the USA & Argentina the rules language and order are slightly different in places but the meaning is intended to be the same.

2016 Rule Changes include:

- Rule #1.42 to 1.54 – Changes to Penalties, including **Penalty 10** red & yellow cards.
- Rule #2.10 Documentation & DPI requirements
- Rule #2.25 – 2.40 – Club Responsibilities & Requirements, including returns.
- Rule #2.37 & 2.38 New Concussion Policy.
- Annex B #20 - Goal Umpires - change in number & age requirement
- Annex D #1 acceptance of entries

The Rules of Polo v12.0 August 2016 are effective immediately and changes to the rules (and where they vary from ARG/USA in part 1) are highlighted grey.

Anto White acknowledged the work Amanda Jansen has contributed to the APF Rules and Joe Curran for his efforts in education and training of players.

On behalf of all present, Steve thanked Anto for his presentation.

13. WORLD CUP 2017 UPDATE

Peter Higgins confirmed Sydney Polo Club had won the bid to host the 2017 FIP World Polo Championships and these will take place 21-29 October 2017. He introduced Craig Lovett from Incognitus, an event management company who will oversee the logistics of the event. Craig talked of the issues DA process, traffic management, risk management, medical services etc. Currently at the procurement phase.

Peter then introduced Anto White who spoke about horse procurement. He explained with 8 teams, nearly 300 horses will be needed. Pool games are 5 chukkas, they change at ½ time, 10 x 3.5min chukkas. He said with the Championships in Spring, QLD has finished and polo in WA, VIC & SA has not started.

14. FALL SAFETY – LINDSAY NYLUND

Joe Curran introduced Lindsay Nylund, the founder of the Horse Rider Fall Safety Training Program. Lindsay has held 3 training sessions organized by NSW Polo.

Jeremy Bayard recounted his experience. He had attended fall safety training at Windsor Polo Club and shortly afterwards was involved in a collision where he fell off. He remembered the training 'let go of the reins and get your arms up'. He was able to walk away from the accident and believes the knowledge gained from the training saved his life.

Lindsay explained the fall time to the ground from a height of 2.5 metres is approximately ¾ (0.71) of a second. In some situations there may be no time to respond, however in many situations you can spontaneously respond as a result of training; training that could make the difference between sustaining a catastrophic injury . . . OR getting up and walking away!

Joe urged Clubs to organize a session when players are together, perhaps a rest day in a longer tournament. Angus Graham said the training should form part of every Junior Polo School.

15. TOURNAMENTS CALENDAR 2017

Eugene Marais circulated the Draft Calendar 2017 version 8. Eugene thanked the Calendar Subcommittee of Simon Walker, Bruno Maritz and Glen Gilmore.

Eugene highlighted the main differences between 2016 and 2017. These include the introduction of the Australian Open alongside an 8 goal Hector King; the Dudley & Morton Cups being held the weekend after this, and no Sydney Polo tournaments except the World Polo Championships.

It was discussed whether a horse lenders cup could be run during the World Polo Championships.

Tournaments included on the NSWPA Calendar: Eugene informed clubs that a condition of affiliation going forward, is that clubs agree that their tournament will be open to all affiliated members. If it is not, it becomes a private tournament and is not included in the official NSW Polo Tournaments Calendar.

The Draft Calendar 2017 version 8 was approved. Eugene will prepare a final version for distribution.

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

Duties: Georgia Higgins raised the issue of players not understanding what their duties entailed. It was confirmed that goal umpires must be 16 years of age or over.

Women on the NSWPA Board: Fiona Fitzpatrick expressed her wish to see more representation of women on the Board.

The meeting closed at 1.10pm. Attendees stayed on for lunch.

Signed

Stephen Philip
NSWPA President