

MINUTES

New South Wales Polo Association (Kyeemagh) Limited

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

Held at
The Woollahra Hotel, Queen Street, Woollahra NSW 2025
Friday 23 November 2018

Stephen Philip opened the meeting at 10.20am.

1. ATTENDEES

Club Delegates/Proxy:

Arunga	Julie McIntosh	Mudgee	Alec White
Basin	Mark Maritz	Riverlands	Rowena Rainger
Ellerston	Alec White	Scone	Alec White
Garangula	n/a	Sugar Beach	Julie McIntosh
Goulburn	n/a	Southern Highlands	n/a
Gundalong	Angus Campbell	Sydney	Georgia Higgins
Jemalong	n/a	Timor	n/a
Killarney	John Farren-Price	Town & Country	Adam Marshall
Kurri Burri	Adam Marshall	The Northern Polo Club	James Archibald
Millamolong	n/a	Windsor	Rowena Rainger
		Wirragulla	n/a

Kyeemagh Members/ and other Members of the NSWPA and Clubs

Sam Ballas	Adam Tolhurst	Marlene MacFarlane	Steve Philip
Simon Walker	Peter White	Tim Boyd	Lindsay Jameson
Angus Campbell	Glen Gilmore	Alex Zak	David Beale
Richard Rodgers	Ben Osborne		

Chairman: Stephen Philip

Executive Assistant: Suzie Ruse (outgoing) and Shauna Laverty (incoming)

2. OFFICIAL APOLOGIES

Official Apologies received from: Beau Blundell, Fiola Labron Johnson and Scott Kennedy Green.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion: Tim Boyd moved that the Minutes of the previous AGM of 27 October 2017 be accepted as an accurate record.

Seconded: Angus Campbell.

All in favour. Motion carried.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Sam Ballas, NSWPA Treasurer, read his report:

Sam noted the loss of \$28,000 for the 2017-18 financial year. There is currently \$29,000 in the cash account and \$280,000 in the savings account.

- A NSW Sport & Rec grant of \$10000 was successfully received plus a second one of \$9000 which is specifically for the purpose of assisting to fund junior polo schools and rules/umpiring training.
- The NSWPA Tournaments aim to break even. However in 2017-18 there was a substantial cost for the professional umpire, Ben Turner, and the cost of paramedics increased. Despite a small increase in nomination fees, these were insufficient to make up for the expenses. However it was a successful year in terms of the number of tournaments held and teams entered.
- Legal fees increased by \$11,000.
- Player affiliations were down by \$15,000.

Sam Ballas

Treasurer, NSW Polo Association

Motion: Ben Osborne moved that the Financial Reports and year ending 30 June 2018 and the Treasurer's Report be accepted as an accurate record.

Seconded: Peter White.

5. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT of AUDITOR

Angus Campbell moved to continue with Samuel Skurnik & Co Pty Ltd as the auditors of NSW Polo Association.

Seconded: Dick Rodgers

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Stephen Philip, NSWPA President read his report:

2018 has certainly been the year of the drought. We have all been affected especially in the North, where player and team numbers were reduced and Ellerston could not take place. Despite this, it has been a good year for polo particularly in the Hawkesbury where a record number of tournaments were held including a memorable Test Match v New Zealand.

Autumn Season

Unlike 2017, in March and April the weather in the Hawkesbury was perfect for polo.

However the season did not start well with Jack Archibald having a nasty fall in one of the first games of the season. This led the NSWPA Board to review the first aid available fieldside and a quick decision was made to upgrade to ensure a paramedic was available at all times. This paid dividends as the season continued with other players incurring bad falls which could have had a much worse outcome had a paramedic not been in place. I thank everyone who supported the Board on this decision and I think we all agree it is well worth the small extra cost.

The season opened with The Hawkesbury Cup held first 2 weekends of March, in place of Ellerston where drought was biting. The was followed by the Morton Cup 14 goal & Hector King 8-10 goal held where in the **Final of The Morton Cup** Garangula beat Ellerston. The Australian Open saw 6 teams compete and in the final Garangula beat Ellerston White by 3 goals. The Dudley Cup saw 8 teams compete and in the final Ellerston White beat Kurri Burri. The B Grade Macleod Cup had 6 teams completing. I would like to thank the NSWPA tournament committee: Adam Tolhurst, Jim Gilmore and Alec White and Sam Hopkinson.

I would also like to thank Bruno Mascart, Luke O'Leary, Rowena Rainger and the Windsor Polo Club for hosting many of the lower grades during this time and co-ordinating with the NSWPA committee on grounds, timings etc. I thank the field owners who made their fields available so that everyone got to play, namely the Higgins at Sydney, Marshalls with Kurri Burri, the Tolhursts at Arunga, the Killarney Committee and the Lowlands field (owner?).

For the first time in 3 years, a Polo International took place at Windsor Polo Club on Saturday 31 April. I thank all who made this possible particularly the committee at Windsor Polo Club. The Colts were first to play and I could not help but feel pride as we witnessed two home-grown teams play each other, and definitely some future representative players amongst them as NSW Country defeated NSW City 5 - 2 goals and Most Valuable Player was voted Monty Campbell. In the Ladies **International vs New Zealand we saw** Australia defeated in extra time, 5 - 4 goals and Most Valuable Player: Julie McIntosh. The result of the **mens' International saw** Australia presented with the Sinclair Hill Trophy by Sinclair himself as they defeated New Zealand 8 - 6 goals. Champion Pony: Nupe played by S C Hopkinson and Most Valuable Player: Alec White.

Professional Umpire and Umpiring Headsets

These tournaments were successful for many reasons, not least of which was having a professional umpire, Ben Turner from England, umpire all the high goal games and in turn provide guidance and development for our NSW umpires and players. I thank Sam Hopkinson for driving this project. As Sam Ballas mentioned in the Treasurer's Report, there was a cost involved, however over the past 2 years NSWPA has been successful in receiving a grant from NSW Sport and Rec, specifically for the purpose of umpire development. In the spring season, umpiring headsets have been successfully trialled by Anto White.

Polo at the Royal Easter Show was limited due to a structure being placed on the ground making play difficult.

Spring Season

The Spring season started in the North, the clubs have been running tournaments every weekend since early August with between 8 -12 teams competing. Ironically there was a little too much rain at Scone and Hawkesbury where weekends were cancelled including the JK Mackay Memorial Tournament finals and the Macintyre Cup which was rescheduled. I would like to acknowledge the tournament managers, club office bearers and committee members who volunteer their time to ensure these tournaments to run smoothly.

Junior Polo Schools

I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved in organising Junior Polo Schools this year. They have been held at:

- Jemalong organised by Muz Easton and Andrew Williams
- Ellerston organised by Mandy Fisher
- The Hawkesbury organised by Nicola Cole and Luke O'Leary
- North Star where Simon Doolin, Dave Bettington, James Hockey and Nick Benson coached 30 children in beginner polo
- Gunnedah organised by Ben Osborne and Renata Davidson and made regional news headlines
- Sadly Scone, organised by Alec Warner and his committee, could not be held due to the drought conditions.

These schools are so vital for the future of polo. The talent of NSW Colts as demonstrated at the test match where more nominations were received than could be placed into teams shows that the hard work put in by all volunteers at our junior polo schools truly pays dividends. Thank you again.

Women's Polo

NSW are proud to have a womens committee consisting of Billie Mascart, Marie Louise Easton, Rowena Rainger and Sonya Dowling. This ensures they cover a greater area of NSW and ensure that the most amount of players can be catered for with ladies tournaments and clinics. As you will hear from NSW Handicap Committee chair Gus Campbell, a separate ladies handicap has been introduced with the purpose of being able to handicap these ladies according to their skills shown in ladies polo. They could be rated much higher in ladies than they are in mixed polo.

New Clubs in NSW: NSW Polo Association welcomed new club: Sugar Beach Polo Club near Ballina under the Presidency of Stevey Murphy and captained by Marty Leacy. With Jemalong moving, the polo community in Forbes has already mobilized to form the Forbes Polo Club and we will see this active in 2019 under President Chris Francis and Vice President and Secretary Marie-Louise Easton.

Launch of Online Polo Rules:

NSW Polo led the world when Ben Osborne's dream of polo rules a tap away on his mobile phone became a reality in February this year. I congratulate Ben on initiating this project. If you have not already, please check out www.polorules.com

Legal Costs Incurred

As you heard in the Treasurer's Report, unfortunately NSWPA has incurred \$11.5k of legal costs this year. This is well above normal and this is money has largely been contributed by the whole NSW playing community in the form of affiliation fees. The legal fees were linked to disciplinary and personal matters. I urge players to think carefully before they involve NSWPA in future.

On a positive note:

The NSW Polo Community watched with pride and amazement but, certainly in my case not envy, as Robert, Jack & Ed Archibald and Henry Bell competed in the 8th Annual - 2018 Mongol Derby. [1000km, 28 Horses, 4 Brothers, 1 MONGOL DERBY - Ride for a Cure](#)
[It was an inspiring and difficult journey. Thanks to their hard work, good contacts not to mention good looks, the boys did an incredible job of raising awareness and highlighting of reality of living with MS. When I last checked the team had raised nearly \\$200,000. Congratulations!](#)

Lastly I would like to thank the Directors who have all worked tirelessly to conduct, encourage, promote, advance and administer Polo throughout NSW.

- Dick Rodgers
- Sam Ballas - Treasurer
- Tim Boyd
- Angus Campbell – handicaps and player development
- Sam Hopkinson – umpire development, tournaments & calendar
- Simon Walker
- Adam Tolhurst- tournaments & calendar
- Glen Gilmore – test match, RAS Polo
- Ben Osborne – online rules
- Bruno Mascart – Hawkesbury and women’s polo liaison
- Peter White

Finally we say good bye to our executive assistant Suzie Ruse who leaves for another job after 14 years at the polo association. Suzie has assisted 5 Presidents in her time, produced 14 Season Guides, worked with over 40 directors, attended nearly 100 meetings, successfully applied for \$90k worth of sport development grants, sent countless player bulletins, and responded to hundreds of phone calls and emails from us. In between she’s been able to polish trophies, keep the accounts in order and follow up those of us who forget to register – it’s not all glamorous 😊

The NSWPA Office will be in good hands as I’m delighted to introduce Shauna Lavery. Shauna has excellent administration and communication skills, has run her own business and will be a great asset.

Thank you

Stephen Philip
President, NSW Polo Association

7. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT & DIRECTORS

Dick Rodgers, Vice President took the chair for the election of the President:

President Nomination received from: Stephen Philip

No other nominations were received.

Stephen Philip elected as President for 2018-19.

Stephen Philip, as President, took the chair.

Southern Zone Director – two vacancies. Nominations received from Angus Campbell and Tim Boyd. Angus Campbell and Tim Boyd elected as Southern Zone Directors 2018-2020.

Northern Zone Director – two vacancies. Nominations received from Ben Osborne and Peter White. Ben Osborne and Peter White elected as Northern Zone Directors 2018-2020.

Hawkesbury Zone Director – two vacancies. Nominations received from Adam Tolhurst and Sam Hopkinson.

Adam Tolhurst and Sam Hopkinson elected as Northern Zone Directors 2018-2020.

8. HANDICAP REPORT

Angus Campbell read his report:

Firstly I'd like to thank the other six members of the handicap committee 2018 for their commitment to the task of getting around NSW to see 411 registered players plus the 57 from interstate & overseas. Thank you to Vice Chair James Archibald, Simon Walker, Andrew Williams, Jock Mackay, Dick Doolin and Sam Hopkinson.

Both James Archibald and Simon Walker have decided to step aside making way for some fresh eyes. James and Simon have been integral parts of the committee both with strong opinions and able to articulate their view clearly & concisely, invaluable attributes for a position on a handicap committee. James has given 10 years' service, 7 of which he has been as Vice Chairman. Simon has given 12 years. Thank you both.

The issues we raised here last year with regard to handicap discrepancies between States led to some changes pushed through by Stephen Philip. They have had a good effect. I'd like to thank Steve for his hard work toward achieving this.

We just handed down our list for 2019 which seemed well received with only a small number of appeal letters.

This year saw us adopt the new and improved Ladies handicap system. We discussed the need for a sub-committee to provide recommendations similar to the way club recommendations work now.

Finally I'd like to say on behalf of the handicap committee what a pleasure it has been dealing with retiring NSWPA Secretary Suzie Ruse. We wish you all the best with your future endeavours.

Angus Campbell Chair, Handicap Committee

The attendees gave a round of applause for Simon Walker and James Archibald's contributions to the committee.

9. ELECTION OF HANDICAP COMMITTEE FOR 2018

Simon Walker (south) and James Archibald (north) will step down. Andrew Williams has moved from the Hawkesbury zone to the southern zone so will cover that area.

Nominations were received from Alec White (north) and Luke O'Leary (Hawkesbury). These were accepted.

Tim Boyd moved that the **Handicap Committee 2019 is:** Angus Campbell (chair), Dick Doolin, Alec White, Sam Hopkinson, Jock Mackay, Luke O'Leary and Andrew Williams.
Seconded: Sam Ballas.

10. PROPOSED 2019 AFFILIATION FEES

Proposed Affiliation Fees for 2019, including APF Affiliation Fee & Insurance (Sam Ballas)

Sam Ballas said the affiliation fees would stay the same as 2018 in 2019:

Full Player Senior	\$375
Full Player Senior inc Membership Plus PA Cover	\$695
Full Player Senior inc Membership Pro PA Cover	\$1240
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	\$35

Note: these are same as 2018 with the addition of Full Senior Players with included Personal Accident Cover.

ACTION: Promote the subscriptions with included PA cover to members.

Motion that Affiliation Fees are as detailed above:

Moved: Dick Rodgers

Seconded: Ben Osborne

11. APF UPDATE

Steve Philip reported that APF are near to releasing a Social Media Policy and revised Discipline Policy. There are both as a result of changes initiated by NSWPA.

- In the new Discipline Policy, cases will be referred to an external committee. Steve thanked Ben Osborne who had involved a senior QC to overlook and give input to the new policy. Ben Osborne added this largely follows HPA Discipline Policy.
- The Social Media Policy means that emails and posts on social media that are considered bringing the game into disrepute, will have disciplinary ramifications. This was approved at the recent APF AGM. Ben Osborne added that the policy clarifies what 'bringing the game into disrepute' constitutes, such as broadcast emails.

ACTION: Inform all players of the new Social Media Policy

Sam Ballas reported on APF Financials. The APF made a loss of \$56,000 in 2017-18. APF did provide support to programs for the World Cup including Hendra vaccinations, transport and team support costs. Unfortunately the Snow Polo is no longer taking place as this contributed \$60,000-\$70,000 in previous years.

The APF has \$17,000 in cash account and \$112,000 in savings account. The Mike Harley Fund has \$137,000 which is junior polo development and low interest rates are not helping this grow.

12. TOURNAMENTS CALENDAR 2018

The draft Calendar was tabled and presented by Simon Walker. Club delegates thanked Adam Tolhurst for the time he had taken to talk to the Clubs regarding their requirements.

ACTION: NSWPA Calendar Committee to finalise the 2019 Calendar soon after 1 December.

The Sydney Polo Club requested their events be included on the 2019 NSWPA Calendar.

13. GENERAL BUSINESS

Steve Philip acknowledged and thanked **Lindsay Jameson**, Life & Kyeemagh member present at the meeting, for the work he does in recording NSWPA trophy winners to assist with the record keeping and engraving of the perpetual trophies.

The meeting closed at 12.00pm. Attendees stayed on for lunch.

Signed

Stephen Philip
NSWPA President