



Minutes of the RNSWCC Ltd Annual General Meeting 4 November 2015

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of Members held Wednesday 4 November 2015 at 8.00pm in the Amenities Building, The Bill Spilstead Complex for Canine Affairs, 44 Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills.

1. PRESENT	Mrs E Gunter	Director
	Mr R Britten	Director
	Mr M Arthur	Director
	Mr G Dryburgh	Director
	Mrs N Keck	Director
	Ms C Mann	Director
	Mrs M Parker	Director
	Mr W Burton	Director (Outgoing)
	Mr G Spagnolo	Director
	Mr L Wheeler	Director
	Mrs M Wheeler	Director
	Mr J Sheppard	Director
	Mrs L Brown	Director-elect (Incoming)
	Mrs V Gagan-Wilson	Chief Executive Officer
	Mr D Kuchta	Auditor, Kelly & Partners

A total of 37 Members present, a list of whom appears in the Minute Book and which includes the above Directors and the CEO.

2. APOLOGIES	Mr F Hession (Director) Mrs J Lee (Director) Ms J Seary (Director) Mrs B Hession Mr L Butler Mrs C Butler Mrs F Wickens Ms M Patten
	MOVED D Crofts THAT the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Members held 5 November 2014, published in the April 2015 Gazette.

MOVED H Gent SECONDED KGriffin

THAT the Minutes of the RNSWCC Annual General Meeting held on 5 November 2014, as published in the April 2015 Gazette, be confirmed.

CARRIED



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4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President reported to the meeting that our Constitution calls upon the Board of Directors to report on the activities of the Company during the last preceding financial year and on behalf of the Board I have pleasure in submitting that report for Members' consideration:-

Financial Results

Our 2014/2015 Profit was \$209,435, which is up from \$181,564 in the prior year. This result was a very satisfactory outcome in terms of our budget expectations, and is very pleasing in terms of our planning efforts. It is also pleasing to see an increase in income in a number of areas, and a reduction in expenditure in others. It is not an easy task to maintain profit to budgeted levels given the many variables that effect final results.

Both membership and registration income have increased which is always pleasing. And we have seen a significant reduction in Journal expenses, thanks to the new "in house" Journal arrangements. The Board of Directors and our Finance Committee will continue to examine strategies in an endeavour to supplement our income and reduce our expenditure into the future.

I thank our CEO for her very great personal contribution to maintenance of the profit level above budget throughout the year, and I also thank those who support our CEO so strongly, the Board, the Finance Committee and our Staff.

Dogs NSW Staff and Committees

The CEO and the staff are the Company's most valuable asset, and they deserve the grateful thanks of the Membership for their efforts over the past year.

To Virginia and the following 21 staff members, I extend the thanks of the Board and the membership for your outstanding contributions and devotion to duty throughout the past year.

Belinda Tutill, Assistant to CEO; Lisa Hadley, Committee Secretary, Kerry Christofi, Marketing & Public Relations, assisted by Cathy Lupton and Stephanie Lynch, Magazine Designer; Michelle Schembri, Accounts Manager, assisted by Ilinka Donn-Patterson; Linda Bonney, Website Manager/IT Co-ordinator; Judy Miller, Show Administration Officer; Shona Hofmeier, Processing Supervisor/Software Development, assisted by Data Processors Leah Blattman and Kristy Torrisi. Belinda Tutill is also the Customer Service Supervisor assisted by Customer Service Officers Dianne Troutman, Melissa Rangi, Jasmine Woods and Jaymie Lewis. Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer, Deirdre Crofts, and Ground Staff Supervisor, Steve Hadfield, assisted by Ground Staff members Larry Purvis, Matthew Tyne and Barry Kroon.

The Board of Directors relies heavily on the activities of a number of Committees and Working Parties to carry out delegated responsibilities to ease the workload which would otherwise choke the monthly Board agenda.

To the Chairpersons and members of all our Committees & Working Parties, I extend the very sincere thanks of both the Board and the membership.



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Board of Directors

In this report it is customary to farewell retiring Directors and this year we say farewell and thank you to Wayne Burton for his service to the membership as a Director. Wayne will be succeeded by Mrs Lyn Brown, who will be welcomed to the Board at the conclusion of this meeting. We wish Lyn a successful tenure, and look forward to her contribution. In December 2014, the Board received the unexpected resignation of Director Tom Couchman for personal reasons. Tom served four terms as President of Dogs NSW and made an outstanding contribution to the Company, we wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

The Bill Spilstead Complex

Although our lease arrangements over the Complex take us through to 2038, we continue to take any opportunity of getting the message across to the State Government that we are very anxious to discuss a much longer term arrangement, and to this end continue to involve our Politicians in our events and activities.

Health and Welfare

The Board of Directors is very pleased with the very high level of compliance by the Membership to the measures introduced in the last couple of years to address health and welfare issues.

These measures have been greatly welcomed by the Government and social commentators interested in animal welfare matters.

The work of our Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer has also been crucial to our profile and to ensure compliance by our members. Deirdre has carried out a number of property inspections over the year.

Although our new requirements to obtain a Breeders Prefix have resulted in a decrease in prefix income, these measures show the organization is concerned to ensure that any person wishing to breed registered dogs adheres to the appropriate codes, and the proper care and welfare of their animals foremost.

Government & Industry Relations and the Media

The Government's Advisory Group continues to work on some of the main recommendations from the report of the Companion Animal Taskforce which could affect our Members. Dr Karen Hedberg, BVSc, one of Dogs NSW Honorary Veterinarians was appointed by the Board as our representative to that Group, and continues to represent us.

As a result of continuing reports of "puppy farming" and the very poor conditions for the animals on these premises, the Government instituted a Joint Parliamentary Select Committee into Companion Animal Breeding Practices. Dogs NSW was invited to make a submission and to participate in the Inquiry. It is hoped from our presentation that our organisation will be recognised by the Inquiry for its position on proper companion animal breeding practices, and its strong regulation of our licensed breeders for over 60 years.

Our Media & Government Legislation Committee, chaired by Brian Crump, has continued its work throughout the year to keep a watchful eye for any need to respond to any media attack on our dog world, or any proposed legislation which could affect us, and was instrumental in the preparation of our recent presentation to the Select Committee.



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Events

Every year we have a number of wonderful highlights in the promotion and celebration of Dogs NSW. First off after the last AGM was our annual party, the Christmas Show, which was its usual great success with the new team of elves from "Stardust Kids" keeping the children entertained for hours. This was followed by our Library & Archives Committee shows, the Dog, Puppy, & Neuter of the Year event, and the Complex Fundraising Committee shows. Once again all of these events were highly successful.

At Easter each year we are part of the Sydney Royal Show with our Dogs NSW Promotion Stand and my sincere thanks go to our Staff members Kerry and Cathy, who together with their band of volunteers, man this successful promotion every year. "Dogs On Show" 2015 was again a successful presentation of Dogs NSW to the public with its Championship Show, Breed Club stands and demonstrations. And once again the PR work of Kerry and Cathy was outstanding. We were very pleased to again welcome Dr Peter Phelps MLC to open the show as we continue our efforts to liaise closely with the Government.

For the first time the "Dog Lovers Show" was held in Sydney and Dogs NSW and many Breed Clubs took the opportunity to participate in what has become a very successful event held annually in Melbourne. It was certainly as successful in Sydney, and our participation with the Dogs NSW stand and the many Breeds in attendance was a great hit with the public.

The Festival of Agility was also a great success, with an entry of almost 1700.

The culmination of the year's events was the once more highly successful Dogs NSW Royal Canin Spring Fair Dog Show which featured 11 Specialty Shows and events in multiple disciplines.

I congratulate all the organising Committees of these very successful events. Each one is a great achievement, and a showcase for Dogs NSW.

Into the Future

We are now into the third year of our association with our major sponsor Royal Canin. Their product sponsorship for our events is extraordinary, and very much appreciated. On behalf of the Board, the membership and the exhibitors, I thank Royal Canin most sincerely for their support for Dogs NSW.

As my second year as Chairman of this wonderful organisation concludes, I would like to record my very sincere thanks to the Directors who have supported me in this role since my election in 2013, the Executive, whose counsel I value greatly, and the CEO Virginia Gagan-Wilson, who has been of great assistance with my day to day responsibilities.

I wish all members happy showing, trialling and breeding in the next twelve months, and most of all continued enjoyment of the companionship that our wonderful dogs provide.

My commitment is to continue to serve you, the membership, and to ensuring that Dogs NSW progresses its standing as the body which represents the pure bred dog in this State.

5. CONSIDERATION OF COMPANY SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Company Secretary report, as published in the 2015 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, was considered by the meeting.



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Australian National Kennel Council Ltd

The RNSWCC Representative at the Annual General Meeting held on 18 October 2014 was Mrs E Gunter and the two Directors appointed by RNSWCC were Mrs E Gunter and Mr T Couchman. Both attended the only Board Meeting which was held on 18 and 19 October 2014. Mrs E Gunter was a Director for the whole of the year July 2014 to June 2015, with Mr T Couchman being a Director from July 2014 to December 2014 and, following his resignation, Mr R Britten was appointed as a Director.

New Affiliates

The following Clubs were granted affiliation during the year:

- Denison Dog Training Club Inc

Inquiries, Investigations and Appeals

During the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, the RNSWCC received 51 new complaints which proceeded to the Chair of the Dogs NSW Disputes Assessment Panel, with the following outcomes:-

- 8 declined
- 39 proceeded to Inquiry
- 4 appeals
- 2 still under investigation
- 1 proceeded to mediation
- 1 withdrawn

Judges Training Schemes

Judges Training Schemes were conducted/are in progress for the following disciplines:-

- Agility
- Dances With Dogs
- Conformation
- Earthdogs
- Obedience & Tracking
- RAFT
- Herding

Other Courses/Schemes

- Stewards Course - Metropolitan
- Dances With Dogs Education Seminar

Life Membership & Distinguished Service Awards

In August 2014, the following members were recognised for their achievements in, and contribution to, the RNSWCC and its activities:-

Distinguished Service Awards

- Mrs Lurline Coleman
- Mr Peter Hosie
- Mr Allan Salter



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Company Secretary

The names, qualifications and experience of each person who has occupied the position of Secretary of the company during the year are:-

- Mrs Virginia Gagan-Wilson (since 2014)

Chief Executive Officer RNSWCC (trading as DOGS NSW). Previous experience in high level PA/Executive Assistant and Secretarial positions with State & Local Governments.

6. CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTORS' REPORTS

MOVED V Etherington OAM

SECONDED T Mangen

THAT the President's, Company Secretary's & Directors' Reports, as published in the 2015 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

7. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT – FOR THE YEAR-END 30 JUNE 2015

The President welcomed the Auditor, Mr Daniel Kuchta, and sought questions from the floor.

The Financial Report for the year end 30 June 2015, as published in the 2015 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, was considered by the meeting.

MOVED E Pickering

SECONDED C Cunningham

THAT the Financial Report for the year end 30 June 2015, as published in the 2015 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

8. NOTICES OF MOTION - NIL

9. MEETING CLOSED @ 8.16pm

The President gave a presentation to retiring Director Wayne Burton.
