

MINUTES of a meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS held on **Wednesday 8 November 2023** commencing at 2.01pm.

PARTICIPATION:

L Brown	G Vernon
C Rafton	S Mills
K Charnock	S McFadden
A McIlrath	S Oliver
G Spagnolo (By Zoom)	A Moy
K Hedberg BVSc	J Bryson
L Brand	S Hannigan (By Zoom)
R Privett (By Zoom)	

IN ATTENDANCE: V Gagan-Wilson (Company Secretary), L Hadley (Committee Secretary/Examinations Administrator), B Tutill (DAP Secretary), A Khamis (Operations Manager – **by Zoom**)

President Lyn Brown welcomed the newly appointed Directors and offered if they had any issues to please let the President, or the Company Secretary, know so that we can assist.

APOLOGIES: NIL

A. Recording of Board Meeting

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED L Brand

THAT Directors **note** that, in accordance with the resolution of the Board at Item 5.1 of the Board of Directors meeting held on 8 December 2021, **this Board meeting is being recorded** for the purposes of confirmation of the Minutes and once confirmed at a future Meeting the recording will then be deleted.

CARRIED

IN CAMERA

A. 2023 ELECTIONS

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT all **voting** in the 2023 Elections be **by poll** and that the Committee Secretary/Examinations Administrator and DAP Secretary act as scrutineers.

CARRIED

President L Brown vacated the Chair @ 2.04pm

Returning Officer took the Chair @ 2.04pm

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A.1 **Chairman**

Voting was by poll and on counting the votes, **Lyn Brand** was elected as **Chairman**.

CARRIED

The Returning Officer vacated the chair @ 2.16pm

President L Brand took the chair as President @ 2.16pm

A.2 **Executive Committee**

On close of the nominations for the Executive Committee, the following Directors were elected as Deputy Chairmen to make up the **Executive Committee**:-

- **S Oliver**
- **A McIlrath**
- **R Privett**
- **S McFadden**

CARRIED

A.3 **Senior Deputy Chairperson**

Voting was by poll and on counting the votes **Director S Oliver** was elected as **Senior Deputy Chairman**.

A.4 **Committee Chairs/Working Party Convenors**

A.4.1 **Agility Committee**

There being no other nominations, **Mr Michael Turner** was elected as the **Chair** of the **Agility Committee**.

CARRIED

A.4.2 **Agility Judges Committee**

There being no other nominations, **Ms Jenny Taylor** was elected as the **Chair** of the **Agility Judges Committee**.

CARRIED

A.4.3 **Breed Assessment & Temperament Testing (BATT) Committee**

There being no other nominations, **Mrs Annette Bowe** was elected as the **Chair** of the **Breed Assessment & Temperament Testing (BATT) Committee** – subject to the Office confirming with her that she is agreeable to accept the position.

CARRIED

A.4.4 **Breed Standards Committee**

There being no further nominations, **Director Rosemary Privett** was elected as the **Chair** of the **Breed Standards Committee**.

CARRIED

A.4.5 **Compliance Investigative Panel**

There being no other nominations, **Director G Spagnolo** was elected as **Chair** of the **Compliance Investigative Panel**.

CARRIED

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- A.4.6 **CJEP Examinations Committee**
There being no other nominations **Director L Brown** was elected as **Chair** of the **Conformation Judges Training Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.7 **Conformation Judges Training Committee**
There being no other nominations **Mr Brad Santos** was elected as **Chair** of the **Conformation Judges Training Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.8 **Constitution & Regulations Working Party**
There being no other nominations, **Ms Carrie Paine** was elected as **Convenor** of the **Constitution & Regulations Working Party**.
- A.4.9 **DOGS NSW Canine Health & Welfare Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Dr Karen Hedberg BVSc** was elected as **Chair** of the **DOGS NSW Canine Health & Welfare Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.10 **Finance Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Mr Ross Sinclair** was elected as **Chair** of the **Finance Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.11 **Grounds Committee**
There being no other nominations **Mr Peter Cutler** was elected as **Chair** of the **Grounds Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.12 **Honours Working Party**
There being no other nominations, **Director Guy Spagnolo** was elected as **Convenor** of the **Honours Working Party**.
CARRIED
- A.4.13 **Judges Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Director Glen Vernon** was elected as **Chair** of the **Judges Committee**.
- A.4.14 **Judicial Panel Co-ordinator**
Voting was by poll and on counting the votes **Director S McFadden** was elected as **Judicial Panel Co-ordinator**.
- A.4.15 **Library & Archives Committee**
Voting was by poll and on counting the votes **Mrs Maria Wheeler** was elected as **Chair** of the **Library & Archives Committee**.
CARRIED

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- A.4.16 **Media & Government Legislation Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Director Lyn Brand** was elected as **Chair** of the **Media & Government Legislation Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.17 **Members Education Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Ms Carol Baker** was elected as **Chair** of the **Members Education Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.18 **Obedience & Tracking Committee**
There being no other nominations **Mrs Pauline Hartwell** was elected as **Chair** of the **Obedience & Tracking Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.19 **Obedience & Tracking Judges Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Director Kyle Charnock** was elected as **Chair** of the **Obedience & Tracking Judges Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.20 **Regional Committees Working Party**
There being no other nominations, **Director Rosemary Privett** was elected as **Convenor** of the **Regional Committees Working Party**.
CARRIED
- A.4.21 **Retrieving & Field Trials (RAFT) Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Ms Kirsty Blair** was elected as **Chair** of the **Retrieving & Field Trials Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.22 **Show Committee**
Voting was by poll and on counting the votes, **Director S Oliver** was elected as **Chair** of the **Show Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.23 **Sporting Committee**
There being no other nominations, **Director Angus McIlrath** was elected as the **Chair** of the **Sporting Committee**.
CARRIED
- A.4.24 **Spring Fair Dog Show Committee**
Voting was by poll and on counting the votes **Director Christina Rafton** was elected as **Chair** of the **Spring Fair Dog Show Committee**.
CARRIED

Meeting recessed @ 2.55pm

G Spagnolo left the meeting @ 2.55pm

Meeting resumed @ 3.05pm

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1. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1.1 Electronic Meeting – 27 October 2023

MOVED R Privett

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT the Minutes of the Electronic Board meeting held on 27 October 2023 be **confirmed**.

CARRIED

2. PRIORITY MATTERS

2.1 Strategic Planning

The Board noted that this Item was a work in progress.

2.2 Orchard Hills Lease

The Board noted that this Item was a work in progress.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS TO BE DEALT WITH IN CAMERA

3.1 Executive Committee Decisions - NIL

3.2 Operations Manager's Report

3.2.1 Items for Noting

The Board noted the following items in the Operations Manager's Report:-

- Member Class by Regions
- Remediation of the GSDL Rings
- Marketing & Communications Manager – Kate Davidson
- Rebranding Questionnaire
- Operational Statistics

MOVED J Bryson

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT the Operations Manager's Report for October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

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3.3 Finance Committee – 26/10/2023

3.3.1 Recommendation 1 - Item 6.3: 2024/2025 Affiliate Insurance Charges

MOVED S McFadden

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT the Affiliates Insurance charge for Group and Semi-Group Affiliates be a flat rate of \$80.00 with Breed Specific Affiliates \$51.00 and remaining Affiliates, ie, Agility, Obedience, Dog Training, All Breeds be increased to \$450.00

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown abstained

3.3.2 Recommendation 2 - Item 6.5: DOGS NSW Penalty Regime

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED R Privett

THAT Recommendation 2, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI-Inquiries, Investigations & Appeals, Clause 14.4.1, which currently reads as follows:-

Schedule of Penalties (06/22)

1 st Offence	\$200.00
2 nd Offence	\$500.00
3 rd Offence	\$1,000.00
4 th Offence	Member to Inquiry

Be amended to read:-

Schedule of Penalties (11/23)

1 st Offence	\$500.00
2 nd Offence	\$1,000.00
3 rd Offence	Member to Inquiry

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown abstained

3.3.3 Recommendation 3 – Item 8.1.3: Review of Members Education Prefix Program Requirements

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED A Moy

THAT Recommendation 3, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT the Members Education Prefix Program Working Party be requested to revise the current requirements for applying for a prefix.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown, S Oliver abstained

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3.3.4 **Recommendation 4 – Item 8.1.2: Financial Statements as @ 30 September 2023**

MOVED S McFadden

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 4, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT the Financial Statements as @ 30 September 2023 be **approved** by the Board of Directors.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown abstained

3.3.5 **Recommendation 5 – Item 10.1.1: 2024 Scale of Charges Proposal**

The Operations Manager advised the meeting that not all items had been increased, eg, titles, some stationery, etc. It should be noted that in February this year Directors agreed to increase the scale of charges by 10%. Generally, the fees/charges are increased by CPI each year, however, as a result of the overall increase in living costs due to COVID in the 2020/2021 financial year, the Board resolved not to increase the fees/charges in 2021/2022 which resulted in a significant loss of revenue. The 10% increase this year is to recoup some of the revenue lost in 2021/2022.

Director K Charnock suggested a notice be placed in the Weekly Woof explaining to the members the reason for the 10% increase which should also detail the differences in those fees/charges.

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT Recommendation 5, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT the Board approve the 2024 Scale of Charges at a 10% increase effective 1 January 2024.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown abstained

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 26 October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown abstained

A Khamis left the meeting @ 4.01pm

Meeting recessed @ 4.01pm

Meeting resumed @ 4.22pm

3.4 **Compliance Investigative Panel**

The Board noted that the Compliance Investigative Panel did not meet.

3.5 **Judges Committee**

The Board noted that this Committee did not meet.

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3.6 **Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer Report – October 2023**

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT the Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer's Report for October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

3.6.1 **Serious Animal Welfare Committee – 16/10/2023**

3.6.1.1 **Recommendation 1 – Item 3.1: DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics, Clause 9 –AMENDMENT**

3.6.1.1.1 **Recommendation 1A**

MOVED J Bryson

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 1A, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI- Code of Ethics, Clause 9, which current reads as follows:-

9. *A Member shall not breed a bitch that results in it whelping more than twice in two years without the prior written approval of a Veterinary Surgeon.
(06/22)*

Be amended to read:

9. A Member shall not:-
- a. **(11/23)** Breed a bitch that results in it whelping more than twice in two years without the prior written approval of a Veterinary Surgeon.
 - b. **When a bitch has whelped litters from two (2) consecutive seasons, she must have a twelve (12) month rest from whelping any further litters. (11/23)**

**A breach by a Member of Clause 9a and/or 9b will result in the litter being registered on the Limited Register marked “never to be upgraded”,
(11/23)**

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AND

The Member will be subject to disciplinary action under the current penalty regime. (11/23)

CARRIED

L Brown against

MOVED S McFadden

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT the Minutes of the Serious Animal Welfare Committee meeting of 16 October 2023 be received.

CARRIED

K Charnock, L Brand abstained

3.7 Company Secretary's Report

3.7.2 Recommendation 2 – Item 1.2: DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI-Inquiries, Investigations & Appeals, Clause 5.3(b) – AMENDMENT

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED G Vernon

THAT Recommendation 2, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI-Inquiries, Investigations & Appeals, Clause 5.3(b), which currently reads:-

5.3(b) Where any person in relation to a matter the subject of an inquiry is more than 100 kilometres by road from the place at which the inquiry hearing is to be conducted, or has a valid commitment which restricts them from attending the hearing in person and that person has presented a written statement to the inquiry, the Committee may permit the person to give evidence and be cross examined by means of a telephonic conference facility.

Be amended to read:-

5.3(b) Where any person in relation to a matter the subject of an inquiry is more than 100 kilometres by road from the place at which the inquiry hearing is to be conducted, or has a valid commitment which restricts them from attending the hearing in person and that person has presented a written statement to the inquiry, the Committee may permit the person to give evidence and be cross examined by means of a telephonic conference facility.

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(i) In the case where the participation by the parties involved is to be by telephone, preferred telephone contact number are to be provided not less than ten (10) working days prior to the Hearing date. (11/23)

(ii) In the case where witnesses will be attending the hearing in support of the parties involved, names and contact details of those witnesses are to be provided not less than ten (10) working days prior to the Hearing date. (11/23)

CARRIED

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT the Company Secretary's Report be **received**.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - NIL

5. JUDICIAL MATTERS

5.1 Judicial Co-ordinator's Report

5.1.1 Inquiry Table

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED A Moy

THAT the Judicial Co-ordinator's Report be **received**.

CARRIED

5.1.2 Disputes Assessment Panel Report – 23/10/2023

5.1.2.1 Recommendation 1 – Item 8: Definition of Cruelty – DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI-Code of Ethics & NSW Government Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act

MOVED S Oliver

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT a Notice be published in the Weekly Woof reminding members that Animal cruelty in all its forms is a breach of DOGS NSW Regulations Part XI-Code of Ethics & NSW Government Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and, therefore, members are reminded that dogs should not be left unattended at all shows and events and must be provided with proper food, water space and shelter at all times.

CARRIED

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MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED A Moy

THAT the Report of the Disputes Assessment Panel Electronic Meeting held on 23 October 2023, be **received**.

CARRIED

OPEN MEETING

6. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

7. MONTHLY REPORTS

****Monthly Reports received to date were distributed to Directors via the next Electronic Board Agenda with the following exceptions:-**

7.1 Agility Committee – 16/10/2023

7.1.1 Recommendation 1 – Item 7: Approval of Trial Dates

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED L Brown

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Committee's decisions in relation to Trial Dates be approved

CARRIED

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT the Minutes of the Agility Committee meeting held on 16 October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

7.2 Media & Government Legislation Committee – 25/10/2023

7.2.1 Recommendation 1 – Item 4.2: Presentation on Dangerous Dogs in Pounds to CUPS

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT DOGS NSW publish in the Weekly Woof and other media platforms the NSW Pound Statistics regarding breeds in pounds which significantly shows crossbreeds, not purebreds, as a major problem - this fact sheet to accompany the fight regarding breeds in pounds along with the presentation as above.

CARRIED

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7.2.3 **Recommendation 3 – Item 4.6: Defining “Reputable Breeder”**

The Board was somewhat confused as to where this statement would be published and in what context it would be used.

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 3 be **REFERRED** back to the Committee to clarify the definition of “reputable breeder”, ie, “health testing, breed rescue, sporting and social activities”.

CARRIED

MOVED S Oliver

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT the Minutes of the Media & Government Legislation Committee meeting held on 25 October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

7.3 **Show Committee – 18/10/2023**

7.3.1 **Note for Board - Item 7: Approval of Show Dates**

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT the Committee’s decisions in relation to Show Dates be noted.

CARRIED

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED R Privett

THAT the Minutes of the Show Committee meeting held on 18 October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

7.4 **Sporting Committee – 18/10/2023**

7.4.1 **Recommendation 1 – Item 7: Approval of Trial/Test Dates**

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED S McFadden

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Committee’s decisions in relation to Trial/Test Dates be approved

CARRIED

7.4.3 **Recommendation 3 – Item 8.10.4: Sprint Dog Working Party – New Member**

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED G Vernon

THAT Recommendation 3, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT A Blackwood be included as a member of the Sprint Dog Working Party.

CARRIED

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7.4.5 **Herding Working Party – 16/10/2023**

7.4.5.1 **Recommendation 1 – Item 4.1: Herding Trial Approvals**

MOVED S Oliver

SECONDED R Privett

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT all Herding Trials run by DOGS NSW over the 2023 Trial Year which have not been approved, now be approved.

CARRIED

7.4.5.2 **Recommendation 2 – Item 7: Application for Trial/Test Date**

The Board noted the Working Party's request that all proposed Trial/Test Dates received from Herding Clubs be forwarded to the Herding Working Party for approval in the first instance.

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT the Minutes of the Sporting Committee meeting held on 18 October 2023 be **received**.

CARRIED

8. DOGS AUSTRALIA MATTERS

8.1 **Notice of Dogs Australia Special Board Meeting – February 2024**

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT the Notice of Dogs Australia Special Board Meeting scheduled for 10 February 2024 be noted along with the **closing date for Agenda Items being 15 December 2023**.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 **The Dobermann Club of NSW Inc – Conduct of Events by Breed Specific Clubs**

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT all affiliated breed clubs be permitted to open their Trials and events, other than Championship Shows, to all other breeds.

CARRIED

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 **Declining Income from Registrations**

Director G Vernon expressed his concern in relation to the declining income from registrations and stated that whilst the Board had noted this situation for some time now it has not been addressed and no plan has been put in place to counteract the problem. The matter needs to be put back on the Agenda and the Board needs to put a plan in place for the future.

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Director J Bryson suggested looking at new revenue streams such as renting out the grounds, similar to that of the Drone companies where we make a significant income.

The meeting agreed that it was important to constantly work on the Strategic Plan.

10.3 DOGS NSW Regulations Part II-Show, Section 19: Extreme Weather

Director K Hedberg BVSc questioned why her Motion to amend the temperatures in the Extreme Weather Regulations were not included in today's Agenda.

The Company Secretary advised that she had referred the Motion back to Director Hedberg as there had been further Clauses in those Regulations referring to temperatures that Director Hedberg might consider including in her Motion so that all Clause are amended at the same time.

For the Company Secretary: To resend the email advice to Director K Hedberg BVSC for her consideration of inclusion of the additional clauses.

10.4 Vale – Leanne Rushforth

MOVED S Mills

SECONDED G Vernon

THAT Directors S Mills & G Vernon work together to draft up a Vale for the Late Leanne Rusforth for publication in the DOGS NSW Magazine – subject to permission and approval from Mr Neil Rushforth.

CARRIED

MEETING CLOSED: 5.49PM

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 13 December 2023 @ 2.00pm

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