



## Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the National Management Committee of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc™



Held at QCCC Brookfield, Brisbane, Queensland from October 14 to 16, 2016

### ITEM 1/16. RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

All attendees announced themselves and were recorded (details in the expanded notes). Mike White explained the absence of Vice-President Field Division Tony Hartcher who has taken leave of absence for six months.

### ITEM 2/16. MEETING ADMINISTRATION

### ITEM 3/16: CONFIRMATION OF CREDENTIALS

Total members present 39 and total number present at meeting eligible to vote 32 plus postal votes.

### ITEM 4/16: OFFICIAL OPENING BY CHAIRMAN

The meeting was opened at 8.30am by Michael (Mike) White, who welcomed all to the 38th Annual General Meeting of the ABA.

### ITEM 5/16: TABLING OF ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REPORT

### ITEM 6/16: TABLING OF OTHER DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS AS NECESSARY

### ITEM 7/16: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2015 AGM

There was one change to the minutes: The business name of the auditor has changed and should read Certus Group Accountants.

MOTION: That the minutes, with amendment of name of auditor, be accepted as a true and correct record of the 2015 AGM.

M Garry Pitt                      S Allan Driver                      Carried

**Business arising from the Minutes:** None.

### ITEM 8/16: REPORTS

National President Mike White, Vice-President Bowhunting Division Mark Burrows and TBA Committee Chairman Ralph Boden read their reports. Mike White read the report of Vice-President Field Archery Tony Hartcher in his absence. The reports were accepted as read.

### ITEM 9/16: BRANCH CONTROLLER REPORTS

Branch Controllers' reports were read out, with the exception of Branches A and B which were not available.

### ITEM 10/16: NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Amanda Skinner presented her report which was printed in full in the Annual Report along with profit and loss statement. She pointed out that the association was holding money from clubs that had folded and recommended that the money be paid to the relevant Branches rather than sitting indefinitely as a liability on the association's balance sheet.

MOTION: That the monies from folded clubs be transferred to the Branches to which the clubs belonged.

M David Brewer                      S Trevor Pickett                      Carried

MOTION: That the National Treasurer's report be approved.

M Amanda Skinner                      S Bruce Kelleher                      Carried

### ITEM 11/16: AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Auditor's Report was circulated to delegates.

### Appointment of Auditor

MOTION: That the auditors, Certus Group, be appointed for the next financial year.

M Amanda Skinner                      S Brian Coole                      Carried

### ITEM 12/16: ANNUAL BUDGET 2016-2017

MOTION: That the annual budget be adopted with the proviso that membership Paypal fees listed at \$50,000 be ignored as it was an error.

M Amanda Skinner                      S Peter Stubbs                      Carried

### ITEM 13/16: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ACCEPTED 2016 FOR TABLING AT 2017 AGM

13.1: It is proposed that the following amendment, including subsequent alterations, be made to the Constitution.

Section 10 Elections – *that the addition be made:*

(iii) Elections shall be held every two (2) years with one half of the National Elected Officers positions falling vacant. The election of National Officers shall be on a 'rotational' basis with two rounds of Officers falling vacant as follows:

Round One:	Round Two:
Senior Vice President	President
Vice-President Bowhunting	Vice-President Field
Communications Officer	Treasurer
Score Recorder	Measurer
Assistant Measurer	Assistant Score Recorder

*If accepted, the following changes would be required to Section 10:*

(iii) will become (iv)  
(iv) will become (v)  
(v) will become (vi) and  
(vi) will become (vii)

MOTION: That the above proposed amendment on Section 10 (Elections) be tabled.

M Bruce Kelleher                      S Bob Windle                      Carried

All postal votes in favour.

MOTION: If accepted it is further moved that: The election 'rotation' shall take effect at the next Annual General Meeting at which National Executive positions are declared vacant and an election of these officers is held such that those officers named in Round 1

(as above) will only serve a two-year term.

It is moved that the following addition be made to:

#### Section 10. Elections

(i) National Executive Officers shall be elected at elections held at the Annual General Meeting of the National Management Committee

If by reason of resignation, or otherwise, a National Executive elective position becomes vacant during the period between Annual General Meetings of the National Committee, the National Executive Committee may make an interim appointment to fill the position until the following Annual General Meeting of the National Management Committee.

The subsequent election shall be for the balance of the officer's elected term and the position shall fall vacant at the next election rotation for the resigning, or otherwise, officer's term.

M Joe Haley                      S Bob Maynard                      Carried

Postal votes were in favour.

#### ITEM 14/16: ELECTION OF ASSISTANT NATIONAL MEASURER

Nominations were received for two nominees; Troy Morris and Allan Driver. Allan Driver subsequently withdrew his nomination. Troy Morris was accepted as Assistant National Measurer by a show of hands.

#### ITEM 15/16: TABLING OF BRANCH SHOOT CALENDARS 2017

Trevor Pickett reported that he had just received some of the reports and calendars but A and B were missing so asked to adjourn the matter.

#### ITEM 16/16: TABLING OF BRANCH BUDGETS 2016-17

Amanda stated the Branch Budget had not been received from Branch B.

#### ITEM 17/16: TABLING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2016-2017 TO 2018-2019

The 13-page plan for 2016-17 to 2017-18 prepared by Jeff Bell included a review of the previous year, overview and year-by-year analysis.

MOTION: That the plan be approved.

M Allan Driver                      S Alan Scarlett                      Carried

#### ITEM 18/16: TABLING OF BRANCH DEVELOPMENT PLANS 2016-2017

MOTION: That all Branch plans be accepted.

M Mike White                      S Glenn Hosken                      Carried

#### ITEM 19/16:

Unassigned in the agenda.

#### ITEM 20/16: GENERAL BUSINESS FROM AGENDA

##### 20/16.1: Nomination for Life Membership

One nomination was received, being for Daryl Venables, nominated by Tony Hartcher. A secret ballot was held and Daryl Venables was announced the association's new life member.

##### 20/16.2: Syd Green Memorial Award

Three nominations were received. Nominees were Rob Graham, Jeffrey Jennings and Jeff Bell. A secret ballot was held and Jeffrey Jennings was announced the recipient of the 2016 Syd Green Memorial Award.

##### 20/16.3: Allocation of National Competitions

• 2017 IFAA Championships Renegade Bowmen (21 to 25 June

2017 with practice and registrations on 20 June)

• 2018 National Safari: An application has been received from Dead Centre Bowhunters at Alice Springs (for all three disciplines) and a decision is pending.

Branches were reminded that there is a document on the website outlining the requirements for hosting major shoots and that a Branch or club could also nominate to host the shoot at ABA Park at Mudgee.

##### 20/16.4: National Rules of Shoot (Branch E)

MOTION: That the maximum distance for 3D be 48 metres.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Brett Raymond                      Lost

##### 20/16.5: National Rules of Shoot (Branch E)

MOTION: That scoring and grading of 3D round be the same as for ABA national round.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Karl Peck                      Lost

##### 20/16.6: National Rules of Shoot

MOTION: That ABA reduce the number of Group 4 targets in the new 3D rules from three to two in a 10-target set and increase the number of Group 2 targets by one in a bid to reduce costs.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Brian Coole                      Lost

##### 20/16.7: National Rules of Shoot (Branch I)

MOTION: That immediate action be taken to ensure a scoring program to support the new 3D format and associated grading be developed and distributed to all Branches.

Withdrawn.

##### 20/16.8: Club Ranges (Branch E)

MOTION: That ABA investigate the feasibility of lease arrangements for club ranges being held in either joint names, for example, the club and ABA, or by ABA who would then allow the club to use the grounds to ensure facilities/ranges developed by ABA grants and loans remain tied to ABA. This would only be offered as an option to those clubs that chose to participate.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Trevor Pickett                      Carried

##### 20/16.9: Score Recording (Branch I)

It is proposed that Branch Score Recorder data forwarded to the National Score Recorder be posted on the ABA website within 14 days.

Withdrawn.

##### 20/16.10: AGM Attendance (Branch I)

It is proposed that each Branch has reasonable AGM delegates' costs of travel, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses fully reimbursed, thus ensuring that the designated number of delegates from each Branch attend the AGM cost-neutral to each Branch.

Withdrawn (after discussion with National Treasurer).

##### 20/16.11: Grand Master (Branch I)

It is proposed that the Grand Master achievement be fully restored as an achievement of excellence in our sport.

Although this award was never removed, it has not been given prominence in recent times. This will be further discussed at National Executive level.

## **ITEM 22/16: ITEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEES ETC**

### **• Administrative Systems and Technology**

Steve Barratt advised that the association has slipped behind in technology and now needs to upgrade to an integrated system. Eg, the member database was put together in 2003-04 and now does not meet current requirements. Members cannot access their own information. They should be able to log into their own area to change home address, see their game claimed history and be able to upload scores from an app on their phone (through the score recorder). Email addresses could also be upgraded (eg, position@bowhunters.org). The concept is to create a system that will be flexible enough to last for the next 15 years—an integrated package that suits the individual needs of the association. It is a long term project and there will be a considerable cost to create and to maintain the system.

### **• Bowhunting Technical Committee Meeting Report**

Mark Burrows reported on the previous night's meeting. Agenda items included:

– Bowfishing for Carp and what expectations the NSW DPI had. Mark said NSW people needed to get more behind the project by getting their R Licence, Section 37 and getting out to bowhunt for carp.

- TBA created a Facebook page last year as an avenue of communication. The TBA's biennial muster will be held next year on September 9 and 10. It will follow the same format as previous events.

– NSW DPI Illegal Bowhunting update: There have been three meetings this year with the DPI. As a result the DPI has gone down two tracks: To (a) intensify their stance on poaching and aim to get convictions and (b) increase education and awareness including the introduction of a 15-page booklet to distribute to archery retailers in NSW.

- TBA bowhunting plaque/award—have nearly run out of medals for TBA trophies and the plan is to create trophies that are less labour intensive and to get enough for the next five years. Teardrop trophies can be purchased through Action Graphics—enough to last five or seven years. (Best of Species is static but Master Bowhunter Award numbers vary from year to year so the exact number required is not possible to predict.)

- 3DAAA has approached the ABA to ask if their members can do ABA's Bowhunter Proficiency Certificate so their members can hunt with an increased skill/knowledge level. A motion was moved that 3DAAA members be able to sit their test at an ABA club that accepts their application to do so. The applicant would have to prove three-month membership in 3DAAA and would have to purchase a bowhunting proficiency manual and pay \$20 to the club. Paperwork would be marked as a 3DAAA application. Independents could also get their BPC at a club and would have to prove a three-month membership in the ABA and pay a \$15 fee to the club. 3DAAA would not have direct access to any other activity (measuring or game claiming) of the ABA. It would be entirely up to the club to

agree or not to accept the person for the course.

- Membership versus hunting figures put together by the general secretary are showing that despite an increase in membership numbers, game claimed has not followed suit. In order to promote itself more efficiently, TBA will have a display tent, reintroduce the Sneaker Round and run a few competitions at the National Safari to get a higher profile. Troy Morris presented figures on Record Class and Trophy Class, using data from as far back as 1980 for every species. Looking at dropping the figure for boar, goat, fox. Deer will require changes. No waterborne species will be changed. These changes will be put through the National Minutes.

MOTION: That 500 Ishi teardrop trophies be purchased for TBA.  
M Mark Burrows                      S Karl Peck                      Carried

### **• IFAA (World Committee) Biennial Meeting**

Jeff Bell, who was ABA's representative at the meeting, spoke on a few of the 43 proposals that were put forward at the meeting. At least half the proposals were small rulebook alterations. There were a number of proposals that could impact on Australian archers and the ABA round, as a number of the ABA divisions reflect IFAA rules.

- String stoppers and dampeners will be allowed in all Bowhunter divisions (including Bowhunter Recurve and Bowhunter). You are allowed two dampeners, must be 12 inches above or below the arrow, out of your sight area and can only be string dampeners. They must be made of light material and not used for any other purpose.

- Bow quivers will be now allowed but must be attached to the opposite side of the bow to the sight window and you may not be able to see any part of it in your sight window. If you have a bow quiver on, you must use the arrows in your bow quiver to shoot.

- As of January 1 you are allowed to have a bubble in your pin guard in Bowhunter Limited and Unlimited. Remember for measurement purposes it is part of the guard and there is a rule that says the gap between the top of the guard and first pin has to be greater than the gap between pins one and two and the same for the bottom (so make sure that when you measure, the bubble is included in your measurement.)

- A new division has been introduced—Traditional Recurve. ABA's trad divisions will cover that so ABA doesn't need to introduce anything new, but this should be noted by people interested in shooting IFAA Recurve.

- The rotation rule of the animal round has been changed. Essentially, it is that the pairs rotate.

- The Champion of Nations format has been completely changed. The seven current bow divisions will be kept but paired, eg, a fingershooter from one of the Barebow or Bowhunter divisions, a limited shooter from either Bowhunter or Freestyle Limited, etc. Scores will be worked out on the percentage that the representative archer shoots in relationship to the world record.

The ABA put up three proposals—the sight one (accepted), changing the sizes on B Zone animals (lost) and a Champion of Nations proposal (withdrawn).

Jeff said he would appreciate feedback from Branches regarding any IFAA rules they thought needed changing. Jeff also advised that the next World IFAA Championships was in South Africa in 2018, very affordable but with limited accommodation and people interested in going should look out for information on Facebook, *Archery Action* or on the website from December this year.

## 21/16: GENERAL DISCUSSION

### 21/16.1: Assistance Dogs

Branch C brought up the issue of assistance dogs because of a family who have a dog in training for their autistic child. While the Branch believes it has no authority under Queensland law to insist on the separation of the assistance dog from the owner, there's also the ABA's Dog Policy at Branch and National level shoots (and therefore insurance considerations) to take into account. Mike White said it was of concern to the National Executive either way—you can't override Australian legislation but it's potentially dangerous anywhere there are arrows, plus, even the best trained dog can become vicious if provoked. There is a waiver that people can sign. Mark Burrows argued for assistance people instead of assistance dogs and made the case for more legal advice. Jeff Bell advised that as a school principal he had known of a number of families with assistance dogs but the dogs were not allowed in schools because the policy of 'no dogs' had been upheld. Existing waiver paperwork is to be sent to Branch C and any similar issues in the future must be evaluated case by case.

### 21/16.2: Offer by Branch C to lead a review of Risk Management and Club Accreditation Documents

There is an ongoing requirement to update the two documents and bring a new relevance to the club accreditation review and to benefit clubs in building their development plans. There is considerable overlap between the documents and Branch C has offered assistance to work through the documents and provide a draft for review by the National Executive. Trevor Pickett offered to work in conjunction with Branch C on the review. This was accepted by the meeting. When done, the documentation will be given to the National Executive for their consideration.

### 21/16.3: Review of national membership payments to Branches.

Currently Branches are paid an amount as a rebate based on their membership numbers. As an incentive for Branches to deliver paperwork on time it is proposed the funds be divided and that (for example) half be paid up front while the other 50 per cent be split up and payment based on Branches delivering required reports within specific time frames. This would give Branches a monetary incentive to abide by Constitutional requirements plus help to meet the objectives of the National Executive.

### 21/16.4: Other discussion

- Technology update: There was more discussion on implementing an internet-accessible integrated system with scope for expansion. Rough costing estimates were around \$50,000 or \$60,000 a year ongoing. A document that covers every functionality needs to be created and further research done at National Executive level to begin the process of implementing a new integrated system. Some advances are expected to be made in the next 12 months for a roll-out approach of this long-term project.

- Expansion of the Branch G/H concept of a State Indoor Mail Match to a national cross-participation event: Alan Scarlett outlined how a State indoor event was run as a multi-venue event (across a number of dates within a specified week) and that the event attracted double the entries of previous single-venue competitions. A successful computer programming scoring system was in place for the event.

A national competition would be presented as a pilot and not as an ABA event even though it would be run by ABA people, and would be run with modified IFAA rules similar to that used for the State event. It could be run as an Alliance event (membership in one of the Alliance member organisations required to participate). Proposed name is Australian IFAA Indoor Titles Alliance Shoot. Expressions of interest will be sent to all Branches. The proposed date is in August to be run across the course of a week.

- 3D Grading: This was referred to Field, Technical and Score Recorder meetings.
- Promotion of the sport and related events: Television and radio coverage was discussed as well as Facebook, Instagram (no control over hashtags so not a particularly good social media for our sport) and advertising in another magazine like *Sporting Shooters* (or set up a contra-deal). Another popular idea was to leave *Archery Action* magazines at reception areas with a little sticker on how to contact local club. The consensus was that ABA should investigate the concept of making one generic ABA television ad that would work across Australia and could be backed up locally with contact details of clubs.
- Promotional products: The suggestion came from Tony Hartcher (absent) that the ABA should be promoting the sport more. Suggestions from the floor: Stickers, number plate surrounds, mudflaps (Renegades would have information on these), patches, stubby coolers, pens. The ABA has bags but to do showbags containing items such as balloons and stickers for events can be cost prohibitive. Bruce Kelleher is to develop some ideas and put them to the National Executive meeting in November.
- ABA Park update and purchase of target butts: An alternative to Morell targets is needed because of the current expense of buying American products. These targets also require considerable work to put on the course. With additional targets the life of the existing Morell targets would be prolonged. Sixteen of two sizes would be needed at an estimated price of \$15,000.

ABA Park worked very well as a venue although the internet/ phone reception was an issue. A sufficiently large booster may be difficult to organise as there would be a massive load from the number of people attending a major competition.

Work continues at a slower rate. A wall has been built between two shipping containers and more gravel has been spread, while doors on shipping containers, more drainage pipes and some earthworks are required. A secondhand tractor may be purchased (with front-end loader capacity) but the major earthworks may be organised through one of the people who has previously done earthworks there.

- Application to IFAA to host World Indoor Archery Championships: Tony Hartcher had put in an application but New Zealand also applied. The discussion at WFAC was that New Zealand would be given first option and Australia would be the back-up but the decision must be made by 18 months before the championships. There is also an indication that New Zealand won't be able to host the PREFAC next year in which case Renegades (Queensland) might host the PREFAC instead of the Australian Championships.
- Dates for TBA Muster at ABA Park: September 9-10, 2017

AUTHORISED FOR DISTRIBUTION  
Mike White, National President