



## Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

of the National Management Committee of the  
**Australian Bowhunters Association Inc™**



Held at QCCC Brookfield, Brisbane, Queensland from October 13 to 15, 2017

### ITEM 1/17: RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

All attendees announced themselves and were recorded (details in the expanded notes).

### ITEM 2/17: MEETING ADMINISTRATION

### ITEM 3/17: CONFIRMATION OF CREDENTIALS

Total members present 39 and total number present at meeting eligible to vote 31 plus postal votes.

### ITEM 4/17: OFFICIAL OPENING BY CHAIRMAN

The meeting was opened at 8.30am by Acting President Jeff Bell, who welcomed all to the 39th Annual General Meeting of the ABA, with a special welcome to new delegates. He explained the absence of three members of the National Executive who have all resigned since the previous AGM.

### ITEM 5/17: TABLING OF ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REPORT

### ITEM 6/17: TABLING OF OTHER DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS AS NECESSARY

### ITEM 7/17: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2016 AGM

MOTION: That the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the 2016 AGM.

M Allan Driver S Alan Avent Carried

**Business arising from the Minutes:** Ken Gosper queried the progress of the ABA's IT advancement. Jeff Bell outlined the successful score recording program but said a fully integrated system was still in the planning stages.

### ITEM 8/17: REPORTS

National President (resigned) Mike White's report was read by Jeff Bell. Vice-President Bowhunting Division Mark Burrows, Vice-President Field Archery Tony Hartcher and TBA Committee Chairman Ralph Boden read their reports. Another report was given by Tom Cornell, National Director of Coaching. Discussion on some aspects of the reports followed.

### ITEM 9/17: BRANCH CONTROLLER REPORTS

Branch Controllers' reports were read out for Branches C, D, E, H, and J. Branch A controller was not available so no report had been prepared, Branch B controller is in acting role and didn't have a report, Branch F did not have

report as Controller has been ill, Branch G gave a spoken indication that branch was going well, Branch I offered a short spoken report.

### ITEM 10/17: NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Amanda Skinner presented her report which was printed in full in the Annual Report along with the profit and loss statement.

She pointed out that the Association had paid money to Branches from clubs that had previously folded.

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

M Amanda Skinner S Alan Avent Carried

### ITEM 11/17: 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 Ralph Boden Carried

### ITEM 12/17: ANNUAL BUDGET 2017-2018

MOTION: That the annual budget be adopted.

M Amanda Skinner S Ken Gosper Carried

### ITEM 13/17: 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

MOTION: That the above amendment be accepted.

M Ken Neil S Trevor Pickett Carried

*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 on election rotation take effect.

M Peter Stubbs      S Tony Hartcher      Carried

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 Peter Stubbs      S Tony Hartcher      Carried

#### **ITEM 14/17 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION TABLED 2017 FOR DECISION AT 2018 AGM**

It is proposed that Section 25 of the Constitution Employees (ii) be reworded to read; (ii) No employee of the ABA Inc shall be entitled or hold an elected position.

M Ken Gosper      S Peter Stubbs      Carried

#### **ITEM 15/17: ELECTION OF ASSISTANT NATIONAL SCORE RECORDER**

Alan Avent was the only person nominated for the position of Assistant National Score Recorder, but as it is ABA policy all positions must receive a majority of 'yes' votes, a secret yes/no paper ballot was held. Alan Avent was subsequently elected to the position.

#### **ITEM 16/17: TABLING OF BRANCH SHOOT CALENDARS 2018**

All calendars except Branch A have been received by VP Field Tony Hartcher. Because of the late decision to have the 3D Championships as part of the National Safari, some Branches may want to make changes as Branches can now use the date October 29-30 previously set aside for the 3D Championships. As the calendars could not be approved at the AGM, the national shoot calendar will be presented at the November National Executive meeting for adoption and be ready for distribution in early December.

#### **ITEM 17/17: TABLING OF BRANCH BUDGETS 2017-18**

Amanda stated she had received only four out of the 10 Branch budgets by the designated time (end September). She emphasised that it was a proposed budget that should be presented at each Branch AGM for their committee to pass but that it could be subject to change. As not all budgets were presented to the National Treasurer in time, it was not possible for adoption at the National AGM but the budgets would be reviewed and taken to the November meeting of the National Executive.

#### **ITEM 18/17: TABLING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2020**

Jeff Bell read out the first part of the plan then opened the topic for discussion. Jeff said the existing National Development Plan was too complex for effective use. He believes assistance from a facilitator would help to put together a succinct strategic plan which would then provide a clear direction for the National Executive. The feeling of the meeting was that the plan needed to be simple, clear, address the fundamentals and be workable as a guiding document so that decisions and action plans could be made within the framework of the identified core values and needs of the association.

MOTION: That the National Management Committee endorse the National Executive's actions in developing a strategic plan to be presented prior to, and again at, the next AGM.

M Jeff Bell      S Amanda Skinner      Carried

#### **ITEM 19/17: TABLING OF BRANCH DEVELOPMENT PLANS 2017-2018**

Amanda said many of the plans had only been received at the AGM meeting instead of being sent to the general secretary by the required date of September 30, so hadn't been reviewed. They were held over until the November National Executive meeting.

#### **ITEM 20/17: GENERAL BUSINESS FROM AGENDA 20/17/1: Nomination for Life Membership**

There were no nominations for life membership.

#### **20/17.2: Syd Green Memorial Award**

A nomination was received for Rob Graham to receive the Syd Green Memorial Award. The meeting voted unanimously to grant Rob Graham the 2017 award.

#### **20/17.3: Allocation of National Competitions**

Although the Dead Centre Bowhunters club is now hosting all three events at the National Safari in 2018, no other nominations have been received for holding national events in the future.

Some interest was shown from the floor from WA. Branches were reminded of the document on the website outlining the requirements for hosting major shoots.

#### 20/17.4: Archery Action magazine (National)

MOTION: That the *Archery Action* magazine become a quarterly publication.

M Amanda Skinner S Peter Stubbs Withdrawn  
After considerable discussion and a suggestion that an amendment be made to lay the motion on the table, the motion was withdrawn. National Executive and Branches are to research a number of options which could include (but are not limited to) reducing the magazine publication schedule to quarterly, retaining bi-monthly frequency but making the magazine electronic or finding another cost-cutting measure, cheaper distribution or covering costs by increasing membership fee of those who want the magazine posted to them, sending bulk magazines to clubs for distribution. The expectation is that the issue will be reviewed and a number of options, fully researched, be presented at the next AGM.

#### 20/17.5: National Rules of Shoot (Branch F)

MOTION: That the 3D shoot format revert back to the previous format.

M Alan Avent S Peter Stubbs Withdrawn  
Robust discussion took place on this motion and a new motion was presented the following day (see Items and Recommendations from Technical Committees; first dot point).

#### 20/17.6: FAI Training (Branch F)

MOTION: That FAI training be devolved to club coaches at club level.

M Margret Szanto S Cameron Van Veen Lost

#### 20/17.7: Mobile Phone Policy (Branch F)

MOTION: That the ban on the use of mobile phones on ranges be lifted at all Branch shoots.

M Alan Avent S Ken Neil Withdrawn.  
After discussion it was decided the matter be reviewed at the next National Executive meeting and the ideas from that discussion be distributed to all Branches in the report.

### ITEM 21/17: GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### 21/17.1: Retailer restrictions at Branch Shoots

Branch C identified a problem with retailers setting up at clubs during Branch events and proposed that it be restricted to members of the Endorsed Dealers Programme. Insurance risk was an issue with 'walk ups' who set up as vendors without asking permission.

It was suggested the Branch could create a policy, reported in their minutes, that anyone who wanted to set up a shop/stall must apply in advance and that it be in writing so their public liability insurance and other permissions (eg food handling certificate) could be verified.

#### 21/17.2: Proposed by National— Meal and Travel Allowance

The Association has an existing policy regarding meal and travel allowances for officers but it is a 2010 document. Apart from being dated, it uses the premise of 'reasonable' and the main concern was that the word 'reasonable' could be interpreted differently by different individuals. Also, guidelines can be difficult to create because of the different costs in individual situations of flights, car travel, remoteness et cetera. One suggestion was to link the 'reasonable' amount to Australian Taxation Office rates. The consensus was that the existing National Executive does not overstep use of 'reasonable' and at present at least there is no cause for concern.

### ITEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

#### • Presented at Full Meeting—3D Distance changes

MOTION: That the final sentence in 3D Rule 10, target distances, Paragraph 3 Page 33, be altered to, "However no target shall be set at a distance greater than 50m".  
M Peter Stubbs S Margret Szanto Carried

MOTION: Furthermore, that Rule 10 target distances Paragraph 4, Group 4 be changed from '45m' to '42m'.  
M Peter Stubbs S Stuart Renwick Carried

Jeff further explained that topics such as the introduction of a three-arrow round were not straightforward due to scoring and grading complexities. He said he would work with Tony Hartcher to introduce a three-arrow round loosely based on an unmarked arrow round. It would be introduced to collect data for grading purposes (no walk ups; the scoring would be the issue). The next set of Executive minutes should report on this. Once introduced, grading will not be able to be done until after the next AGM.

#### • Bowhunting Technical Committee Meeting Report

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

– Bowfishing for Carp

The NSW carp trial has finished and the results are expected at the end of October. The hope is that the decision will be to allow bowfishing in NSW.

– TBA Muster

No extra report as Ralph presented a report to the National Executive Committee

– Reaccreditation

A reminder that Branches must have people lined up well in advance for next year, especially if the current officers are not intending to continue. It's a four-year accreditation so a Branch that does not have a BPC officer and measurer is very disadvantaged.

#### – Electronic Game Claims

The ambition is to have game claiming fully electronic in the future. At present images can be emailed and the form can be downloaded, filled out and forwarded to the general secretary and to the field rep, if that person is happy to receive it electronically.

#### • Record controversy

A small controversy on a pending Australian record has led to a query about whether all Australian records should be investigated. The committee sees no need to study every form that comes in, although a letter about a particular claim will be investigated.

#### • Application to have bantang added to the list

Mark had moved on behalf of Branch J to have bantang added to the list of claimable animals. The motion was seconded but failed. There were a number of reasons. The small territory in which the animals live means that hunting them is beyond the budget and travel means of the average bowhunter. As well, current awards would be impacted by the addition of a different animal.

#### • Resignation

Jamie Harrington has resigned as secretary of TBA and Michael Luxford is the new secretary.

#### • National Risk Management Report

Bruce Kelleher reported that there had been a marked reduction in the submission of incident reports.

#### • IFAA Competition

Alan Scarlett reported on an Australia wide initiative that was trialled last year in Victoria. The 2017 Australian Indoor IFAA Titles will be held from November 13 to 19 and the competition is open to any Archery Alliance club.

#### • Legislation on Child Safety

Alan Scarlett explained recent Victorian legislation into child safety (not just Working with Children/Blue Card) and how it was impacting organisations. He suggested that despite differences in State legislation the ABA could encourage a national approach by using an across-the-board template that had enough flexibility to notate the differences between State legislation while ensuring consistency among clubs in how they handled the issue of child safety.

#### • Assistant Branch Coaches

National Director of Coaching Tom Cornell suggested the introduction of an Assistant Coach for any Branch that would benefit from the extra position, eg because of geographical challenges. The feeling of the meeting was positive with the majority approving the concept.

#### • WFAC 2018

Tony Hartcher is the new team leader. People should give him their name as soon as possible if they are interested

in attending in South Africa as names are needed to comply with South African legislation requirements. A deposit of \$250 must be paid in November.

#### 2018 ABA AGM

Because WFAC is being held at that time of year and some National Executive and Branch officers attending WFAC will also be staying over for a few days after the competition, the ABA AGM cannot be held on the usual weekend in October. Constitutional requirements mean it must be held by the last weekend in October. The Brookfield (Brisbane) accommodation is not available on any weekends except the usual one. The other Brisbane venue which has been used before, Frederick Marsden, was thought unsuitable. Suitable accommodation, perhaps in Victoria, will be researched and information will be disseminated to Branches.

#### • ABA Park—continuing security and maintenance

There is a concern that facilities will degrade without regular checks of such items as generator, water pumps, water tanks, fire trailer tyres, toilets and keeping the area clear of rodents, bird nests and downed trees. Security at present is provided by the property manager next door who keeps a close eye on comings and goings at the property. The same man currently keeps the fences in order and poisons along fencelines.

Ideas for an ongoing maintenance plan included:

- Put a house at the site and have a permanent caretaker
- Employ or hire a contractor to do regular checks
- A Grey Nomad ABA member with own bus might be interested
- Have a club at the site using the facilities
- Have a club at a different part of the property, not using the facilities
- Create a management committee to make decisions on how best to protect the asset
- Appoint former ABA President Mike White to an interim position/special position that also involves a reporting component about the existing set-up.

It was pointed out that some suggestions involving more people going to the property would impact on existing security control. The matter will be further discussed at the November Executive Meeting.

Another comment made about holding shoots at ABA Park was a suggestion that a local community group could be used for catering, leaving ABA people free to run the actual shoot.

AUTHORISED FOR DISTRIBUTION  
Jeff Bell, *National President (Acting)*

*The full financial report can be found, along with a pdf copy of these minutes, at the official ABA website: [www.bowhunters.org.au](http://www.bowhunters.org.au)*