

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

Time:	11:15am-1:00pm
Date:	Saturday 7 th July 2018
Venue:	Online Meeting
Attendees:	###

ITEM

CONFIRMATION OF 2017 AGM MINUTES

2017 minutes read out by Sophie Lamande

ANNUAL REPORTS

Adelaide (Mustafa)

Over the last year, from a club point of view, we hosted the first female national team training camp. Went smoothly with a good turnout. Very positive attitude, which has been continuing on from TC to TC.

We hosted Nationals about 6 weeks ago, which was positive as well. We had 160 players attend. General feedback was that everyone had a good time and it was well organised. Going to send a survey soon.

Other than that from UWRA committee point of view, it's been challenging with the investigation so we haven't had a lot of time to develop the sport. Looking forward to next year and being able to contribute a bit more towards the growth of UWR.

Brisbane (Gavin)

We have 45 competition members – up a bit from last year. And 20 or so social players. Few more ladies playing in the last year and an influx of new people. Had a Ref course – 8 players got accreditation.

Each week we have 2 deep and 1 shallow pool sessions. Graded to suit various levels. Ladies section and newbies section. We are still members of Uni dive club which we find is beneficial for us – additional reach and access to humans and other resources

Canberra (Daniel)

Bobby left this year - one of the challenges was setting up a committee. Now have an official structure in place. In terms of competitions, had most successful result on podium in Sydney

Growth of club – we've had 3 beginners courses.

In a bit of a fundraising frenzy - 3 Bunnings BBQs; Charity at Grilled.

Key task moving forward, recently redesigned the logo. Becoming incorporated.

Hobart (Steve)

We have about 30 guys and 5-10 girls. Sent 2 teams for the first time to nationals. Tournament was awesome - thanks to Adelaide.

Became incorporated and created a Code of conduct. We had a lot of help from a lawyer player which was excellent.

We just hosted a women's NT TC. I've been to a few over the years and this one was pretty well done.

This year we started off with a pennant consisting of 5 min games. Main idea was to accommodate 40 players in the pool for 1 hour. We're now at the point of running a pennant that runs all year round. Currently 4 teams of 10-12 players. Great step forward to get an in club competition going.

Secured a grant from the government to build walls and buy balls. Plan on continuing to try and grow numbers. Continuing to steal members from other clubs.

How keep people committed to the competitions? Usually the problem is the opposite – we have too many players. We have 8 weeks or 6 week pennants with different teams and different focus. First one focused on inclusion - newer players. Second pennant was

focused on refereeing - Training up new refs. A lot of players did the ref course. Next pennant will have a different focus. We have a whole subcommittee dedicated to running the pennant. Pennants run long enough for captains to see improvement in players. People like the competition

Grown in numbers significantly – what's your recruiting process? Besides stealing players, mainly word of mouth. Have a few come and try days which picked up a couple. But normally it is by word of mouth. Trying to get a little more organised. Making sure there is always space in the pool for experienced, intermediate, and beginners. Always have someone to look after the new players. We haven't done real recruiting drive.

Victoria Seadragons

This year Khaz and Cansin started second club in Victoria, which is new territory for UWR in Australia. We didn't know what impact it would have on our club on many levels. So far we've found it to be business as usual, with 2 of our more experienced players stepping up as coach. Both clubs are having success in recruitment.

Over the past year we've had 38 new people come to training with 11 continuing.

We have 3 trainings a week at 2 pools - Box Hill and Ringwood. One male, one mixed and one female training. The dedicated male and female trainings are for strategy and drills. Wednesday we set aside for games and mini round robin (6 on 6 - 5 min games). More of a social thing on Wednesdays.

Fundraising - Grilled, and 2 Bunnings BBQs. One wasn't successful because it was a 40°C day. The second we made about \$1600 total profit, which is the most successful we've had. The issue with Bunnings is that we can only apply to stores local in the area - near the pools and near club address

In Jan we had the ref course held by Carlos, which has spread the load during competitions, not just a small group doing all the refereeing

Training fees - we offer monthly payments and quarterly payments, which have a saving compared to paying one session at a time. Also discount for concession

Hosted Melb Cup - pretty successful competition, pretty chilled. Female TC in Feb, and Male TC last year.

Competed in 3 main tournaments, as well as War for Wagga which was lots of fun.

You have membership fees pay over the member - pay for pool entry as well? Ringwood no entry fee, just pool hire. Box Hill here's an entry fee as well.

How do you guys keep track of attendance? We just take a photo and have an excel spreadsheet keeping track of attendance.

How are you collecting payments? Try to have everything on bank transfer. Just started using a new free accounting software - WAVE. Getting books more legit with providing invoices and keeping track of everything. It's pretty handy - you can make an invoice send the receipt for the payment. We've just recently transferred to quarterly and had 5 take up quarterly so far. Some people prefer the ease of payment, and it's less work for treasurer.

Put up advertising at fundraising? With Grilled, it's just a piece of paper people don't really read; Bunnings is better because you can talk to people, bring the basket/balls. In terms of exposure Bunnings is better. Have a come and try session right after the Bunnings so so you have something to invite people to who might be interested.

Perth

Following Perth nationals, we lost the best amongst us to other cities and we've found less attendance over the year. Usually play once or twice a week depending on who is there. Usually 3 on 3 or 5 on 5 at the best. Had a few new people coming throughout the year. Mostly free divers who know someone in the club. Usually very excited for one session and then we never see them again. We're a small club so keeping it social. Getting incorporated soon so might make a difference.

Suggestion - seeing you don't have many numbers - play games in L shaped court. 1 basket on a wall and the other on the adjacent wall. Don't have to swim so far. Actually we train in a very small pool: 3.4 m deep and only 12 m long.

Experience in Berlin - we decided to take the Perth team - 12 players. Berlin motivated quite a few people to come and train. People who were part of it continued on playing. We realised how much of a difference between Perth rugby and elite rugby. It was like a new discovery of a new sport.

Any suggestions for what we should be doing to get our clubs up to those levels? Get some

young players in the water. We need some experienced players - people who have 20 years of rugby behind them, teaching the next generation. Very impressive to see the top teams playing - it's like a whole other sport.

Sydney

The last year has been really busy. Had the Seinfeld Cup with 15 teams - Pretty successful. Had two beginners courses - One in July last year and one in Feb/March, which ran for 5 weeks. A lot of people sign up but we don't have good retention after the course. Discussing about the best way to change that.

War for Wagga - beginners friendly comp at the end of Oct organised with the Seadragons and Canberra.

And we had the Male TC in Feb.

We get our best exposure in O week at uni - have a stall for 4 days and speak to the uni students. Explain what it is and tell them to come to the beginners course. We have about 7 or 8 people who have remained and came to nationals, pretty keen.

Committee AGM - we now have 7 or 8 people on the committee and meet fortnightly. Trello app to track progress.

Ashfield closed in April and since then we've been looking for new options. We've started good relationships with two pools: one has 18 m length, 3.5m deep and square walls; and the other is 5 m deep and sloped walls. We've started women's only trainings on Tues. At the moment we have 58 registered members and about 30 people coming regularly. We have 4 sessions per week, which makes it easier for people to come as there are more options.

There's the new team in Sydney - mainly focused on fitness training and they are still heavily involved with the Whales.

Adelaide: as a Uni club - our major selling point is O-week. We get so many registrations and maybe only 10% show up and then only half of those start coming. How do you keep them? What works best? Having a few females players at O week stand helps to recruit females, as they can be turned off by the name. Main thing is the club culture - going out for dinner. One of the days at O week we had an intro session at the pool. We're not too worried about not recruiting too many people players - the ones who stay are the one we want. Just keep slowly growing. The more people that know about it, the better. Sometimes they can't commit now, but then in a year or two they come back.

Additionally, starting the separate women's trainings is really important - some initially don't come to the mixed training, just to the women's. They build confidence then they move to the mixed training.

MUWR

First of all we should do this meeting more - very beneficial sharing our experiences.

We have 2 clubs in Melbourne - Can talk to each other and share information with each other.

We have about 15 or 17 players and are doing well - it's tough starting a new club. Making the basket etc. But we are enjoying it. We have uniforms and have 1 training per week. We are using social media a lot. We find using specific details is best - eg. Show Goalie position, or other tips. People don't believe when we say "coolest sport in the world".

We are not focusing on social players - we are specifically targeting young players and people with potential. We realised we were spending too much effort on beginners and then they might play once or twice then just leave.

We are targeting athletes and utilising people, getting people involved in the club. It's a good vibe - they come and enjoy and work hard as well.

How do you go about beginners - do you go hard on the new players or take it easy on them at the start? We're not 100% sure - some people want to play for fun and others want to be pushed... We have a little bit different technique. We push them in the fight - don't use red cap - more like we use opposite and focus on fighting the new players. If they like it, they like it - should push them. Don't want to waste time on people that will just leave.

TAS - we had to do the opposite. 5 years ago we had a very small group of elite fit people that was a hurdle for new players. So we needed to reduce the level, open to beginners to get the momentum to grow. Difference is that in our club everyone is a beginner, so we don't have an elite group. There's only Cansin then Khaz is probably the second most

experienced.

Chairman (Nathan Miller)

It's been a bitter-sweet year – we've had some successes and learnt some lessons - beneficial for the future. We have a rapidly growing community. We started monthly meeting and made some subcommittees. Some of the tasks - investigation UWRA league, safety, UWR shop, 3 year vision for the sport. With this early collaboration we've had a lower turn over in delegates. Latter part of the year, the investigation took up a lot of time with less focus on growth of the sport. One thing we've learnt - Investigation panel should be limited to a partial number of the committee to avoid this in future. By-laws need to evolve - big focus on updating in the next year. In March we had the Melbourne Cup. Recently in Adelaide we had the Nationals with 160 participants (up from 120 last year). Difficult to organise a competition of this scale. This year we've had 1 new club attend first competition, with 2 potential new clubs in WLD and NSW. Some clubs have exploded in numbers compared to 18 months ago. We have 168 UWR (AUF) members. Since the last AGM refereeing quality has improved. Carlos is working very hard - taken the initiative to go to each city and hold a course. Seen a massive increase in the quality of refereeing. The women's training camps have had 40 athletes. A lot of work to put these together - should be proud. Thanks to everyone on the NT - selectors, coaches, managers. Recommendations for the incoming committee - smoother transition, help develop the sport. One of the first things - reflection of what the year has been and what we've learnt and what is going to happen in the future, to make ourselves better. One of those things - having a set of community values that people can be held accountable to. By-laws need a revisit. Continual reflection, creating a plan throughout the year. Tried doing that a little bit with 3 year vision, but other things took precedent.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Opening FY \$2103.59
Income - UAF and Membership fees. \$1100 from AUF. \$600 form membership fee - Whales, TAS, VSD.
Concerns raised from one or two clubs about the membership fees and how they are set up. Pretty unfair that 3 clubs paid and all the others haven't – committee needs to figure out if will be paid back or they don't have to pay membership next year.
\$186 set up for the website. Twins have done an incredible job on it.
\$768.43 spent on NT coaches - flights and accommodation
Since discussion from committee - UWRA no longer funding coaches.
\$30 spent on women's trophy
Final Balance \$2330.30

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

MOTION to have the fee be membership fee be \$0. Based off the numbers just there, enough coming from AUF and don't need to add additional fees
SECONDED: Canberra & Perth

YES: Canberra, VIC, QLD, Perth, TAS, , ADL, NSW, Secretary (Sophie), Chairman (Nathan), Treasurer (Khaz)

Passed unanimously

CHAIRMAN ELECTION (DELEGATES VOTE)

Nathan - vital that we have that continuity – least amount of change over of the committee as possible. We've learnt some vital lessons. If we choose to disrupt that leadership, risk of starting where we were at the previous AGM trying to figure out the answers to these problem again, making the same mistakes and having the same issues. Promise we weren't going to go through those tough lessons as a committee again. Some things aim to do - create set of values, driving a positive culture within the community. Spend time going through the bylaws. Needs to be collaborative. Also want to start incentive for newer clubs and members.

Gavin

My agenda –make foundation for committee. Good control and governance. Things have been moving out of control. Once those are in place, implement proper planning. Financial

planning. Checking against the plan to make sure it's on track. Create Safety officer position - Especially important to have active and real process for safety. By-laws and move to incorporation. By-laws need a complete overhaul. Want to get professional help. Get those done before adding anything. Improve communication with the community.

VOTE:

Nathan - Perth, Canberra, UNSW

Gavin - Tas, Gauls, Adelaide, VIC

SECRETARY POSITION (DELEGATES VOTE)

Jackson Tegg

(only one nomination)

TREASURER ELECTION (DELEGATES VOTE)

Ali

Thankful to be part of this community. Like to be able to help as treasurer. Good background professionally and understand organisation. Offer help with community. Like to thank our previous president Nat Hartman for introducing me to this sport. Love this community spirit. Get energy from this and would like to reinvest in the committee

Simon

Was treasurer of UNSW for two years. Finished up very stable. Have a lot of background experience, having worked last 4 and a half years as an accountant. More than comfortable working with the UWRA and working towards achieving the goals. Taking the pressure off having to think about financial side of things

VOTE:

Ali - Tas, Gauls, Perth, Vic, Adelaide

Simon - Canberra, USNWR

CHIEF REFEREE ELECTION (MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE VOTE)

Ricardo - We need to keep going with the job that Carlos started last year with ref courses. Trying to improve the skills of the refs, giving more confidence in themselves. A you have seen before - the level of the skills have improved to a good level to be able to manage the games. I'd like to give the games a smooth schedule. So everyone can enjoy the tournament. Go for 3 days. Being able to give your best in every single game

Carlos - still a lot of work to be done with regards to refereeing. Two main goals in next 2 years. Now have a very big pool of people who understand how to ref. Running more and more courses. Taking this pool of people and giving them the tools to offload the organising of each tournament. Revamp bylaws for nationals tournaments so that ref in local club have direct contact with people organising the tournament and when they have doubt come to the chief ref. Becomes very hard for a single person to handle everything. Getting a couple of CMAS referees in AUS. Last year got info on how to do it. Make sure we have a couple of referees go to Berlin and take the exam and keep developing refereeing in Australia

VOTE:

Carlos: UNSW, Secretary (Jackson), Tas, Canberra, Vic, Treasurer (Ali), Adelaide

Ricardo: Perth, Gauls, Chairman (Gavin)

CLOSED 1pm