

MINUTES  
SCRABBLE NSW ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER 2016  
CLUB BURWOOD RSL, BURWOOD

The meeting was opened by President Bob Jackman at 1:40pm

**1. Attendance:**

1.1 Present: 34 ASPA (NSW) members

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (4.10.15)**

**MOVED: P. Schuberg**

**SECONDED: T. Hunt**

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

3.1 The committee met three times during the year (December, March and August).

3.2 Minutes of meetings, along with past major decisions, are available on Scrabble NSW website.

3.3 A deliberate attempt has been made to be more professional, and several new initiatives have been implemented eg. display board, membership cards, web pages for clubs, informative handouts, revamped membership form, duty statements.

3.4 There now 50 clubs, up from 45 at this time last year. New clubs are Bowral, Moss Vale, Inner West Day, Gundagai and Lane Cove.

3.5 A large portable display board was purchased by Scrabble NSW, to help the drive to establish new clubs. This has been used successfully at Lane Cove and Southern Highlands.

3.6 33 clubs now distribute ATBs direct to members, 21 clubs carry out bulk renewals in a reciprocal arrangement with Scrabble NSW. This has resulted in a savings of \$1000 per year in postage and a reduction in the number of lapsed members. Thanks go to our Membership Officer who has exerted considerable effort to make the new system work.

- 3.7 Members requiring ATB to be posted to their home now have to pay a \$5 a year surcharge due to the astronomical increase in postage (\$2 per ATB) Scrabble NSW loses money on unaffiliated pensioner members who do not pay the surcharge.
- 3.8 Currently there are 245 members, 47 of whom are not renewed. This unrenewed number is expected to reduce to about 20.
- 3.9 62 out of 245 members receive their ATB electronically. This helps offset any losses on pensioner members.
- 3.10 Membership is steadily increasing thanks to establishment of new clubs. Existing clubs are providing very few new members.
- 3.11 Reciprocating clubs are not taking advantage of offer to provide them with new website. Only Bomaderry Club has taken advantage of the offer. Intention is to provide reciprocal clubs with cards carrying the web address of their web page.
- 3.12 Every renewed member now receives a membership card.
- 3.13 The new member package has been revamped and expanded eg permanent tournament calendar, President's welcome letter.
- 3.14 The membership form has been upgraded so that people can join direct from an interactive form on the Scrabble NSW website.
- 3.15 Duty Statements have been completed for Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer and Equipment Officer. President and Club Liaison Officer statements still to be written.
- 3.16 New clubs being established and receiving equipment are requested to have a certain membership structure whereby club members become members of Scrabble NSW. Existing clubs have been encouraged to follow this model.
- 3.17 There is likely to be a new \$1 per player levy on all tournaments, to cover the cost of staging Nationals and helping fund players representing Australia overseas. This is because Mattel have withdrawn funding to Scrabble. Clubs staging tournaments and Scrabble NSW will have to budget for this.

3.18 Website is being continually updated for new tournaments and new clubs.

3.19 School Scrabble is happening, Tony Hunt co-ordinating.

#### **4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

4.1 Total income in 2015/6 was \$16,153.02 and total expenditure \$16,675.58.

Total Net Assetts at the Commonwealth Bank as at June 30 2015 were \$2219.77, a reduction of \$522.56 from the previous year.

The ASPANSW Bank Balance currently stands at \$5790.50 less projected liabilities (approximately \$3150).

Funds held at our investment account at IMB are currently \$9004.63 (invested at 2.35% and due for renewal on 27/11/2016)

#### **5. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE**

Nominations have been received for the following positions, now considered filled:

Bob Jackman - President

George Khamis - Vice President

Chris Ostrowski - Equipment Officer

Don Hadley - Membership Officer

Monica Dwyer - Committee Member

Nominations to be called from the floor for the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer, Clubs Liaison Officer, and Committee member (3 positions)

Secretary - Liz Jackman

Treasurer - John Holgate

Publicity Officer - Boots Moon

Clubs Liaison Officer - George Khamis

Committee Members - Jyoti Chadna, Pat Schubert, Rocky Sharma, Ryan Sutton

## **6. NEW ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

6.1 I move that the additional entry fee to tournaments of \$10 for Non ASPA members in NSW be reverted back to \$5. (R. CHELTON)

- Rene explained that it was too much for players who only play a few tournaments and we do not actually lose money from these players, which is the reason she was told this was passed.
- Bob replied that we want to encourage people to sign up as members and there are other fees and levies involved than the ones mentioned by Rene.
- Hailey stated that it was important to get more people involved in tournaments and encouraging people to attend would be more beneficial than deterring them through high fees.
- Tony explained that committee has also made decisions that support people to come to tournaments, such as allowing new players to try a tournament for free.

**MOVED: R. CHELTON      SECONDED: P. SCHUBERG**

For: 23      Against: 9      Abstaining: 2

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

7.1 Moving clocks in tournaments - discussion on how to address this issue.

7.2 Balmain club is finishing - thank you to the people who ran the club.

**8. CLOSE OF MEETING at 2:28pm.**

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