

**MINUTES of the 98th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the QUEENSCLIFF SURF  
LIFE SAVING CLUB Inc.**

Held via Zoom on 29th August 2021 commencing at 10.30 am.

The President, Garry Fox (Garry) declared the meeting open and welcomed the Sponsors, Patrons, VIP, Life Members, Distinguished Service Members and Club Members.

Garry thanked everyone for attending this rather unusual Annual General Meeting (AGM) via Zoom. COVID has meant that we must adapt to the way we meet.

Garry explained some online meeting protocols

- We ask attendees to mute themselves, to avoid background noise interference.
- Each attendee is to identify themselves before making comment. Comments are to be succinct.
- If more than one attendee wishes to comment, the chair will intervene and then invite each person to speak.
- If a vote is required, the Chair will set out the motion and ask those attendees who are against the motion to raise their virtual hand. After counting lower their hand

Garry welcomed the official guests, sponsors, and members. A special welcome and thank you for attending to the following:

**Patrons**                      Barry Antella

**Sponsors**                      Stephen Nugent - Community First Credit Union  
John Garland, Balgowlah RSL

**VIPs Present:**                      Zali Stegall, Federal Member for Warringah  
James Griffin, Member for Manly  
Michael Regan, Mayor, Northern Beaches Council  
Tracey Hare-Boyd, President Sydney Northern Beaches Branch  
David Walton ,Councilor, Northern Beaches Council

**Apologies:**                      Jean and David Hay, Adel and Leigh Heasman, Denis Heard and Robyn Holt

No other apologies were received

Secretary Paul Sholl to take minutes.

Garry covered the constitutional requirements to have a quorum. Our Quorum under the constitution is 10 % of members eligible to vote of which we have 547, which is 55 votes. It was agreed that with 55 present and 36 proxy votes we had a quorum to proceed.

### **Procedural resolution – Notice of Motion**

Garry on the recommendations of SLSNSW moved the following procedural resolution even though the constitution permits electronic meetings.

Garry moved the motion,

*That the format and conduct of the meeting be accepted and that any challenge arising from any procedural irregularity in, or to, the conduct of the meeting be waived.*

Ken Prior – moved the motion for approval. Seconding – Kevin Harris

Garry requested that anyone against the motion please raise their virtual hand.  
Paul Sholl confirmed there is none against, so all agreed.

Garry declared the motion carried.

Garry commented, as per the 2021 Notice of Meeting  
- the 2020-2021 Annual Report,  
-the Special Purpose Financial Report  
- the minutes of the 2020 AGM have been available on the website prior to today.

### **Adoption of the Minutes of the Club's 97th Annual General Meeting (2020 AGM)**

Garry asked for any comments or questions.

Paul Sholl confirmed no virtual hands raised.

Garry called a member to move the motion that the Minutes of the 97th Annual General Meeting of Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club be adopted.

Ken Prior - moved that the minutes be approved. Seconding – Kevin Harris.

The minutes were approved and accepted.

## **Presentation and Adoption of the 98th Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report (2020-2021)**

Garry presented the club's 98th Annual Report, on behalf of the clubs Board of Directors. Once again, it's an outstanding document produced by Kathryn Shearsby, Carla Thornton and Shona Rose. Thank you for your effort.

Garry made the following comments on the annual report:

- Once again, In the Club's 98th season we are proud to report that no lives were lost under our watch whilst patrolling Queenscliff Beach, as has been the case since the club's first active patrols in 1924.
- Our patrols completed an impressive 8,694 patrol hour taking care of over 60,000 visitors to our beach. We successfully ensured the members of the community were able to swim safely and be COVID safe through the work of our club captains ,Kelly and Sam, the patrol captains, our trainers, our patrolling members.
- We hosted "Raising of the Flag Ceremony" for the start of the patrol season representing all SLS clubs in NSW.
- We participated in rescues during the NSW floods.
- We ran COVID safe nippers' program with over 450 juniors learning new skills with two start times - a huge amount of work. Well, done to Liv, age managers, water safety and the many the helpers.
- We competed well in carnivals, particularly juniors and masters.
- Our education and training continued to grow under Kerry and her team.
- We funded and completed the renovations to the clubhouse.
  - This project was first conceived in 2011 when a masterplan for the future of our clubhouse was developed.
  - We received funding from NSW Office of Sport and the Federal Government with the balance of the funding being generously provided by the Northern Beaches Council.
  - Alan Butler has been driving the project and has made a major contribution to its success.
- Financially our club had a successful year.
- Queenscliff continues to enjoy significant sponsorship support from many individuals and our major sponsors; Northern Beaches Council, Community First Credit Union, Cunninghams Real Estate, Balgowlah RSL, Pine Property, Network 10 and Harbord Diggers. Thank you for your generous support.
- Craig and Ken are both stepping down from board positions. Garry thanked them for their patience, guidance, and wise counsel over the past season. The amount of work you both do for the club is extraordinary. We all know they will continue to provide support wherever its needed. Thank you.
- Garry thanked the Board for their extraordinary commitment and support that they have made to the success to the 2020-2021 season. It has been, at times, a challenging season, yet highly rewarding and I thank all our members and life members for their continuing support.

## **Presentation of the Special Purpose Financial Report for the season 2019-20**

Garry asked Rob Graham Smith (Rob), Club Treasurer, to come forward to present the 2020-21 Special Purpose Financial Report.

Rob highlighted the difficult year due to COVID 19, initially it was budgeted for a flat year on your budget, pleasingly we ended with a \$48,000 surplus.

Rob highlighted the following items:

- Income
  - Membership ~85% of prior year level
  - Club benefited from substantial Covid assistance and funding
  - Strong commitment again from our sponsors
  - Golf day - again a key contributor
  - Hosting of surf carnivals impacted by Covid and weather
- Expenditure
  - Costs have been contained in the last few years – and Club has built cash levels
  - Depreciation cost is inevitable and is a non-cash expense
  - One-off contribution to NBC for clubhouse renovations represents grant funding received for kitchen and lift
- Assets
  - Assets are depreciated each year – some natural reduction in value
  - Cash level has grown as expenditure has been contained
  - Now the renovation is complete, QSLSC will need to spend some funds to complete the fit-out and facilities
  - Strong result in clothing shop to sell existing stock and reduce inventory

Rob thanked the following people:

- Fiona Broe – assistance with ongoing bookkeeping.
- Lisa Foster - diligent and generous completion of our audit.
- Selma Bainouti Stensland – managing the clothing stock inventory and minimizing additional stock purchases

Rob made a special mention of the difficult time we are in and the potential financial stress that people could be under. Rob highlighted that the club would fully support any members that were under financial pressure as we did not want any members to renew their memberships if they had financial issues. Rob urged anyone that may need assistance to get in contact the clubs Members Services Director, Kathryn Shearsby.

Garry thanked Rob and confirmed we had not received any questions prior to the meeting. Garry asked the meeting if any other questions form members regarding the Annual Report and/or the Special Purpose Financial Report.

Paul Sholl confirmed there was no questions.

Garry called for a member to move the motion that the 97th Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report for 2019-20 be adopted.

Ken Prior moved that the Special Purpose Financial Report for the 2019-20 be approved.  
Seconding – Kevin Harris.

Garry asked is anyone was against the motion to please raise their virtual hand.

Paul Sholl confirmed there were no virtual hands raised.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Community Service Address**

Garry invited Zali Stegall, James Griffin and Michael Regan to provide a community service address.

- Zali Stegall, Federal Member for Warringah, offered the following address:
  - Thanks for having her at the meeting.
  - Highlighted the importance of the club to the community, especially with current conditions.
  - Recognised the traditional owners of the land.
  - Great to see clubs' financials in good shape.
  - Offered anyone that needed assistance or was offering feedback to contact her office.
  - Highlighted the additional challengers COVID brings to safety issues on the beach.
  - Confirmed the importance of vaccinations and that once patrols started the volunteers would be considered front line workers.
- James Griffin, Member for Manly, offered the following address:
  - He was pleased to see the progress of the renovations in a recent visit.
  - Identified the need for people to continue to work on the things they had control of in such a difficult time.
  - Congratulations the club on being awarded the state titles and the benefit that it would have on the local community and businesses.
  - A special thanks to Ken Prior and Craig Susans for their ongoing support and work they have done for the club.
  - Members of the club had so much to look forward to in the coming season.
- Michael Regan, Mayor, Northern Beaches Council, offered the following address:
  - Congratulated the club on the renovations and thank you to Ken and the team for all the hard work.
  - Northern beaches Council was committed to Surf Life Saving through their renovation program.
  - Congratulations on state championships.
  - Northern Beaches Council has continued to work with authorities to manage beaches throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Thanked sponsors of the club for their ongoing support.
  - Thank the club for our ongoing great relationship with Council Lifeguards.
  - Looking forward to a safe summer.

Garry thanked Zali, James and Michael for their continual and generous support of the club as it is highly valued and very much appreciated. Special thanks to Peter Rodham of Northern Beaches Council for his guidance and support throughout the renovation process.

Garry highlighted that the new lease was ready for signing once the current lockdown conditions end.

### **Vote of Thanks to Sponsors**

Garry provided an opportunity for all members present to express their gratitude to our many sponsors as noted earlier in presenting his report. Garry asked that we thank those sponsors here with us today.

Thank you, and in response Garry asked Steve Nugent from Community First Credit Union one of our key sponsor partners to say a few words.

- Stephen Nugent - Community First Credit Union, offered the following address:
  - Community First is a mutual and its purpose is to support the community and volunteer organisations.
  - Highlighted the great leadership of the clubs board.
  - Thanked the volunteers in the club.
  - Thanked the patrolling members for keeping the 60,000 visitors we have to the beach safe.
  - Highlighted the great nipper program and the training and development of these young future surf life savers.
  - The competitive spirit of the club.
  - Offered his thanks on behalf of Community First and the other sponsors for all the work that the organization does in the community.
  - Congratulated the club on getting awarded the state championships that will bring 6,500 competitors plus families to the Norther Beaches.

Garry thanked Stephen for his words.

### **Declaration of Affiliation with Sydney Northern Beaches Branch of SLSA**

Garry highlighted that our club as an entity is affiliated to Surf Life Saving Australia and Surf Life Saving NSW through its formal affiliation with the Sydney Northern Beaches Branch. As such, and on an annual basis, our Club is required to seek affiliation to the Branch by way of a written application.

Members are now invited to support or otherwise for the Management Committee to apply for affiliation for the 2021-2022 season by way of voting for or against the following motion.

Could I now call a member to move the motion that “Affiliation be sought for the 2021-2022 season with the Sydney Northern Beaches Branch of SLSA. Further, that the Articles, Constitution, By Laws, Regulations and Resolutions, together with the awards and equipment of SLSA Limited, and/or affiliated State Centers and/or affiliated Branches, be accepted without reservation.”

Ken Prior moved the affiliation be approved. Seconding – Kevin Harris.

Any against the motion please raise their virtual hand.

Paul Sholl confirmed no virtual hands were raised.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Honours and Awards**

Garry explained that normally at our AGM we would honor members who have served the club with distinction with life membership and distinguished service awards. Receiving these awards are recognized as a significant honor one which should be shared with fellow club members and family. So, our plan is to hold a Special General Meeting to vote where these those nominated can share the moment in person at our club.

### **Election of Office Bearers**

Garry invited Kevin Harris (Kevin) to manage the proceedings.

Kevin reiterated the requirement for a quorum and stated that he is advised that this has been met for the AGM through eligible voting members present plus eligible voting members having submitted their proxy for today's AGM.

Kevin outlined that the current board process for the election of incoming directors (office bearers) meets the requirements of the as Club's Constitution and that:

- The current board in determined what board positions it would call to be filled for the incoming board meets the requirement of the Constitution in terms of the composition of the board (clause 18.2) and the board called nominations to fill 14 positions of a maximum number of 15.
- These nominations have been advised to members as per the requirement of the Club's Constitution.
- Members should note that the number of nominations received is equal to the number of positions called by the board to be filled and there are no contests for any position and no vacancies for any position. As such, the persons nominated shall, by declaration by this meeting's chairperson, be deemed to be elected (clause 19.1e).

Kevin reminded the meeting that the outgoing President, Garry Fox, is a nominee for the president's position on the incoming board and therefore must step down as the meeting chairperson for the election process. Kevin moves a motion to elect a chair for the election process (clause 15.4b) explaining it is the requirement that the chairperson for the meeting be a director of the board and not a nominee for the incoming board. Ken Prior (Ken), the outgoing Vice president is eligible and therefore Kevin moved that the meeting appoint Ken as chairperson for the election process.

Any against the motion please raise their virtual hand.

Paul Sholl confirmed there were no hands raised.

Kevin declared the motion carried and Ken is accepted.

Ken thanked Kevin and accepted the position of Chairperson to conduct the elections of Directors.

Ken highlighted that given the nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies called to be filled, the nominations are deemed to be elected. Ken named the following elected directors of the board and office bearers and their positions:

<b>President</b>	<b>Garry Fox</b>
Deputy President	Gavin May
Treasurer	Rob Graham-Smith
Secretary	Paul Sholl
Member Services Director	Kathryn Shearsby
Senior Vice President (Lifesaving)	Barry Antella
Club Captains	Kelly Beverley and Sam Kitchen
Director of Education	Kerry Seipelt
Power Craft Director	Jayson Elkins
Competition and Coaching Director	Mark Clare-Nazer
Marketing and Sponsorship Director	Anthony Rose
Junior Activities Director	Olivia Hibbitt
General Activities Director	Samantha Cleary

Ken thanked Zali, James and Michael for their attendance and handed the meeting back to Garry to run the remainder of the meeting.

Garry thanked everyone who participated in the nomination process and congratulations on being elected. The pandemic has again created challenges for us. We have fantastic people in our club, and I know that we will all work together to ensure we have another safe and successful year.



It will be busy with us planning COVID safe nippers, patrols, education and competition. We will still be working hard finishing off the bar, moving equipment into new spaces and setting up our honor boards and memorabilia. Once completed the club will look incredible.

We are already in the planning phase of hosting the State championships. We have Chippa and Brian working on our centenary photos and book and will need to start planning for our big centenary year in 2024. We have the House Committee who are firstly ensuring the needs of members are met whilst looking at opportunities to hire out the facilities to provide income to the club and its members.

A busy season ahead.

### **Correspondence of an Urgent Nature**

Garry confirmed no correspondence of an urgent nature has been received prior to the commencement of this AGM.

### **Urgent General Business**

Garry highlighted that as requested, due to the limitations of electronic meetings members were asked to raise any urgent business prior to the meeting . None has been received.

Garry asked if there were any urgent general business matters of that members wish to raise in the meeting. If so, could the member please raise their virtual hand.

After a brief pause in the meeting Paul Sholl confirmed not virtual hands had been raised.

Garry thanked everyone for attending today. Everyone stay safe and we will meet in person to celebrate the opening of our newly renovated club.

Garry declared the meeting closed.

**Meeting Closed at 11.10 am**