

**MINUTES of the 101st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the QUEENSCLIFF SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB Inc.**

Held in the Clubroom on 4th August 2024 commencing at 10.30am

The President, Garry Fox (Garry) declared the meeting open.

As a sign of respect, I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands, of elders past and present, on which we celebrate today, and other Aboriginal people who may be present.

I would like to express my gratitude that we share this land today and my sorrow for the cost of that sharing. I hope that in the spirit of reconciliation we can move forward to a place of justice, healing, and partnership as we walk gently on this land.

I would like to welcome the official guests, sponsors, and members. In particular, a welcome to VIPs

**Patrons**

Barry Antella

**Sponsors**

Steven Lowndes - Community First Bank

Graham Stone, Des McAteer, John Garland and David O'Brien -  
Balgowlah RSL

Rod McGibbon – President Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches

Patrick Kelleher – Pine Property Management

Ben Atkinson and Elle Atkinson – Peer Wealth

**VIPs Present:**

James Griffin, Member for Manly

Zali Steggall, Member for Warringah

Sue Hines, Mayor Northern Beaches Council

Dave Walton, Deputy Mayor Northern Beaches Council

**Apologies:**

Maxine Quick

Patrick Kelleher

Aletia Fysh

Stephen Nugent

John Cunningham

Elle Atkinson

Tom Atkinson

Michael Atkinson

Ben Atkinson

Tracey Hare-Boyd

Adele Heasman

No other apologies were received.

Secretary **Paul Sholl** to take minutes.

Our Quorum under the constitution is 10% of members eligible to vote of which we have 472, which is 48 votes. It was agreed that with greater the 65 present and 9 proxy votes we had a quorum to proceed.

Garry explained, as per the 2024 Notice of Meeting the following documents have been available on the website prior to today:

- the 2023-2024 Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report,
- Nominations for the Board Position
- the minutes of the 2023 AGM

#### **Adoption of the Minutes of the Club's 100th Annual General Meeting (2023 AGM)**

Garry asked for any comments or questions.

Paul Sholl confirmed no questions raised prior or during the meeting.

Garry called a member to move the motion that the Minutes of the 99th Annual General Meeting of Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club be adopted.

Danny White - moved that the minutes be approved. Seconding – Barry Antella.

Garry confirmed all votes in favor and non against, Garry confirmed the minutes were approved and accepted.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Presentation and Adoption of the 101st Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report (2022-2023)**

Garry presented the club's 101st Annual Report, on behalf of the club's Board of Directors. Once again, it's an outstanding document produced by Shona Rose. Thank you to Catherine Piper and Amanada Judge for their editing and review.

Thank you for your effort.

Garry made the following comments on the annual report:

- Once again, in the Club's 101th 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 9702 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 through the work of our club captain, Rich, the patrol captains, our trainers, our patrolling members.
- We had 612 juniors learning new skills which equipped them ready to be confident in the surf and to prepare them as future lifesavers - a huge amount of work. Well, done to Anthony, age managers, water safety and the many the helpers.
- We did an outstanding job of hosting the SLSNSW State Championships in February
- In surf sports, Queenscliff is continuing to develop young competitors at all levels with
  - Our recent youth development program
  - 107 nippers competing at branch and 98 at State
  - Branch Nippers overall from 5th last year to 3rd this year
  - Very competitive contingent competitors who went to Queensland for Aussies
- Total - State - 185 (Nippers - 98, Opens 53, Masters, 34)
- Total - Aussies - 68 (Youth - 27, Opens - 24 Masters - 22)
- Education and training team. Completed 215 awards and 593 proficiencies plus 3 new endorsed trainers and 2 new probationary trainers. An outstanding achievement and thank you to Graham Lugsdin, Gavin May, Barry Antella and the team of trainers for their effort.
- We continued to develop our youth through our cadet program
- Centenary Committee, what an outstanding success with our fabulous commemorative book, book launch event, High tea for Life Members and Distinguished Service Members, Family fiesta and the Centenary ball with over 625 people joining in on our celebrations over those event
- 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 Bank, Cunninghams Real Estate, Balgowlah RSL, Pine Property, Peer Wealth, Mounties and Andrew Meats. Thank you for your generous support.
- Thank you Peter Power for completing the financial Audit.

- Barry Antella, Brad Newton and Mark Clare Nazer are stepping down from board positions. I wish to thank them for all their work over the past season. The amount of work they do for the club is extraordinary. I know you will continue to provide support wherever its needed. Thank you.

This is my last season as President. A position I have been honored to hold for the past 4 years. I enjoyed it and yes there have been challenges with Covid, building renovations and a washed out first year State yet we as club we pull together and are highly successful. To the board, I thank them for their support and commitment for the past season. It was a busy and challenging time, and your dedication made it a huge success.

Garry asked Jamie Grant, Club Treasurer, to come forward to present the 2023-24 Special Purpose Financial Report.

### **Presentation of the Special Purpose Financial Report for the season 2023-24**

Jamie presented his report and made the following comments:

- The financial success from three years of hosting State has contributed positively to the cash position of the club. For the 23/24 year a deficit was projected given the investment and expenditures required for the year, especially the Centenary Events and a cautious view of the world.
- Net gross income was \$747,761 and a net deficit of \$41,622.
- We were very active in our management of expenditure and the final year deficit was significantly under what was originally forecast.
- A sign of the general health of the club is the size of the membership. Membership income grew to \$159,727 this year
- A focus for the year was to get the cash the club must work harder. With just on \$500,000 in cash, we increased our term deposits with Community First Credit Union to \$280,000. This money is invested at rates that will generate meaningful interest income for the club going forward.
- The day to-day account with Westpac finished the year with \$199,000 in it.
- We focused attention this year on the Foundation and the need to get those funds properly invested. We have re-established the Foundation Committee and with the funds properly invested; the longer-term goal now is to make the Foundation available to all.
- Our sponsors Community First Bank, Cunninghams Real Estate, Peer Wealth, Pine Property, Andrews Meats, and Stone & Wood Brewing Company continued their commitment to our club during our season. Additionally, the Clubs deep and historic relationship with Balgowlah RSL continues to grow.
- A key source of fundraising income for the club is the Golf Day, with this year generating a net surplus of more than \$20,000. The list of sponsors on the day is significant and with their support the day continues to be not only fun but a key driver in revenue raising for the club.
- The bar and Bombora are a key revenue source and a long-term strategic focus for the club. We have seen some decline in spending from external functions which given the state of the economy is not surprising. However, we remain positive on the

outlook as the venue is very well regarded and getting excellent feedback from those who use it

- Thanks to Genie and the team the clothing shop goes from strength to strength, delivering another excellent result for the year, thanks to the investment in new clothing brands.
- The key and exciting capital expenditure for the year was the new ATV which has very quickly become intrinsic to the beach services we supply to the community.
- The budget for the 24/25 Financial year has been approved, with a simplification of the membership fee structure and no increase in fees. Our focus remains on conservative spending and control of expenses in an environment of rising costs and a slowing economy.
- A first year in any new role is a challenge and I want to thank all involved for their support particularly three people, Garry, and Brad, and Paul.

Thank you and I look forward to continuing to serve you as best I can in the year ahead.

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

Paul Sholl confirmed there were no questions.

Garry called for a member to move the motion that the 101st Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report for 2023-24 be adopted.

Alan Butler moved that the 101st Annual Report and Special Purpose Financial Report for the 2023-24 be approved. Seconding – Damien Daly.

Garry confirmed all votes in favor and non against, Garry confirmed the minutes were approved and accepted.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Appointment of Financial Auditor**

Bill Walker has been our Auditor for the past 2 years. He has done an extraordinary job. Bill has decided to retire. We thank him for his work. So, we have engaged Peter Power (Auditor number 730) through the firm Beweiszser to audit our financial reports. Peter is an experienced auditor who has audited many other Northern beaches Surf clubs.

Due to the late change of the Auditors, there is a procedural resolution whereby I put forward retrospectively for Peter Power to be appointed as the financial Auditor the 2023-2024 season

Garry asked for a member to move the motion that Peter Power be appointed financial Auditor for 2023-2024 season.

Andrew Townsend moved that Peter Power be appointed financial Auditor for 2023-2024 season. Seconding Damian Daly

Garry confirmed all votes in favor and non against, Garry confirmed the appointment was approved and accepted.

Garry declared the motion carried.

Garry called a member to move the motion that Peter Power be appointed financial Auditor for 2024-2025 season.

David Shearsby moved that Peter Power be appointed financial Auditor for 2024-2025 season. Seconding Damian Daly

Garry confirmed all votes in favor and non against, Garry confirmed the appointment was approved and accepted.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Vale**

Garry asked David Piper to present the Vale on behalf of the club.

Grant Spradbrow led the meeting to acknowledge, reflect and pause for the members we lost in the past year:

- Gabby Moses
- Alan (Bert) Bertram
- Rob Watkins

### **Community Service Address**

Garry invited James Griffin, Sue Heins and Zali Steggall to provide a community service address.

- James Griffin, Member for Manly, offered the following address:
  - Thank you for having me at your AGM today.
  - Another year of zero lives lost, making this stretch of beach one of the safest in the country.
  - A big thank you to Craig Susans and the team for managing the facilities of the club. A special thank you on behalf of the community with your support of the Bear Cottage volunteers Christmas party.
  - Thank you to the sponsors that continue to support the club.
  - A big thankyou to Garry for his role as president for the last 4 years.
- Sue Heins, Mayor Northern Beaches Council, offered the following address:
  - I would like to mirror James's comments and thank Garry on a great job as president.
  - Extraordinary year for the club celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year and also through competition.

- A big thanks to the leadership team at the club.
- Congratulations on the number of nippers you have at the club.
- The club showed initiative and innovation with its training team.
- Congratulations to all the volunteers for another amazing season and looking after the public.
- Queenscliff is such a welcoming club, so I congratulate you all on this.
- Zali Steggall – Member for Waringah
  - Great job done by all volunteers.
  - 9072 patrol hours and zero lives list, another very successful season.
  - Reflected on the Manly stretch of beach being voted as the number 1 beach in the southern hemisphere.
  - Congratulations on running another very successful state carnival and to all medalists at State and Aussies.
  - It was a privilege to attend the club's 100-year Gala Dinner, thanks to the organisers of the event.
  - Congratulations Garry, the club now has some big shoes to fill.

Garry thanked James, Sue and Zali for their continual and generous support of the club as it is highly valued and very much appreciated.

### **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 Graham Stone, President of Balgowlah RSL of our key sponsor partners to say a few words.

- Graham Stone - Balgowlah RSL, offered the following address:
  - Thank you for your reception its an honor to be part of the club.
  - We have shared 20 plus years of association.
  - Well done on the clubs development over the years, testament to the passion and investment of time by members.
  - Thank you on behalf of the Balgowlah RSL and other sponsors.

Garry thanked Graham 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 2024-2025 season by way of voting for or against the following motion.

Garry called for members to move the motion that “Affiliation be sought for the 2024-2025 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.”

Terry Boardman moved the affiliation be approved. Seconding – Anthony Rose.

Garry confirmed all votes in favor and non against, Garry confirmed the affiliation had been approved.

Garry declared the motion carried.

### **Honours and Awards**

Garry highlighted that it was with great pleasure that we came to the point of the meeting where we recognize those members who have provided extraordinary service to our club.

### **Life Membership**

Garry confirmed that there had been no nominations for Life Membership this season.

### **Distinguished Service**

Garry introduced the nomination for Distinguish Service as recommended by the Management Committee to be considered by this AGM, Andrew Townsend.

Before I invite Andrew’s nominators to speak and move that their nomination be accepted, I invite Andrew to leave the meeting as per club tradition.

### **Andrew Townsend**

His nominator David Piper spoke for the award, Barry Antella was confirmed as the seconder.

Garry Fox put the motion that Andrew Townsend be awarded the Club Honour of Distinguished Service.

Motion was carried.

Garry requested someone to invite Andrew back to the meeting.

Andrew, it gives me great pleasure to advise that following your nomination for Distinguish Service Membership, the members have voted to award you the Club Honour of Distinguish Service.

Andrew was presented with his Distinguished Service certificate.



## **Recognition for Service Awards**

Garry invited Rich Mills our Club Captain to come up to the stage to present the Recognition for Service Awards.

Rich announced the following award recipients:

### **National Medal:**

Adam Taylor

### **20 Year National Patrol Award:**

Luke Barlow, Graham Lugsdin, Gavin May.

### **15 Year National Patrol Award:**

Howard Bull, Gero Farruggio, Talia Field, Garth Hickey, Ian Johnston, Craig Mason, Maddie Perkins, Robert McNamara, Janet Young.

### **10 Year National Patrol Award:**

Samanatha Cleary, Deborah Fennell, Matthew Gee, Shaina Marsh, David Young, Isabel Young, Molly Young.

## **Election of Office Bearers**

Garry thanked current board members and the outgoing board members – Barry Antella, Brad Newton and Mark Clare Nazer.

Garry highlighted that as he won't be nominating for a position on the Board he will continue to chair the meeting as the board's nominated election officer, to chair the election proceedings.

Garry 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:

- Nominations have been called for the 6 mandatory director positions of Club President, Deputy President, Treasurer, Secretary, Club Captain and Director of Competition and Coaching plus 6 other positions. This meets the requirement of the Constitution in terms of the composition of the board (clause 18.2). The Board called nominations to fill 12 positions of the maximum number of 13.
- These nominations have been advised to members as per the requirement of the Club's Constitution.

The nominees

President	Kevin Harris
Deputy President	Paul Sholl

Treasurer	Jamie Grant
Secretary	Talia Field
Club Captain	Rich Mills
Director of Competition and Surf Sports	Damien Daley
Director of Education	Graham Lugsdin
Marketing and Sponsorship Director	Amanda Judge
Junior Activities Director	Anthony Rose
Member Services Director	Rob Graham-Smith
General Activities Director	Vacant
Director Inclusion and Diversity	Elizabeth Bray and Tamara Kirby

Garry asked the members to elect the Inclusion and Diversity Director by means of a vote.

Garry invited Tamara and Elizabeth to address the members to support their nominations. Both Tamara and Elizabeth addressed members present.

Garry informed members that per our constitution clause 19.2 the voting will be “The simple majority ballot”, with each member having one secret ballot vote.

Barry Antella and Shona Rose have been appointed as scrutineers and will hand out voting slips to each of you. Could you please mark on the election slip your choice. Barry and Shona will collect the slips and will report to me the outcome.

Garry informed members present that the results from the election have been tallied and he congratulated Tamara Kirby on her election to the position of Director Inclusion and Diversity. Garry thanked Elizabeth Bray for nominating for the role.

As none of the other nominations are contested and as our constitution Clause 19.1e provides that the persons nominated, by declaration, can be deemed to be elected. As such I declare those positions are elected. Congratulations to the newly elected Club office bearers.

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

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

### **Urgent General Business**

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 hand.

Paul Sholl confirmed no hands had been raised.

### **New President Address**

- Kevin thanked Garry for his outstanding work and commitment in his role as president over the past 4 years.
- Kevin expressed that his mission as president over the next 12 months was succession planning for the board.
- I am looking forward to leading the club, and looking for ideas and innovation from all members.
- Kevin explained that he is looking forward to working with everyone over the next 12 months.

Kevin asked Brad Newton the outgoing Deputy President to say a few words about Garry.

Brad addressed members thanking Garry for his service as President.

Kevin thanked everyone for attending today and invited everyone to share with us some refreshments in the bar area.

Kevin declared the meeting closed.

**Meeting Closed at 11.45 am**