

OA Special General Meeting, 4.30pm, 11 June 2017, Sturt Public School, Australian Three Days, Wagga Wagga

Minutes

Attendance

OA: Blair Trewin, Bruce Bowen, Bill Jones, Jenny Casanova, Jim Russell, John Harding
Athletes rep: Simon Uppill
ONSW: Greg Barbour, Mark Shingler, Tony Hill, Barbara Hill, Barbara Dawson, Graeme Dawson, Jenny Enderby, Damien Enderby
OACT: David Poland, Geoff Wood, John Scown, Ann Scown
OV: Prue Dobbin
OQ: Anna Sheldon, Trevor Sauer
OSA: Erica Diment, Robin Uppill
OWA: Richard Matthews
OTAS (by teleconference): Ian Rathbone, Bernard Walker

BT opened the meeting and emphasised the importance of resolving the High Performance program budget deficit discussed extensively at the 2016 OA Conference.

1. Filling of vacant Board positions: Director (High Performance); 2 Directors at large

BT advised that Bill Jones had been appointed by the Board to be a Director at large and BT was liaising with potential candidates to fill the other 2 positions.

2. OA proposal on finance for 2018: Budget proposal for OA Special General Meeting

BB spoke to his paper 'OA Proposal on finance for 2018' (see ATTACHMENT A to these minutes) and outlined the measures proposed by the OA Board to address the deficit in the OA budget, with an additional contribution from State associations of \$10,000 in 2018 and \$20,000 in 2019.

MS queried whether a review had been undertaken of the High Performance (HP) program. BB listed the HP program expenditure items and the cuts in expenditure which had been made following loss of the \$86,000 in ASC Whole of Sport funding which had largely been used to fund the HP program.

PD noted the OV position that there be no increase in fees from the membership to support the HP program, and that the HP program instead be self-supporting. SU and A Sheldon spoke in support of maintaining a HP program, including the benefits to the sport of WOC and Bushrangers reps giving back to the sport in coaching, course planning, organisation and administration, both during and after their representative careers.

All representatives at the meeting who spoke in relation to the 4 OA proposals were against proposal 1, a training squad annual contribution levy. It was felt that this would be a deterrent to membership of squads.

Motion (R Uppill/A Sheldon): That proposal 1, a training squad annual contribution levy, be deleted. The motion was carried.

Jim Russell, OA Head Coach, volunteered to work for half the amount of his contracted salary in 2018 and 2019 as a budget saving measure. The meeting thanked Jim for this generous offer.

The discussion went around in a circle in respect of proposal 2 for a \$500 a head levy for WOC team members. Initial discussion was around the differences in cost in respect of team size and location and therefore whether a flat \$500 per head should be adjusted according to these factors from year to year. Further discussion around alternatives concluded that these may be too complex. There was a consensus that whatever levy was used, it still needed to raise \$4000 to \$5000 each year, and a \$500 a head levy was a good starting point.

There was a lack of support from some states for an increase in the State Registration Fee as this would have to be passed on as an increase in membership fees, and this was considered as possibly detrimental to increasing membership numbers. RU suggested instead an increase in the group 5 event levy from 50 cents to something of the order of 75 cents in 2018 and \$1 in 2019, or whatever figures BB calculates would raise \$20,000 in 2019. There was general support for this as a good option but state delegates were unwilling to vote in favour of this at the meeting without discussion first with their Boards. It was, however, put as a motion by RU that there be an increase in the group 5 event levy from 50 cents to something of the order of 75 cents in 2018 and \$1 in 2019, or whatever figures BB calculates would raise \$20,000 in 2019. The motion was defeated, with 2 in favour and 10 against.

BT proposed that BB calculate the increases required in the category 5 event levy for 2018 and 2019 and this be provided to states for a postal vote on this option versus an increase in the State registration fees.

It was moved that the substantive proposals 2, 3 and 4 in BB's paper be approved by the meeting, with a postal vote to be provided to states in respect of proposal 3 in relation to whether there be an increase in the State Registration Fee or an increase in the category 5 event levy. The motion was carried, 10 in favour, 5 against.

3. Update on governance: 2017 SGM – governance update

BT advised that there had been no nominations from states for membership of the working group to consider a transition to a company structure. He asked that states consider again providing nominations so that a proposal can be put to the 2017 Conference.

4. Uptake of Eventor as a national membership and participation database:

i. 2017 SGM – Eventor paper

BT noted the progress that had been made since Conference on including event results and memberships in Eventor and asked that states continue this process to achieve 100% coverage.

ii. 2017 SGM – Eventor licence renewal

A Sheldon agreed to prepare a brief report to states on how QLD had been using Omaps so that other states would be in an informed position to decide whether to take up this option for map storage and management.

States were not in favour of paying for integration of Winsplits into Eventor as there is very little work currently in putting results into Winsplits.

5. Implementation of the digital edition of the Australian Orienteer: 2017 SGM – Australian Orienteer paper

BT advised the meeting that because the option for opting for a print or digital version of the Australian Orienteer had only had a limited roll out to members in 2017 he proposed that the

2017 policy for charging the Australian Orienteer to states be continued for 2018 and that rates for direct subscriptions remain unchanged for 2018. These proposals were moved by BT and ED and the motion was carried.

6. Participation and Sporting Schools: outcome of the ASC's Participation and Sporting Schools Workshop on 1 June

JH gave a verbal report. Jim Mackay had attended. He noted:

- The ASC priority in increasing Participation is that sports develop models of participation that attract non-active people and people from population groups who are less active: women, people in rural and remote regions, low socioeconomic status areas, Indigenous Australians. The goal is to increase physical activity in the population and as a consequence improve the health of the population
- The ASC wants to achieve greater integration of the Sporting Schools program with the education curriculum and therefore wants NSO Sporting Schools programs to be education department approved for both curriculum delivery and professional training for teachers. OK-GO meets both of these criteria in NSW.
- The ASC did not receive funding in the May Australian Government budget to increase secondary schools Sporting Schools beyond a limited number of sports in a sample of 250 high schools across Australia targeting participation by girls and schools in low socioeconomic status areas. Orienteering is not one of the approved sports and is not likely to be until the number of SSP Secondary Schools is much larger and orienteering has education department ticked lesson plans and coaches trained up in delivering those national lesson plans.

7. Coaching development: update from Barbara Hill on her OA Coaching Development role and on 2 national projects:

- a. Level 1 coaching manual
- b. A set of Sporting Schools lessons for years 7 and 8 in high schools

BH gave a verbal report on work she has been doing in networking with state coaching contacts.

8. OA Annual Conference: 2 & 3 December, AIS, Canberra
Noted.

9. Other business

BT thanked Adrian Uppill for his many years of service as chair of the OA Mapping Committee and John Harding for his 8 years of service as Executive Officer, with retirement from that position pending.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

ATTACHMENT A

Proposal to put to the OA Special General Meeting to meet the current projected annual budget shortfall of around \$40K from 2018-2020

1. A training squad annual contribution levy for all senior and junior elites of \$200 per head.

OA Squads covered will be:

High Performance Squad, National Development Squad, Australian Junior Development Squad and Targeted Talented Athlete Group

Estimated additional revenue: \$10K

Note: the new levy would be used to cover general high performance expenditure rather than being used for specific training camps or as a substitute for current team member contributions (e.g. for JWOC and MTBO WOC/JWOC). Therefore, if there were additional costs for holding training camps, above the subsidy budgeted by OA, these additional costs would have to be continued to be shared amongst training camp participants.

It is hoped that training squad members would be able to approach their clubs and/or state associations or other sponsors, or carry out fundraising activities, to help to meet the levy.

2. A \$500 per head levy for WOC team members to meet costs associated with the Australian WOC team competing at the World Orienteering Championships.

Estimated additional revenue: \$4K to \$5K (depending on team size)

3. A staged increase in the State Registration Fee (SRF) over 2018 and 2019 – the increase would total \$20K (excluding GST) and represent around a 21 per cent increase over the current SRF – with a 10 per cent increase applying in 2018 and the remainder added in 2019. In addition, the SRF would switch to being two payments a year by State Associations, rather than one payment at present. (An alternative, but more complex, option would be to raise some of this through increased event levies rather than the SRF).

Estimated additional revenue: \$20K (in 2019)

4. A change from a paid High Performance Administrator position to a volunteer role with expenses being reimbursed. (This was suggested by the current occupant of the position).

Estimated expenditure saving: \$6K

Total projected additional revenue and expenditure savings: \$40K

The objective of this set of new proposed measures is to return the budget to balance by 2019

Note that the current budget from 2018-2002 is also based on revenue of \$5K per year from High Performance fund raising activities and donations of \$5K a year. If these amounts are not realized then the budgeted support for High Performance teams travelling overseas will need to be reduced to make up for any revenue shortfalls.