



Incorporated No INC9876008

# **AUSTRALIAN SLEDDOG SPORTS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday 30th August 2023  
15.00h WST/ 18.00h EDST

## **Committee:**

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Sean Hennessy (SH)    | Emily Vourlides (EV) |
| Vanessa Joy (VJ)      | Kirste Harrison (KH) |
| Courtney Orr (CO)     | Kathleen Sprigg (KS) |
| Danielle Stewart (DS) |                      |

## **1. Apologies /Member attendees**

Member Attendee:

Apologies: Kathleen Sprigg – attended towards end when could.

## **2. Minutes of previous meeting**

- The Minutes of the last NC Meeting were accepted as true and correct by Vanessa Joy and seconded by Emily Vourlides.

## **3. Correspondence**

Incoming

- SDRQ IFSS results
- IFSS WC Race Judge complaint – Vaughan Winther
- Rule review from SHCNSW for next review
- Title application – Finn McKeown
- WD IFSS results
- NEGRC and WASSA membership updates
- WD and SDRQ IFSS points
- Nationals results
- Kirste Harrison vaccination proof
- SASDC RM Report
- RM report and IFSS RM report SDRQ
- NEGRC RM Report
- Kirste Harrison – Malicious Rumours
- Sibex IFSS results
- WASSA pointscore complaint – Kathleen Sprigg
- Incident report Sibex
- Sibex RM report and IFSS RM Report
- SDRQ Membership update
- WASSA pointscore results and RM Report



- Zahra Goldsmith application for foreign country race
- Baw Baw notice of race cancellation and affiliation questions
- Dinner Plain formal complaint – Charlotte Wood
- Dual affiliation Canberra – Vanessa Joy
- Dryland WA incident video – Josephine Mower
- National RJ course IFSS
- Canberra results
- NVSDC membership update
- Dryland WA race results
- Penalty Dispute Canberra – Vanessa Joy
- Title applications x 10 – Vanessa Joy
- Canberra incident statement for AFSS – Emily Vourlides
- RM course applications from multiple members

#### Outgoing

- Affiliation receipt to Baw Baw and SDRV
- SASDC results request
- Registration from guest country – Zahra Goldsmith application
- WASSA pointscore documents request
- IFSS results to accreditation for all 5 races
- Acceptance of titles Finn McKeown
- Trent Haymen official Ban letter
- Response to RM exam emails
- Trent Haymen ban information to all ASSA, AFSS and breed clubs
- Member list update and RM report request NVSDC
- Canberra race documents request
- Dinner Plain RM report request

## 4. Financial Matters

\$1682.09 is currently in the main bank account.

No further report from Treasurer for this meeting.

## 6. Baw Baw Affiliation

As per the discussion on messenger today we agree to refund Baw Baw and Courtney will let them know.

## 5. Insurance

Discussion around what we are going to do to take this to the clubs/community.

Emily suggested we send out an email with details to the clubs and then we have a meeting and people can come with information and questions ready instead of being blindsided at a meeting.

Cost on clubs/Cost on members discussion  
Somewhere the extra cost will go on one of the other.



Most other dog sports you must be a member of ANKC if an ANKC event. Non ANKC you don't necessarily have to join the national body in Emily's experience.

Discussed options on how cycling clubs have run this around the country with membership going to the national body.

Discussed to cover insurance etc we would have to double affiliation and still be short on covering everything.

Options to take to clubs.

1. Increased affiliation fee and everything else stays the same. Increase for affiliations would need to be around as follows:  
Large club – \$1850  
Medium –  
Small – \$950  
Single event \$300

2. Members must become a member of ASSA before they can become a club member and ASSA will provide them with an email/certificate of membership for the year they provide to the club to become a member.

With option two would people have to be a member of ASSA to attend races is something that would need to be discussed.

We will work out exact figures for what affiliation would be before the email goes to clubs.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September – meeting with clubs

Vanessa will write a draft email to go to clubs and then we can put exact numbers in.

Emily will work on the numbers and request information so we can all help if needed.

## **6. Kirste Harrison email**

Discussed the email and rumours.

Kirste has already spoke with SASDC regarding this issue.

Agreed as a committee it's a breach of our social media policy.

Sean will draft an email to be sent out to all involved with the breach.

## **7. Complaint by WA member**

Vanessa was approached at DP by Jonathan Toquero regarding Titre testing for vaccination rules. Dani has information on how she got Titre test without having to send results overseas.

Agreed that we need to have any rule changes submitted for the rule review in February.



Discussed we need it in writing and can save it for the rules review as we do for other rule changes if wanting to send through now.

## 8. RM Exam

Cover letter to be done putting the intent of the exam and that it is just the ASSA RM exam not anything to do with IFSS RM training.

Pack to go out with Exam:

- Protest Form
- Race Rules
- Temperature and humidity guidelines
- RM report form
- RM Exam
- Letter explaining that it's a test etc

Sean will attempt to write the letter tomorrow ready for emailing to the members who have showed interest then we can announce on socials for anyone else to email and request.

## 9. IFSS email regarding RJ Course

Discussed we would need to open it to all clubs, the two weekends that IFSS have given are DP weekend or Canberra weekend. Would need to be a WC race.

We would need to look at accommodation etc for whoever came to host the training.

Decided we need to get more information on what this could cost ASSA and to flag this early so we can get EOI out to see if we will do it and who would host.

Discussed opening EOI to clubs once we have gotten the insurance issue resolved with clubs and they are aware what is happening for 2024 and have had AGM's.

## 1. Canberra Penalty Dispute – Vanessa Joy

Vanessa asked as an organisation will we stand by this decision when it was a dual affiliated race, and the conduct was not ok. As they paid an affiliation fee, they must be held accountable by us as well as AFSS.

Prompts the discussion of moving forward if allowing dual affiliation, we need to have the conversation on which rules are being implemented so everyone knows beforehand.

AFSS are holding a meeting tonight.

Scheduling a meeting to discuss this issue further next Wednesday.

## 11. Canberra Affiliation letter – Vanessa Joy

AS per item 10 discussing next meeting.

## 12. Dinner Plain RM complaint email

Postponed discussion until we have RM report from Jo Winther.

## 13. Other business

Sean announced to whole committee he will be stepping down from the ASSA committee in 2024. Will be writing an announcement for socials.

## 14. Next meeting

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> at 6PM AEST

## 15. Meeting Attendance

|                                   | Nov<br>2022 | Jan<br>2023 | Mar<br>2023 | Apr<br>2023 | May<br>2023 | Jun<br>2023 | Jul<br>2023 | Aug<br>2023 | Sept<br>2023 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>Committee:</b>                 |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |              |
| Sean Hennessy (Chair)             | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | ✓           |              |
| Vanessa Joy (VP)                  | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | ✓           |              |
| Danielle Stewart<br>(Treasurer)   | X           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | ✓           |              |
| Courtney Orr (Secretary)          | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | ✓           |              |
| <b>State<br/>Representatives:</b> |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |              |
| Hollie Tori Acres (NSW)           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | X           |             | ✓           | N/A         |              |
| Kirste Harrison (SA)              | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | X           | ✓           |             | X           | ✓           |              |
| Kathleen Sprigg (WA)              | ✓           | X           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | X           |              |
| Emily Vourlides (QLD)             | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           | ✓           |             | ✓           | ✓           |              |
| Vacant (ACT)                      | NA          | NA          | NA          | NA          | NA          |             | NA          | N/A         |              |