



Incorporated No INC9876008

# AUSTRALIAN SLEDDOG SPORTS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 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: Kirste Harrison

## 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

- Dryland RM report
- Title applications – Emily Vourlides and Rhiannon Park
- End of season member list SASDC

Outgoing

- Baw Baw Affiliation response
- Dryland RM report request

## 4. Financial Matters

\$1757.09 is currently in the main bank account.

## 5. Canberra Affiliation Letter

Vanessa raised if someone is choosing to affiliate/dual affiliate it would usually be assumed they would be using the national bodies rules they are joining.



Kathleen raised that in horse events you run under the rules of the governing body that the club is affiliating the race with.

Vanessa advised this is the same with the ANKC events for clubs that affiliate an ANKC race they use the ANKC rules.

Sean raised that we will not get dual affiliations if we say they must run under our rules only.

Discussed in the future we need to discuss dual affiliations and ask more questions of clubs who want to be dual affiliated and have discussions around rule amendments if needed.

Sean requests we put this on a list for the next committee to discuss what needs to be organised with dual affiliated clubs before accepting the affiliation.

## **6. Canberra Penalty dispute letter**

Vanessa hasn't received an official response yet from AFSS. ASSA have now received the RM report from Di Baker and a letter from the Canberra president.

Vanessa would like to see the two National bodies working together as unprofessional conduct has been used to come to the decision as its outside the AFSS rules. This was a dual affiliated so we should still have some say in the conduct that is used by officials especially when its outside the scope of their rules. Vanessa doesn't wish to see other ASSA members treated the same way and penalised outside the rules.

Kathleen raised that they should be held accountable and be able to show in the rules and how the calculations came to that decision. Both sets of rules don't have anything showing this decision as being inside the rules.

Reviewed AFSS rules as a committee and discussed the wording in the rules.

Vanessa has not received a protest form even though she should have as per AFSS rules.

Agreed for Sean to speak with Nigel from AFSS before we respond to anything official regarding the decisions outside their rules.

Agreed to put a draft together in terms of a response but Sean will try contact Nigel first before we send anything.

## **7. Social Media**

Sean would like everyone to consider that even when posting on our own personal pages that some of the opinions and comments are still going to affect ASSA even though it's your personal opinion.

## 8. AGM

Given the state of things with insurance Sean believes we should push it out a little bit till we have time to get a handle on insurance.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November – AGM date

20<sup>th</sup> October – closing for general resolutions and nominations.

14<sup>th</sup> October – Special resolution

Looking to announce AGM with forms as soon as we get through meeting with clubs if nothing major arises from this meeting.

## 9. Dryland WA race incident

- Firstly, we need to address the race running over a road and the possible implications for this track being used with insurance and if dogs don't stop with cars coming.

Vanessa will draft an email to Dryland to discuss the track being over a road.

- Secondly the dog behaviour incident on track.

Reviewed the footage from Josephine and Kathleen provided footage from her view from the other side of the road.

Agreed she is a novice and probably shouldn't have been put in that position. Jess as RM has already followed our rules for Grade 2 and disqualification.

Vanessa will draft both letters for us to review before sending.

Courtney raised that Adam West has now been reported for Grade 5 dog behaviour at both WA point scores. Courtney will draft something to be sent to WA clubs only at this point so they are both aware this is not a single incident.

## 10. National Pointscore

Courtney has all results now and just needs to input Dryland results and work out the travel rule and total of top 3 points then all data will be ready.

Courtney will then put on google drive for review to finalise.

Ordering ribbons ready – Vanessa will choose the colours and let Sean know so he can order them.

Confirmed we have 3 in all classes besides 8 Dog.

## 11. Other business

Danielle has given all the information needed to her insurance contact and waiting to hear back from them now.



Emailing clubs to let them know of upcoming meeting that it will be regarding insurance and affiliation. We will be recording the meeting for anyone who can't attend. We will also be limiting to two people per club. Proposed time 6pm AEST and let us know if this suits you and we may be able to push it out a little.

## 12. Next meeting

1st October 2023

## 13. Meeting Attendance

	Nov 2022	Jan 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sept 2023
<b>Committee:</b>									
Sean Hennessy (Chair)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Vanessa Joy (VP)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Danielle Stewart (Treasurer)	x	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Courtney Orr (Secretary)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
<b>State 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	