



Incorporated No INC9876008

AUSTRALIAN SLEDDOG SPORTS ASSOCIATION NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday 25th February 2024
16.00h WST/ 19.00h EDST

Committee:

Vanessa Joy (VJ) (Chair)	Samantha Abraham (SA)
Courtney Orr (CO)	Geoff Clinch (GC)
Emily Vourlides (EV)	Kathleen Sprigg (KS)
Finnian McKeown (FM)	Christine Grilk (CG)

1. Apologies /Member attendees

Member Attendee: Holly Jessen, Zahra Goldsmith
Apologies:

2. Minutes of previous meeting

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

3. Treasurers Report

\$7,904.52 is currently in the main bank account.

Incoming

- \$4.96 credit
- \$110 Individual Memberships
- \$2100 NVSDC Affiliation

Outgoing

- 308.74 Pedigree online payment

4. Correspondence

Incoming

- member lists SASDC, SDRQ and NEGRC
- Animals in sports and work – Melbourne Vet school
- JDP Sub committee EOI multiple

- Family memberships
- Second SA pointscore
- Multiple RM course applications
- Multiple applications for IFSS RJ course
- WASSA and NVSDC Affiliation
- Jo Winther response to complaint
- NEGRC complaint response
- Response from SDRV regarding date discussion
- President resignation Mark Needham
- Election of continental directors IFSS
- Club Insurance certificates received
- NZFSS email regarding Continental director
- Responses to callout for WC events

Outgoing

- Membership requests to all clubs
- IFSS RJ training applicants
- SDRV email regarding dates to discuss
- NVSDC insurance sent
- JDP sub committee acceptance sent
- RM course applications sent
- Call out for WC events
- Response to Jo winther complaint
- Email to Lisa Gersbach regarding complaint
- Email to Lisa Gersbach closing complaint
- Email to Charlotte closing complaint

5. Rule 3.4 – Holly Jessen

Discussion on the amendment now that Holly and Vanessa have updated and reworded the section from last meeting.

Christine asked what happens if an existing competitor is not happy about it. Agreed RM and RGO will handle this case specific and if someone had an issue they will need to raise to RM or RGO on the day.

3.4 A musher who is disqualified in the first heat of a race may participate in subsequent heats of the race at the discretion of Race Marshal and the RGO. This does not apply if the disqualification is a penalty issued in accordance with the dog behaviour policy or because of misconduct in relation to sportsmanship. If the Race Marshal and the RGO agree that it is safe for the team to continue to participate, the team shall start at the back of their respective class and will forfeit a placing in the race.

Agreed to pass the above wording.

6. Rule 10.3 – Emily Vourlides/Vanessa Joy

Discussed both Emily and Vanessa's submissions.

Emily is happy for us to go with Vanessas wording.

Discussed we would need to have the seed values organised as what we release to members doesn't show people who haven't qualified for the travel rule for pointscore.



Vanessa is happy to setup a seed value spreadsheet and we can transfer everything after pointscore is done at end of season.

Vanessa explained the seeding formula.

Kathleen asking about in WA with members who only do the two pointscores then travel to another state and have lower seeds due to previous year only having two results.

Agreed to change the number of tiers so that all members have the same advantages if only able to enter two pointscores.

Vanessa will update the document and get to Courtney to be added to our final rules.

7. Rule Section 16 – Zahra Goldsmith

Discussed the Sportsmanship policy and that it needs updating but not until we have rules completed but we will use Zahra's information when we do this update.

Courtney will add this to our running Agenda to be updated before the season starts.

ASSA will work on the sportsmanship policy and social media policy to get these updated.

Discussed Yellow dog project and agreed ASSA will investigate it and if Zahra can give us as much information as possible so we can move forward with all the information.

8. Rule Combining classes – new rule – Vanessa Joy

Vanessa suggested this more for discussion after some issues last year.

Discussed as a committee and agreed we can't create a rule but we hope clubs are thinking about the safety of the entrants in races.

Agreed to add this to the seeding rule to say people in combined classes would go out in seeding order rather than in class order.

9. Rule 5.4 – Vanessa Joy

Discussion on titre testing results and the hepatitis component as titre test being hard and expensive in Australia due to it having to be sent overseas.

Voted and passed the re wording for this rule.

10. Rule 5.9 and Definition – Jonathan Toquero

Agreed we would still need titre test results and that instead of a senior dog we will re word to make it clear other dogs can also request an exemption.



Vanessa will re word this section then we can vote in chat.

Agreed we don't want to put a definition in for what age becomes a senior dog.

12. Other business

Vanessa raised if we need to check on Mark with a wellbeing check as she has not heard anything from him since resigning and neither has any of the committee. Agreed at this time to give him some space till race season.

Emily updated committee that as ASSA had a unanimous vote the Subcommittee for our race has now been formed and have reached out to WD regarding hosting the State of origin event and to request gear usage.

Courtney asked if any update on WASSA considering WC event for Nationals. Vanessa is organising a document with information to be sent to them regarding hosting IFSS WC.

Courtney asked if Finn had any updates from NVSDC regarding WC but no updates yet, but they are having a meeting soon.

Christine raised that they are currently working on JDP sub committee documents and should have them to us ASAP.

13. Next meeting

24th March 2024

14. Meeting Attendance

	Nov 2022	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	March 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sept 2024
Committee:									
Mark Needham (Chair)	✓	✓	✓						
Vanessa Joy (VP)	✓	✓	✓						
Emily Vourlides (Treasurer)	✓	✓	✓						
Courtney Orr (Secretary)	✓	✓	✓						
State Representatives:									
Geoff Clinch (NSW)	✓	✓	✓						
Finnian McKeown (VIC)	✓	✓	✓						
Christine Grilk (SA)	✓	✓	✓						
Kathleen Sprigg (WA)	✓	✓	✓						



Samantha Abraham (QLD)	✓	✓	X
Vacant (ACT)	NA		
Vacant (TAS)	NA		