



## Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

of the National Management Committee of the  
**Australian Bowhunters Association Inc™**

Held at Redland Bay, Brisbane, Queensland from October 11 to 13, 2019



### ITEM 1/19: OFFICIAL OPENING BY CHAIRMAN

The meeting was opened at 8.40am by President Jeff Bell, who welcomed all and noted the welcome overnight rain.

### ITEM 2/19: MEETING ADMINISTRATION

### ITEM 3/19: RECORD OF ATTENDANCES

All attendees announced themselves and were recorded (details in the expanded notes).

### ITEM 4/19: CONFIRMATION OF CREDENTIALS

Total members present (after late arrival of one member at morning tea) was 38 and number present at meeting eligible to vote was 34 plus one postal vote = total number eligible to vote 35.

### ITEM 5/19: TABLING OF ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report was tabled.

### ITEM 6/19: TABLING OF OTHER DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS AS NECESSARY

The analysis of survey results, agenda and two addenda to the agenda, were tabled.

Motion: That the addenda be accepted as part of the agenda.

M Gerard Kelly S Stuart Renwick Carried

### ITEM 7/19: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 2018 AGM

MOTION: That the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record of the 2018 AGM.

M Bruce Kelleher S Dirk Craigie Carried

**Business arising from the Minutes:**

Nil.

### ITEM 8/19: REPORTS

National President Jeff Bell, Vice-President Bowhunting Division Mark Burrows, Vice-President Field Archery Bruce Kelleher and TBA Committee Chairman Ralph Boden read their reports.

### ITEM 9/19: BRANCH CONTROLLER REPORTS

Branch A report was read by Ken Henderson, Branch B report was read by Graham McComiskie, Branch C report was read by Andrew Little, Branch D report was read by

Brett Willaton, Branch E report was read by Ann Stubbs on behalf of Peter Stubbs, Branch F report was read by Chuck Szanto, Branch G report was read by Jamie Harrington on behalf of outgoing Controller Tim Opie, Branch H report was read by Steve Old on behalf of Wendy Gallagher, Branch I report was read by Brett Raymond, Branch J report was read by Ken Neill.

Business arising from the reports: Peter Stubbs queried the \$50 late nomination fee that has been introduced by Branch C. Andrew Little reported that only a little negative feedback had been received. Steve Old suggested another way to deal with late nominations was to make the latercomer non-competitive. Peter said Branch E refunded fees to people who had nominated but didn't shoot.

Lorraine Bruce from Branch B pointed out that although the report didn't mention it, it should be noted that clubs within the Branch had presented the State Titles and a Branch Safari without the assistance of an operational Branch committee, and had done a great job.

### ITEM 10/19: NATIONAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Amanda Skinner presented her report which was printed in full, along with the profit and loss statement, in the Annual Report.

MOTION: That the National Treasurer's report be approved.

M Amanda Skinner S Brian Taylor Carried

### ITEM 11/19: AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Auditor's Report was circulated to delegates.

### Appointment of Auditor

MOTION: That the auditors, Certus Group, be appointed for the next financial year.

M Amanda Skinner S Greg Anderson Carried

### ITEM 12/19: ANNUAL BUDGET 2019-2020

MOTION: That the annual budget be adopted.

M Amanda Skinner S Bruce Kelleher Carried

### ITEM 13/19: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ACCEPTED 2018 OR TABLING AT 2019 AGM

Nil.

**ITEM 14/19 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

14.1 MOTION: That the existing wording of Section 12 Annual General Meetings, Special and Other Meetings (ii) be changed from:

“(ii) A quorum for a Meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be five (5) Executive Officers, of whom one (1) Officer shall be the National President or Senior Vice-President, one (1) Officer of the Bowhunting Division and one (1) Officer of the Field Division.” to read:

“(ii) A quorum for a Meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be five (5) Executive Officers, of whom one (1) Officer shall be the National President or Senior Vice-President, one (1) Officer of the Bowhunting Division and one (1) Officer of the Field Division. If a member of the Bowhunting Division is unavailable, a member of the TBA Committee may fill the position to form a quorum.”

M Ken Neill                      S Margret Szanto                      Carried

MOTION: That Section 17C be enacted to allow the smooth and effective administration of ABA Inc.

M Chuck Szanto                      S Peter Stubbs                      Carried

14.2 MOTION: That the existing wording of Section 19, Administration of the Association, a. Officers of the Association (v), be changed from

“(v) The National Vice President, Bowhunting Division. The National Vice-President, Bowhunting Division shall be responsible for the operations of the ABA Inc. Bowhunting Division, and shall generally have all responsibility for the efficient operation of the Division and the Association’s hunting awards and recognition systems. This Officer shall also be responsible for the collection, storage and retrieval of hunting research statistics, and for the appointment of Field Representatives of the Division, and for the training and appointment of Bowhunting Instructors, and management of the operations of the National Bowhunter Education Programme.” to read:

“(v) The National Vice President, Bowhunting Division. The National Vice-President, Bowhunting Division shall be responsible for the operations of the ABA Inc. Bowhunting Division, and shall generally have all responsibility for the efficient operation of the Division and the Association’s hunting awards and recognition systems. This Officer shall also be responsible for the collection, storage and retrieval of hunting research statistics, and for the appointment of Field Representatives of the Division, and for the training and appointment of Bowhunting Instructors, and management of the operations of the National Bowhunter Education Programme. Should this position be vacant, the Chairman of the TBA will be responsible for the roles undertaken by the Vice-President Bowhunting.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Margret Szanto                      Carried

MOTION: That Section 17C be enacted to allow the smooth and effective administration of ABA Inc.

M Chuck Szanto                      S Ryan Tilbrook                      Carried

**ITEM 15/19: ELECTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

The election of Officers was run by secret ballot. The results were:

- National President: Tony Hartcher
- Senior Vice-President: No nominations: Vacant
- Vice-President Field: Bruce Kelleher
- Vice-President Bowhunting: No nominations: Vacant
- National Treasurer: Amanda Skinner
- National Measurer: Garry Pitt
- National Assistant Measurer: Troy Morris
- National Score Recorder: Brian Taylor
- National Assistant Score Recorder: Sally-Anne McGrigor
- National Communications Officer: Alan Avent

**ITEM 16/19: ELECTION OF TBA COMMITTEE**

Nominations from Mark Burrows and Garry Pitt were withdrawn, leaving only four nominations so no election was required. The TBA Committee members are Ralph Boden, Michael Luxford, Troy Morris and Robert Windle.

**ITEM 17/19: TABLING OF BRANCH SHOOT CALENDARS 2020**

MOTION: That the Branch Shoot Calendars be accepted.

M Gary Sinclair                      S Sonja Wegert                      Carried  
Branches I, H, C and J to see the Vice-President Field in conjunction with their calendars

**ITEM 18/19: TABLING OF BRANCH BUDGETS 2019-20**

MOTION: That the Branch budgets be accepted.

M Amanda Skinner                      S Margret Szanto                      Carried

**ITEM 19/19: TABLING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-22**

Amanda pointed out every Branch had a copy of the new Strategic Plan, a development plan created with the assistance of the CPR Group, and asked delegates to read through the plan before the afternoon presentation by Steve from CPR Group. Steve’s presentation is summarised at the end of the minutes under Other Business.

**ITEM 20/19: TABLING OF BRANCH DEVELOPMENT PLANS 2019-2020**

Branches B and I are to submit their development plans for adoption at the next Executive meeting. Other Branch Development Plans were tabled.

MOTION: That the Branch Development Plans be received.

M Peter Stubbs                      S Brett Willaton                      Carried

**ITEM 21/19: GENERAL BUSINESS FROM AGENDA**

**21/19.1: Nominations for Life Membership**

No nominations were received.

**21/19.2: Nominations for Meritorious Service Award**

No nominations were received.

### **21/19.3: Syd Green Memorial Award**

A nomination was received for Alan Scarlett to receive the Syd Green Memorial Award. The meeting voted to grant Alan this award.

### **21/19.4: Allocation of National Competitions**

The 2020 National Safari will be held at ABA Park. (Meeting approval was not sought as it is standard practice that the competition be held there every second year.)

2020 IFAA National Field Championships: Gympie Field Archers have withdrawn their application. An expression of interest has been received from Wide Bay Field Archers.

MOTION: That the National Management Committee provide in-principle agreement for Wide Bay Field Archers to hold the 2020 IFAA Championships on the proviso that Branch C receives and endorses an application from the Wide Bay committee.

M Jeff Bell                      S Bruce Kelleher                      Carried

### **21/19.5: Proposal to add another game to the current National 3D format (Branch G)**

MOTION: That a new 3D game with a two-arrow round be introduced where archers would only shoot a second arrow if they believed their first arrow had not scored.

M Mark Burrows                      S Ken Neill                      Lost

## **22/19: GENERAL DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **22/19.1: Consumption of 3D Targets (Branch F)**

Varying costs of different brands of 3D targets make it possible for some targets to be re-repurchased whole (specifically the small Group 1 targets) for the same price as buying inserts for other brands. It was suggested that clubs could share their information on which targets were most cost effective through the *Archery Action* magazine.

### **22/19.2: Active Kids Program (Branch F)**

Several Branch F clubs would like juniors and cubs to benefit from the NSW Government's Active Kids Program but to be eligible, ABA National has to be a registered sporting association with the Active Kids Program. The National Executive will look into registration and policy requirements. Delegates said similar programmes operated in the NT and Queensland.

### **22/19.3: Distribution of National Executive Minutes to clubs (National)**

Branches were asked to add a reminder in their Branch minutes to send the National Executive minutes to their clubs. In order to facilitate this, the minutes will be emailed to Branch secretaries as well as Controllers.

### **22/19.4: Canteen at 2020 Safari at ABA Park (National)**

At this stage there is no one to run the canteen at the upcoming National Safari. It is open to any club, Branch or

individual to do the canteen and take the profit. If there is no interest from within the ABA, a local community/not-for-profit group may be approached.

### **22/19.5: Results compiled from feedback forms completed at National Safari and PRFAC (National)**

All delegates had the opportunity to read the analysis form which showed an outline of the results. Some points could be addressed by the National Executive and others were the responsibility of host clubs.

### **22/19.6: 3D target order (National)**

Between now and the end of the financial year, the National Executive will be ordering 3D targets for upcoming national/world competitions. Clubs and Branches can advise of their interest in adding to the order so as to fill the shipping container. Contact ABA office manager Kerry Chandler with expressions of interest.

### **22/19.7: Proposed reduction of number of trophies given out at Safaris/State events (Branch H)**

Branch H had prepared tables of the past five years' attendance and results at ABA National and 3D National competitions, showing 33 per cent of participants were rewarded without another archer being scored. Suggestions received included reducing the number of divisions (eg have an adults class to replace male and female) and to have a set minimum score that must be attained before a medal can be handed out. It was agreed that Lindsay and Bruce would prepare a working draft for next year's AGM.

## **23/19 ITEMS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

### **23/19.1: Bowhunting Division Advisory Committee meeting (Friday)**

Mark Burrows reported on Friday night's meeting. Agenda items included:

- Bowfishing for carp in NSW: Still waiting to be finalised by government.
- Measurers Manual: It is not necessary to do a reprint of the manual at this time but the new fallow deer palm width determination system needs to be redistributed to measurers so an addendum page could be added to the remaining manuals.
- Bowhunting Education Program: This course needs an overhaul. The suggestion is to look to an online procedure. Ray Morgan, National BEO, is to source any help he may need and have something for consideration at next year's meeting.
- BPC Manual: In need of an update. Eric Creighton has offered to assist and BH Tech Committee intends to take him up on his offer.
- Bowhunting policies: Troy Morris is to update the policies, rules and guidelines and present necessary

proposals to the 2020 BH Tech meeting.

- TBA Bowhunter of the Year: The past two recipients have had pictures and BH interviews in *Archery Action*. The committee will look for more ways to promote the award.
- TBA Muster: There were mixed results from the Muster held at Renegade Bowmen. It was aimed at education for junior hunters in particular but was not attended by many young people. However, 70 people attended an enjoyable event. Thanks to the people who demonstrated the different aspects of bowhunting. The Committee is now looking at the possibility of changing the format totally, perhaps with an emphasis on awards presentation.
- Electronic Game Claims: The new membership module means people can claim game through their personal ABA portal on the website. Once the electronic claim is put in, it is automatically sent to the club Game Recorder, Branch Field Rep and the General Secretary. If it is a measurable species the person has three months to get their trophy measured and to forward the measuring form to the General Secretary. Otherwise the claim will remain on record as a game award claim. It was recommended that all Field Representatives make a concerted effort to promote game claims.
- International game: It was decided the Committee would recognise those members who hunt overseas or take species that are not on ABA's species list. This would not be recognition of trophy size but specifically of species. Within the online electronic claiming system, "International" would be an option in the drop-down box and from there people could upload their photo.

### 23/19.2: Field Division

#### **Bowhunter Limited and Bowhunter Unlimited Sight Pin Spacing (Branch F)**

The issue under discussion was that current ABA standards for Bowhunter Limited and Bowhunter Unlimited disadvantaged competitors using low-poundage bows. In-depth discussion clarified that changing the rule could unfairly advantage many other people who would be able to set up their sights (using the top and bottom gaps, for example) with many more reference points. It was also pointed out that when people have equipment that does not meet the rules of a division, they have the option to change the division in which they shoot.

MOTION: That National Rules, Page 7, paragraph 3), restrictions on sight pin spacing, be removed in its entirety.

M Margret Szanto S Cameron Van Veen Lost

Bruce Kelleher reminded Branches to make sure the information about the change of rules for sight pins was received by all clubs. As of May (after the National Safari at Easter), competitors in pin sight divisions are allowed to use a clarifying device—a clarifier or lens—in their peep sights.

Also, for IFAA, the young adult division age has changed from 17 years to 20 years, there is a new senior division

for 65-plus years, and Cub Bowhunter has been added to the divisions.

### 24/19 OTHER BUSINESS

#### • Strategic Plan

Steve from CPR Group gave a presentation on Sustainability, Leadership, Promotion and Engagement, and Development. Sustainability required strong financial management and an increase in membership numbers. Leadership incorporated both strategic and operational models, with clear separation between governance and operation. Promotion and Engagement included marketing initiatives that would promote a positive perception of the sport, with a suggestion for a national come-and-try week. Development would take into account technology that would improve the members' experience within the group as well as addressing long-term needs of the sport.

He explained major initiatives that could be introduced across a six-year timeline.

- Legal structure: Changing from an association to a not-for-profit public company (Ltd), reporting to ASIC. Resultant change in public and government agencies' perceptions.
- Critical discussions about fees and the expected level of service, plus how much of this service should be given by volunteers and how much by paid employees.
- Anticipated growth in membership.
- *Archery Action*— review benefits and costs, analyse the future of the magazine.
- The organisation's name—being open to the possibility of changing the name to assist the public perception of what the group stands for. Concerted marketing push in the case of a name change.

Following the presentation, Branches were asked to take the discussion back to club level and encourage feedback on topics including a possible name change.

#### • Retirement of National Executive Officers

During the meeting three retiring members of the National Executive, Jeff Bell, Mark Burrows and Steve Barratt, were presented with plaques to recognise their work on the Association's National Executive, a combined total of around 70 years. .

#### • 2020 ABA AGM

Next year's AGM is to be held in Brisbane at QCCC Brookfield 9-11 October.

AUTHORISED FOR DISTRIBUTION  
Tony Hartcher, *National President*

*The full financial report can be found, along with a pdf copy of these minutes, at the official ABA website: [www.bowhunters.org.au](http://www.bowhunters.org.au)*