



1. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

MOVED K Griffin

SECONDED C Baker

THAT the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Members held 7 November 2018, published in the April 2019 Gazette, be confirmed

CARRIED

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The President reported to the meeting that our Constitution calls upon the Board of Directors to report on the activities of the Company during the last preceding financial year and on behalf of the Board I have pleasure in submitting that report for Members' consideration.

Financial Results

Upon analysis, you will note that the Finance Committee, chaired by Director Christina Rafton, with the assistance of DOGS NSW new Accounts Team Lead, Bernadette Gudge, have returned the Company almost to parity recording a small loss of under \$1,000 in 2018-/2019, a turnaround of some \$360K from the previous year. This result was achieved despite major improvements in infrastructure and an organisational restructure that resulted in redundancies and the requisite entitlement pay outs. In view of our wages liability being the Companies major expenditure, it was imperative to make the necessary changes to reduce costs. These savings should be reflected in the upcoming financial year.

During the 2018 AGM, matters were raised by some members regarding the finances of DOGS NSW, also as to the expenditure of 2017/2018, including that budgets need to be followed more stringently. I would like to clarify and assure all members that the Finance Committee review the budget monthly, however, one cannot always be prepared for the emergency repairs that have beset the Company over the last three years. Particularly, where in the past, as is standard business practice, no funds have been accrued for such purposes. Therefore, funds that should have been accrued for inevitable repairs have appeared as profit. Having reviewed, replaced or repaired much of the outdated and inefficient infrastructure, we now have a solid base on which to take the Company forward.

Staffing and Structure

As Chief Executive Officer, Virginia has worked extremely hard over the past five years carrying a large responsibility. On behalf of the Board of the Directors I acknowledge this and thank her for her commitment and dedication.

Virginia completed her contract and has now been re-employed as Company Secretary, whilst Anthony Khamis assumes the role of Operations Manager. Both reporting directly to the Board of Directors. We believe this restructure will serve the company and members well, enable us to provide improved Customer Services whilst utilising both Virginia's and Anthony's individual skillsets.

As I assumed this role, the mandate from the members was to "Fix the office", a reasonable request one would assume, but one that certainly has given me a greater understanding of the term "a man is only as good as his tools". It quickly became apparent that what was necessary was a complete overhaul of infrastructure, a costly and time consuming exercise. I can today now report this has been achieved and for the past several months we have maintained zero days processing. I would like to congratulate the office staff for this achievement and for their dedication to customer service par excellence!



At the end of my third year as President, I would like to thank the Board of Directors for the privilege and opportunity to serve you in this capacity. It is not only a huge responsibility but a huge honour. The last three years have been, I believe, very productive for the Company and a time to which the entire Board should reflect on with pride.

Initiatives over the past three years, many of which were instigated by the Operations Manager, Mr Anthony Khamis include:

Operational

- Brought our IT systems into line with modern IT platform practices.
- Replaced our outmoded and problematic server- delivered \$20K under budget.
- Connected to fast fibre internet service.
- Installed cloud based office phone system- allowing us to identify busy periods for effective resource planning.
- Commenced sending All Certified Pedigrees and Titles by registered trackable post – dramatically reducing inconvenience and complaints.
- Implemented Online Chat Integration- for fast answers to the members' simple enquiries resulting in noticeable reduction in phone calls to the Office.
- Migrated to Xero Accounting software -streamlining our financial accounts and systems.
- Negotiated reduced Electricity, Insurance and Phone charges.
- Implemented extended office hours - resulting in an additional five (5) hours of trading time per week.
- Reduced costs by providing an easily downloadable Magazine and Gazette.
- Restructured DOGS NSW office – Benefits- Reduced Annual Salary and leave liabilities, whilst achieving improved processes and productivity.
- Implemented measure to take advantage of DOGS NSW bulk buying power, reducing costs.

Member Services:

- Upgraded DOGS NSW website with enhanced capacity to improve and boost public awareness of our organisation and the importance of obtaining their puppy from a registered breeders. Together with detailed information and illustrations on all Pure Bred Breeds and the various disciplines. Feature still under development: Dog Finder "What breed suits my lifestyle".
- Improved breeder directory offering "free" online advertising in our Breeders Directory on the DOGS NSW website
- Introduced digital membership cards delivering substantial productivity gains and savings to the Organisation.
- Developed Online booking system- allowing members to conveniently confirm and pay online, camping fees, show ring hire, meetings, grounds and all spaces within the complex.
- Implemented Online Entries - showdogsw.org.au. – reducing the costs of running shows for DOGS NSW.
- Developed DOGS NSW APP & Introduction of the "Weekly Woof" -bringing members up to date information regarding what is happening at DOGS NSW.
- Implemented various improvements and upgrades to DOGS NSW Magazine and Gazette.
- Employed full time Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer- offering DOGS NSW members support and guidance pertaining to animal welfare and regulatory matters.
- Introduced Classmarker for all DOGS NSW examinations- an online testing system, saving hours of creating, distributing, grading tests and associated expenditure.



- Brought DOGS NSW - Royal Canin International Spring Fair website back "in house".
- Received confirmation of The Royal NSW Canine Council Health and Welfare Charity Limited by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission as a charity and granted the tax endorsement for: GST Concession; Income Tax Exemption; FBT Rebate; and Deductible Gift Reciprocity endorsement. DOGS NSW member dollar levy will now be channelled into our charity allowing the Board of Directors of The NSW Canine Council Health and Welfare Charity unique and vitally important funding for the future of breeding healthier pedigree dogs whilst supporting our members, friends and animals in crisis.
- Assisted by Yvonne Yun, published The DOGS NSW proposal for the development of A State Dog Park – highlighting us as the hidden asset in Sydney's West, with a detailed proposal to vary our leasehold to the benefit of DOGS NSW, Local Community and the NSW Government.
- Negotiated with the Department of Planning and Environment NSW Government for a twenty year extension to bring our lease up to 2058 which those negotiations are, to date, progressing favourably.
- Obtained first stage plans and quotes for the development of an indoor showing arena.

Infrastructure

Meanwhile, the Grounds Committee, Chaired by Director Peter Cutler, has been very active overseeing infrastructure improvements at The DOGS NSW Complex including:

- Improved complimentary Guest Wi-Fi. Additionally and a faster network available for Members attending functions, presentations, training, etc.
- Demolition of the Gordon Douglas building and removal of the bulk of asbestos from the grounds.
- Replacement of many ring side awnings
- Removal of accumulated rubble from the herding area.
- Erection of Off leash dog enclosure.
- Improved drainage in camping area.
- Replacement and upgrades to roads throughout the complex.
- Improvement of shower facilities for campers.
- Replacement of lighting in the office and amenities- reducing power costs and fire risk.
- Replacement of entrance lighting bollards.
- Moved flagpoles to a position of more relevant exposure.
- Improved PA system.
- Levelled Rotunda floor.
- Purchased additional defibrillators for the Orchard Hills Complex and Country regions.

Library & Archives:

Both Director Nancy Keck and the Library & Archives Committee must be congratulated for overseeing the construction of the Library & Archives building known as: The Research and Education Centre - a wonderful asset to all members that adds another string to our bow in expanding our education facilities.



Board of Directors:

In 2019 it was not necessary to hold our annual elections, all candidates being elected unopposed. Personally, I interpret this as a signal that the greater membership endorses and supports the governance of the current Board. Whilst change and renewal are an important component of growth, periods of consolidation and stability are equally important. I have come to understand the importance of this and to the realisation that sometimes we put ourselves at a disadvantage with continual changes. My sincere congratulations to our returning Directors, Mrs L Brand, Mr G Spagnolo, Mr E Pickering, Mr P Cutler & Miss V Etherington OAM.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the Board of Directors for their hard work throughout the year and their unstinting support of my Chairmanship. It has been a great honour to Chair a Board intent on getting the job done.

Awards

Life Memberships presented:

Mr Malcolm McDonald, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to DOGS NSW and its committees, particularly, for providing his legal expertise as DOGS NSW Honorary Solicitor along with his long association as a member of the DOGS NSW Judicial Panel.

Ken Griffin, in recognition of his contributions to DOGS NSW and its Committees, particularly his Chairmanship of the Retrieving & Field Trials Committee and his dedication to the Retrieving & Field Trials Community.

50 Year Membership Badges presented: John Sheppard, Barbara Killworth, Les Bradney and Tom Tancred.

Government Negotiations

Department of Primary Industry

DOGS NSW delegations, largely guided by Director Dr Karen Hedberg BVSc, continued to meet with Government Ministers and Bureaucrats in view of the upcoming redraft of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Breeding Dogs and Cats, and Animals in Pet Shops) Standards and Guidelines regulations, however, at this time, the current drought has had such a devastating impact, particularly on Animal Welfare that the planned redrafting has been placed on indefinite hold. As DOGS NSW lodged its submissions many months past, we are well prepared for its resumption.

Department of Local Government

The Media and Government Legislation Committee, Chaired by Brian Crump, have continued negotiations regarding various LOGs attempting to restrict the number of dogs that may be kept. Also, offering ongoing assistance to the Office of Local Government regarding the issues with the Companion Animal Register.

Future Initiatives:

Think Tank endorsed by the Board of Directors of DOGS NSW and Chaired by Dr Robert Zammit BVSc, Life Member of DOGS NSW, has been meeting over the past six months to analyse, discuss and consider how we may best address various challenges that confront the Dog World including declining Show entry numbers. The Board is anticipating a report in the next few months.



Strategic Planning Working Party - Recently convened and Chaired by Director Rob Harbin, although in its infancy, Rob has seconded a talented group of people to assist in determining exactly where our organisation is going over the next few years and how we are going to get there.

TARA KING GO- Collaborate – Effective Branding and Comms for DOGS NSW

DOGS NSW is currently looking at ways in which Tara can assist DOGS NSW by:-

- Reinforcing the value of our registered breeders.
- Highlighting the value of breeders and what they do.
- Celebrating the variety of breeds we offer and how there is a dog for every family.
- Educating dog lovers and families.
- Taking a proactive position by creating assets, programs and communication to assist in education about responsible dog ownership.
- Giving people tools to deal with challenging situations with their dogs from behaviour issues, health to changes in circumstances.
- Inspiring owners to inspire their dogs.
- Instilling positive and powerful relationships between owners and their dogs, through our sports programs

ANKC Ltd

Representation on the ANKC LTD National Database Working Party. This reinvigorated group has achieved much in the last three months. We have had a few opportunities to discuss common challenges and been able to share ideas on best practice, intellectual property around enhancing membership renewals process. We are looking forward to improved functionality of the ANKC Ltd database in the near future.

Improving Member Online Experience

DOGS NSW, along with all other State Member Bodies, use a membership software system provided and hosted by the ANKC Ltd. We acknowledge that the system has its short comings and falls way short of modern-day membership management systems and online eCommerce transactions. The ANKC Ltd is currently looking at system enhancements that will bring together most transactions into a single Member portal which will allow Members to manage their personal details, update payment information, renew memberships, reprint certificates for viewing, etc. There is much work to do in this area and is complicated by seven different States or Territories, all having different requirements. DOGS NSW is also looking at alternative platforms that will give our Members greater control and deliver richer online, self-serve experiences.

Thank you

Thank you to the Board of the Directors who are determined to carry the Company forward, our hard working Committees, the staff of DOGS NSW who have embraced some difficult changes and to the members who on the whole remain very supportive of the efforts of the Board and the Staff of DOGS NSW.

To the all members, thank you for your ongoing support and positivity. To each and every one of you, may 2020 bring you great success in whatever Canine disciplines and activities you enjoy?



MOVED D Harbin

SECONDED R Duffy

THAT the report of the Chairman, as published in the 2018/2019 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

3. CONSIDERATION OF SECRETARY'S REPORT

Australian National Kennel Council Ltd

The RNSWCC Representative at the Annual General Meeting held on 13 October 2018 was Mrs L Brown and the Directors appointed by RNSWCC were Mrs L Brown and Mr J Sheppard. Mr J Sheppard was unable to attend the meeting on 13 October 2019 and Mrs C Rafton attended the meeting as an Observer.

Mrs L Brown and Mrs C Rafton attended the Board Meeting held on 13 & 14 October 2018. Mrs C Rafton was appointed as Alternate Director as Mr J Sheppard was unable to attend.

Mrs L Brown attended the following Special Board Meetings as did Mrs C Rafton having been appointed Alternate Director:-

☐ 9 February 2019

☐ 22 June 2019

Mrs L Brown and Mr J Sheppard were Directors for the whole of the year, ie, June 2018 to June 2019, with Mrs C Rafton being Alternate Directors for the meetings specified above.

New Affiliates

There were no new Affiliates for the year ended 30 June 2019.

Inquiries, Investigations and Appeals

During the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, the RNSWCC received 72 new complaints which proceeded to the Chair of the DOGS NSW Disputes Assessment Panel, with the following outcomes:

- 37 Declined
- 24 Proceeded to Inquiry
- 5 Appeals
- 3 Still Under Investigation
- Nil Proceeded to Mediation
- 4 Withdrawn
- 4 Dismissed

Judges Training Schemes

Judges Training Schemes were conducted/are in progress for the following disciplines:

- Conformation
- Draft Test
- Earthdog
- Obedience & Tracking
- Retrieving & Field Trial



Company Secretary

The name, qualifications and experience of the person who has occupied the position of Secretary of the company during the year are:

Mrs Virginia Gagan-Wilson (since 2014): Chief Executive Officer RNSWCC (trading as DOGS NSW).
Previous experience in high level PA/Executive Assistant and Secretarial positions with State & Local Governments.

MOVED J Baker

SECONDED J Brown

THAT the report of the Company Secretary, as published in the 2018/2019 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

4. CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTORS' REPORTS

MOVED D Harbin

SECONDED T Mangen

THAT the reports of the Directors, as published in the 2018/2019 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

5. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT – FOR THE YEAR-END 30 JUNE 2019

The President invited Director C Rafton, as Chair of the Finance Committee, to present the Finance Report.

The Financial Report for the year end 30 June 2019, as published in the 2018/2019 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, was considered by the meeting.

MOVED R Duffy

SECONDED D Harbin

THAT the Financial Report for the year end 30 June 2019, as published in the 2018/2019 RNSWCC Ltd Annual Report, be received.

CARRIED

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

8.1 MOVED R Britten

SECONDED J Shepard

By Special Resolution

THAT the RNSWCC Articles of Association, Part 1 – Preliminary, Article 1: Interpretation, be amended to include an interpretation for the following:-

- All Breeds Club
- Group Club
- Semi-Group Club

and that the numbering be amended accordingly. The amended RNSWCC Articles of Association, Part 1 – Preliminary, Article 1: Interpretation, to read as follows:-



PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

Interpretation:

1. In these Articles and in any regulations made pursuant thereto, except insofar as the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires:
 - (1) "affiliate" means a club, society or association of breeders of dogs or association approved by the Association or RNSWCC as an affiliated body and where the context so admits includes an associate.
 - (2) "all breeds club" means a club or society or other association of persons recognised as such by the RNSWCC which admits to membership, breeders and supporters of all Breeds as recognised by the ANKC Ltd.**
 - ~~(23)~~ "annual general meeting" means the annual general meeting of RNSWCC referred to in Article 59.
 - ~~(34)~~ "A.N.K.C." means the Australian National Kennel Council.
 - ~~(45)~~ "application for membership" includes application for re-admission to membership.
 - ~~(56)~~ "Articles" means the articles of association of RNSWCC as amended from time to time.
 - ~~(67)~~ "associate affiliate" means a club or other body approved by the Association or RNSWCC as an associate affiliate.
 - ~~(78)~~ "associate membership" means a person admitted as an associate member of the RNSWCC under Article 8(a).
 - ~~(89)~~ "Association" means the unincorporated association known as the Royal New South Wales Canine Council.
 - ~~(910)~~ "auditor" means the auditor appointed by RNSWCC.
 - ~~(1011)~~ "Board of Directors" means the board of directors of RNSWCC.
 - ~~(1112)~~ "body" means where the context reasonably permits, an agricultural or other society or association, company, corporation or group of persons.
 - ~~(1213)~~ "canine controlling body" means anybody recognised as such by the Board of Directors.
 - ~~(1314)~~ "central register" means the central register of prefixes kept by the ANKC Ltd



(1415)	"chairman/ deputy chairman"	means also "president/vice president". (11/02)
(1516)	"committee"	means a committee of RNSWCC.
(1617)	"constitution"	means the constitution, articles, regulations and by-laws of an affiliate or (where applicable) an applicant for affiliation.
(1718)	"couple"	means any two persons who cohabit, whether as a man and wife or otherwise including same sex couples. (11/04)
(1819)	"dog"	includes bitch where the context reasonably permits.
(1920)	"Director"	means a member of the Board of Directors
(2021)	"Executive Committee"	means the Executive Committee referred to in Article 50.
(2122)	"exhibit"	(a) used as a noun means a dog entered for exhibition at a show; (b) used as a verb includes the verb "to show" and vice versa and "to exhibit" or "to show" includes "to compete".
(2223)	"exhibitor"	means a person in whose name an exhibit is entered for exhibition in a show but where the context reasonably permits, shall be deemed to include a person by whom such exhibit is displayed or handled or the person in whose charge the exhibit is whilst on the showground.
(2324)	"exhibition"	includes a show, canine exhibition, canine parade, canine competition, canine display, retrieving trial, gundog utility field trial, gundog obedience trial, obedience trial, tracking trial, agility trial, contest, match, competitive dog sports or any other ANKC approved discipline. (11/11)
(2425)	"fees"	shall include moneys payable in respect of the registration of or in respect of any entry of an animal in the records of RNSWCC and shall include charges made by RNSWCC in respect of an inspection of a dog or of books and records of a member of an affiliate.



(25 26)	"field trial regulations"	means Part V of the Regulations.
(26 27)	"general dog club"	means a club, recognised as such by the Board of Directors, which admits to membership fanciers of purebred dogs, without any restriction as to the breed or breeds in which such members are interested.
(28)	" group club "	means a club or society or other association of persons recognised as such by the RNSWCC which admits to membership, breeders and supporters of one (1) Particular Breed Group as recognised by the ANKC Ltd.
(27 29)	"handler"	means the person who displays, moves or handles an exhibit whilst it is being shown in a ring.
(28 30)	"the journal"	means the journal of the Royal New South Wales Canine Council Limited published by the Board of Directors.
(29 31)	"judge"	means a person approved by the Board of Directors to judge at a show.
(30 32)	"Junior Member"	means a person admitted as a junior member of RNSWCC under Article 9(a).
(31 33)	"licence"	in relation to a club, society, association or other body means the licence granted thereto by the Board of Directors to conduct a show to be governed by the regulations.
(32 34)	"licensee"	means a body licensed to conduct a show or shows pursuant to the Articles and Regulations.
(33 35)	"member"	means a member, of RNSWCC and where the context so admits shall mean and include a Junior Member.
(33A 36)	"membership year"	means the period from 1 July each year to the following 30 June. (11/17)



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- (3437) "misconduct" includes any conduct whether by word or action:
- (a) Considered by a reasonable person to be unsportsmanlike or of a nature which is contrary to the manner in which a person ought properly to conduct himself; or
 - (b) which might include a breach of the peace; or
 - (c) which might create a nuisance; or
 - (d) which might prejudice the smooth running of or interfere with the conduct or running of a show or of any meeting of the Board of Directors or of any general meeting or committee meeting of RNSWCC or of an affiliate; or
 - (e) which brings RNSWCC into discredit or the member concerned as a breeder, owner or member into discredit; or
 - (f) which by the Articles or Regulations of RNSWCC or an affiliate is deemed to be misconduct; or
 - (g) in breach of the Articles or regulations; or
 - (h) prejudicial to the breeding or showing of dogs; or
 - (i) prejudicial to the interests of RNSWCC or any member thereof.
- (3538) "Office" means the registered office of RNSWCC.
- (3639) Deleted (11/17)
- (3740) "person" where the context reasonably permits, includes a natural person, a firm or partnership a company, corporation or any other legal entity; and is not to be read as restricted to a person who is a member.
- (3841) "prefix" means a prefix appearing in the central register.



(3942)	"The prescribed form"	means the form prescribed by the Board of Directors for the nomination of candidates for election to the Board of Directors.
(4043)	"prize"	includes any award, gift or presentation whether in the form of a certificate, card, a ribbon, a monetary payment, a trophy or otherwise.
(4144)	"recognised show"	means a show conducted by RNSWCC or a show conducted under the regulations and approved as a recognised show by the Board of Directors, and includes a show conducted by the Dog Section Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales. "unrecognised show" shall have the converse meaning.
(4245)	"records"	means the records of RNSWCC.
(4346)	"region"	means a region of the State as referred to in Article 32. (11/13)
(4447)	"RNSWCC"	means the incorporated body known as Royal New South Wales Canine Council Limited.
(4548)	"the register"	means the canine register maintained by the Board of Directors and referred to in Regulations Part I.
(4649)	"regulations"	means the regulations made by the Board of Directors and from time to time in force.
(4750)	"the Secretary"	means the Secretary/Manager of RNSWCC, and where the context reasonably permits, includes any Assistant Secretary/Manager and any person for the time being appointed by the Board of Directors to exercise RNSWCC's secretarial and/or managerial functions.
(51)	"Semi Group"	means a club or society or other association of persons recognised as such by the RNSWCC which admits to membership, breeders and supporters of part of one (1) particular Breed Group as recognised by the ANKC Ltd.
(4852)	"show"	used as a noun includes any exhibition at which dogs are judged or at which dogs compete and at which prizes are awarded.



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- (4953) "show committee" in relation to a show means the committee immediately responsible for the conduct of the show.
- (5054) "show official" means all judges, stewards and similar officials engaged in the administration of the show in question and includes the members of any show committee.
- (5155) "show regulations" means Part II of the regulations.
- (5256) "Show Representative" means a person approved by the Board of Directors to represent RNSWCC at a show.
- (5357) "special general meeting" means a general meeting of RNSWCC other than an annual general meeting.
- (5458) "specialist club"
(SGM 01/09) means a club or society or other association of persons recognised as such by the RNSWCC which admits to membership breeders and supporters of a specified breed and varieties of that breed of dog and which conducts exhibitions:-
- (i) not being trials, at which only dogs of that breed and varieties of that breed are eligible for exhibition and
 - (ii) being trials, where dogs from the same breed or breed group, as recognised by the ANKC Ltd from time to time, are eligible for exhibition.
 - (iii) being trials being conducted by an affiliate specialising in a specific breed within the Working Dog Group, as recognised by the ANKC Ltd from time to time, or registered on the ANKC Ltd Sporting Register, are eligible for exhibition. **(11/13)**
 - (iv) being Herding Trials or Earthdog Tests, where dogs of the same breed and all other dogs and breeds listed by the ANKC Ltd from time to time as being eligible for the ANKC Ltd Herding Program or ANKC Ltd Earthdog Tests respectively, are eligible for exhibition. **(11/13)**
- (5559) "State" means the State of New South Wales.



- (5660) "term of office" means the period during which a person may hold office as a Director under Article 28.
- (5761) "Territory" means a Territory of Australia.
- (5862) "trial regulations" means Part VI of the regulations.
- (5963) "writing" includes printing, typing, roneo, photocopying, and any other like recognised means of written communication.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY

9. MEETING CLOSED 8.10pm
