

MINUTES of a meeting of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS held on **Wednesday 9 October 2024** commencing at 2.00pm.

DISTRIBUTION:

L Brand	K Hedberg BVSc
S Oliver	G Spagnolo
A McIlrath	K Charnock
R Privett (by Zoom)	G Vernon
S McFadden	S Mills (by Zoom)
L Brown	A Moy
C Rafton	S Hannigan
	J Bryson

Director Elect: N Curwen (**by Zoom**)

IN ATTENDANCE: Director Elect/N Curwen, V Gagan-Wilson (Company Secretary), L Hadley (Committee Secretary/Examinations Administrator)
For part of meeting: A Khamis (Operations Manager), D Crofts (Animal Welfare & Community Officer), R Sinclair (Chair, Finance Committee), K Liu (Financial Accountant)

APOLOGIES: NIL

A. Recording of Board Meeting

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED S Hannigan

THAT Directors **note** that, in accordance with the resolution of the Board at Item 5.1 of the Board of Directors meeting held on 8 December 2021, **this Board meeting is being recorded** for the purposes of confirmation of the Minutes and once confirmed at a future Meeting the recording will then be deleted.

CARRIED

R Sinclair left the meeting @ 2.21pm

K Liu left the meeting @ 2.21pm

IN CAMERA

1. **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

1.1 **Electronic Motion – 13/9/2024 – Sporting Minutes**

1.1.1 **Sporting Minutes - 15/7/2024**

1.1.1.1 **Recommendation 1 - Item 7: Approval of Trial Dates**

MOVED R Privett

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Committee's decisions in relation to Trial Dates be approved.

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CARRIED

1.1.1.2 **Recommendation 2: Item 8.2: Appreciation of Earthdog Judges**

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED G Spagnolo

THAT Recommendation 2, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Convenor of the Sporting Committee write to all Earthdog Judges at the end of the 2024 season and thank each of them for their contribution to the sport.

CARRIED

1.1.1.3 **Recommendation 3: Item 8.4.1: Lure Coursing Judges Training Scheme 2025/2026**

MOVED S Oliver

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT Recommendation 3, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Lure Coursing Judges Training Scheme for 2025/2026 be approved.

CARRIED

1.1.1.5 **Recommendation 5: Item 8.10.3: New DOGS NSW SprintDog™ Convenor**

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT Recommendation 5, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the current SprintDog™ Working Party member, Ms Jennifer Nicolopoulos be approved as the DOGS NSW Convenor.

CARRIED

Director S Mills joined the meeting @ 2.26pm

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT the Minutes of the Sporting Committee meeting held on 15 July 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

1.1.2 **Sporting Minutes – 22/8/2024**

1.1.2.1 **Recommendation 1: Item 7: Approval of Trial Dates**

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED K Charnock

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Committee's decisions in relation to Trial Dates be approved.

CARRIED

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1.1.2.8 **Recommendation 8: Item 8.6.5: Scent Work Trainee Judges – Eligibility for Theory & Practical Examinations for “Ultimate” Class**

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT Recommendation 8, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the following Scent Work Trainee Judges be approved to proceed to the Theory Examination and, if successful, the Practical component to elevate to “Ultimate” Class:-

- Ms Tracie Donnelly
- Mrs Vickie Harris
- Mrs Angela Clark

CARRIED

1.1.2.9 **Recommendation 9: Item 8.6.6: Scent Work Foundation Judges – Eligibility for Elevation to “Ultimate” Class**

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 9, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the following Scent Work Foundation Judges be approved “Ultimate” Judges:-

- Ms Natasha Nepl
- Ms Susan Turner

CARRIED

1.1.2.10 **Recommendation 10: Item 8.7: Herding Trainee Judge – Eligibility for Elevation as a Herding Judge**

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 10, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT Mrs Ann Williams be elevated to a Herding Judge and her name be added to the Dogs Australia Judges List.

CARRIED

1.1.2.11 **Recommendation 11: Item 8.9.4: Amendment to DOGS NSW Regulations Part VI-Judges-Performance Disciplines – Cover Page and New Clause**

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED G Spagnolo

THAT Recommendation 11, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part VI-Judges-Performance Disciplines cover page be amended and a new clause, numbered 2.1.11, be included to read as follows:-

On Cover Page include “Part 3P: Regulations for the Conduct of SprintDog™ Judges Training & Assessment Program”

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Insert new clause 2.1.11

2.1.11 *A Candidate for the SprintDog™ Judges Examination must meet the criteria set out in the relevant Dogs Australia Rules and Regulations.*

CARRIED

1.1.2.12 Recommendation 12: Item 8.9.5: Recruitment of NSW SprintDog™ Judges

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 12, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-
THAT Ms Michelle Gurney and Miss Belinda Mitchell to be contacted to conduct the SprintDog™ Judges Training & Assessment Program and introduce the first NSW recognised Judges for SprintDog™.

CARRIED

1.1.2.15 Recommendation 15: Item 8.9.8: SprintDog™ Working Party – New Members

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT Recommendation 15, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-
THAT the following person be appointed to the SprintDog™ Working Party:-
• Ms Kristin Carroll (Member)

CARRIED

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED K Charnock

THAT the Minutes of the Sporting Committee meeting held on 22 August 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

1.3 Electronic Motion – 19/9/2024 – Dispensation-Field Nights

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT all Co-ordinators be **required to conduct a Field Day** for Distance Candidates.

CARRIED

S Hannigan, K Charnock, J Bryson ABSTAINED

A Moy AGAINST

1.4 Electronic Meeting – 27/9/2024

The Board noted that the Office is still awaiting responses to the Electronic Meeting of 27 September 2024.

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2. PRIORITY MATTERS

2.1 Strategic Planning Working Party

The Board noted that this Working Party did not meet.

2.2 Orchard Hills Lease

3. GENERAL BUSINESS TO BE DEALT WITH IN CAMERA

3.1 Executive Committee Decisions - NIL

3.2 Operations Manager's Report

3.2.2 Recommendation 2 – Item 1.3: 2025 Scale of Charges

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT Recommendation 2, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Board of Directors approve the 2025 Scale of Charges which become effective 1st January 2025.

CARRIED

MOVED G Vernon

SECONDED K Charnock

THAT the Operations Manager's Report be **received**.

CARRIED

3.3 Finance Committee – 26/9/2024

3.3.2 Recommendation 2 – Item 6.8: Operations Manager Report – Financial Issues

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT Recommendations 2A & 2B, which read as follows, be **approved**:-

3.3.2.1 Recommendation 2A

THAT a Notice be placed in the Weekly Woof advising that should any member have any queries in respect of the Audited Financial Accounts, they be requested to put those queries in writing and submit them to the Finance Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting, ie, **by Monday 21 October 2024**, so that those queries can be investigated and properly responded to at the meeting.

3.3.2.2 Recommendation 2B

THAT the DOGS NSW President be requested to allow the Chair of the Finance Committee to attend the Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday 9 October 2024 to answer any queries Directors may have on the Audited Financial Accounts prior to the Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown ABSTAINED

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3.3.4 **Recommendation 4 – Item 8: Financial Statements as @ 31 August 2024**

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED A Moy

THAT Recommendation 4, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Financial Statements as @ 31 August 2024 be approved by the Board of Directors.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown ABSTAINED

3.3.5.2 **Recommendation 5B**

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT Recommendation 5B, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT SprintDog™ Working Party be moved from the Sporting Committee to be responsible to the Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Committee.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown ABSTAINED

3.3.5.3 **Recommendation 5C**

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT Recommendation 5C, which reads as follows, be approved:-

THAT Ms Jennifer Nicolopoulos be thanked and acknowledged for her professional and informative presentation.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown ABSTAINED

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 26 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

C Rafton, K Charnock, L Brown ABSTAINED

3.4 **Compliance Investigative Panel**

The Board noted that this Committee did not meet.

3.5 **Judges Committee**

The Board noted that this Committee did not meet.

Meeting recessed @ 3.56pm

Meeting resumed @ 4.20pm

D Crofts joined the meeting @ 4.20pm

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3.6 **Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer Report – September 2024**

3.6.4 **Recommendations 4 & 5: Item 1: DOGS NSW Health Management Plan (HMP)**

3.6.4.1 **Recommendation 4**

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc SECONDED A McIlrath
THAT Recommendation 4, which reads as follows, be **approved:-**
THAT the Board approve the Health Management Plan (HMP) with DOGS NSW corporate specific artwork prior to use.

CARRIED

3.6.4.2 **Recommendation 5**

MOVED G Spagnolo SECONDED S McFadden
THAT Recommendation 5, which reads as follows, be **approved:-**
THAT the Board approve the Health Management Plan (HMP) as a requirement to be completed in full and submitted to DOGS NSW by all members subject to a Compliance Review, prior to the AWCLC or the Assistant AWCLC attending the member's premises.

CARRIED

MOVED G Vernon SECONDED A Moy
THAT the Animal Welfare & Community Liaison Officer's Report for September 2024 be **received.**

CARRIED

D Crofts left the meeting @ 4.25pm

3.6.5 **Serious Animal Welfare Committee**
The Board noted that this Committee did not meet.

3.7 **Company Secretary's Report**

3.7.1 **Recommendation 1 – Item 1.1: Aggressive Dogs**

3.7.1.1 **Recommendation 1A**

MOVED S Oliver SECONDED A Moy
THAT Recommendation 1A, which reads as follows, be **approved:-**
THAT the Board endorses the suggestion of the Company Secretary for a new process in dealing with aggressive dogs as follows:-

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NEW PROCESS

- The Aggressive Dog Working Party be comprised of the following:-
 - Convenor
 - All Breeds Judge
 - Veterinarian
 - Full Panel Judge **from each** of the Performance and Sporting Disciplines

The process would then be:-

- Aggressive Dog Incident occurs
- “Affiliate” Show Committee conducts a hearing to decide if the dog is aggressive or not
- Whether or not the dog is declared aggressive, the Affiliate Show Committee still needs to submit the report to this Office
- The Office submits the report to the Aggressive Dog Working Party
- The Convenor, Veterinarian and either the All Breeds Judge **OR** the Full Panel Judge, of the relevant discipline at which the incident occurred, would consider the report and decide whether or not the dog was in fact considered to be aggressive
- If the Aggressive Dog Working Party determines that the dog WAS aggressive they recommend to the Board that the dog be suspended OR simply temperament tested

CARRIED

3.7.1.2 Recommendation 1B

MOVED S Hannigan

SECONDED A Moy

THAT Recommendation 1B, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part I-The Register & Registration, Section 20, Clause 20.2, which reads as follows:-

- 20.2 *Temperament testing shall be conducted by a Committee, appointed by the Convenor of the Aggressive Dogs Working Party or a Regional Director, comprising any three of the following:- (06/19)*
- (a) *A Veterinarian of at least 5 years’ standing, (06/19)*
 - (b) *An Obedience Judge of at least 5 years’ standing, (06/19)*
 - (c) *A Conformation Judge of at least 5 years’ standing in respect of the Breed Group of dog being tested.*
 - (d) *A Qualified Temperament Tester approved by the Board.*

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Be amended to read:-

- 20.2 Temperament testing shall be conducted by a Committee, appointed by the Convenor of the Aggressive Dogs Working Party or a Regional Director, comprising any three of the following:- **(06/19)**
- (a) A Veterinarian of at least 5 years' standing, **(06/19)**
 - (b) An Obedience, **Performance or Sporting Judge (relevant to the event at which the incident occurred)** of at least 5 years' standing, **(10/24); OR**
 - (c) A Conformation Judge of at least 5 years' standing in respect of the Breed Group of dog being tested.
 - (d) A Qualified Temperament Tester approved by the Board.

CARRIED

3.7.2 Recommendation 2 – Item 1.2: Committee Policy Document

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT Recommendation 2, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT the Board endorse the decision of the Company Secretary to distribute the Committee Policy Document (revised December 2021) to all the various DOGS NSW Committees and Working Parties and seek their input in revising the document.

CARRIED

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED G Vernon

THAT the Company Secretary's Report be **received**.

CARRIED

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

6. JUDICIAL MATTERS

MOVED K Hedberg BVSc

SECONDED G Spagnolo

THAT the Judicial Co-ordinator's Report be **received**.

CARRIED

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OPEN MEETING

7. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

7.1 DOGS NSW Regulations Parts X & XIII – AMENDMENT – Dog Attack Sports

7.1.1 DOGS NSW Regulations Part X: Affiliated Bodies, Clause 2.1 - AMENDMENT

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part X-Affiliated Bodies, Section 2: Administration, Clause 2.1, which currently reads:-

2.1 An Affiliate:-

- (a) must conduct a recognised show during the 12 month period next following its admission as an Affiliate; (10/97), (1/10)*
- (b) where applicable, must ensure that the first Championship Show conducted by it, after affiliation is granted, is observed by a Show Representative appointed by the Board as per Regulations Part II, Section 2, Regulation 2.9 (in addition to the Show Representative required to be appointed by the Show Committee pursuant to Regulations Part II, Section 2, Regulation 2.8). (10/97), (1/10)*
- (c) shall comply with such other requirements and conditions as the Board of Directors may from time to time impose.*
- (d) where applicable, must throughout its full period of Affiliation maintain its name in conformity with Section 1.3(b)(g) of this Part. (07/16)*

Be amended to read:-

2.1 An Affiliate:-

- (a) must conduct a recognised show during the 12 month period next following its admission as an Affiliate; (10/97), (1/10)*

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(b) where applicable, must ensure that the first Championship Show conducted by it, after affiliation is granted, is observed by a Show Representative appointed by the Board as per Regulations Part II, Section 2, Regulation 2.9 (in addition to the Show Representative required to be appointed by the Show Committee pursuant to Regulations Part II, Section 2, Regulation 2.8). (10/97), (1/10)

(c) must not affiliate with any other body that conducts or endorses Dog Sports that train a dog to attack. (10/24)

~~(c)~~ (d) shall comply with such other requirements and conditions as the Board of Directors may from time to time impose.

~~(c)~~ (e) where applicable, must throughout its full period of Affiliation maintain its name in conformity with Section 1.3(b)(g) of this Part. (07/16)

CARRIED

7.1.2 DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics, New Clause 5.1

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT DOGS NSW Regulations Part XIII-Code of Ethics, be amended to include an additional clause, numbered 5.1, to read as follows:-

5. *A Member, or their Agent, shall not allow any dogs which are registered in that Member's name, to roam at large and when away from home, must ensure that they are kept fully leashed or under effective control at all times.*

5.1 A Member, or their Agent shall not allow any dogs which are registered in that Member's name to participate in any Dog Sports that train a dog to attack. (10/24)

CARRIED

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8. MONTHLY REPORTS

****Monthly Reports received to date were distributed to Directors via the next Electronic Board Agenda with the following exceptions:-**

8.1 Constitutions & Regulations Review Working Party

8.1.1 Field Spaniel Club of NSW Inc – Application for Affiliation

MOVED C Rafton

SECONDED S Oliver

THAT the application for affiliation from the Field Spaniel Club of NSW Inc be approved, **subject to the following :-**

- **Confirmation of payment of affiliation fee**
- **Club's name should be updated in the Constitution to reflect it is incorporated.**

CARRIED

8.1.2 Fast Paws Sydney – Application for Affiliation

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT the application for affiliation from Fast Paws Sydney be approved, **subject to the following :-**

- **Confirmation of payment of affiliation fee**
- **Confirmation of incorporation**

CARRIED

8.2 Grounds Development Committee – 24/9/2024

8.2.1 Use of Catering Set

Director C Rafton advised that there was a catering set that was original purchased by the Spring Fair Dog Show Committee, which is currently housed in the Bar area, and should be moved to a more accessible area in the kitchen for use by other Committees/Clubs.

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT the Minutes of the Grounds Development Committee meeting held on 24 September 2024 be received.

CARRIED

8.3 Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Committee – 30/9/2024

8.3.1 Recommendation 1 - Item 7: Approval of Trial Dates

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED A McIlrath

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved:-**

THAT the Committee's decisions in relation to Trial Dates be approved.

CARRIED

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MOVED L Brown

SECONDED K Hedberg BVSc

THAT the Minutes of the Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Committee meeting held on 30 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

8.4 **Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Judges Committee**

8.4.1 **Electronic Meeting – 17/9/2024**

MOVED L Brown

SECONDED C Rafton

THAT the Minutes of the Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Judges Committee meeting held **electronically** on 17 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

8.4.2 **Electronic Meeting 27/9/2024**

8.3.1.1 **Recommendation 1 – Item 1: Mr Peter Read - Assessment**

MOVED K Charnock

SECONDED A Moy

THAT Recommendation 1, which reads as follows, be **approved**:-

THAT Mr Peter Read be reinstated to the Open Obedience Judges List as he has successfully completed Theory and Practical Assessments as set out in the requirements for his training to be reinstated as and Open Obedience Judge.

CARRIED

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED G Vernon

THAT the Minutes of the Obedience, Tracking & Performance Disciplines Judges Committee meeting held **electronically** on 27 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

8.5 **Public Relations Committee – 24/9/2024**

MOVED G Vernon

SECONDED A Moy

THAT the Minutes of the Public Relations Committee meeting held **electronically** on 24 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

8.6 **Show Committee – 18/9/2024**

8.6.1 **Temperament Testing**

Director C Rafton suggested an additional Clause be included in the Temperament Testing Regulations which would require both dogs to be Temperament Tested.

It was agreed to refer this suggestion to the Aggressive Dog Working Party for consideration.

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8.6.2 **Open Show Prizes**

Director J Bryson requested that, given the recent amendment to DOGS NSW Regulations Part II-Show, in regards to Prizes, the Show Committee revisit the Regulations in respect of Open Show Prizes.

8.6.3 **Note for Board 1 - Item 7: Approval of Show Dates**

MOVED A McIlrath

SECONDED A Moy

THAT the Board **notes** that the Committee's decisions in relation to Show Dates.

CARRIED

MOVED G Spagnolo

SECONDED J Bryson

THAT the Minutes of the Show Committee meeting held on 18 September 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

8.7 **Spring Fair Dog Show Committee -4/10/2024**

8.7.1 **2024 Spring Fair - Congratulations**

Director S McFadden offered congratulations, on behalf of the Board, to the Spring Fair Dog Show Committee for a successful and well run 2024 Show.

MOVED G Vernon

SECONDED G Spagnolo

THAT the Minutes of the Spring Fair Dog Show Committee meeting held on 4 October 2024 be **received**.

CARRIED

9. **DOGS AUSTRALIA MATTERS**

9.1 **Agenda for Dogs Australia October 2024 Conference**

9.1.1 **Annual General Meeting**

9.1.2 **Board Meeting**

10. **CORRESPONDENCE - NIL**

MEETING CLOSED: 6.03PM

**NEXT MEETING: Electronic Meeting - Friday 25 October 2024
RNSWCC Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 6 November 2024 @7.30pm
Face to Face Meeting – Wednesday 13 November 2024 @ 2.00pm**

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