



## **Minutes of the 94th Annual General Meeting**

**Held at Avalon Beach SLSC Ocean Room on Sunday 28 July, 2019 at 3:00pm**

### **Preceding Meeting**

A formal acknowledgement of country was extended to the Guringai people, the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting took place.

Voting procedures were outlined, a quorum declared, and the meeting opened at 3:05pm.

Ashley Cardiff welcomed special guests; Mr Jason Falinski Member for Mackellar, Cr Ian White on behalf of Mayor Michael Regan, Mr Ross Bidendope representing Surf Life Saving New South Wales, The Hon. Bronwyn Bishop Club Patron, Adrian Venturi and James Baker Gold Sponsors McGrath Avalon and Life Members, Board of Management, Club Members and guests.

### **1. Apologies**

Written apologies were received from the following:

Invited guests: Steven Pearce (SLSNSW), Steve McInnes (SLSSNB), Mayor Michael Regan, Deputy Mayor Sue Heins, Cr Kylie Ferguson, CEO Ray Brownlee Northern Beaches Council, The Hon. Rob Stokes, Emma Long Penguin Creative.

Life Members: Terry Barber, Kevin Veale, Roland Luke, Reginald Wood, Kevin Watt, Don Mitchell, Warren Mitchell, George Shuttleworth and Michael Byrnes OAM.

Board of Management Members: Tom Waters, Mike Stanley-Jones, Mathew Mayall.

Club Members: Tim Hixson, Brian Friend, Chris McGuckin and Andrew Crow

### **2. A minute's silence to honour our lost members and fellow surf lifesavers**

A minute's silence was observed.

Ashley made a moving tribute to Life Members Rick Millar, Ken Davidson and a long serving former member Brent Walker who passed away in the 2018/19 season.

### **3. Reading and acceptance of the minutes of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

Ashley Cardiff proposed that the minutes of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 29 July 2018 be taken as read.

Motion: That the notice of meeting is taken as read and the minutes accepted. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Roger Sayers. All present in favour. None against. Motion Carried.

### **4. Business arising from previous minutes**

There was no business arising from the previous minutes.

## 5. President's welcome and summary of the 2018/19 season

Ashley thanked all present for attending the AGM and reminisced that, this time last year, we were awaiting the results of our nomination for SLSNSW Club of the Year.

Ashley acknowledged the Club's successful awarding of SLNSW NSW Club of the Year, SLSA National Club of the Year and Sport NSW Community Sports' NSW Community Club of the Year – all outstanding achievements for the Club. Ashley thanked Richard Cole for preparing the submissions who along with Bernadette McKay and Nick Sampson, presented and participated in a Q&A session as part of the final selection process. Ashley acknowledged that this success was largely attributed to the Club's Strategic Plan and dedicated Board of Management who are resolved to implementing the plan.

Ashley thanked the active volunteers for achieving the Club's primary mission of surf life saving with no lives lost at Avalon Beach during patrol hours and highlighted the following activities of the Club:

- Initiatives such as the Patrol Captain patrol to commence and end the season was again a great success affording Patrol Captains the opportunity to share ideas for improvements to be made throughout the season as well as debrief at the season's end. 15 patrol teams performed a total of 7500 hours, a significant increase on last year.
- Administration and Communication looked healthy throughout the season and youth representation was a crucial part of the management team. Ashley encouraged all young members present to consider taking on leadership roles so the Club can foster the next generation of committee members. The Club continued to adopt social media as a means of communicating with members in addition to the traditional emailed newsletter.
- Governance and Financial management saw the introduction of an Alcohol Management Policy and further development of Surf Sports selection and Appeals policy and By-Laws. The Club also invested in an upgrade of the Bangalley Bar with a sizeable grant also put towards the Club Room. The Club is thankful for all levels of government showing support.
- Nippers remained strong under the leadership of Tom Waters with implementation of new initiatives and great results at the State Championships. Nipper numbers were slightly down this year from the previous year which also reflects an overall trend across the Branch. There continued to be an effective "One Club" policy between Nippers and the Senior Club.
- Surf Sports saw great results once again with our Surf Boat teams having another outstanding year. An Aussie Bronze medal for the U19 Men's crew and 4th place for the Open Women's crew. The Club also achieved with Gold, Silver and Bronze respectively for the DBs, Rockstars and Antiques in the Masters championships. Both Junior crews won the Branch point score and were selected to represent both the SNB branch and later NSW at the Interstate competition. The Masters board and ski team also had an outstanding year with gold medals for Chris McGuckin and Bob Richardson at both State and Aussies, with Chris also winning at World Championships, along with Ash Brown and Gem Lehmann who both won State gold medals. Ashley congratulated the surf sports teams on their team spirit and camaraderie and congratulated younger members Harry Schaut who finished 4th in the 2km beach run and Jack Roberts won the surf board riding and placed 8th in the Malibu board paddle final.
- Education saw the number of Awards obtained remain consistently high with several groups of Bronze and SRC's trained and 157 new awards across the board. Good numbers were achieved in ARTC qualifications with some members achieving Silver Medallions in Beach Management and Aquatic Rescue. Ashley congratulated Mike Stanley-Jones on his outstanding achievement reviving his Gold Medallion status and for encouraging Louise Billia and Lachie Mills to also attain their Gold Medallion.
- Club trainers, under the guidance of Michael King and Louise Lindop, also trained our community members in use of the Defib and CPR in targeted hour-long courses which were well received by the local community. Another training highlight was the Remote Area First Aid course run over a weekend at Currawong. We saw a continuation of the Singapore training mission to assist their Nippers program and Mike Stanley-Jones and Louise Lindop were both selected to participate in an exchange program with Japanese Life savers with Mike accepting the invitation.
- Our building saw consistent maintenance implemented throughout the year and the more recent closure of the Bangalley Bar due to upgrades will most likely impact our venue hire volume reported next year. This was offset somewhat with daytime venue hire continuing to build thanks to concerted efforts by Leanne Austin. The Hall of Champions has been a great success and adding new champions' achievements will be an annual process.

The Club organised many wonderful community events including the Lion Island Challenge, McGrath Carols at the Beach, Surf Swim and Around the Bends Swim as well as some fun social occasions, lunches and parties. We successfully hosted the Branch Championships at Palm Beach over back to back weekends. Ashley

congratulated and thanked the dedicated organising committees and volunteers that make this possible and the strength across the Club with all divisions supporting each other.

The Club was also able to provide support to other community organisations such as OneEighty and a 24-hour row fundraiser is once again planned in August by Mel and Nathan Wellings. Last year about \$15k was raised and donated to One Eighty and Gotch4Life.

Ashley thanked the Club sponsors for their support with a special thanks to Avalon Beach RSL, Aveo, Secure Parking, Johnson Bros Mitre 10 for their long-term support. Ashley also thanked Suzie from Voss store for providing new bar uniforms and thanked James and Adrian from McGrath Avalon Beach for their invaluable support of the newly rebadged McGrath Avalon Carols at the Beach event as well as Nipper age flags and new shirts for Club trainers.

Ashley acknowledged that the Club couldn't be what it is today without the support of its sponsors and highlighted the importance of having ongoing contributions from sponsor companies as it is unsustainable to continually rely on the model of raising and generating income through club events, bar income and membership fees. Ashley advised that the Sponsorship and Marketing role was currently vacant and encouraged anyone present to speak with him if they can support the Club in this way.

In closing, Ashley highlighted a number of key events coming up in the new season that the Club is looking forward to:

- Gala Day which brings together all generations of our club for the Nick Pinheiro Cup.
- Bangalley Bar reopening
- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IRB to be held in November. Ashley thanked Life Member, Roger Sayers, who had been working hard behind the scenes with Council to co-ordinate commemorative plaques to be placed in the area south of the club house.

Ashley also acknowledged and thanked Club Administrator and Director of Administration, Leanne Austin, Vice President, Richard Cole, along with all the Board of Management for their support and guidance throughout the year. Ashley also thanked Life Member, Peter Akehurst, "Digger" for his counsel and advice and wife Melinda and family who have supported him without question throughout the season.

## **6. Financial Report for the 2018/19 season**

Bernadette McKay, Director of Finance, presented the financial report as provided in the 2018/19 Annual Report and confirmed that the accounts had been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the Charitable Fundraising Act, the Associations Incorporation Act, the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Act, and the Club's constitution and complies with Australian Accounting Standards. The accounts have also been independently prepared by Beweiszer Accounting and Tax and audited by Peter Power in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

The Club made a small operating profit for the year; but this was dampened by a non-cash write-off of uniform stock deemed unable to sell. The Club outsourced the supply, stock management and distribution of Club uniforms to Catfish and uniform purchase is now an online offering. This will reduce the stock we have on hand and better manage our sales.

The Club has a budget process in place and our revenues and expenses tracked against it for the year. Club revenues were above expectation, however, were down on last year as we were unable to secure the same amounts in government grants and donations.

Expenses were up in the bar area, but the main operational expenses tracked against budget and were in line with last year. Spending priority is always patrol and training equipment.

The Club has made significant inroads on payments to Northern Beaches Council for the loan on the building and expect to extinguish that obligation as at the end of the 2019 calendar year, six years ahead of schedule. As a result, all revenue raised from the Ocean Room for function hire will remain in the Club. As a guide this equated to \$37,000 in the 2018/19 season – a sizeable contribution to the bottom line.

Whilst the financial result looked disappointing, the Club is in good shape moving forward and acknowledges that a more prudent approach to managing money will be adopted.

## **7. Presentation, consideration and adoption of the Annual Report for the 2018/19 season**

Ashley Cardiff presented the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Report for the 2018/19 season and thanked all that were involved in the production of the report with special acknowledgement of the efforts of Richard Cole and Emma Long.

Motion: That the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Report for the 2018/19 season including the Audited Financial Statements be accepted and adopted. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Christine Hopton. All present in favour. None against. Motion Carried.

## 8. Invitation to speak to the Report

Ashley Cardiff invited speakers to talk to the Annual Report.

The Hon Jason Falinski, MP thanked and congratulated the BoM for their efforts throughout the previous season and expressed his appreciation to all Office holders as well as the active patrolling members who gave their time to keep Avalon Beach safe. Mr Falinski also congratulated the Club on its recognition in the State and National Club of the Year Awards as well as being officially recognised outside the context of Surf Life Saving by the awarding of the NSW Community Sports' NSW Community Club of the Year.

The Hon. Bronwyn Bishop also congratulated the Club on the significant achievement and recognition through winning the State and National Club of the Year awards and remarked that the Club had a lot to be proud of. Mrs Bishop defined surf life saving as the selfless concern for the wellbeing of others and profusely thanked our active members for their service. Mrs Bishop also congratulated the many sports men and women in the Club on their success throughout the season and wished the Club well for the upcoming season.

Cr White congratulated the Club on the many successful community events that the Club hosted, in particular, Carols at the Beach, which continues to be a highlight in the local community and goes above and beyond surf life saving. Cr White congratulated Richard Cole for preparing the submission for Club of the Year and thanked Ashley Cardiff and the entire of Board of Management for the stewardship of the Club.

## 9. Presentation of Awards

**Club Awards** - Ashley Cardiff informed the meeting of the recipients of Club Awards presented at the June Presentation Night and congratulated Louise Billia on her Most Outstanding Member of the Year award.

The Norman Cook Most Outstanding Member of the Year - Louise Billia  
Presidents' Award – Matthew Mayall & Shannon Fletcher  
The Steve Parkes Award for Achievement in Lifesaving Education – Mark Head  
Patrol Captain of the Year – Sophie Valentine  
Patrol Member of the Year – Terry Barber  
The Warren Mitchell IRB Award – Giles Stoddard  
The Chris “Detho” Dethick Boatie of the Year – Peter Carter  
Max Watt Competitor of the Year – Chris McGuckin  
Junior Member of the Year – Lachlan Mills  
Cadet of the Year – Jack Roberts

The Rookie of the Year was not awarded this year.

Ashley also congratulated the two boat crews that won the SNB Championship Point Score this year (best overall in their divisions over all the Branch carnivals): Chanels - Sophie Jones, Ella Brady, Imogen Ponton, Robyn Husband, Rick Millar (sweep) and Hueys – Regan Dale, Charlie Lewis, Lachie Mills, Jordan Hawke, Pete Carter.

**Long Service Awards** - Ashley presented a Long Service Award Certificate to Michael Heathcote (25 years) and Nicholas Wood (25 years). Terry Barber (40 years) was unable to attend the AGM to accept this award.

**NSW Govt Premiers Volunteer Recognition Program** - Jason Falinski announced the Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program which recognises the contribution volunteers make towards strengthening our communities and congratulated the following Club members who received this award for 40 years: Ian Wright, Jack Watt, Warren Mitchell, Stephen Davey, Michael Byrnes, Kevin Watt, Geoffrey Harris, Reg Wood, Daryl Johnson, Robert Head and Don Imison.

Due to a system records upload error, Shaun Wolthers, Roger Sayers and Roland Luke were not duly recognised at last year's AGM and received their 25year Award this year. Last year, Bruce Muston was presented his 25year Award by David Mehan, MP for the seat of The Entrance at a separate ceremony.

Cr White, on behalf of the Mayor, presented The Centre for Volunteering Volunteer Awards to those present from the following: Jeff Nesbitt, Michael Thomas, Darren Warrener, Alan Moran, Terry Barber, Brian Wetherall,

Peter Carter, Andrew Crowe, David Kerr, James Nosworthy, Dave Roberts, Martin Schaut, Peter Akehurst and Stephen Broderick.

#### 10. Nominations for Life Membership and Distinguished Service

Bob Head was invited to announce the Nominations for Life Membership and Distinguished Service. Bob stated that recognition is an important part of our Club and the Club recognises its members for their service in many ways; certificates medals and recognition from the national body Surf Life Saving Australia. Bob thanked his fellow Life Member and Service Honours Awards Committee (LMSHAC) members, Chairperson Michael Byrnes, Warren Young, Roger Sayers, Bruce Muston, Melinda Akehurst, Peter Carter and Ashley Cardiff and advised that the Committee applies a strict process to arrive at a decision for Distinguished Service and Life Membership awards to be put forward for endorsement at the AGM.

Bob informed the AGM that one nomination for Distinguished Service had been endorsed by the LMSHAC and it was his pleasure to present this very special award to:

- Daryl Johnson.

Motion: by Special Resolution that Daryl Johnson be awarded Distinguish Service of Avalon Beach SLSC. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Robert Hopton. All present in favour. None against. Motion Carried.

#### 11. Election of Office Bearers for the season 2019/20

Ashley reminded those present that a total of 89 positions are held voluntarily at the Club, equating to a huge number of people who put their hand up to help and invited those present to stand and receive a round of applause.

Nominations for Club positions were then read out acknowledging that almost all the Board of Management (BoM) and Club office holders had sought re-election. Also presented were the nominations for the Junior Activities Committee.

Ashley welcomed Louise Billia as the new Deputy Director of Education replacing Terry Barber will stepped down from this role and took up the position of Second Delegate to the Branch. Ashley thanked Terry who had been a member of the Board of Management since 2002 holding positions of Chief Training Officer for seven years from 2002 until 2009 and has also held the positions of Deputy Director of Life Saving and Education, 2nd Delegate of the Board of Lifesaving and Education and Beach Vehicle Officer.

Pete Carter stood down from his position of Joint Club Captain and Ashley acknowledged the outstanding job he had done in this role alongside Melinda Akehurst.

Mike Stanley Jones stood down as Junior Captain and nominated for Club Captain to be shared with Mel Akehurst. During Mike's time as Junior Captain, our Youth Program was recognized as the Initiative of the Year at Branch Awards in 2015/16 season.

**Motion: That the Club position nominations as read be elected. Moved by Bob Head. Seconded by Roger Sayers. All present in favour. None against. Motion carried.**

#### 12. Notice of Motion for Affiliation with Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc and Surf Life Saving New South Wales.

Motion: That affiliation is sought for the 2019/20 season with Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc and Surf Life Saving New South Wales and that Avalon Beach Surf Life Saving Club Inc declare affiliation with Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Inc and Surf Life Saving New South Wales.

Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Warren Young. All in favour. None against. Motion carried.

#### 13. General Business of an urgent nature only

There was no general business of an urgent nature.

**14. Date of Next AGM**

The 2019/20 AGM will take place on Sunday 26 July, 2020 at 3:00pm.

**15. Meeting Closure**

The meeting was declared closed at 4:05pm.

Final. Adopted 26 July 2020