



## **Minutes of the 95th Annual General Meeting**

**Held at Avalon Beach SLSC Ocean Room on Sunday 26 July, 2020 at 3:00pm and via Zoom teleconference link.**

### **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 3:08pm.

Ashley Cardiff welcomed all members and invited guests:

- The Hon Rob Stokes, Member for Pittwater and NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (via Zoom)
- Mr. Jason Falinski, Member for Mackellar (via Zoom)
- Cr Ian White, Northern Beaches Council
- George Shales OAM, President Surf Life Saving New South Wales (via Zoom)
- Tracey Hare-Boyd, President Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches (via Zoom)
- The Hon Bronwyn Bishop AO, Club Patron

### **1. Apologies**

Written apologies were received from the following:

- Candy Bingham, Deputy Mayor, Northern Beaches Council
- Life Members – Bruce Muston, William Wall, Roland Luke
- Board of Management – Tom Waters

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

A minute's silence was observed and the passing of former Club members, Lisa Heath and Trevor "Pogo" Fuller as well as General Member, Donna Austen was noted.

### **3. Reading and acceptance of the minutes of the 94th Annual General Meeting**

Ashley Cardiff proposed that the minutes of the 94th Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 28 July 2019 be taken as read.

Motion: That the notice of meeting is taken as read and the minutes accepted. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Warren Young. 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 2019/20 season**

Refer Attachment 1.

## **6. Presentation, consideration and adoption of the Annual Report for the 2019/20 season**

Ashley Cardiff presented the 95th Annual Report for the 2019/20 season and thanked all that were involved in the production of the report with special acknowledgement of the efforts of Richard Cole and Leanne Austin.

Motion: That the 95th Annual Report for the 2019/20 season including the Audited Financial Statements be accepted and adopted. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Warren Young. All present in favour. None against. Motion Carried.

## **7. Financial Report for the 2019/20 season**

Bernadette McKay, Director of Finance, presented the financial report as provided in the 2019/20 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. Refer attachment 2.

## **8. Invitation to speak to the Report**

The following guests spoke to the 2019/20 Annual Report.

Club Patron The Hon Bronwyn Bishop AO, Cr Ian White Northern Beaches Council, Club Member Nathan Wellings, The Hon Rob Stokes Member for Pittwater, Mr George Shales President SLSNSW, Tracey Hare-Boyd President SLSSNB, Mr Jason Falinski, Member for Mackellar.

## **9. Presentation of Awards**

### **Club Awards**

Ashley Cardiff informed the meeting of the recipients of Club Awards presented at the June Presentation Night:

- The Norman Cook Most Outstanding Member of the Year - Col Campbell
- President's Award - Louise Lindop, Amanda (Gem) Lehman, Nick Sampson
- The Steve Parkes Award for Achievement in Lifesaving Education - Dave Roberts
- Patrol Captain of the Year - Xanthe Friend
- Patrol Member of the Year - Steve Riley
- Junior Member of the Year - Sophie Jones
- Cadet of the Year - Tegan Scott
- The Warren Mitchell IRB Award - Richard Cole
- The Chris "Detho" Dethick – Boatie of the Year - Matthew Mayall
- Max Watt Competitor/s of the Year - Nathan Wellings
- The Ken Davidson Surf Board Riding Award - Grant Salmon (inaugural winner)
- Rookie of the Year (Bronze this season) - Isla Pegler & Taylor Dickinson

### **Long Service Awards**

The following members received Avalon Beach 20 Year Long Service Awards:

- Donovan MacIntosh
- Darren Warrener
- Warwick Willcoxson

The following members received Surf Life Saving Long Service Awards:

- Rob Dieters – 25 Years
- Nathan Wellings – 25 Years
- Alan Crosky – 25 Years
- Chris McGuckin – 25 Years
- Wilson Gamble – 30 Years
- Peter Carter – 30 Years
- Michael Heathcote – 30 Years
- William Wall – 40 Years
- Richard "Rick" Mitchell – 40 Years
- Jean "Johnny" Harper – 40 Years
- Brian Friend – 50 Years
- Jack Watt – 70 Years
- Reg Wood – 75 Years

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

There were no nominations for Life Member and Distinguished Service.

## **11. Election of Directors for the 2020/21 season**

President	Ashley Cardiff
Co Deputy President	Richard Cole and Bernadette McKay
Director of Administration	Leanne Austin
Director of Finance	Ashley Brown
Co Director of Life Saving (Club Captain)	Jason Dale and Nick Sampson
Deputy Director of Life Saving	Sophie Valentine
Director of Education	Michael King
Deputy Director of Education	Louise Billia
Public Officer	Kevin Veale
IRB Captain	Alan Moran
Director of Surf Sports	Terry Barber
Surf Boat Captain	Matt Mayall
Director of Junior Activities	Tom Waters
Junior Captain	Dave Roberts
Event Manager	Volker Klemm

Motion: That the Directors of the Board of Management as read be elected. Moved by Christine Hopton. Seconded by Kevin Veale. All present in favour. None against. Motion carried.

Officeholders and Standing Committees for the 2020/21 season were also notified. Refer Attachment 3.

## **12. Appointment of the Auditor for the 2020/21 season**

Motion: That the current Auditor, Peter M Power, be re-appointed as the auditor for the 2020/21 financial year. Moved by Ashley Cardiff. Seconded by Bernadette McKay. All in favour. None against. Motion carried.

## **13. 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 2020/21 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 Richard Cole. All in favour. None against. Motion carried.

## **14. General Business of an urgent nature only**

There was no general business of an urgent nature.

## **15. Date of Next AGM**

The 2020/21 AGM will take place on Sunday 25 July, 2020 at 3:00pm.

## **16. Meeting Closure**

The meeting was declared closed at 4:22pm.

## **Attachment 1: President's welcome and summary of the 2019/20 season**

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting 2020, another first for the club with us hosting the meeting here and broadcasting it live via the internet.

The season started like any other with patrols going well and carnivals under way, little were we to know how it was going to finish, not only in Life Saving but the community in general.

This year has come and gone under some of the most difficult circumstances we have ever seen. It must be said that having to take the decision to close the doors and lock the Club down to avoid transmission of the COVID-19 virus was extremely difficult. I must thank the Board of Management for taking these decisions seriously and protecting the membership and the wider community at this time. I also thank the members for accepting these circumstances and supporting the Club through this challenging period. Having said that, we are in the process of reopening the Club house gradually and with some restrictions, however we must continue to remain vigilant and be responsible with cleansing and social distancing to avoid any chance of the Virus impacting us directly. Thanks must go to Rob Hopton for being our Covid Officer and ensuring we are Covid-Safe and for our compliance with all Govt. health regulations.

The core business is of course patrols and lifesaving and it is with great pride that once again we can state that no lives were lost at Avalon Beach this season. We patrolled the beach for more than 6000 hours and the dedication of the patrolling members cannot be understated. The Club Captains, Melinda Akehurst and Mike Stanley-Jones supported by deputy Jason Dale have done a fantastic job making sure that all the gear is up to standard and putting out a fair and equitable patrol roster. The all-day patrol has worked well with some competitors getting hours up away from peak carnival season, and the free lunch is a good initiative to incentivize those putting in a full day on the beach. The skills and knowledge of our Patrol Captains is outstanding. We are sharing that knowledge amongst all our members and encouraging everyone to enhance their skills and keep up to date with the ever-changing patrol environment.

We must recognize the outstanding work of the clubs emergency call out team who attended in excess of 10 rescue and emergency situations after the normal patrol hours, and they were awarded the SLSSNB Services Team of the Year at the recent Branch Awards and therefore have been nominated in the NSW State Awards of Excellence coming soon.

Our trainers have also done a fantastic job putting through numerous SRC and Bronze groups as well as other training and proficiency for our patrol members. Michael King has led the team of trainers once again and it's great to see people getting awards ranging from IRB Driver and Crew through to several members requalifying for the Gold Medallion. The Club and organisation rely on people upskilling and being proficient so make sure that you take advantage of our training group's skills and knowledge. With Covid unfortunately putting a halt to assessments early I know there are some changes ahead for training and I know that Michael, Louise and the team are looking forward to getting stuck in again as soon as they can.

Congratulations must once again go to our Surf Sports team under Nick Sampson who have had another successful year. It was disappointing to have the season brought to an early finish without the ability to compete at the Aussies in Queensland after all the hard work and training. The Boat section has been our biggest group and we have had the Open Women competing once again at Ocean Thunder with some outstanding results including a 2nd placing. Another great achievement for the Club was a silver medal in the Surf Boat Relay at the NSW State Titles. It proved to be a great show of depth against some of the biggest boat clubs in the state. Thanks to Wayne Brown from Brown Bros Skip Bins for his sponsorship of a new competition tent for the Club, it looks great on the beach and hopefully it can bring us some good fortune with plenty of medals and success in the future. The Masters team sent 11 members away to the State Titles and did very well with Ashley Brown and Chris McGuckin coming away with gold medals. The team is building in strength each year. Many thanks to Grant Salmon for keeping us updated on the master's results, he also has a group of paddlers looking ahead to maybe compete this season.

Hopefully the IRB race team can put some racing together before too long.

The Junior Club has once again been led by Tom Waters and his team have done a great job. The decision to run some of the age groups at Palm Beach has been successful once again with the kids getting more quality time in the water with consistent conditions. Thanks also to all our Age Managers who have devoted their time to help and encourage the children. There continues to be an effective "One Club" policy between Nippers and the Senior Club.

The Bangalley Bar had a major facelift and upgrade before the season started and has been a huge success throughout the year. Constantly booked for functions and open on Friday and Sundays for drinks, the new look has been good for the Club and community with a significant boost in revenue, unfortunately brought to a halt earlier than anticipated. The Bar staff do an amazing job and it's been great to welcome some of our master's competitors behind the Bar to help out. Thanks to Richard Cole and Nick Sampson who designed and oversaw the construction process. Our venue hire is managed by Leanne Austin who also does a great job keeping the hirers coming through the door, though this is somewhat more challenging in the present time with the Covidsafe restrictions in place.

Our Director of Finance, Bernadette McKay has done a great job also this year under extremely trying and challenging circumstances. Having to reassess the Club's position financially with little or no income during this lock down period has been outstanding. Bernie has also overseen the retirement of the debt to Council for the building of the Clubhouse. Once again I would like to thank Northern Beaches Council for their support, and we have a great relationship with our elected officials at all levels of government and we thank them for their ongoing support of life-saving, a sizeable grant of assistance has been received to assist with retaining members post Covid through SLSNSW and we also thank them for that support.

We started in November with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the IRB at Avalon Beach, a great water display and historic exhibition of memorabilia, and a tribute to life member Warren Mitchell. A big thank you to Terry Barber, Roger Sayers and Geoff Searle for coordinating, among many others who helped out. Great to also have the Gala day on again, amazing to see the whole club on the beach together. Life Member Louise Lindop mobilised an amazing community contribution following on from the devastating bushfires on the NSW south coast just after Christmas. With the help of Christine and Rob Hopton, Nick Sampson and Mel Akehurst amongst many others there was co-ordination of donations of food, clothing, personal items, vouchers and almost anything you could think of. Several members of the Club and people from the wider community drove this donated material directly into fire affected areas to provide relief to families and communities in need. Another first for the Club is the awarding of Life Membership of Surf Life Saving Australia to Christine Hopton OAM. This is one of the highest honours achievable in surf lifesaving and was to be announced at the now cancelled Aussie Titles. Christine is a Life Member of Avalon Beach SLSC, former Club President and has held numerous SLSC board and committee positions over many years. This is a fantastic achievement for Christine and an honour for the Club. Hopefully the appropriate recognition will take place when restrictions have lifted.

Prior to the enforced lockdown the Club was in a great place once again. We ran our community events including the McGrath Carols at the Beach and the Lion Island Challenge was brought back due to popular demand. Our Around the Bends swim has been put off until next year. A big thank you to all our sponsors and supporters of these community events and it must be said that without our volunteers setting up and packing up all the necessary gear and equipment these events would not be possible. Our boaties are once again holding the 24-hour row to support Gothon4Life and One Eighty group in August, but this year organisers Mel and Nathan Wellings have encouraged up to 14 other clubs to also take part and I'm sure this will be an outstanding success. The issue of mental health and wellness is one that has affected this club and continues to affect our community and I urge everyone to please support this fantastic initiative by donating, which you can do on our website or by coming down on the day to support and contribute directly.

A big thank you once again to all our sponsors who have supported us throughout the year. They are listed throughout the annual report, but a special thank you to Avalon Beach RSL, Aveo, Secure Parking, Johnson Bros Mitre 10 for their long-term support. So please support them by using their services if you have the opportunity. A massive thank you to James and Adrian from McGrath Avalon Beach for their invaluable support to our McGrath Avalon Carols at the Beach event, hopefully we will be able to run it again this year, watch this space.

The Board will remain relatively stable this upcoming season with some people moving on and some changes. Louise Lindop has indicated that she will not be seeking re-election as Vice President after 16 years on the committee, and Melinda Akehurst and Mike Stanley-Jones are moving on as Club Captains. I thank them for their help and dedication to these positions. Hopefully they will continue in some other role in the Club moving forward and I'm sure they won't be lost to us.

I would like to welcome Ashley Brown who has nominated as Director of Finance, with Bernie moving into the Vice President role, and Terry Barber has nominated to return to the committee as Director of Surf Sports. Dave Roberts will be returning to the BoM taking up the position of Junior Captain which has been vacant for a couple of seasons. Nick Sampson and Jason Dale have nominated to take on the role of Life Saving Directors or Club Captains and will be supported by Sophie Valentine as Deputy Club Captain.

On a personal note, this coming season will more than likely be my last as President and it is great to see some new faces coming through with an eye to taking on these senior committee roles. It is ideal to be on the Board for a year at least before moving into the top job or others. Please feel free to come and have a chat with me or any of the Board members if you are interested in standing for a role. Without people giving up their time in these positions then the Club would not be able to function.

I must thank the Board of Management for their support and ongoing work and of course Leanne Austin, Richard Cole and Bernadette McKay for their hard work behind the scenes. A big thank you to my wife Melinda and my children for allowing me to take on this role. Without their love, help and support it would not be possible to hold this position and I appreciate the sacrifices they have made to support me.

**Ashley Cardiff | President**

## Attachment 2: Financial Report for the 2019/20 season

This year Avalon Beach Surf Club made a final year profit of \$ 10,342.

This result has been affirmed through the preparation of our accounts in compliance of Australian Accounting Standards which were independently assessed by BeWeizser Accounting and independently audited by Peter Power.

Our accounts have also satisfied the requirements of

- Charitable Fundraising Act,
- the Associations Incorporation Act, the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Act, and
- the Club's constitution

Like everybody we have been affected by COVID 19 with our operations closing in the last week of March as prescribed by government directives with the impact estimated to be a hit to our bottom line of approximately \$30,000. So, given the situation on behalf of the Bom would like to say that we are proud of our achievement.

With the shutdown, we made the following decisions:

- Around the Bends was called off
- We made financial arrangements with our gym operator and community hirers
- We either deferred or made full refunds to our function hirers unable to hold their scheduled events

We did so in good faith working on our ethos of being a club for the benefit of our members and the wider community.

Our income for the year was \$464,033 with a breakdown as follows:

- Membership 18.5%
- Functions (net of costs) 16%
- Bar (net of costs) 6%
- Grants 4.2%
- Carols Sponsorship 4.8%
- Sponsorships 3.9%
- Events 3%

Our expenditure for the year was \$453,690 with a breakdown as follows:

- Core Services – 32%
- Depreciation of capital equipment 19%
- Competition 7%
- Patrol costs 4%
- Training 2%
- Club Operations 39%
- Member Services – capitation 7%

I would like to thank everyone that has made a financial contribution to the Club this year

- Avalon RSL club has continued their long running support of the club
- McGrath Avalon for Carols sponsorship and nipper flags
- Johnson Bros for Carols and Lion Island Challenge sponsorship
- Brown Bros for boat and competition sponsorship
- Brick lane Brewery for boat and competition sponsorship
- Avalon Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce, Northern Beaches Council and AVEO for Carols sponsorship
- Metro Garage Avalon for collecting donations for us on their service counter
- Club members who have made donations through Surfguard
- Generous bequest from a past member

We were also the recipient of government and surf lifesaving grants:

- SLSA safety and equipment grant
- Surf Lifesaving NSW clubs grant
- Northern Beaches council clubs grant
- NSW government buildings facilities grants

We are grateful for these income streams as it allows us to maintain and acquire the equipment and services necessary to keep our beach safe.

I am also pleased to confirm that the Club has extinguished our loan arrangement with Northern Beaches Council as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. This has been achieved 5 years before the sunset clause would have expired. The Club is now able to retain 100% of the revenue generated from Ocean Room function hire. The BoM has made the decision to allocate the 50% that would have normally passed to the council will now be directed to a cash reserves account to secure future viability.

From the resources we had this year, we have applied our capital spend in the following manner:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BOM APPROVED	PAYMENT DATE
Club Facility Upgrades	89,337	May BOM	31/07/2019
Bar Upgrades	7,948	May BOM	31/07/2019
<b>Total Club Facilities</b>	<b>97,285</b>		
Ski Paddles	1,600	Nov BOM	4/12/19
Hytera Radios	2,255	2018 – 2019 Season	19/10/2019
Hytera Radios	2,255	Replacements	27/02/2020
Boat Cover – Pro Trim Marine	1,150	Mar BOM	11/03/2020
Boat Tent - Instaco	12,013	Dec BOM	11/03/2020
Rescue Boards	4,380		17/03/2020
<b>Total Equipment</b>	<b>23,653</b>		
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL SPEND</b>	<b>120,938</b>		

The following few months is likely to provide more operational uncertainty however the Board of Management has committed to a “lights on” approach to the season whereby money will be prioritised to our core purpose of surf lifesaving. Our budget has been pared back to reflect this decision and will be reviewed as and when there are changes in circumstances.

I look forward to continuing working with all other members of the Board of Management next season to ensure that we continue to provide service to our members and the community and that we have continued financial viability.

Bernadette McKay | Director of Finance

2020/21

## BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

President .....	Ashley Cardiff
Deputy President .....	Richard Cole and Bernadette McKay
Director of Administration .....	Leanne Austin
Director of Finance.....	Ashley Brown
Director of Life Saving (Club Captain) .....	Jason Dale and Nick Sampson
Deputy Director of Life Saving .....	Sophie Valentine
Director of Education .....	Michael King
Deputy Director of Education .....	Louise Billia
Public Officer.....	Kevin Veale
IRB Captain.....	Alan Moran
Director of Surf Sports.....	Terry Barber
Surf Boat Captain.....	Matthew Mayall
Director of Junior Activities .....	Tom Waters
Junior Captain .....	Dave Roberts
Event Manager .....	Volker Klemm

## JUNIOR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Director of Junior Activities .....	Tom Waters
Deputy Director of Junior Activities.....	Mike Stanley-Jones and Matthew Brennan
JAC Secretary.....	Stephanie Stoddard
JAC Registrar .....	<b>Vacant</b>
JAC Competition Manager .....	Cameron Lane
JAC Water Proficiency Officer .....	Amanda Lehman and Stephanie Stoddard
JAC Communications .....	Kari Browne
JAC Canteen Officer .....	Leena Wood
JAC Marketing and Sponsorship.....	Tom Waters
JAC Surf Education Officer .....	<b>Vacant</b>
JAC Gear Steward.....	Dave Roberts
JAC Water Safety Officer .....	Amanda Lehman
JAC Clothing Officer .....	Shannon Fletcher

## CLUB OFFICERS

Publicity Officer .....	Roger Sayers
Registrar .....	Mark Head
Marketing and Sponsorship .....	Lija and John Wilson
Second Delegate to Branch.....	Bernadette McKay
Board Captain.....	Neil Petersen
Ski Captain .....	Neil Petersen
Swim Captain / Handicapper .....	Tim Hixson
Radio Officer.....	Kevin Veale
Gear Steward.....	Neil Petersen
First Aid Officer.....	Warwick Willcoxson
Beach Vehicle Officer.....	Terry Barber
Building Officer .....	Robert Hopton and Richard Cole
Caretakers .....	Jean Harper and Xanthe Friend
Social Secretary .....	Amelia Barber
IRB Competition Manager .....	Terry Barber
Beach Captain.....	<b>Vacant</b>
Masters Captain .....	Grant Salmon
Competition Manager .....	Roland Luke
Ocean Swim Organiser .....	Volker Klemm
Member Protection Information Officer .	Felicity Peters
Grants Officer .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Safety Officer .....	Robert Hopton
Youth Representative .....	Henry McGilchrist
Bar Manager .....	Nathan Wellings
Club Historian .....	Geoff Searl

## LIFE MEMBERS AND SERVICE HONOURS AWARDS COMMITTEE

<b>Life Members</b>	<b>Board of Management</b>
Michael Byrnes OAM (Chair)	Ashley Cardiff
Roger Sayers	Jason Dale
Bruce Muston	Nick Sampson
Warren Young OAM	
Bob Head	

## HERITAGE COMMITTEE

<b>Life Members</b>	<b>Committee Members</b>
Roger Sayers (Chair)	Ashley Cardiff
Warren Young OAM	Richard Cole
Bob Head	Nick Sampson
Peter Carter	Geoff Searl OAM