



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By Zoom 14th November 2021, 7.00pm

Minutes

Welcome : Peter Hayes (Chairman) opened the meeting by welcoming all to the AGM.

Present: As per registration list 32 members, includes 6 elected committee persons & 2 appointed members (full list available on request).

Minutes of 2020 AGM: Resolved Accepted

Business arising from the minutes: Nil

Chairman's Report 2021

Welcome to the ninth Southern Cross AGM as an incorporated body. Unfortunately, we meet again through Zoom rather than face to face. Thank you for being a part of this meeting.

Southern Cross last represented in 2019 and we are looking to break that run of outs by attending the Spirit of Masters event in Japan in 2022.

In November 2020 Masters Hockey lost a renowned figure in Over 60s+ Masters Hockey. Prior to the emergence of WMH, former WGMA President Wim Van Noortwijk. Wim was an encouraging supporter of Southern Cross and his association with Ric Roberts over the years strengthened our relationship with WGMA.

❖ 2020/2021 In review

Following the last AGM members of the committee and their responsibilities were:

Chairperson: Tony Cohen; From 1/1/2021 Peter Hayes

Secretary: Peter Hayes; From 1/1/21 Phil Retford

Assistant Sec: Phil Retford; From 1/1/21 Garry Royle

Treasurer – Ex Officio: Wayne Harris

Selections Chairman: Marvin Heaston

Database: Garry Royle

Uniforms & Website: Peter Fogels

Tour Organiser: Bruce Smith

International relations: from 1/1/2021 Tony Cohen

Legal – Ex Officio: Peter Murray

In December 2020 Tony stood down as Chair and the reasons for this were explained in a Newsflash at the time. Tony remained on the committee in the role of our International Relations rep. Tony has continued to provide me with assistance throughout the year, which I thank him for.

Following on from the re-jig of committee responsibilities, we were also successful in HA giving us access to the Revolutionise Sport platform. A change in website was organised and it is expected the

benefits that come with being on what is now the national platform will be evident in the way our future activities are managed. I must thank Peter Fogels, who administered the old site since inception and the work he did in assisting the transition to the new platform. Garry Royle is leading in the administration of the new site and Peter continues to provide support with Uniforms as his particular brief.

In October, Bruce Smith stood down from the committee for personal reasons. Bruce has been part of the committee for just a short time and was involved in organising the 2020 venture effort to Tokyo. Southern Cross wishes Bruce our best wishes and look forward to seeing him back on the pitch soon.

The Southern Cross Management team aims to formally meet twice per year. Being hampered by restrictions we did meet on 11/10/20, A briefing in February, a further meeting on 18/7/21 & 12/11/21. With the absence of Hockey tours, a major task early this year was to refund all deposits being held for the Japan 2020 tour. Thanks to the additional work this created, Treasurer Wayne handled this task very professionally and based on the committee decision total refunds were made in the first quarter this year.

In August I attended the second General Assembly for World Masters Hockey. The main point to report is our 'Affiliate' status with WMH was confirmed, but along with LX in England, FIH backed the WMH view that Affiliate members do not get a vote. Affiliate Membership does allow us several benefits as to the type of championships we are allowed to enter. Membership dues equalling approx. \$470pa has been paid for 2022.

In September SX called for EOI for a tournament designed to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Real Polo Club in Barcelona and remember the contribution made by Wim and his leadership of WGMA. SX have this past week resolved not to attend this tournament. I will say more about this in a later agenda item.

Other Developments

Prior to the pandemic SX were exploring aspects of our relationship with HAM. Meetings with HAM went into pandemic hibernation for a few years, however in the past week, Marvin, Tony and myself have again met with committee members of HAMC. Purpose of the meetings is to look at ways to have a more mutually beneficial relationship with HAMC/HA in light of the changed landscape that came with the introduction of WMH. This will likely be seen in Selection processes. Discussions are ongoing.

SX are looking forward to the 'Return to Hockey' event that is being organised for March 2022. Given that it will be three full years from the 2019 Nationals by the time Tokyo comes around, many players will have changed age groups and there will be younger players turning 'of age'. The March 2022 Return to Hockey event will provide opportunity for new selections to be made. We are working on a hybrid Selection process that may take account of those not able to travel due to restrictions etc. Nominations will be called for once more details are available. The Nationals in Sept/Oct will enable a normal selection process for 2023 events.

I would like to thank Phil & Garry for the work put into setting up the new website, which has the capacity to be a management tool, useful for all our activities and we appreciate Hockey Australia including SX in the national rollout of the platform. In the past year, Marvin has been preparing for the events in 2022 after so much stop/starting of the past two years and Tony has been busy

representing SX with our overseas contacts. Peter Murray has been invaluable with his legal knowledge contributing to our revamped constitution.

Thank you to all for hanging in and staying with the sport as we look forward to 2022 and a year of Masters Hockey representation. I encourage all to register again with SX on the RevSport site at the same time your HA/State registration fees are due after 1st January.

Yours in Hockey, Peter Hayes – Chairman

Acceptance of Chairman's Report: Moved David Kennaway, Seconded Marlene Matthews - Carried

General discussion ensued in regard to the Return to Hockey tournament being staged by HAMC to be held at Sydney Olympic Park in March 2022. The importance of this tournament for players (apart from just playing) is that consideration will be given at this tournament for selecting Australian teams for next year's World Cups should they go ahead. Decisions have not been made by HA concerning these tournaments at this stage.

Disappointment was expressed by some members that all players who wanted to attend may not be able to, due to ongoing Covid restrictions etc.

In conclusion it was explained this tournament will not be a hybrid event however given the difficulties over the last couple of years (as explained in the Chairman's report), SX will use this as a selection opportunity for Tokyo.

Financial Report

Wayne Harris presented and discussed the current set of accounts and noted a very unusual year.

Probably more required bookkeeping recording and reporting activity than ever before, yet no genuine revenue and or expenditures to show.

More collecting, balancing, refunding, and then chasing a few anomalies.

We were fortunate to lose very little (compared to some) in terms of our planned Japan World Cup commitments, basically due to our insistence that no deposit would be paid unless a full refund could be guaranteed with the pending (at the time) Covid crisis. Japan (at the time) were completely oblivious to the genuine concerns we expressed when discussing deposits, but we dug our heels in and secured the booking with a deposit due by a future date.

Over the course of time as the worldwide health situation worsened, they were obligated to accept our stance, and no outlay was needed. Better to have kept the money than have to chase for it back.

We lost a little on nomination costs etc but the "hit" was, it seems, much less than others have suffered and there was enough in the SX coffers to cover it and give a 100% refund to members.

Wayne moved for the report to be accepted, Seconded, Rick Roberts. – Carried.

- *Statement of accounts is at Attachment 1*

Election of Office Bearers

The AGM saw the election of **David Hart** (Sydney-based) onto the committee.

The other three (whose positions are automatically declared vacant after the two-year period as per the Constitution) were re-elected unopposed. Bruce Smith had (previous to the meeting) reluctantly

resigned his position due to increased workload with his business commitments.

The committee in alphabetical order is:

Tony Cohen – International Representative

Peter Fogels – Uniforms

Wayne Harris – Treasurer – *Ex Officio*

David Hart – International Bookings

Peter Hayes – Chairperson

Marvin Heaston – Selections Chairperson

Peter Murray – Legal – *Ex Officio*

Philip Retford – Secretary

Garry Royle – Database & Asst Sec.

Motion for Amendment of Constitution

Addition:

3. OBJECTS OF THE CLUB

The Objects of the Club are to:

(f) “To organise and conduct tournaments or competitions within Australia or internationally for Australian and international teams”. – Proposed Peter Hayes, Seconded Phil Retford.

Marvin Heaston proposed an amendment to the motion “internationally for Australian and International team” to be removed as this was covered in 3.(d) of the Constitution. Seconded by Tony Cohen.

Peter Murray (legal advisor) spoke against the motion clarifying that 3.(d) does not have anything to do with organising competitions/tournaments.

After further discussion the amendment was put to the meeting and lost on a show of hands not having the required majority.

The original amendment was put to the meeting and after further discussion was also lost on a show of hands.

General Business

Barcelona ‘Wim’ tournament

At the end of September, Southern Cross asked for EOI to attend a tournament in Barcelona in June/July 2022. The tournament was seen as more a festival of hockey with opportunity for a relaxed holiday. We were happy with the response to the possible tour. It was noted in the call-out that SX would make a further decision before the end of November.

The Committee met last Friday evening and resolved not to attend this tournament. In these Covid-19 influenced times a number of things have happened in the intervening time that have led the committee to decide not to attend. Some of the main points involved in the decision are;

- Continuing recommendation from Government ‘SmartTraveller’ advice is to avoid unnecessary travel to EU areas including Spain, as they are again experiencing an increase in Covid cases heading into Winter. There also remains continuing variance in Aust states re travel/quarantine.
- With an eye to personal budgets in 2022, A high Team entry fee for Spain. Payable in January and it being declared a non-refundable team entry fee should we nominate then pull-out, we

do not have the funds to cover the possible loss.

- Plans to concentrate on attending the Spirit of Masters event in Japan in November 2022
 - Desire to support the Return to Hockey event organised by HAMC in March 2022
 - Desire/expectation for players to attend the Nationals on the Gold Coast in Sept/Oct 2022
 - Plan to attend the European Cup in Spain in 2023, Including a possible Asian Cup in 2023
- Southern Cross Committee are excited by the prospect of the 'Return to Hockey' event planned for March. It will enable SX to have a Hybrid Selection program for the Japan event and the Nationals in Sept/Oct will enable selections to be made for 2023. We expect to advise further info about nominating for Japan soon.

Any other Business

- Ross Swadling asked if SX was entering teams to the Return to Hockey tournament?

The meeting was informed that SX would not be entering teams as the tournament is a state based event.

- Andrew Terry – How does SX fit in with HAMC?

There have been ongoing discussions with HAMC and in the past week Peter, Marvin and Tony have again met with committee members of HAMC. Purpose of the meetings is to look at ways to have a more mutually beneficial relationship with HAMC/HA in light of the changed landscape that came with the introduction of WMH. This will likely be seen in the selection processes with HAMC happy (at this stage) for SX to act as the Australian mens second team.

- Garry Royle asked about the possibility of selecting teams for all mens masters' age groups (younger than O60s).

Not in the foreseeable future as would require a doubling of resources, more OFTs and increased administration.

Meeting Closed: 8.00pm.