



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By Zoom 11th October 2020, 5.00pm

Minutes

Welcome : Tony Cohen (Chairman) opened the meeting by welcoming all to the AGM

Present: As per registration list 50 members, includes 5 elected committee persons & 2 appointed members (full list available on request)

Apologies David Mellor, Tony Gibbs, Ian Grant, Bruce Smith (VB) Ric Roberts, Bruce Smith (QB)

Minutes of 2019 AGM: Resolved Accepted

Business arising from the minutes:

- **World Cup 2020.** The Chairman provided an update, stating that our Red teams (60's & 65s) have also been accepted to the postponed event (Nov 2021). Tony mentioned that teams would stay as selected as at 1st April 2020. Updates will continue to be provided as they come to hand.

Chairman's Report 2020

Welcome to the 8th Southern Cross Annual General Meeting and thank you all for your Zoom "attendance"

As you are all too aware, we are living in extraordinary times.

Between our AGM in Bunbury last year and our next one in October 2021, a total of two years, Southern Cross has only participated in one overseas competition. Even that event in Korea was for a single age group only.

The rest of us have had to endure the longest period of stagnation since SX was created many years ago. Despite this I encourage all of you to hang in there as the postponed 2020 World Cup is now planned to be held in Tokyo in November 2021. At least that gives us something to look forward to.

2019/2020 IN REVIEW

Following the 2019 AGM members of the committee and their areas of responsibility have been as follows:

ELECTED MEMBERS

Chairman	Tony Cohen (NSW)
Secretary	Peter Hayes (NSW)
Chairman of Selectors	Marvin Heaston (NSW)
Tour Organiser	Bruce Smith (NSW)
Communications and IT	Garry Royle (QLD)
Uniforms/Web Mater	Peter Fogels (WA)
Assistant Sec/Treasurer	Graham Wood

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Treasurer	Wayne Harris (NSW)
Legal Adviser	Peter Murray (WA)

During the year Graham Wood resigned and given current circumstances your committee decided not to replace him until this AGM.

I would like to thank Graham for his efforts on behalf of Southern Cross's members. A task made more onerous by the fact that he is not resident in Australia

The committee normally holds at least two formal meeting per year in order to implement the wishes of the membership as expressed at the AGM and to carry out any other duties necessary for the successful running of Southern Cross.

This year two elected members of the committee have to stand down as required by our constitution. Both current incumbents have nominated for re-election. We also need to fill the vacancy created by Grahams resignation and at this stage we also have one nomination. My sincere thanks to those members who have again offered to give up their time to work on behalf of our Association

All of this means that we have exactly the correct number of nominations to fill the various vacancies and so no election will be necessary at this AGM. Which, given the context in which the AGM is being held, is a relief to us all!

TOURS

As mentioned above Southern Cross attended only one overseas tournament in the past twelve months and you will find a full report on that trip from the organiser – Mike Cooke – in a separate document.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Postponed Tokyo 2020 World Cup will now proceed at the same venue in early November 2021 COVID permitting

Without going into too much detail at this stage I can tell you that Southern Cross have had six teams accepted for this tournament and we intend sending the same players selected for the erstwhile 2020 World Cup to Tokyo next year – and in the same age groups in which you were all selected even though you

may have moved up in the interim. It is our intention, as far as possible, to give all of you who were looking forward to this year's event the opportunity to enjoy the same experience albeit a year later.

In a joint initiative by both parties Peter Hayes, Marvin Heaston and I opened a dialogue with Hockey Australia Masters at the end of last year with a view to bringing our two organisations more closely together and streamlining some of our practices to the benefit of both.

We stressed from the outset that Southern Cross is and will remain a separate and independent body but that we do see potential areas of cooperation.

Initially we commenced work on a memorandum of understanding and made some in principle progress in the areas of joint nominations and selections at the Nationals. I believe we would have agreed a working model to be trialled at The Gold Coast had that tournament proceeded. However COVID has halted these discussions which I am sure will resume early next year.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

You will see from the attached documents that your committee, advised by our legal expert Peter Murray, are proposing a number of amendments and updates to the SX Constitution.

As I am certain most of you know, no matter how carefully such things are drafted they tend to be something of a moving feast as the landscape in which they exist tend to change.

Thus it is with our Constitution. All of the proposed amendments are of a procedural nature with the exception of one which I feel needs a little explanation.

We have resisted the temptation to introduce an annual membership fee for some time as we did not previously see the necessity for having one. However at the same time we have had difficulty identifying who is and who is not a "member" which has led to some problems, particularly with other organisations.

It is our view that the only simple remedy is to introduce a nominal annual fee.

The purpose of such a fee is not to raise funds per se because under normal circumstances we are able to keep the Association on a sound financial footing through members payments for tours. However in unusual circumstances such as those we are now experiencing, without tour income we are likely to make a small loss (see Financial report) as we still have some fixed expenses to meet. A small membership fee will cover these outgoings

CONCLUSION

None of the above happens by magic. Members of Southern Cross are fortunate to have a small group of hard-working volunteers operating as your committee.

Every one of them deserves our wholehearted support and thanks and I in particular would like to express my gratitude for the support they have given me over the last difficult twelve months.

Peter Hayes our Secretary, Marvin Heaston our Chairman of Selectors, and Wayne Harris our Treasurer need special thanks for all their efforts in putting together and running the Belgium experience so expertly.

Bruce Smith, at least up until COVID caused the postponement of Tokyo 2020, worked diligently and tirelessly to negotiate good accommodation in that city at a price which members could afford – not easy in Tokyo in particular

Peter Fogels has continued his work in streamlining the tricky task of ordering, supplying and delivering uniforms and he has also been responsible for maintaining our Website.

Garry Royle has continued his excellent work in bringing all aspects of our member communications and recording up to a more acceptable level than previously. His introduction of the newsflash in particular has been a major improvement in the way we contact you all

Peter Murray has, as always, given us sound advice on legal niceties when we have needed them

Finally I wish all our members well for the coming year and trust that soon you will all be playing hockey again in some sort of normality.

TONY COHEN

CHAIRMAN – SOUTHERN CROSS MASTERS HOCKEY

Financial Report

Wayne Harris presented and discussed current set of accounts. He noted the refunds made regarding the Japan world Cup where players were given the option of refund for the present or keep deposits in the bank. Team entry fees have been paid for the World Cup and some 'medical' staff airfares paid, prior 'covid'.

Wayne moved for the report to be accepted, 2nd Marvin Heaston, passed. Statement of accounts is at Attachment 1

Election of Office Bearers

Three Officers are to be elected as per normal rotation process. Nominations from existing Officers, Peter Hayes & Garry Royle were received and elected. A nomination was received from Phil Retford prior to the meeting for the remaining vacant position. These officers are elected for 2021/2022. Resolved for Ric Roberts continue as Public Officer.

Constitution Update Motion

- "that the following amendments to the constitution be accepted" proposed Marvin Heaston, 2nd Peter Hayes

Peter Murray ((legal advisor) spoke to the motion and explained the need to update the constitution to bring Administration matters in line with creation of Hockey Australia Masters. The other change is to define Membership definitions. The need to supply a list of Association members was not previously clear/possible.

The motions was resolved in the affirmative by a show of hands.

Other Reports

Report on Korean Trip - October 2019.

Written by Mike Cooke - SX Tour Organiser.

In late 2018 Southern Cross (SX) was invited to enter one O'65's team into the 5th Grand Masters Asian Cup, to be played in Donghae, South Korea in October 2019.

Asian Cup's of this type are played over only one week.

As SX had travelled to the 4th Asian Cup, held in Hiroshima Japan in 2017 and conducted a successful 'tour' after that tournament's conclusion, it was decided to again follow that format.

Planning.

It was understood, right from the start that a few things about planning for Korea were going to be 'different', compared to going to Japan.

- a) No SX Committee personnel and very few other SX people had ever visited South Korea.
- b) No known Travel Agent (within our hockey knowledge) had ever arranged for a Masters team to compete in a tournament and tour the country of South Korea.
- c) The host city of Donghae was well away from the South Korean capital of Seoul, being located on the east coast of the country (without an airport).
Ferries travel from Donghae to Vladivostok (eastern end of Trans Siberian Railway) in Russia.
- d) A tight 'travelling' time frame existed, as 2019 Australian National's in Bunbury WA, were to conclude on 12 October and pre tournament practice in Donghae was Tuesday 15 October.

Travelling.

The travelling group comprised 23 (being 16 players / 7 non playing partners), most of whom attended the Bunbury Nationals and flew from Perth to Seoul on Sunday night 13 Oct, arriving Monday afternoon 14 Oct. The group stayed one night in Seoul, then on Tuesday 15 Oct, went by Coach (200 k/m) across to Donghae, where our 'home' for the next 9 nights was the **New Donghae Tourist Hotel**.

Tournament - Sunrise Stadium Donghae.

SX Team Manager - Marlene Matthews and Team Captain - Andrew Terrey.

Competition commenced Thursday 17 Oct with 5 matches to play (3 against "national" teams) and concluded Tuesday 23 Oct.

SX results were as follows;

Korea 5-1 win, Japan 2-1 win, Alliance 5-0 win, Malaysia 2-0 win, England LX 1-2 loss, meaning that **SX finished as 'runner up'**.

Features of the tournament were the efficient operational aspects plus the organisation of a big 'multicultural' dinner, which happened to be in a function centre attached to our hotel.

After a 'mix up' with trophy ordering (in WGMA office, not in Korea) trophies were not available (at the time) to distribute to LX or SX, but have now arrived for distribution to all team players.

Post Tournament -Travelling.

Our group travelled by Coach (provided by Korean Hockey Association) from Donghae back to Seoul on Thursday 24 Oct when a 'tailor made' mini tour commenced with a Korean (English speaking) guide taking us by coach / train / walking to many points of interest within 300 k/m of Seoul, not previously visited on route to Donghae.

Most people flew home to Australia on Monday 28 October....to have a rest !

Mike Cooke -SX Tour Organiser 2016 - 2019.

Any other Business

- Marlene asked re alternate Shirt being available; Peter Fogels reported that an alternate shirt has been developed and a trial of velcro numbers was being planned.
- Mike Cooke – reminded the committee of details around establishing a membership base.
- Garry Royle asked about possible alternate tours such as a trans-tasman. Garry also mentioned inquiry about names of shirts. Resolved to not go in that direction, due to complexity that would be created.

Meeting Closed: 5.35pm