

MINUTES | Water Polo ACT Board Meeting

Date	Wednesday, 28 September 2022
Time	18.30
Venue	Zoom – meeting details sent separately Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84730461971 Meeting ID: 847 3046 1971
Invited	Matt Turnbull, President (MT) Tim Bennett, Vice President (TB) Dayle Wilson, Treasurer (DW) Alexandra Spark, Secretary (AS) Greg Ward, Dragons Water Polo Club (GW) Sam Elliot, Nordek Water Polo Club (SE) Alex Kuzis, ANU Swimming & Water Polo Club (AK) Ryan McDermott, Executive Officer (RM)
Apologies	Lawson Waser, CGS Water Polo Club (LW) Liam Shepherd, Vikings Water Polo Club (LS)
Absent	N/A

Agenda Item		Notes
1	Welcome	
2	Apologies	Lawson Waser Liam Shepherd
3	Approval of previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31 August 2022 	3a. Board Meeting Minutes – 31 August 2022 Approved
4	EO Update & Rep Program Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MT provided an update of concerns and what can be done to support EO The Board held a discussion as to what was the Core business of the EO of WPACT vs business conducted by the EO to support development/ state/ territory representative teams

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that WPA have made the decision that for NSC 2023 ACT may not have a “standalone” team, as it is proposed that ACT will participate as a combined team with SA/ TAS/ ACT • Key concern is to protect Ryan/ our EO <p>The Board extended its thanks and acknowledgement to Ryan for the work that he’s done to date, which was agreed by all as being significant including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing representative programs and development programs • Achieving significant growth and maturity in the sport, and its administration, in the ACT over 4-5 years • Developing Policies and Programs, such as our development program and women in leadership programs <p>In discussion of what might occur should WPACT cease to provide support for representative teams it was noted that the following risks were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation of teams on a self-determining basis without some co-ordinated approach by ACT may lead to reputation risks for WPACT, and the Board, attributable to a lack of clarity as to who teams are and whom they are representing. For example there is a risk that Club teams may be seen to be ACT teams/ act as a proxy for ACT teams. This may lead to competition for players to form the “best” team, it may lead to instances where players suitable for selection/ inclusion in a State level team are not playing in State level competitions as they don’t belong to the correct club/ participating club • Without representative players we would loose Delfina sponsorship & Travel Agent Sponsorships (financial impact) • A number of intangible benefits (accruing to WPACT) would be lost (and these really have only just started to be realised)
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	<p>The Board noted that there was a desire not to “go backwards” and loose some of the maturity of practice we have acquired over the last 4-5 years.</p> <p>The Board affirmed WPACT’s support for, and engagement in, the Representative program as important</p> <p>The Board affirmed the importance of providing the appropriate support to EO, such that the WPACT could continue to support the WPACT Representative waterpolo program</p> <p>There was discussion as to what support may be available/ needed/ appropriate to support the EO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that in the past WPACT assisted with selection of coaches (only) and all other activities (eg transport, accommodation, uniform etc was the responsibility of the managers) <p>The board discussed possible solutions including providing/ obtaining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarity of what EO role is and role isn’t • clarity of the roles and responsibilities of the Team Manager/ Coach/ Tour Manager/ WPACT <p>The Board felt the current situation may have been exacerbated by (poolside) misinformation. As such the Board agreed there is a need for open and consistent discussion between the Board & EO and from/ through Coaches & Managers.</p> <p>The Board also noted the relative “newness” of waterpolo in the ACT and that there is some inconsistency in age groups that have Representative program support. The Board noted this is to be expected until the number of players, and Clubs reaches a critical (and consistently competitive) mass in the ACT.</p>
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		<p>The Board agreed that the format of teams competing as ACT teams for the AYC will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U14s Club participation (Clubs & Kraken) • U16s and 18s Representative ACT team (ACT Canberra Dolphins) <p><i>The board noted that AYC's format is a Club competition, and as such U16s and U18s have an exemption to compete as a "best of ACT" team, due to the lower number of competitive players in these age groups</i></p> <p>The Board noted that Coaches & Managers are appointed for a 12month period, which ensures that coaches for NSC are the same coaches for AYC</p> <p>It was agreed to hold a meeting as soon as possible with Executive Directors, Coaches and Managers to obtain feedback as to the issues being identified and to facilitate the creation of a shared understanding of the role of the EO/ Delegate, Coaches and Managers. In particular this meeting is to focus on responsibilities etc ahead of AYC (Jan 2023)</p> <p>It was recommended that the Presidents report at the AGM include a statement(s) of support for our EO</p>
5	President's update	Nothing further
6	<p>Treasurer's update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report/ financial statement audit • AGM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Kerry and Ryan to finalise • Outstanding debts have been collected
7	<p>Executive Officers update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Season update • Learning and Development Plan 2022/23 • Constitutional review 	<p>AK left meeting 7.55pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution review – Plan for finalisation is: first draft to board & clubs on 7 Oct. Comments due 25 October (next board meeting). Tidy up changes by 1 Nov. Final draft on 1 Nov. AGM called 4 Nov and constitution circulated • Propose a Community Forum is held on 19 or 20 Nov 2022 to discuss amended Constitution

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanctioning Policy Update Social Polo Update Policy Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Nov AGM. Law firm has been engaged to run ballot on the day Season update has been circulated. Any questions – contact Ryan. Ryan will work with Becky and Claudia to finalise the draw, and set up all pools with appropriate equipment. Delegates are reminded Teams are due asap. Learning & Development plan – new process by WPA to ensure that consistent national plan is being implemented by the States. EO working with Don & Sharyn re: implementation of the plan. Sanctioning Policy update – meeting held at NSC. Ryan dialled in, however there were connectivity issues and his participation was limited. All states will adopt the WPA Sanctioning Policy. Therefore all sanctions applied anywhere in Aust are applied across Australia. Co-ordination was considered important by cultural safety committee. WPACT will also adopt the Tribunal Policy – designed by Australian Sports Tribunal. There will be a national tribunal set up, with members that all can draw on across states. This is expected to improve consistency. Verbal abuse and vilification policies will be incorporated into the national policy. The policy will be in place by end October 2022 (ahead of the summer season) Social Polo – lots of interest. Reach out to Claudia if Clubs are interested. Lighthouse Pub has come on as competition sponsor \$1500 for first 6 week competition. Policy Review – EO has done a tidy up of WPACT Policies. Ryan will develop a review timeline for all policies on a consistent basis and everyone is across. October Board meeting will include review of some policies, with policies being launched afterwards
8	<p>Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport Australia 	<p>Email from Ryan to Board 14 Sept 2022</p> <p>Additional business noted:</p>

	governance courses	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The Board was asked to consider how we fund the development officer position in 2023? Should we have a WPACT development officer or 1 day a week development officer in each club. Provide feedback to the President/ EO2) Signs are out advertising "Play Waterpolo" and the October events.
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Meeting Close 8:07pm