

MINUTES | Water Polo ACT Board Meeting

Date	Wednesday, 26 October 2022	
Time	18.30	
Venue	AIS	
Invited	Matt Turnbull, President (MT)	
	Tim Bennett, Vice President (TB)	
	Dayle Wilson, Treasurer (DW)	
	Alexandra Spark, Secretary (AS)	
	Lawson Waser, CGS Water Polo Club (LW)	
	Greg Ward, Dragons Water Polo Club (GW)	
	Sam Elliot, Nordek Water Polo Club (SE) – via Zoom	
	Larissa Hutchens, Vikings Water Polo Club (LH) – via Zoom	
	Alex Kuzis, ANU Swimming & Water Polo Club (AK)	
	Ryan McDermott, Executive Officer (RM)	
Apologies	Dayle Wilson	
Absent	N/A	

Agenda Item		Minutes
1	Welcome	Start 6.37pm
	 Larissa Hutchens (incoming 	MT provided a verbal welcome to
	Vikings President & Delegate)	Larissa. Also acknowledged Liam's
	Thanks	contribution over the preceding
	 Liam Shepherd (outgoing 	months.
	Vikings President & Delegate)	
2	Apologies	
	 Dayle Wilson, Treasurer 	
3	Approval of previous board minutes	Approved
	 28 September 2022 	
4	Meeting of Executive Board with	TB provided an update of the session
	Managers & Coaches	held on 9 October with Executive
	• For noting Record of meeting	Board members, Managers and
	with Managers & Coaches	Coaches. TB noted the support given
	 Outcomes & Actions 	for the EO to continue as Delegate to
		represent WPACT at national



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tournaments. TB also noted the Board's decision to continue to have a centralised approach to the management of the ACT's high performance program. The Board discussed the actions to be
 taken following the meeting 1. Support the EO in defining the work of the EO and the work of Managers & Coaches AS to convene a Working Group to review the relevant documents/ handbook and reissue at the earliest
 opportunity. 2. Support the EO in determining what work should remain the work of the EO and what should be delegated to Managers, Coaches, and Club Delegates to the Board Noted that RM has already engaged with Managers (re: AYC) with managers working with travel agents to plan accommodation, and flights as required.
 MT to further work with RM to review activities of the EO and appropriate time management strategies and support required A regular pre-competition and post-competition meeting of Board, Coaches and Managers to be established. AS to convene after Working Group is established.



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	These protocols/ delegates are to be confirmed in the revised handbook. There was further discussion of the apparent distrust between the Board and parents. This was <i>acknowledged</i> <i>by the Board</i> and members agreed that ensuring that communication channels were open, actions of WPACT were open and honest, and that WPACT adhered to principles of clarity and consistency in its communication and actions would assist in rebuilding this relationship. The Board discussed the importance of Club Presidents/ Delegates to the Board in supporting the need for a WPACT Delegate at competitions. The Board discussed the current development of the Senior Representative Program, and the desire to ensure as much consistency and fairness as possible when compared with the Junior Representative Program.
 Competitions: Summer Comp – Exemptions requests Summer Comp – Competition Structure: Womens 2nd grade Summer Comp – Schedule of teams & rounds 	All exemption requests were reviewed by the Board, with each Club President providing each case for discussion and approval by the Board. Vikings 1 G player (CC) – exemption approved. Dragons 1 G player (AHJ) – to stay in U16s; 1 G player (AM) – approved stay U14s new player; 3 B players (LS,



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RY, SAB) – approved stay U14s new playersNordek – 1 G player (J) – approved, stay U14s new player, disabilities specified.Additional requests received at the meeting:Vikings MENVikings proposed an exemption to the named players rule for the Premier League Men's (PLM) team. It was proposed that due to the age of the participants in the PLM team that only 2 players be named in the PLM team.There was concern over the strength of the Vikings 2 nd grade team and that it featured many PLM standard players. The players identified had no intention to play PLM and only wished to play Men's 2 nd Grade.It was decided that the exemption would be granted on the condition if the following identified PLM level players participated in PLM they would be named in the Vikings PLM team moving forward: Liam Wood, Tim Godfrey, Phil Foster,Dragons WOMEN Discussed whether Dragons should field 2 Division 1 teams, and whether they should be of "equal" strength, or a stronger and less strong/ developing team.	
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		It was decided that this exemption would be modelled by GW via email with a decision to be decided electronically.
		Re-iterated that the primary concern is that we continue to grow the sport, and that there be support for players to "stay in the sport" at "retirement" rather than exit the sport all together.
		In general, there was no concern expressed for younger players playing "up".
		Board members noted WPA Competition Policy requires that U17s (junior) players playing "up" an age group are required to sign a risk waiver prior to participation. All Clubs undertook to review the rules and ensure appropriate documents are obtained from players & parents.
		Senior Competition Draw – <i>distributed 24 Oct 2022</i> - approved Junior Competition Draw – <i>distributed 24 Oct 2022</i> - approved
Cc	onstitution Update	Constitution – <i>distributed 19 Oct</i> 2022 – approved with the following amendments to be made prior to consultation
		 Life Members are not entitled to a vote at General Meeting(s) Clarification that the elected directors will appoint a President and Vice-President



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		An update of the timing of the AGM and the approval of the Constitution was provided by the EO. Key dates include the Financial Report to be signed prior to 31 October 2022, the a Community Forum to be held to discuss the proposed new Constitution and the AGM to be held on 27 Nov 2022. There was discussion as to whether the AGM must be held prior to 31 October (four months of the financial year end) or within a certain number of months after the last AGM. RM to provide the appropriate details via subsequent email to Board members.
	Policy/ies Review	 Approved Junior Representative Program Framework Coach, Referee and Officials Framework The EO noted the Financial Policies
5	President's updateWPA Elections	will be circulated out of session. MT provided an update of the WPA AGM 19 Nov – 5 candidates for the position of Director of WPA have been put forward by the Nominations Committee, including Don Cameron.
6	 Treasurer's update Annual report/ financial statement audit AGM 	Financial statements have been circulated. Board members to review out of session and provide comment as soon as possible to MT and RM
7	Executive Officers updatePolicy Review	The EO provided the following update – WPA Sanctioning Policy is to be finalised by WPA board on Friday 28 Oct. It will come into effect immediately. ACT Sport and Rec program released. EO to share this information via email to the Board. EO and President



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		participating in consultation activities with ACT Sport and Rec. The Board noted 2025 Masters Games to be hosted in the ACT and noted its support for waterpolo to be included as a sport. There was general discussion as to the increasing pressure on costs, in particular for pool hire. We have been able to negotiate, together with the Aquatic Alliance for (continued) discounted rates.
8	Other Business Representative Team selections 	The board ratified the selections proposed by coaches. The board extended its thanks to Coaches/ Selectors for the detailed completion of selection sheets. RM will advise Coaches of the Board's ratification of the selections and RM will advise selected players.

Meeting closed 8.05pm. A short tour of the WPACT office at the AIS was conducted after the meeting for interested board members.