

# Minutes - HDCA Annual General Meeting – 03/02/2020

Highlands District Cricket Association



Meeting details	
<b>Date and Time:</b>	03/02/2020 at 7:11pm
<b>Location:</b>	Alexandra Room, Mittagong RSL
<b>Minutes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Present Simon Taufel (Chairman) (ST), Tahlia Wellington (TW), Byron Kauflin (BK), Brian Martin (BM), Jack Whitfield (JW), Salman Yusuf (SY), Graham Brake (GB), Brett McAulay (BMc), Graeme Watson (Patron) (GW), Rodney Cavalier (RC), Darren Gardner (Bowral Blues CC), Angus Humphreys (Bowral CC), Rina Hore (Bradman Foundation), Martin Gleeson (CNSW), Sean Barrett (CNSW), Michael Pike (Wingello), Matthew Pike (WTCC), Kim McNaught (Oxley College), Andrew Bell (Chevalier College), Steve Beveridge (Bundanoon CC), Steve Granger (Bundanoon CC), Aaron De Jager (RBCC), Simon Reid (HNVCC), Rob Collins (MVCC)</li><li>2. Apologies - Nil</li><li>3. Previous Minutes That the previous General and Special General Minutes be accepted as true and accurate. Moved – Darren Gardner, 2nd – Angus Humphreys, Result - Carried</li><li>4. Business Arising No business arising</li><li>5. Directors Reports<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Treasurer<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Note that there are a few outstanding fees/fines. Noting that there are a number of reasons fees are outstanding, and in line with the member regulations the board asks for a show cause and at the board's discretion, exceptions are made for these.</li><li>ii. Year to Date, all items (with the exception of rep clothing) are within the budget. The uniforms we had were larger in size than anticipated and the HDCA therefore purchased another \$3000 worth of uniforms.</li></ol></li><li>b. Chairman<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Noted the challenging times faced by our region recently.</li></ol></li></ol></li></ol>

Pleased with the way that clubs have responded to the decisions that the HDCA have made over the previous month in relation to whether or not games are played.

ii. Pleased that most of our clubs and members have come through the season relatively unscathed.

iii. Thanked senior directors for their work over the past 6 weeks.

iv. Thanked the clubs for their involvement in the reconciliation round last weekend.

v. The HDCA will be inviting the life members free of charge to the table of ten event.

vi. The board are exploring the possibility of sponsorship with the BDCU. Details will be distributed in due course.

vii. Kingsgrove Sports will be donating another item (this year from Kim Hughes) this year.

c. Secretary/Administrator

i. Thank you to the clubs for support and understanding with all of the changes recently. The board will continue to do what they can to make and communicate changes as early as possible.

ii. A reminder that the perpetual trophies are due back by 1st March per the member regulations.

iii. Encouragement by ST for all members to visit the HDCA website, as a large amount of work has been done to bring this up to date. In the future, the HDCA will be sending out links to information on this website.

iv. Please ensure that all information provided to clubs is passed on to club members.

d. Senior Cricket

i. We had 1 round of 2nd/3rd grade combined T20 competition, and it is not anticipated that these will be rescheduled.

ii. There has been very limited cricket played recently, and therefore not much to report.

iii. ST raised question of the association regarding the way that everything was handled over the past 6 weeks. This was met with nods from the association

iv. In terms of improvements, JW noted that he would streamline the communication to club presidents.

v. Next senior committee meeting likely to be an end of season review following finals.

vi. Please pass on to players that there is to be no drinking at the ground until play has ceased for the entire day.

There is to be no drinking at all at school grounds at any time.

vii. Steve Granger noted that the facilities have not been opened at Taylor Ave. Kelly Wilson from the facility noted that these would not be opened due to the cost of cleaning. BMC will investigate.

e. Junior Cricket

i. CNSW recently put on an electronic scoring training night. If you would like any further information on this, please email through to TW.

ii. There will be a junior meeting on 18th February.

iii. The Ross Bull Memorial Award, as mentioned on multiple occasions earlier in the season, is a sportsmanship award. There are a number of coaches who have not heard of this award. Could this information please be passed on to club members.

iv. There has been some juggling required to manage ground availability. Gib Gate is now available for use and Exeter has recently been re-laid. Stephens Park is out of operation for now.

v. Steve Granger questioned the type of synthetic laid on Exeter. ST confirmed that the synthetic was the correct material, and thanked Peter De Hosson (and his son) for their generosity in relaying this synthetic free of charge.

vi. Question regarding Stage 3 games between schools and non-school teams of which day 1 out of 2 was not played – To be reviewed by clubs involved and Director of Junior Cricket.

f. Facilities and Grounds

i. Exeter has been re-laid with good reports from those who played there on the weekend.

ii. Stephens Park remains closed and will be for the foreseeable future due to the continued issues with the cracks caused by the new drainage.

iii. Synthetic has been laid at Yerrinbool.

iv. The board have been looking at next season and beyond to ensure that we have sufficient grounds for both juniors and senior competitions.

v. A question was raised regarding the use of Bundanoon Oval, as there are a limited number of games scheduled there.

vi. Question raised regarding someone measuring the distance of the boundaries at Bundanoon. Confirmed that this was not HDCA.

vii. Both curators have advised that they will not continue next season. The HDCA will seek to find replacements.

viii. Irrigation at Lackey and Welby.

ix. Aaron De Jager noted that Highlands soccer had games scheduled prior to the end of March. The HDCA has not received any request for games scheduled prior to the end of our user agreement – 31st March 2020.

x. Eridge Park toilets are no longer able to be opened by the 6.5 keys. BMC to liaise with Bowral Blacks regarding this issue.

6. Representative Cricket

i. U16s have finished

ii. U12s and U14s have one round of T20s to go and then they will go into semi's and finals. It is anticipated that the HDCA teams will progress to the semis.

iii. U14 Thunder Cup being held in the Highlands 9<sup>th</sup> February.

7. Greater Illawarra Zone

i. The next meeting will be held 9<sup>th</sup> February at Bradman

ii. If anyone has anything they would like followed up, please let Rina know. ST will forward through a list of items to be raised

iii. The GIZ were appreciative of receiving copies of the HDCA interim heat and air quality policies

8. Code of Conduct

No reports thus far this season. Well done to all involved.

9. Sponsorship and Marketing

i. ST met with BDCU to discuss a possible sponsorship option. Details will be forwarded in time.

ii. Table of Ten is generating further sponsorship leads

iii. If anyone has any ideas around how we could be generating further funds to benefit the association, please reach out to a board member.

10. General Business

**a. Strategic Review Preliminary Report – Graeme Watson**

The report is as a result of the review undertaken over course of 3-4 months.

Objective: "To undertake the establishment of a detailed development plan to enable the HDCA to grow and underpin sustained growth of cricket within the highlands"

Over the past 10 years, the population of the Wingecarribee Shire has grown by 6.4% (2,950 people)

During the same period, junior registrations have decreased by 25.7% (85 people)

A number of interviews with the schools have highlighted that they have at times had programs run within their schools, however they are generally left to do the heavy lifting.

A number of schools highlighted the need for a stand-alone female competition.

A number of the 9-10 schools (public and private, primary and secondary) felt slightly overwhelmed.

The research has shown that junior registrations are diminishing.

Interviews have shown that the HDCA board should be more gender balanced and the focus of the board should be more proactive

The quality of the training and playing facilities throughout the Wingecarribee Shire are fairly basic. There is a lack of turf wickets, and number of grounds over which the HDCA have control.

Overall clubs are seeking assistance with functions in which they have no expertise:

- Volunteers
- Facility agreements
- Sponsorship/partnerships
- Media

- Facility planning and funding – Facility agreements which allow more control over grounds

Proposed a stand-alone junior schools based competition for both private and public schools.

This model would allow senior students to be qualified in the areas of coaching, umpiring, scoring etc.

The HDCA would run a pathway program through this competition.

It is recommended that a restructure of the board take place, with roles which are targeted around supporting the clubs:

(i) finance/administration

(ii) cricket operations (seniors)

(iii) cricket development (juniors)

(iv) facilities

(v) corporate

(vi) volunteers

(vii) marketing/PR

Establishment of an advisory group – Which would allow for greater, and improved communication between the HDCA, clubs, and other stakeholders within the community.

This would include representation from clubs, council, volunteers, etc).

Establishment of a corporate group who could provide advise on how we secure funding to allow facilities to be developed.

GW has conducted 37 interviews within the cricket community and 18-20 with the business community.

GW interviewed 4 clubs, and endeavoured to interview a further 2 (however these, for various reasons did not go ahead).

ST – The current board have discussed the recommendations from the report, and the fact that we need to increase the number of juniors playing. We need to look at a discussion with the schools to look at the possibility of establishing a schools-based competition. We need to engage more volunteer parents. We need to capture more kids playing cricket – which will in turn feed senior clubs.

Simon Reid – Agrees with a schools-based competition, however feels that the major challenges would be aligning secondary schools to senior clubs, and how do you balance the schools, given that there are so few secondary schools.

GW noted that these questions and concerns are similar to those brought up by the HDCA and schools. The plan would be to call together a working group to assist in finding the answers to these and other concerns.

Martin Gleeson – The process undertaken is interesting and follows similar projects have been undertaken around the state. Each of these projects highlight similar concerns in all areas.

Confirming that the proposed schools-based competition would mean that there would no longer be a junior clubs competition.

Concerns raised regarding the transition for 14-18 year olds, where we currently see the highest rate of drop off in participation. To then move a player from a school team to a club team in this age group could be concerning.

The ACT have a mix of premier clubs and school based clubs. The schools have the highest participation rate (26% of students play), however their transition rate to clubs is not great.

Kim McNaught notes that we lose a number of players due to moving out of the district.

Simon Reid suggests that we proceed with a primary school competition (as a schools-based competition) feeding in to a clubs-based competition from secondary school ages.

GW notes that we need to proceed with the process in order to explore the possibilities.

Aaron De Jager – Questioned what the feedback was from local businesses and whether or not there were individuals within the community who were interested in cricket but not involved currently. GW noted that a number of people were

willing to be involved, however didn't know how to be. Via the Table of Ten event we are engaging these people for the first time.

Martin Gleeson raised a question of the end game – Looking at the charter, GW notes that the end game is “to enable the HDCA to grow and underpin sustained growth of cricket within the highlands”.

The conversations will continue with clubs, schools and CNSW to assist in going forward with this.

The aim of the changes to the board structure is to be more strategic and forward thinking.

Should anyone have any concerns with any of this, you are encouraged to discuss with board members.

#### **b. HNVCC Jurd Park Proposal**

Thank you to all clubs, affiliates and individuals who contributed to the bush fire appeal. The club raised \$18,070 for the Hill Top, Colo Vale, Balmoral and Yerrinbool RFS.

6 years ago the Board were reviewing the possibility of developing a turf pitch at Jurd Park, Colo Vale. The HNVCC are revisiting this now.

Please see attached report containing information regarding why and how the HNVCC would like to proceed with this proposal.

The HDCA has provided it's support in principal for this proposal. There is work still to be done regarding the funding model.

The “clubs” referenced in the current funding model are the senior clubs.

The board are very happy to see a club proactive in this space and working toward investing in a home ground.

Current model to align with the junior schools in order to increase junior participation

Proceeding – HNVCC will discuss with Simon Haire who was instrumental in the HDCA grounds and facilities strategy. HDCA will discuss with WSC regarding user agreements and start to put it on their agenda. Clubs to review and consider funding model. HNVCC will be in contact with each club to determine if they are willing to support the proposal.

The current proposal is to utilise the right side of the ground which should not affect the other sports (baseball and soccer) who utilise the ground.

Biggest concern is water to the grounds.

Note that there will be an ongoing maintenance cost to the HDCA. The club notes that they do have a member who may be able to assist with maintenance.

#### **c. Table of Ten**

Graeme Watson has suggested that the HDCA hold a function/fund raising event. An organising committee has been established (ST, GW, TW, BK and Geoff Prenter). The event will be held at the Mittagong RSL for 230 people on 6th March 2020. All details are available on the HDCA website and have been circulated to all clubs. The purpose for this function this year is to:

- Improve facilities
- Improve junior cricket, particularly through developing a female competition Support RFS

There are 3 levels of tables:

Gold - \$3,000

Silver - \$2,000

Bronze - \$1,500

The night will include a 3 course dinner with a drinks package, with Guest Speakers Ian Chappell, Doug Walters, Lauren Cheatle, Keith Stackpole and MC David Morrow To date we have sold 4/5 gold tables, 4/10 Silver tables and 7/8 bronze tables.

The HDCA would encourage every club to purchase a table. The money raised on the night will be put back into our sport.

	<p>Rodney Cavalier has donated a gold table to the RFS and we will have 9 members attend free of charge to enable us to celebrate and acknowledge their contributions on the night.</p> <p>The Auction Item list continues to grow. Clubs/affiliates/members are encouraged to reach out if they have anything of value which may be able to be donated on the night, from physical items to experiences to services.</p> <p>We are looking to determine ways in which we can support the local community – ie drawing people into the Highlands for weekends where they may be able to further spend money in our economy.</p>
	<p>Closed at: 9.00pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> May, venue TBC</p>