



AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

(WA Division) Inc

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AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION, (WA DIVISION) INC.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at WA Sportsman's Association, Stancliffe Street, Mt Lawley
Tuesday 19th August 2014 at 8.30 pm

1. OPEN MEETING

President John Curtis opened the meeting at 20:37 hrs and welcomed Delegates

2.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe Horvath, OSAC.	Peter Osborne ORSS
Mark Hansen, Beachcombers.	Pat Shinnick, LAAC
John O'Brien proxy, POBAC	Bruce Davies, OSCA Mt Barker
Russell Bunce, FAAC	Jason Pember, FAAC
Wilf Core, Melville AAC	Ken Howells - SCAC.
Denis Loran, HYC.	George Holman, SCAC
Richard Suidak, Independent Delegate & Treasurer	
John Crompton, Secretary & Proxy Esperance Surf Casters	
John Curtis President	

APOLOGIES

Peter Pekaar, Proxy Geraldton A/C, Paul Longo POBAC

VISITORS

Peter Stoeckel, President Beachcombers, Ian Cook, Beachcombers...

NEW MEMBERS OR PROXIES

John O'Brien proxy for POBAC replacing Paul Longo

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS A G M 17 SEPTEMBER 2013

Minutes of the previous A G M have been circulated, copies were available for members.

Moved. Joe Horvath, Seconded; Mark Hansen; "That the minutes as tabled be accepted as a true and accurate record." Motion carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM A G M MINUTES

No Business arising from AGM minutes



5 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

John Curtis presented the President's report to the delegates for the 2013 / 2014 year. A copy is attached.

TREASURERS REPORT & AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT-

Richard Siudak presented and spoke to the Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Report. A copy is attached.

ROCK & BEACH AND ESTUARY REPORT:

Jason Pember spoke to a report he presented on behalf of the Rock & Beach and Estuary Sub Committee. A copy is attached.

No further reports were tabled.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE 2014 / 2015

John Curtis indicated that he had received two nomination forms for positions asked that the meeting confirm Peter Stoeckel & Ian Cook to act as scrutineers. This was confirmed. meeting.

George Holman called for a point of order relating to the election of Independent Delegate/s. Under Section 24 of the constitution the position/s of Independent Delegate becomes vacant on the day preceding the AGM.

A nomination was received from the floor for Richard Siudak to be an Independent Delegate,

It was moved Mark Hansen, seconded Joe Horvath: "That Richard Siudak be elected as AAWA Independent Delegate." Motion carried.

The President then declared all positions vacant and called on Pat Shinnick to take the chair for the election of the position of President.

President:

There were two written nomination for the position and called for any further nomination for the position of President from the floor. None were received and John Curtis was duly elected.

The President resumed the chair and thanked Pat for his assistance.

Senior Vice President.

The President indicated that there was one nomination for this position and called for any further nominations for the position from the floor. With no further nominations received from the floor, Peter Osborne was duly elected.

Junior Vice President:

There were no written nominations for this position and there were no nominations from the floor. The President declared that the position would remain vacant.

Secretary:

President indicated that there was one written nomination for the position of Secretary that on John Crompton. He called for any further nominations and with none forthcoming John Crompton was duly elected.

Treasurer:

A written nomination nominating Richard Siudak had been received. The President called for any further nominations for this position. With none forthcoming Richard Siudak was duly appointed.

AGENDA DELEGATES' COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 2014

Assistant Secretary:

No nominations were received for this position and it was left vacant.

Publicity Officer:

The President indicated that this position had, over the past few years fallen on the position of President and that he was happy to continue to carry out this role where required. No nominations were received for this position and so the President has again taken up the role.

Recorder:

One written nomination had been received. The President called for any further nominations for this position. With none forthcoming John Curtis was duly elected

Property Officer:

No nominations were received for this position and it was left vacant.

Competition Officer:

A written nomination nominating Jason Pember had been received. The President called for any further nominations for this position. With none forthcoming Jason Pember was duly appointed.

Web Site Editor:

A written nomination nominating Joyce Frankel had been received. The President called for any further nominations for this position. With none forthcoming Joyce Frankel was duly appointed.

The President declared the Annual General Meeting closed at 21:55.

The President called for a motion to resume standing orders.

**Moved by Mark Hansen, Seconded Wilf Core; "That standing orders be resumed"
Motion Carried.**

The August Delegates Council Meeting was resumed at 21:55 pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO A A A (W A DIVISION) INC 2014 A G M.

It is with pleasure that I again present an annual report as President to the Australian Anglers Association (W A Division) 2014 Annual General Meeting.

It has been an difficult year for the W A Division of the Association. During this year we have had a several clubs relinquish their membership and two others indicate that they have gone into recession and will review their position early in the new year. Unfortunately some of the clubs who relinquished their affiliation have been country based clubs and their demise has come about due to increasing age of their members, a lack of growth in regional areas and no real interest in club angling.

Many metropolitan based clubs are also experiencing similar situations with an aging membership and minimal recruitment. If this is allowed to continue it will see the demise of the clubs and in turn this Association in a few short years. Many clubs are finding diminishing numbers are impacting on their ability to field teams for State Competitions. During this past year we have had no clubs join or seek to join the Association.

This trend is a major concern to the W A Division. The lack of recruitment of younger people, either single or families, into our ranks is concerning. Once we have them on board, retaining them, and keeping them is the next concern. I have said in previous reports to this body that as an organization we are going to have to make some wholesale changes to the way we operate to encourage new members and clubs to join. If we continue in the same way as we have done, and don't make changes to incorporate this new blood, we as an organization are doomed to fail.

Most State competitions run by the Western Australian Division during the last year have also shown a decline in numbers attending. This is of concern to the Association, but it also appears to be a reflection of competitions within clubs as well. If our organization is to grow and be a viable concern we have to recruit more younger people and also encourage them to take an active role within their club and the Association.

We are going to have to look at the way competitions generally are run. This was done at the National Mid Term Meeting and there were several recommendations put forward to amend National Competitions. Unfortunately many of these positive steps were not approved. One of the problems with the administration within angling organizations at many Clubs, Associations and National level is that those who are managing them have been involved in them for many years and either cannot or will not make changes. Many of the people serving these organizations are over 65 or more, and are set in their ways and are not prepared to consider changes. As I have said previously if we continue to do what we have always done, we will; continue to get what we have always got.

Change has to be seen as a positive, not a negative. If we are to attract young people to our organization we have to cater for them. They are a generation of technologically smart but time poor people who want to go somewhere, participate and then finish and move on to the next item. Competitions such as ours that are run over extended periods, in remote locations are no longer attractive to the younger generation. An example of this are the Australian Bream Tournaments (ABT). At a recent event in Perth sign on was at 6 am, fishing commenced at 6:30 am and the weigh-in commenced at 11:30 am. With trophies and prizes awarded the event was finalized by 12:30 pm. We need to review our style and type of competition and move on to meet the changing times.

It is an unfortunate fact of life that many people seem to believe that State Competitive events will all just happen. There are too few willing workers for the amount of work required to be done. As our organizers are getting older, it is becoming harder and harder to plan and organize State and inter-club events. These don't just happen and if it wasn't for the efforts of a few, the many would not have any events to participate in. As was recently pointed out to me there are only a minimal number of people directly involved in the planning and organizing of these events. What will happen when they call it a day. Who will pick up the running?

One thing that has been a concern of mine for a number of years within the Association is the matter of succession planning. What will happen when those who are currently running

these committees decide that it is time. Due to the lack of people assisting in the planning, coordinating and running of many of our events, we have no future leadership. We need people to be allowed to step up and learn what to do and how to do it while we still have those with the knowledge to pass it on. They will make mistakes, but this is a part of the learning process. We cannot continue to use the same people over and over again until they burn out and this does not bode well for our continued existence.

I would like to specifically thank all subcommittees for their dedication and commitment over the past year. The State Boat Angling Championships run out of the Hillarys Yacht Club headquarters saw over 200 anglers in more than 100 boats participate. Some excellent fish were weighed and the event was a great success. The only down side to this event was the small number of clubs participating in this event. The Boating Sub-committee had made arrangements for charter boats to be used in its competition and no club availed themselves of this opportunity to participate.

To the State Boating Sub-Committee led by Pat Shinnick, thanks for a job well done. To the great team of people supporting and assisting this committee in its endeavours, from myself as President, and the Association, thank you for a job well done. To all of the clubs who were involved in the competition, the success of this event is also due in no small part to you and your efforts and I thank you for that.

To the team of willing workers in both the Rock and Beach and Estuary Sub-Committees also goes my thanks for their time and effort in producing two excellent events with great numbers and participation from many of the affiliated clubs. These two sub-committees are led by Jason Pember and Russell Bunce and a small team of assistants. Again on behalf of the Association and myself thank you for a job well done.

The numbers of anglers fishing in the State Rock and Beach event were also down this year and to make matters worse, they battled inclement weather and tides. However the event was deemed to be successful, but improved numbers attending would make for a better competition.

The State Estuary competition was held in the Swan River. Once again competition numbers were down and the conditions were against participants. However the quality of fish weighed made up for the lack of anglers.

To the Dry Casting sub-committee who ran the event last year also goes my thanks for another successful year. Several members of the team who participated at Caloundra were first time participants and their efforts at the National level saw some personal bests. The resignation of the coordinator earlier in the year has left a gap to be filled however this has been dealt with and this year's event is planned and prepared.

These events are there for the member clubs of the Association and it behoves all clubs to participate in as many events as possible. There is nothing more disappointing to those who spend considerable time and effort in setting up these events to have minimal numbers participate in them. If this scenario persists then the outlook for competitions is not good.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Secretary John Crompton. John quietly goes about his business in an efficient manner and has been a great support to me in this role. I also wish to thank Richard Siudak, who is Chair of the AAA Records Authority and an Independent Delegate for his work in the role as Treasurer. Both suffered from unnecessary attacks on their roles earlier in the year and both considered resigning due to these comments and harassment. Thankfully both overcame these and continued to perform their functions for the Association.

Due to some delegates raising matters that have not been Association business and making meetings quite unpleasant, several delegates have voted with their feet and as a result have not regularly attended meetings. Because the Constitution does not consider this type of behaviour, no action can effectively be taken against offenders. To my mind the Delegates Council is not a place to air personal grievances. Delegates are here to act for and on behalf of their clubs and make decisions that are in the best interests of the

AGENDA DELEGATES' COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 2014

recreational angler and act as a link between the clubs that they represent and this Council.

Externally the Association has been working closely with Recfishwest and has had representation on several committees and research programs. Researchers from Murdoch University have been working on black bream and others from the University of W A have been working on prawn restocking programs in the Swan River. These programs have been actively supported by members of this Association.

The Association has been working closely with researchers at Curtin University who have been researching the health benefits associated with recreational fishing. Professor McManus and her team are to shortly publish their findings and members of this association contributed a lot of information to this research. These findings will enable organizations such as Recfishwest and this Association to seek more support from governments and other bodies as the positive benefits generated by recreational angling are realized.

Following a recommendation from the Department of Fisheries to impose a bag limit on Australian Herring, the Association prepared a response and sent it to Recfishwest along with recommendations for modification to management of the herring fishery. This was done in conjunction with the Delegates. Input from the Delegates in preparing this report was appreciated. Recfishwest were very pleased with this submission, and as a result of it and others, a further review of the fishery is being undertaken.

Recfishwest has continued to lead and support recreational angling in Western Australia and improve the lot for anglers. I have recently attended meetings on behalf of the Association for the Fishing Associations Working Group and the inshore FAD steering committee. The Association has had representatives sit on these sub committees involving location and placement of Fish Aggregating Devices in metropolitan waters. Some of these are to be placed well offshore while others have been planned for installation in inshore waters from Two Rocks to just north of Rottneest. These devices will help improve the lot for recreational anglers in Western Australia. All of these initiatives will further enhance the recreational fishing experience for anglers in Western Australia.

The 34th National Angling Championship and Convention will be held at Wallaroo in South Australia in March 2015. Planning meetings have been held and currently there are some 23 people from 4 clubs planning to attend these Championships. This is by far the biggest contingent from Western Australia in recent years to attend this event.

Peter Osborne and I attended as the W A Delegates to the AAA National Mid-Term meeting held in March at Wallaroo, We were shown incredible hospitality by the South Australian Association and our tour of the venues has shown that we can compete on an equal footing with other states at this event. I would like to recognize the efforts of Peter in preparing a pictorial report that is on the Association's web site, which shows the various locations that will be fished during the event. Peter is also available to make a presentation to any club interested in attending this event.

I would like to thank the many members of the clubs who have ably and actively supported the Association over the last year and look forward to their continued support during the 2014 / 2015 year. To you the delegates who are the ears, eyes and voice of the affiliated clubs from the clubs I thank you for your input and efforts throughout the year. I thank you for your continued support of the Association and its events.



John Curtis,
President,
Australian Anglers Association (W A Division) Inc
19 August 2014

AAAWA BEACH AND ROCK / ESTUARY SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2013/14

Jason Pember

	Anglers Registered	Men	Ladies	Vets	Juniors	Mini's	Total Fish	Total Weight	Ave fish /Angler	Ave Kg / Angler
Beach13	121	77	25	12	3	4	490	179	4	1
Beach14	63	38	11	11	1	2	490	343.9	7.8	5.5
Estuary13	77	44	9	15	6	3	490	130	6	1.7
Estuary14	52	30	9	11	1	1	140	31.07	2.7	0.6

Beach and Rock

The 2014 Beach and Rock competition was held in the Capes Region and run out of the Yallingup Caravan Park. The boundary of the competition was the Busselton Jetty south to the Augusta river mouth. 63 competitors entered the competition from 7 clubs it was great to see 3 participant from the Geraldton Club. It has been 8 year since a competition has been run in this area.

The low number of participants was made up for by good weather and fishing, with around 490 fish caught. The best bag consisted of 11 species for 27kg including 4 salmon caught by Jason Pember from the Fremantle Club. The best fish was a small Dhufish caught by Wayne Drage from Offshore Beach.

The Yallingup Caravan Park was a good location for the weigh-in. They donated 2 camping sites and kept that section of the park vacant for the weigh in. The weigh-in ran smoothly with no problems using two sets of scales.

Even though the attendance fishing this location is lower, the close competition and good fishing made up for it. This time of year is also great with a higher chance of good weather than winter, salmon around as well as the start of winter species.

Estuary

The Estuary competition was held in the Swan/Canning Rivers. The fishing and attendance was reasonable for this location. The Cockburn Sound based competition does attract a higher number of attendances and fish, however it is important to have a pure estuary event in our capital's estuary.

The best bag was 7 species, of 28 fish caught by Paul Willis from Fremantle. The weigh-in was held at Troy Park in the Shire of Melville which was a reasonable location although parking can be difficult at times in the area.

Discussion

There seemed to be no problems with the changes to the bag limit of wrasse to one and the increase to some species size limits. I think that the balance of fish is now very good. An argument could be made to consider having a separate species list for Estuary and Beach. This would allow some species that can only be caught in Cockburn or the mouth of Walpole to be removed (such as blackfish and wrasse) from the estuary event.

Participation was down this year from previous years with less attendance from the boating clubs. It was also disappointing that again some clubs aren't making any effort at all to attend AAA events. If this doesn't improve over the next couple of years the AAWA beach and particularly estuary will not be able to continue.

With the lack of participation from driving leaders this year such as the Bell and Murphy families, the clubs that they represent had fewer participants. Ocean Reef only had 2

members at the estuary and both clubs had several members at the Beach. Other clubs such as Beachcombers didn't compete in the Beach or Estuary at all.

The Beach competition would have broken even and the Estuary has run at a loss. There will need to be some discussion around increasing the price of entry to \$20 dollars for Men and Ladies however increasing the prizes might also be required.

Jason Pember

Competition Officer

Audit of the accounts of the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc

**Auditor's Report to the Members of the
Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc.**

2013/2014 Financial Year

I have examined the book and records of the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.

In my opinion, the attached Statement of Income and Expenditure presents the financial position of the Association in a true and fair manner.

The governing body of the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc is responsible for the financial report and have determined the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial requirements of the constitution and appropriate to meet the needs and requirements of the members.

The financial reports have been prepared for distribution to the members for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's reporting requirements.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or the financial reports to which it relates to any person other than the members or for any other purpose other than for which it was prepared.

Hoera Koopu B.Bus (Hons)