



AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (WA Division) Inc

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Minutes of Delegates' Meeting 21 March, 2006 at WA Sports Association, Stancliffe Street, Mt Lawley.

The Delegates' meeting was opened at 7:40 pm. Vice President Nick Allsworth chaired the meeting.

Present:	Nick Allsworth	Northern Districts AC	Terry Fuller	Surf Casting and Angling Club
	Jim Strong	Denmark Angling Club	George Holman	Surf Casting and Angling Club
	Kevin Hughes	Bunbury Angling Club	Pat Shinnick	Boating sub committee
	Joe Horvath	OSAC Beach	Ken Jack	Fremantle Sailing Club
	Don Cox	Melville Amateur AC	Martin Humbert	OSAC Mt Barker

Apologies:

Russell Bunce, Fremantle Amateur Angling Club, Adam Eastman, OSAC Boat.

Notification of Proxies:

No new ones.

Visitors:

None.

Minutes of Previous Delegates' Meeting

Moved Kevin Hughes seconded Don Cox that the minutes of the previous month's Delegates' meeting are true and are an accurate record. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes.

The Offshore Angling Club will distribute the information about Rottnest.

Minutes of Executive Meeting

The March Executive Meeting had not been held due to lack of members for the executive.

Correspondence Inwards.

By Post	In From	Subject	Date	Action
Westpac		Bank Account Statements for February	Feb	Treasurer
Hillarys Yacht Club		March newsletter	Mar	Info
Marmion AAC		March newsletter	Mar	Info
Denmark Boating and Angling Club		Record Application Salmon 7.43 kg Faye Bail	Feb	To Recorder
Offshore Angling Club Boating		Affiliation Fees 2005/6	Mar	Treasurer
Offshore Angling Club Boating		Donation 2005/6 State Boating Championships	Mar	Treasurer
Jeff Mouritz Gas and Air		Payment \$250 full page advert State Boating booklet	Mar	Treasurer
Emails	In From:-	Subject	Date	Action
Various		Routine AAA Info (lots of State Boating Championships)	Various	None
Joondalup Carpet Choice		Advice of Payment by direct credit	23 Feb	Treasurer
Richard Lee, Quinns		Update of information for Quinns page on AAA website	15 Mar	Done
Bob Kelly, Drifters		Copy of Drifters submission on Wetline Review.	20 Mar	Info

Outgoing Correspondence.

Posted	Out To:-	Subject	Date	Action
AAA clubs, Delegates, etc		Minutes of February 2006 Delegates' meeting.	Mar	None
Jurien Bay Community Centre		Thanks for assistance at Jurien State Boating	Mar	None
Dept of Fisheries		Thanks for assistance at Jurien State Boating	Mar	None
Dept Planning and Infrastructure		Thanks for assistance at Jurien State Boating	Mar	None
Jurien Bay Sea rescue		Thanks for assistance at Jurien State Boating	Mar	None
Shire of Dandaragan		Thanks for assistance at Jurien State Boating	Mar	None
Hillarys Yacht Club		Request booking for July Fishing Clinics, 3, 10,17 July	Mar	Confirmation rec'd by phone 23/3.

Emails	Out To	Subject	Date	Action
Various		Routine AAA Info	Various	None
AAA clubs & members with email		Reminder of 21 Mar Delegates' meeting and Wetline Review comments.	19 Mar	None
Nathan Harrison, Dept of Fisheries		Complaint about inability to supply West Coast brochures for State Boating .	27 Feb	Immediate response

Business Arising from Correspondence:-

None. **Moved** Jim Strong seconded Joe Horvath that inwards and outwards correspondence be accepted – carried.

Treasurers Report. Accounts for payment are:-.

Pay to	From General account, for	Date Received	Amount	Date Due	Action

Bank Account Balances at 21 March 2006.

General Account Westpac Bank	\$	
Outstanding cheque	\$	
Outstanding cheque	\$	
Outstanding cheque	\$	
Amount held for banking	\$	
Accounts for payment from General account	\$	
Available in General account and in hand after accounts paid	\$	See Note re DSR funding.
Carnival Account Westpac Bank	\$	
Accounts for payment from Carnival account	\$	paid from General Account
Available in Carnival account and in hand after accounts paid	\$	Note

Note. Awaiting Department Sport and Recreation funds held up due to xxxxx being unable to provide audited statement for 2004/5 to allow DSR to release fund for 2005/6. Recfishwest has been chasing up and has made alternative arrangements with DSR to allow payment of 2005/6 funds. Some payments will be made from General Account and will be reimbursed from the Carnival Account when funds are received.

Club Affiliation fee invoices for 2005/2006 were sent out on 14 August 2005. Reminders were sent out 25 November. Up to 21 March 2006. Total 25 clubs have paid 2005/6 affiliation fees, 1 club advised will not renew.

Paid:-

Esperance Surfcasters	Mandurah Offshore Fishing & Sailing Club	Geraldton Angling Club
Surf Casting and Angling Club	Cockburn Power Boat Association	Northampton Districts Angling Club
Quinns Rock Fishing Club	Fremantle Sailing Club	Fremantle Amateur Angling Club
Bunbury Angling Club	Offshore Angling (Club Beach)	Denmark Boating and Angling Club
Hillarys Yacht Club	Albany Angling Club	Geraldton Districts Offshore Fishing Club
Swan Yacht Club	Melville Amateur Angling Club	Northern Districts Angling Club
Ocean Reef Sea Sports Club	Rockingham Offshore Fishing Club	Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club
Lancelin Angling and Aquatic Club	Offshore Angling Club South Coast	Drifters Deepsea Angling Club
Offshore Angling Club Boat		

Advised will not renew:-

Naturaliste Game & Sports Fishing Club To be contacted.

Up to 21 March 2006, the following clubs have not paid 2005/6 affiliation fees.

Mount Barker Offshore Angling Club (paid since the meeting)

Business Arising from Treasurer's Report.

Moved Pat Shinnick seconded George Holman that Treasurer's report be accepted and accounts passed for payment - carried. Rick Cameron will contact the Offshore Angling Club Mt Barker Branch about their affiliation fees.

Secretary's Report.

Has been a very busy month for the Secretary – not all has been AAA business.

Trophy Officer's Report

No report.

Property Officer's Report

A Property Officer is still needed. Pat Shinnick has a number of AAA shirts which could be used by officials at AAA events. Rick Cameron will collect from Pat for the Rock and Beach Championships.

Records Officer's Report

See the report under National Championships..

Competition Officer's Report

Not present

Boating Report.

Pat Shinnick reported on the State Boat Angling Championships held on 4 March at Jurien Bay. This went very successfully with many very favourable comments and compliments from the local Jurien Bay community. Results were included with the minutes of the previous Delegates meeting and are on the AAA website at <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au/2006StateBoatingChampionships.html>

At the boat launching ramp, AAA boats were held back at times so that local craft could be launched and retrieved without any delays and so that the AAA boats did not crowd the normal users.

Fisheries and Transport inspectors were completely satisfied with everything they looked at about the fish and equipment on the AAA boats. They came to the weigh in and were pleased with the "professional" manner in which all AAA Members presented themselves. As you know we do self regulate our competitions and ensure that ALL participants comply with the AAA Code of Conduct.

A great deal of cooperation was obtained from a number of community groups and in particular the Jurien Fishing club. It is understood the Fishing club wishes to rejoin the AAA.

Included were compliments from the operator of service station for the way the vehicles with trailers were so professionally manoeuvred through his service station and parked so they did not obstruct other customers.

One deliberate vandalism incident marred the weekend. The transducer cables were cut on seven boats on trailers parked in front of accommodation after the event on Saturday. These are very difficult to repair successfully, and so must really be replaced at a cost of about \$500 each.

Pat Shinnick has been advised by a number of his different contacts from within the Jurien Bay community, all with the same information, that these cables were cut by some deckhands from Western rock lobster boat who were upset by rigs left on pot ropes.

It seems that some rigs were caught on rock lobster pot ropes but the ropes were not marked to indicate that a rig might be caught up. The boats which were deliberately damaged just happened to be accessible in the wrong place at the wrong time and were targeted.

Being a long weekend with good weather, many other boats were out on Saturday. There is no information that the rigs on the rope(s) were left by boats involved in the AAA competition or by any of these particular boats which were targeted.

All these boats belonged to members of the Rockingham Offshore Fishing Club which have to pay a high price for someone's ill directed "pay back". The deliberate damage has been reported to the Jurien Police.

One smelly bag of fish was left on the hot ground under a vehicle after the weigh in and was reported by a person from outside AAA. The matter has been investigated, the bag and person disqualified, points deducted and the matter has been represented in very strong terms to the club from which the person was nominated and is a member. A meeting has been held with the club management and AAA's rules and codes of conduct about fish wastage have been stressed.

Pat reported on the Dept of Fisheries research being done through the catch cards and Angler Log Book and encouraged anglers to get involved. Don Cox confirmed that Melville gets a lot of information back from the data they supply.

George Holman expressed appreciation of the efforts of Pat Shinnick in organising the State Boating Championships.

The report and results were distributed with minutes of the February Delegates' meeting and are on the AAA website at <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au/2006StateBoatingChampionships.html>

Estuary, Rock and Beach Report

Everything is ready for the Rock and Beach championships on 25/26 March at Jurien

The next meeting of the Estuary, Rock and Beach sub committee will be at WA Sports Association, Stancliffe Street, Mt Lawley 7:30pm Thursday 6 April. Those present at the last Beach and Estuary subcommittee meeting raised concerns for the future of the AAA. The topic was heavily discussed after the completion of subcommittee business. It was resolved that they would like to continue this discussion at the next meeting on the 6th April.

Dry Casting Report.

Nothing to report for State Dry Casting.

National Championships.

The AAA mid term meeting has been held. A copy of the report was distributed to the Delegates and is attached to these minutes. Kevin Hughes said he was very impressed with the professionalism of all the people present.

The 2007 championships will be held at Phillip Island, Victoria in March 2007. Information about Phillip Island is available.

A meeting will be held at George Holman's, on Monday 3 April at 8 pm organise accommodation, transport etc for any persons interested in participating at the convention on Phillip Island. Anyone interested can come along.

National Records Authority. There was considerable discussion about the failure of the Records Authority to submit their report. It then became evident that ALL the State's delegates were less than impressed with the services NOT given by the Records Authority. The Q.A.F.C.A. State Fish Records stated that ALL their submitted record applications SINCE May 2005 have NOT been acknowledged or confirmed. At least 13 applications for records have been submitted and not one bit of correspondence has been returned. Victorian NSW and SA also complained of similar treatment.

Gorge Holman advised that a meeting had been held in late 2004 to resolve similar issues and promises had been made. There had not been meetings of the National Records Authority for a long time, he has discussed the problems with Richard Siudak (Chairman National Records Authority) and Adam Eastman (AAA Records Officer) asking for the matter to be sorted out, record applications processed and the status updated.

George is now waiting for the response. The feeling of the Delegates was that the responsibility for National Records should be handed to another State at the first opportunity unless a great improvement occurs in the very near future.

A letter is to be sent to the National Records Authority asking for a full status report at the April Delegates Meeting.

Fishing Clinics.

Hillarys Yacht Club has been booked for the next North of the River clinics on Mondays 3, 10, 17 July 2006.

AAA Web Page

Report and results for the 2005/6 State Boating Championships has been placed on the website. See <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au/2006StateBoatingChampionships.html>

The Quinns Rocks Fishing Club page has been updated with information supplied by the club.

WARCO Report.

The change of Ministers is another in the long sequence of changes and restarts on getting reforms in camping regulations.

Notices of Motion.

None.

Recfishwest Report.

Terry Fuller reported on some of the main points from the March 2006 Recfishwest Board Meeting, and other recent activities.

Rottneest No Fishing Areas. Recfishwest has written to the Chairman of the Rottneest Island Authority in very strong terms. The letter pointed out that his public statement he made that consultation had occurred with Recfishwest (and Dept of Fisheries) over the last two years to develop a plan to protect

biodiversity and recreational fishing opportunities on Rottneest Island were not true and at best were grossly misleading.

Norman Halse, one of the three recreational fishing representative on the Rottneest Marine working group, has written separately to the Chairman pointing out the problems with the activities of the committee, the intransigence of the anti-fishing group, the rejection of a compromise which would have provided two large no fishing areas acceptable to recreational anglers, the lack of documentation of discussions and outcomes, and his personal lack of knowledge of the detail of any recommendations which may now be being portrayed as coming from that working group.

Copies of those letters have been sent to the Premier and the Ministers and Departments concerned and have generated a great deal of interest, activity and concern. The draft proposals for closure to fishing of 17 percent of the shoreline and adjacent marine reserve were originally going to be released for public comment in mid March. The current timetable is now mid April.

Information received today shows that the new Premier has not been prepared to take the strong line that Geoff Gallop took against these closed areas. Extra publicity may be required.

Metropolitan Abalone. Under the metropolitan commercial abalone management plan, an automatic increase in allocation is allowed based on catch per unit effort, where the effort is measured in hours spent catching. Catch per hour would be one indicator of the abundance of abalone, all other things being equal. Recent commercial catch returns have indicated a significant increase in catch per hour, and the industry requested the "automatic" increase in the allocation.

The Department of Fisheries were preparing to allow this automatic increase, until Recfishwest heard about it and pointed out that 1) the hours were whatever the industry wanted to report and were not validated in any way, and thus could be used to....nah, won't say it. 2) an sustainable increased abundance and catch was unlikely when other indicators showed metro abalone stocks were fully exploited at best, 3) the commercial industry itself raised concerns for sustainability, complained about excessive recreational catches during the miserly 9 hours allowed annually for recreational abalone (maximum 9 hours if the weather, seas and swell permitting safe access to the reefs) and 4) increasing the commercial quota while the Integrated Fisheries Management process for abalone was grappling with the question of catch shares was grossly inappropriate and provocative and how could the Department possibly contemplate this?. Just another "behind the scenes" activity of RFW which prevents something happening but which may not be recognised by the recreational fishing people who benefit from it, – or don't lose something they have at present.

Western Rock Lobster. The first species for Integrated Fisheries Management, Western Rock Lobster is still causing headaches through the inadequacy and times 3 variation of the recreational catch "estimates" obtained by the different survey methods. The catch data is so important for sharing the catch through Integrated Fisheries Management and bag limits, etc. yet the data appears to be of limited, if any, use for the purpose of fairly allocating catch shares which will be used for some time into the future.

Cockburn Sound Crabs. Recfishwest has objected to proposed changes in the fishing times for commercial crab fishing in Cockburn Sound which could result in increased commercial catches and changes in the agreed split of 3/8 recreational and 5/8 commercial catch.

Salmon Fishing. The South and South West Coast salmon fishing season is underway. We are expecting some announcements about this in the very near future and I had hoped to be able to tell you about them in this report.

The Department of Fisheries issued a media release on 20 March headed "Salmon fishers urged to cooperate during spawning run" which I had expected to be the announcements. Instead it repeats the misinformation about the Designated Fishing Zones regulations, and implies once again/still, that the commercial fishers have priority in these Zones, which is NOT true.

If I were a spin doctor writing this media release to say things which were not actually false but avoided telling the truth, then these are exactly the sort of words I would use. And yes, it doesn't actually say that commercials have priority, but the words have been chosen carefully and I would bet that MOST people reading it would believe that the commercial people have priority.

This topic has been discussed several times with the Department, so the issue is well known, and any continued bias by the Department or failure to inform recreational anglers the truth about the Designated Fishing Zones is not acceptable. The bias in that media release has been represented by Recfishwest in very strong terms to the Executive Director of the Dept of Fisheries and others, and will be discussed with the Minister for Fisheries later that week.

Plans for the Rockingham/Mangles Bay/Cape Peron Marina have been received. The closing date for public submissions is Tuesday, 4 April 2006.

The Stakeholder Consultation report for the Logue Brook Dam and recreational activities on that dam has been prepared and submitted to the Department of Water.

A workshop has been held by the Marine Futures Steering Committee. The date of this conflicted with other Recfishwest activities so a separate meeting will be held between Jessica Meeuwig and RFW.

A meeting has been requested with the new Minister for Environment, Mark McGowan, to discuss a range of issues including Marine Park planning, freshwater management, Rottnest Island management, construction of dams on creeks, and pollution impacts.

Recfishwest has been satisfactorily audited by a government group looking at the representativeness, processes, governance, effectiveness and management of fishing peak and sector bodies. It will be interesting to see how some other organisations measure up.

Recfishwest policy on "Catch and Release Fishing" as circulated recently has been adopted by the Board. Draft policies have been prepared on "Taking Fish by Free Diving" and on "Artificial Reefs and Habitat Enhancements."

The "Sharing the Fish" conference was held in Fremantle over several days in late February. Many interesting papers were presented. See <http://www.fishallocation.com/papers/index.html> for these. Not enough data, conflicting data, data which can't actually be used because of some problems with it was a common theme from many of the speakers from many countries at the Conference, with reference to both sharing the fish and managing the fishing catch and effort. Terry Fuller attended two days dealing with recreational issues.

The Austag Research report for 2004/5 has been release and has heaps of information and is well worth a read. There are many answers to some people's questions about tagging and fish survival - and questions still to be answered.

See <http://www.info-fish.net/files/498/Austag%20Research%20Report%202004-05.pdf>

Recfishwest has written to the Minister for Fisheries requesting a stock assessment for West Coast herring which are causing concerns.

Recfishwest has made contact with the Premier and new Ministers following the changes in these portfolios.

Recfishwest has commented on the draft paper covering the management of ornamental fish in Australia. Ornamental fish have major risks for introducing diseases and feral fish and other organisms.

A community group at Point Samson has prepared a proposal for a marine protected area for a small local foreshore reef area to prevent it being stripped of shells, crabs, octopus and similar reef dwellers. Recreational line fishing into the waters from and near the reef will not be affected.

A formal review is being conducted of the recreational fishing consultative structure, which includes the roles and interactions of Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committees (RFAC and Regional RFACs) and Recfishwest. External consultants will be used to avoid any claims of internal biases.

The proceedings of the Western Australian Dhufish workshop have been released. There is so much really good stuff in this about Dhufish and management of fishing pressures, both recreational and commercial, which should be read by all people who fish for these. This is Fisheries Occasional Publication No. 34 and is on the Fisheries website at <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/op/op034/index.php?0100>

Commercial Wetline Review. The latest revised Commercial Wetline Management papers were released on 3/2/2006 and the Minister has called for final comments from the public. Any additional submissions should be forwarded to the Minister's office before Friday 24 March.

To all those vocal people who have said all those things and their concerns about commercial fishing for dhufish, snapper and other fish covered by the West Coast/Gascoyne Demersal Scalefish Fishery and Inshore Net Fishery as defined in the Management Papers:-

This may be your last chance to comment on the management of the West Coast/Gascoyne Wetline Fishery which IS SO IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY TO PEOPLE WHO FISH FROM BOATS.

After all, if you didn't take the opportunity during these two separate public comment periods to say what the rules should be, why would you expect your complaints - that you don't agree with the rules - to be listened to afterwards if you couldn't be bothered to make them during these periods??

Please don't leave this to "someone else" to comment. If you do leave it to other people, and you don't like the outcomes, then.....

Since the Delegates' Meeting, Recfishwest has prepared its comments on the Wetline Review.

Terry Fuller, Recfishwest Board Member.

Business Arising from RFW Report.

Pat Shinnick said that boating people can now see that Recfishwest are working hard and doing a very good job for recreational fishing.

George Holman said that the Recfishwest reports provide great amount of information and it is surprising that there has been so little reaction from the clubs to some of the very important issues being raised.

General Business.

Pat Shinnick asked about documentation of procedures and responsibilities of jobs in AAA. He has done this for all the jobs in the State Boating championships and can make those available for use by other sub committees with some simple adaptations. It is not appropriate to send these out with the minutes because they are of interest to only a small group of people.

Terry Fuller said that too many jobs like this had been left to people who are already very busy if not actually overloaded, but there is nothing to stop people writing down what their jobs involve. There are plenty of resources available on Government websites about running associations and clubs which could be adapted.

Future of AAA.

There was further discussion on what to do and where to go. AAA would not exist except for the involvement of the affiliated clubs and delegates who volunteer to do the work of the AAA, but the number of delegates and volunteers has fallen off.

This is crunch time for AAA. From August there will be no Secretary, no Treasurer, possibly no President, and many other jobs not filled so there may not be an AAA.

There has been no feedback (apart from people here at this meeting) about the item about the future of AAA in the last minutes.

After considerable discussion about timing, the proposal is to write to Presidents and Secretaries inviting them to attend the May Delegates meeting to discuss the future of AAA. It is realised that country clubs may not be able to attend a week night or even on a weekend, but they can give comments by post or email or phone. The Metro clubs are the ones whose delegates can be available to volunteer to do work. Due to distance country people cannot do much work in the metro area.

Meeting closed at 9:25 pm.

Notice of Future AAA Meetings.

Next Executive Meeting	To be advised of the month	Usually held on the first Tuesday
AAA Convention 2007	8 pm Monday 3 April at George Holman's, to organise accommodation, transport etc for any persons interested in participating at the convention on Phillip Island. Anyone interested can come along.	
Estuary, Rock and Beach	7:30pm Thursday 6 April. The next meeting of the sub committee will be at WA Sports Association, Stancliffe Street, Mt Lawley	
Next Delegates' Meeting	7:30pm Tuesday 18 April 2006, Sportsman's Association Clubhouse, Stancliffe Street, Mt. Lawley.	Usually held on the third Tuesday of the month.

Coming AAA Events.

State Dry Casting Championships	2006/7, Yokine Reserve, Sunday 29 October 2006
State Estuary Championships	2006/7, Swan River, Saturday and Sunday 25/26 November 2006.
State Boating Championships	2006/7, Date to be advised in March 2007 at Whitfords.
State Rock & Beach Championships	2006/7, HQ Cheynes Beach, Reef Beach to Betty's Beach, Saturday and Sunday 3/4 March 2007.

AAA Fishing Clinics.

North of the River

Hillarys (has been booked)

Mondays 3, 10, 17 July 2006

Club and AAA Publicity.

AAA has a web site www.aaawa.iinet.net.au Member Clubs can have their news published on the website. Check out the information about the other clubs. Use the web pages to give prospective new members and people information about your Club - meeting dates- field days - membership fees - phone numbers - Club news - field days results - photos of great catches - invitation day dates - social events - ANYTHING of interest to anglers and web surfers.

It costs you nothing to tell prospective members about your Club - nothing but a little time to prepare and send the information. Email material to AAA Secretary Terry Fuller at aaawa@iinet.net.au or post to PO Box 2200, Marmion, 6020. AAA phone number is 9403 7383 for any enquiries.

Email.

Email makes it so quick and easy to distribute information like all the above to clubs and members. Clubs and Delegates please give the Secretary email addresses for people who wish to receive information. All emails will be sent so that the email address is not visible to anyone else on the address list, and will keep the email addresses private. AAA email is aaawa@iinet.net.au

Sponsors of AAA.

Club Marine

Club Marine is the major sponsor of the Australian Anglers Association and the 2005/6 AAA State Boat Angling Championships.
<http://www.clubmarine.com.au>

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2005/6 AAA State Boat Angling Championships sponsored by All Boat Business.
<http://www.allboatbusiness.com.au/>

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Ozflex Australia.

Suppliers of Ozflex rods and tackle, Superflex line, Jinkai leader, Schneider line, Ande line, Classic and Bomber Lures, Neptune Tackle, and Angler Advantage Rods.

Supports the 2005 Fishing Clinics.

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Mako Tackle

Providers of all your tackle product needs.

Supported the 2005 Fishing Clinics.

<http://www.makotackle.com.au/>

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Magic Nissan

supported the 2005/6 State Dry Casting Championships.

<http://www.magicnissan.com.au>

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Yallingup Beach Holiday Park

Are Principal Sponsors of the 2005/6 AAA State Rock and Beach Championships.

<http://www.yallingupbeach.com.au>