



**QUIDDITCH
AUSTRALIA**

Quidditch Australia Special General Meeting Minutes



Quidditch Australia's Special General Minutes

Date: 13 September 2021

Location: Google Meet

Present

Luke Derrick (Chair) (LD)	Mark Kelly (VQA Representative) (MK)	Kim Govier (QNSW Representative) (KG)
Jamie Turbet (Secretariat) (JT)	Joe Dodd (Individual member) (JD)	Jack Emerton (Manticores Representative) (JE)
Nicola Gertler (Treasurer) (NG)	Steven Poletti (Individual member) (SP)	Manon te Riele (South Melbourne Quidditch Club Representative) (MR)
Alistair Yap (Events Director) (AY)	Amber Williams (Valkyries Quidditch Club Representative) (AW)	Nic Radoll (Individual member) (NR)
Scott Palmer (Membership Director) (SP)	Hana Stanley (QAQ Representative) (HS)	Cameron Walker (Eastern Sydney Universities Representative) (CW)
Matthew Blissenden (Strategic Operations Director) (MB)	Ella Pepper (Newcastle Fireballs Representative) (EP)	Jasmine Robinson (South West Horntails Representative) (JR)
Kelsey Collins (Gameplay Director) (KC)	Maddi Moulton (North Sydney Nightmares Representative) (MM)	Maria Carol (Macquarie University Quidditch Club) (MC)
Yukitoshi Imaizumi-Zhou (Secretariat) (YIZ)	Daniel Scharf (Brisbane City Quidditch Club Representative) (DS)	Dylan Waller (QUT Representative) (DW)
Lachlan Ward (Sydney City Serpents Representative) (LW)	Stephanie Jones (ANUQC Representative) (SJ)	Taylor Angelo (University of Sydney Quidditch Club) (TA)
Justine Herring (Individual Member) (JH)	Arfy Papadam (Individual Member) (AP)	

Meeting Opened: 7:31pm



Opening and Welcome

LD provides an Acknowledgement of Country

Apologies and leaves of absence

None

Motions of Notice

LD introduces the motion submitted by the Quidditch Australia (QA) Board. He states the QA Board is proposing to become a Company Limited by Guarantee and adopting a new constitution to support this, which is needed for NSO recognition.

LD asks for questions.

LW states he is not saying anything critical, but would like to ask if there was any legal advice received in drafting this constitution.

MB answered no legal advice, however, it is copied from a current constitution of an NSO recognised sport which is a client of mine, more than that I can't say, but the changes were just names and numbers here and there to make it relevant to Quidditch Australia.

LW said that makes a lot of sense because I noticed unattentionally there are a couple of references to ice hockey which that's ok, that can be removed I presume. Also things like definitions might need to be changed like currently our definition of Commonwealth of Australia is incorrect. This is my recommendation. It's just a minor change. "Commonwealth means the Commonwealth of Australia as established under the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1977 (Cth)" be replaced with "Commonwealth means the Commonwealth of Australia as established under the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900 (Imp)". That's it from me really.

LD asked to confirm any concerns from LW were minor.

LW answered yes, sorry except for one. For item 6.3, compared to what we had beforehand in the QA constitution, we have included some things about damages. Again, I'm not saying I know anything about this area but it seems different from what we have had before, as we said, it's from another NSO recognition, I assume it's fine but I wanted to check regarding that.



LD said he assumed that is just to protect Quidditch Australia from any claims from the past that we do not have record of. LD asks MB is the motion can be amended to have a look at Lachlan's notes.

MB replied yes.

LD asks for a team representative to second the motion.

Daniel Scharf seconds the motion.

JE said he has a statement to read on behalf of Nic Radoll who is unable to speak. It might be a bit late now, but did you want me to say it anyway?

MB replied we can discuss it anyway and if needed, we can always pass the motion at the next AGM. So in terms of this year, there's not going to be much of an impact of this constitutional change anyway because we're in lockdown and not actually playing quidditch, so if need to, we can make amendments at the AGM which is in only a couple of month.

JE said Nick has stated that if we accept the constitution, will need a second SGM to modify, and another message from him saying if the constitution is 100% right without legal advice, it could be a big risk to Quidditch Australia

LD asked if anyone has any questions in response.

MB clarified legally a constitution is just to help govern the CLG. If there are any laws or anything past down by the government which conflicts with a constitution, the law and/or regulation takes precedence, and it doesn't matter what is currently in the constitution you follow the law and/or the regulation. That way, you can still have a constitution that's 2 or 3 years old but you're still following the laws and/or regulations. So, in terms of legality, there won't be any issue in terms of that. Does that make sense?

JE replied it makes sense to me and I'm speaking on behalf of Nick Radoll also, so it should make sense to everyone else too. So, as long as we have those kind of insurances, we should be all fine then.

DS asked on that second one, for amendments, we just be doing at the AGM as sort of discussed there as well, we dont need to second it at the end, just to change the constitution right?

LD replied yes, as long as motions are submitted within the specified time frames.



LW said just on Nick Radoll's point, I'm perfectly fine passing the constitution, but can we also have a recommendation just that we have a lawyer look over it? Just a quick glance? Even though, as said, I'm at that the law will overwrite any illegality aspects of the constitution but we best too pre-empt that rather than kind of deal with it afterwards or find out later that some bits aren't valid.

LD replied sure, we can do that.

Luke Derrick moves the motion to pass the proposed constitution and become a CLG with the amendments and suggestions of Lachlan Ward, and Quidditch Australia will ask a lawyer to review the constitution.

Kim Govier seconds the motion.

Results of the vote:

Yes: 16

No: 1

Abstain: 0

The motion passes.

General Business

JD said he would like to raise the same business as I did at the AGM and ask about training jerseys or a jersey for our selected Dropbear team that haven't got anything or haven't heard anything from the board.

LD replied sure, that is my bad, we haven't followed up with that. I'm worried more about QUAFL and such. I will make that a priority moving forward for the rest of the year so that we will at least have an answer for you. If anyone has question about QUAFL, we are constantly monitoring the situation, we told the fields we making a decision by the 24th of September and we will inform you as soon as we know that as well. That is when that decision will be made. Any other questions or concerns?

SP said he has a couple of quick questions. Question number 1, this is possibly my bad for not looking at it, what exactly will be coming an NSO allow Quidditch Australia to do that currently isn't done? And following up from what you said about QUAFL, given that you be making the decision in 11 days time, with regardless of the fields, as currently stand in Melbourne, say that the decision is not hope for based on government advice, if that change



in November, would there be a change of venue or anything like that that might allow QUAFL to go ahead if government advice changes.

JT said NSO recognition has a number of benefits. The biggest one is access to grants. Currently QA, States and Clubs are limited in the grants they can apply for as we are not a registered sport. NSO recognition allows us to apply for government grants for sports, which is really big and can potentially become a great resource for states, clubs and QA.

It will make quidditch more accessible to others as we will be put on the Sports Australia register.

We will also get governance support from Sports Australia. For example, when we get complaints submitted to us by members, we can ask what's the Australia's guidance and advice, and they look over all our policies, making sure they're up to date and regulated.

We have also already submitted our application and expect to hear back in the next fortnight. Once our CLG application is approved we can submit it to Sports Australia. At the time of application, we only needed to prove we are working towards it.

LD answered to SP second question, the answer will be no. The board has decided that if we would call off QUAFL, that would be it, we will not look into changing that if anything happens. We feel like if we called it on in November, a national event, that would be pretty unfair to a lot of people who would last minute feel the needs to book flights, and all of that sort of stuff, and it would be impossible or improbable task of organising with that late notice. However, I'm just speaking for myself personally right now, in this next moment that if a state body or a state allowed community sport that happened, we will be more than willing to help out as we could, if a state wanted to run a day or two or whatever. If NSW wanted to hold a tournament day, or a tournament part weekend, and the state allowed that, then we will support that, but we will not look to hold a national event, before the end of 2021 if anything change once we made the decision on the 24th of September.

MK asked with the current state of lockdowns, do you have anything you can say about how you will make the decision about whether or not to go ahead with QUAFL since like there's been discussion like when lockdown end and the vaccination rate and those kind of stuff.



LD answered we had an in-depth discussion yesterday about it. We are looking at both proposed plans in terms of exit plans, we are looking at theoretical dates that they proposed the vaccines would be done by, but we are also taking into account things like cost of interstate travel, the possibility of interstate travel, the possibility and high likelihood of injury from people coming back from a sport and playing a highly competitive game, having not trained for a while. We are taking into account a lot of different things.

For me, its also a bit hard because a lot of the plans that has been announced have not mentioned community sport. Specifically, they mentioned theatre plans and other stuff but community sports was not mentioned, especially in the proposed exit quarantine plan from NSW. So, we are taking into account a lot of different things and its just about really looking at the safety of our players, and ultimately the safety of the event whether we would be to hold it because we would ultimately we feel liable whether we are legally or not regardless but like personally I feel the board feels quite to blame things going wrong at Quidditch Australia QUAFL.

So we are trying to make the best decision in the interest of everyone's safety, not necessarily for the fact that everyone wants to play Quidditch, I don't think people like me could be blamed for not wanting to play Quidditch. I think we all want to come back and play Quidditch but its ultimately about the safety of everyone and that's really what's in our minds.

Meeting Closed: 7:54pm