



Minutes

General Meeting of the Australian Match Rifle Association Inc. held at Campbell Town rifle range on 4th March 2016 commencing at 1634hrs.

1.0 Present

As per attendance sheets

2.0 Apologies

J De Havilland, P Hearle, J MacFarlane, R Atherton, K Lindley, J Kielly, V Hunt, M Fairbairn, G Phelan, T Hoare, W Schaffner, G Dyson, G Warriar, J Oddy, N Sims, W Sieglhoff, D Martin

3.0 Minutes of General of 8 October 2014

Moved Jim Clifford Seconded Rob Halloran that the Minutes be taken as read and confirmed.

Motion was carried on show of hands

4.0 Business Arising From Minutes:

Nil

5.0 Correspondence

Nil

6.0 Presidents report

The President, James Freebairn, presented a verbal report.

Moved J Freebairn Seconded that the President's report be accepted.

Motion was carried on a show of hands

7.0 Treasurers Report

Copies of the Financial report were circulated to all present. The report showed net assets of \$1,706.31.

Moved W Freebairn Seconded P Bain that the treasurer's report be accepted with the exception of the recommendation regarding Fees which should be dealt with later in General Business.

Motion was carried on a show of hands.

8.0 Accounts for Payment

J Freebairn (Possible trophy) \$250.00

Moved W Freebairn Seconded R Halloran

Motion was carried on a show of hands

9.0 Election of Office Bearers

The President declared all positions vacant and called for nominations for the election of office bearers.

President – There being only one nomination, Paul Monaghan was elected unanimously

Vice President – Shane Courtney was nominated by James Freebairn and Nick Simms was nominated by Philip Bain. Shane Courtney declined his nomination and Nick Simms was appointed unanimously

Secretary/Treasurer – There being only one nomination, Philip Bain was elected unopposed.

Zone Delegates:

The outgoing President advised that all current zone delegates had been contacted and were willing to continue in the role. There being no further nominations, the Zone Delegates were confirmed as below:

ACT	J Clifford
F Class	W Sieglhoff
New South Wales	R Halloran
Queensland	K Lindley
South Australia	W Freebairn
Tasmania	G Walker
Victoria	L Horwood
Western Australia	D Martin

It was noted that James Freebairn remained as the Public Officer of the Association. Under the Association's incorporation in South Australia, the Public Officer must be a South Australian resident.

10.0 General Business

10.1 President Elect

The incoming President, Paul Monaghan, thanked the outgoing office bearers and made particular mention of the contribution of James Freebairn over many years.

In reflecting on his new role, he outlined key areas AMRA needed to address. It was noted that the average age of Australian Match Rifle shooters was double that of Great Britain. There was a need for AMRA to encourage new shooters into the discipline and the Association. He also noted the importance of Long Range F Class and FTR to the Association and the need to ensure that AMRA is inclusive so that Match Rifle and these disciplines work together.

He outlined a number of possible strategies to improve participation and communication including:

- Sponsorship of under 25 shooters
- Free entry to some competitions for new members
- More regular communication with members via email and newsletters
- Come-and-Try days

It was noted that initiatives need funds.

10.2 Membership Fees

The meeting discussed the need for funds to support promotion strategies. The use of Direct Debit or Standing orders and Bank transfers to facilitate the payment of fees was discussed and encouraged.

It was noted that currently there was uncertainty as to when fees were due given the variable timing of General Meetings where payments were usually made.

Resolution 2016/1 – Moved W. Freebairn, Seconded P. Bain

- a) That Membership Fees be due/payable for each financial year on 1st July annually*
- b) That Membership Fees for 2015/16 remain at \$10 with these fees now due.*
- c) That Membership Fees for 2016/17 onwards be increased to \$20 with these fees due on 1 July 2016.*

Resolution was carried on a show of hands

10.3 Signatories to AMRA Bank Account

It was noted that with the change in office bearers, there was a need to change the signatories to the AMRA Bank Account held with the Bendigo Bank.

Resolution 2016/2 – Moved W. Freebairn, Seconded T. Smith

That the three signatories to the Australian Match Rifle Association bank account with the Bendigo Bank be changed to the President (Paul Monaghan), Secretary/Treasurer (Philip Bain) and the NSW Zone Delegate (Robert Halloran), with any two of these three signatories needed.

Motion was carried on a show of hands

10.4 Australian Match Rifle Team Bank Account

Philip Bain spoke to the difficulties the 2016 Australian Match Rifle team had met with in trying to manage sponsorship, fundraising and team funds without a bank account. It was noted that the team had in the end had to use the AMRA account as per the Treasurer's report. With the next Team to be a touring team to Great Britain, the need to start planning and fundraising as soon as possible was discussed.

Resolution 2016/3 - Moved P Bain, Seconded S Courtney

- a) *That the Association establish a separate bank account for the Australian Match Rifle Team. The account to be used to manage funds received from sponsorship, fundraising and personal contributions and for the costs associated with the Australian Match Rifle Team undertaking competition with other Countries.*
- b) *That the signatories to the Australian Match Rifle Team account be the AMRA President, (Paul Monaghan), the AMRA Secretary/Treasurer (Philip Bain) and the NSW Zone Delegate (Robert Halloran) with any two of the three signatories needed.*
- c) *That the Captain and Manager of the team, when appointed, be added as signatories to the account*

Resolution was carried on a show of hands

10.5 Website Report

Susan Weisser presented the statistics on the usage of the matchrifle.org website over the last twelve months. There was an average of over 1,100 genuine visits to the site each month with an average of 700 unique visitors each month. Most popular pages were the Calendar, Results, About F Class and more recently the Australian and GB Team pages. Most visits came from Australia but also significant number of visits from GB, USA, and Europe. It was noted that the Grade Points on the website are being updated regularly as results are sent in. All event organisers were requested to send results in promptly so that the site and Grade Points can be kept updated.

10.6 AMRA Constitution

The President noted that under 6.1. of the current AMRA Constitution, the Secretary and Treasurer roles were combined. Given the amount of work involved with these roles, consideration should be given to splitting these roles.

He also noted a preference for changing the titles of President and Vice President to Chairman and Vice Chairman and that the Association may benefit from having a Patron of the Association.

All of the above would require changes to the Constitution. It was noted that a Special General Meeting of the Association could be held in Coonabarabran in October to consider such resolutions and any other changes to the Constitution

It was further noted that under the Association's incorporation there was a need for an Account Checker to be appointed to view the Association's financial records. To date this has been done by Ross Atherton on a voluntary basis.

Resolution 2016/4 - Moved J Freebairn, Seconded P Bain

That the Executive be authorised to source and appoint an appropriately qualified Account Checker to review the Association's Financial Records

Resolution was carried on a show of hands.

10.7 Next Australian Championships

The meeting was advised that, subject to discussions with the Victorian Rifle Association, the next Australian Match Rifle & Long Range F Class Championships was proposed to be in late 2017 in Victoria.

The meeting expressed a preference for this to be at Stawell.

10.8 Next Woomera Match

The President wished the Australian Match Rifle Team all success in the forthcoming Woomera Match against Great Britain.

The timing of the next Woomera Match which is to be in Great Britain was discussed. The options of 2018 or 2019 were discussed. There was a general feeling that there might be insufficient time to prepare a team for 2018 and 2019 which coincided with a significant NRA anniversary may be preferable.

Further liaison with Great Britain will occur in order to finalise the date of the next Woomera Match as soon as possible.

10.8 Matters Raised From the Floor

10.8.1 Rob Halloran expressed disappointment with most of the F Class shooters not attending the National Championships

10.8.2 Jenni Hausler advised that she had an RPA rifle and stock for sale \$3000.00. She also supported the President's comments about the need for good communication with both F Class and Match Rifle shooters and expressed the view that there was great potential amongst the FTR shooters to attract them to Match Rifle.

Jenni also raised the issue of 18.4.4.2 from the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 8 October 2014 which resolved to use a 'Super V' for State and National Competitions. She queried why this had not been used in Tasmania. It was noted that this was an oversight and all efforts would be made to ensure it is in place for future events.

Jenni also raised the issue of there being no F Class badges provided for the event in Campbell Town despite F Class being included in the advertising of the National Championships. The President undertook to try and rectify by securing a badge for first place in F Class for the individual championships.

10.8.3 Graham Mincham supported the previous speakers saying there is great potential to recruit FTR Shooters

10.8.4 Tom Smith raised the issue of the lateness of the Australian uniforms as to date they had still not arrived. He suggested that a letter of dissatisfaction be written to the NRAA on non-arrivals of uniforms from NRAA. This was dissatisfaction was reiterated by a number of attendees some of whom indicated they would refuse to pay if they were not received in time to be used.

10.8.5 Mike Samuels informed the meeting of new QRA range at Werths Road Jondaryan Queensland and the inclusion of a 1200 yard range.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1733hrs.