



EXHIBITION POULTRY ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

Minutes of the annual general meeting held Saturday 19 August 2023 at 2.00pm,
Mittagong RSL Club - Nattai Room.

Present: Gerald Farrugia, Sam Pulis, Janet Doust, Bruce Raines, Lonny Raines, Peter Gooch, Russell Woods, Peter Williams, William Bates, Mathew Young, Dylan Summerell, Danny Benn, Heidi Fagan.

Meeting opened 2.04pm

1. Welcome and Apologies.

President Danny Benn welcomed all present and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM held August 20, 2022, were tabled by the secretary, having previously been circulated and placed on the association web page.
moved: Dylan Summerell, seconded Janet Doust the minutes be accepted.

CARRIED

3. Business arising

There was no business arising from the previous meeting.

4. President's report

The President, Danny Benn read his report which is attached to these minutes.
Janet Doust moved its acceptance and was seconded by Dylan Summerell. A copy is attached to these minutes

CARRIED.

5. Secretary's report

The secretary, Heidi Fagan read her report to the meeting and was moved to be accepted to be tabled by Janet Doust and seconded by Gerald Farrugia. A copy is attached to these minutes.

CARRIED

5.5. *Judges Registrar report.*

The Judges Registrar read his report to the meeting and moved that it be accepted as tabled. Seconded by Heidi Fagan. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

CARRIED

6. *Correspondence*

The secretary reported that the majority of the correspondence received and sent throughout the year related to club membership, membership, judges' registration, and correspondence for the national poultry show. The only other correspondence was in relation to the Australian Poultry Standards outstanding payment for books sold in NSW. It was moved by Gerald Farrugia, seconded by Dylan Summerell that the correspondence be accepted.

CARRIED

7. *Treasurers report – 2022/23*

The treasurer read her interim report and tabled the profit and loss statement for the 2022/23 year. Acceptance of the report was moved by Heidi Fagan and was seconded by Sam Pulis. A copy of the report and the profit and loss statement is attached to these minutes.

CARRIED.

8. *Election of office bearers*

The executive vacated their positions and Peter Gooch (Life Member) took the chair for the election of office bearers for 2023/24. The results of the elections are based on the formal postal nominations received from EPA member clubs, as per the constitution.

As only one individual was nominated for each position by member clubs, the nominations were **accepted and CARRIED by the members present, as per the constitution.**

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| President: | Danny Benn |
| Vice President (North): | Jamie Nordstrom |
| Vice President (South): | Sam Pulis |
| Secretary: | Heidi Fagan |
| Treasurer: | Heidi Fagan |
| Judges Registrar: | Dylan Summerell |
| Assistant Secretary: | Gerald Farrugia |
| Committee: | Bradley O'Leary |

There were no other valid nominations for positions on the committee at this time.

9. Delegates to ESPA

The decision to continue to have the sitting president and secretary as the representatives to ESPS to continue as per the previous years. Moved by Gerald Farrugia and seconded by Janet Doust.

CARRIED

10. Sponsorship for the 2024 Sydney Royal Easter Show

The meeting discussed the continuing support of the sponsorship of the SRES Poultry and Pigeon section, the continuing amount of \$660.00 for the young judge's competition and the \$100.00 for the pigeon section continues as previously (2023).

It was agreed that amount of \$200.00 for the winner of the young judge's competition remains, to assist in travel costs associated with the finals. Moved Janet Doust seconded William Bates.

CARRIED

11. National Poultry Show 2024 - Update

The president gave an update in relation to the progress of the planning for the National Poultry Show - Canberra 2024. The RNCAS has appointed an on the ground working committee, of which Danny and Heidi are members, the next meeting is due to take place Saturday 26 August, where more updates from the RNCAS will be available.

The EPANSW is currently assisting with the judges' nominations and expressions of interest for club and business displays. The response and support from the fellow state bodies has been very good, and all feedback from the state bodies has been taken on board and presented to the RNCAS.

12. Planned review of the EPANSW Constitution and Rules of Conduct (2012)

The secretary presented the proposed changes to the Constitution, these changes were circulated to the member clubs in previous correspondence, no feedback from member clubs was received.

The required statutory changes to the constitution (as per the Department of Fair Trading) were outlined.

Statutory Requirements:

Meetings (General and Special)

- Postal ballots
- Transaction of business outside meetings by telephone or other means.

Along with the proposed changes to sections:

- B3 (1) Termination of Membership
- C4 (b) Election of Office Bearers
- D2 Ethics

The resolution to amend the EPANSW Constitution and Rules of Conduct (2012) was moved by Heidi Fagan and seconded by Sam Pulis.

A copy of the resolution presented to the meeting is attached to these minutes.

CARRIED

A copy of the resolution presented to the meeting is attached to these minutes.

13. Adoption of By-Law 5 – Social Media Policy (SMP)

The Secretary presented the updated social media policy (SMP) that was circulated to clubs in January and placed on the EPANSW website (Jan 2023).

The only feedback received from the circulation was from one member club who felt it needed to be ratified before the AGM.

The updates to the policy were to make it easier to understand, and to include the supportive documents relating to the law in NSW (and other states) applicable to the use of social media and the responsibilities of associations and clubs who run and use social media platforms.

The question from one attending member club delegate was relating to the disciplinary consequence of clubs whose members may breach the social media policy and the loss of membership and insurance.

The secretary explained the laws and legal reasoning behind the policy, the scope and reach of the policy, and that it has been designed to assist the understanding of the current laws in Australia relating to social media (defamation, discrimination, copyright, intellectual property)

The president outlined that the Constitution already states the member club, and individual member responsibilities relating to *conduct and respect*:

Section D: item(s) 1 - *Member Clubs and Affiliates Responsibilities - 2 - Ethics* and all

procedures for discipline and appeal is contained in the 2012 constitution **section B item 3 Termination of Membership.**

The secretary explained the reasons behind the need for a social media policy relating to the EPA requirements, also presenting the disturbing instance of threatening behaviour toward a President of an EPA member club by a person involved in exhibition poultry fancy in NSW.

With no further feedback or questions from attendees, the secretary presented the revised Social Media Policy 2023 and was moved by Gerald Farrugia, the SMP be accepted as a By-Law, this was seconded by Dylan Summerell

CARRIED

14. Adoption of By-Law 6

Code of Conduct – item held over for a later date to follow up laws relating to WWCC.

15. Other Business:

The President presented Bruce Raines (long term previous president) and Lonny Raines (long term previous Judges Registrar) with life membership in recognition of their service and contribution to the EPANSW and the exhibition fancy in NSW of a period of more than 20 years. Life member badges and EPA vest were presented to Bruce and Lonny.

16. Next Annual General Meeting

The next annual general Meeting of the EPANSW will be held on **August 17, 2024.**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 3.30pm

DANNY BENN
President

HEIDI FAGAN
Secretary

Appendix

COPY

Resolution to Amend the Constitution of the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW

Date: August 19, 2023.

It has been duly recognised that amendments to the constitution of the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW are necessary to align with statutory requirements (September 2022) and to address the proposed changes that have been circulated among the member clubs.

The proposed amendments have been reviewed and discussed extensively among the association's members and received no further feedback or objections.

The proposed amendments are in line with the goals and objectives of the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW.

Be it resolved *that the constitution of the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW shall be amended as per the circulated changes and the statutory requirements. The amendments shall come into effect immediately upon the passing of this resolution.*

Resolved further, *that the Secretary of the Exhibition Poultry Association of NSW is hereby authorised and directed to make the necessary changes to the constitution document, ensuring that it accurately reflects the approved amendments.*

Resolved further, *that the amended constitution shall be made available to all members in a timely manner, and efforts shall be made to ensure that every member is informed of the changes and the effective date of the amendments.*

Resolved further, *that the Executive Committee is empowered to take any necessary actions to implement the amended constitution and to ensure a smooth transition in accordance with the changes.*

This resolution is adopted by a majority vote of the members present at the general meeting held on August 19, 2023.

President: _____ Date: _____

Secretary: _____ Date: _____

Members in Favour:

Members in opposition:

COPY

Dear Member Clubs,

A new regulation for incorporated associations commenced on **1 September 2022**. This followed a government review, public consultation, and feedback process. The new Regulation keeps many of the existing rules and introduces some new requirements.

These changes provide the EPANSW with an opportunity to review our constitution after 11 years and decide if it still meets the needs of our association.

The changes required under legislation include –
Constitutional requirements under the Associations Act.

The Department has made several minor changes to the postal and electronic ballots process. This improves flexibility and operational guidance by clarifying the obligations of committee members and the returning officer and needs to be included in the EPANSW constitution to meet current legislation.

Additional changes to the constitution requirements include:

- clarifying the obligations of entrance fee payments.
- clarifying the process of filling casual vacancies by the committee and
- allowing associations greater flexibility to conduct business outside of meetings.

The current constitution of the EPANSW covers the process of filling casual vacancies and the obligations of entrance fees is not applicable to this association, the last requirement is addressed under: Transaction of business outside meetings or by telephone or other means

It therefore proposed to amend the constitution at the general meeting (August 19, 2023) of the association following the AGM at which a resolution will be made to amend the constitution as per **section C item 8** to include the legislated changes to constitutions and to also reflect the growing trend in the use of social media by members.

The additions as required by the Department of Fair Trading are as follows:

6 - Meetings (general and special)

B - Postal or electronic ballots

- (1) The association may hold a postal or electronic ballot, as determined by the committee, to decide any matter other than an appeal (under clause 8).

The ballot must be conducted in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Regulation.

C - Transaction of business outside meetings or by telephone or other means

- (2) The committee may transact its business by the circulation of papers, including by electronic means, among all committee members.
- (3) If the committee transacts business by the circulation of papers, a written resolution, approved in writing by a majority of committee members, is taken to be a decision of the committee made at a meeting of the committee.
- (4) The committee may transact its business at a meeting at which 1 or more committee members participate by telephone or other electronic means, provided a member who speaks on a matter can be heard by the other members.
- (5) The member presiding at the meeting and each other member have the same voting rights as they would have at an ordinary meeting of the committee for the purposes of:
 - (a) the approval of a resolution under subclause (2), or
 - (b) a meeting held in accordance with subclause (3).
- (6) A resolution approved under subclause (2) must be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the committee.

Note: The Act, section 30(2) and (3) contains requirements relating to meetings held at 2 or more venues using technology.

The proposed changes to the current constitution are to clauses B3, C4(b) and D2 and are highlighted in bold italics below.

B3 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Every member has the right to terminate their membership without question should they wish to, provided notice of such termination has been provided to the secretary.

The executive retains the right to terminate any membership if it can be shown that the member:

1. a. unreasonably fails to comply with the provisions of this constitution or is incriminated for improper conduct ***or behaviour on social media (social media refers to any online tools or functions that allow people to communicate and/or share content via the internet)*** that may in any way be construed to be detrimental or contrary to the best interests of EPANSW ***or the exhibition poultry fancy within NSW.***
- b. uses the organisation as a means of perpetrating private gain, misrepresentation, dishonesty, or other fraudulent behaviour
- c. uses the organisation as a platform to expound political, religious, or other form of partisan activity.

C4 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following process is to be followed in relation to the election of office bearers for the association.

- a. nomination of candidates for the position of president and honorary secretary are to be lodged in writing, all member clubs and affiliates exercising their right to nominate suitable, appropriate candidates for these positions.
- b. nominations for these positions will be called for each year and will be returnable not later than ~~10 May~~ **June 30** in each year, to enable a postal ballot to be effected in time for declaration at the annual general meeting. Nominations should be signed by the president and secretary of the member club or affiliate making the nomination. Nominations will be presented to the ~~May~~ meeting **following the closing date** of the executive committee.

D2 ETHICS

The representatives of member clubs and affiliates and individual members present at any meeting or other activity pertaining to the association or its aims and objectives **or the exhibition poultry fancy within NSW** will conduct themselves with decorum and due respect for the feelings of others. The executive committee will be empowered to suspend, expel, or otherwise discipline any representative or individual member found to be in conflict with this code.

END of Appendix