



Burley Griffin Canoe Club Inc. Annual General Meeting 15 September 2019

Draft Minutes

1. Welcome

The AGM commenced at 10:10 .am. President Russell Murphy welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their attendance.

Attendees:

Helen Tongway	David Gordon	Scott MacWilliam
John Preston	John Harmer	Robert Bruce
Larissa Cleverly	John Lockie	Russell Murphy
Margi Bohm	Patricia Ashton	Ted Hall
Trent Birkett	Jeremy Cook	Bob Collins
Di Bell	Dave Gordon	Patricia Ashton

Apologies

Scott Hunter	Kai Swoboda	Richard Fox
Russell Luton	Danielle Winslow	Margy Burn
Carolyn Williams	Jane Lake	

2. Minutes from previous AGM (30th September, 2018)

Draft Minutes from the AGM held on 30 September 2018 were accepted. While the Minutes weren't available due to the last minute apology from Secretary Kai, committee members accepted the Minutes as seen on line. Minutes to be put on website for members to check.

Motion: Accept Minutes for the 2018 AGM:

Proposed by: Patricia Ashton; Seconded by: Helen Tongway

Motion accepted

3. Reports

a. President's Report:

Russell Murphy:

The Club achieved some amazing things this last 12 months, however, they are others' successes and will be included in other reports.

Our main challenge is getting volunteers, not for a particular event but on the admin side where we're struggling, with many of our committee and regular conveners exhausted.

Helen has been Membership Secretary for many years and this will be her final year as she is then stepping back. David Gordon is less able to do all the boat repairs. We tend to rely on the same people: we need other club members to step up. The key challenge is to find these members and/or look at paying for services.

Low numbers attending this AGM is a reflection of this.

b. Treasurer's Report

A copy of the Treasurers Report had been circulated at the last club meeting; Trent gave a brief summary. Full report will be on the website for members.

- \$62,000 Income
- \$17k Operating Surplus
- \$12k spent on boats and equipment
- \$42k on Property – end of shed build
- Net Asset – mainly shed \$350k
- Total Utilities \$15k, while we only collect \$6,000 admin grant.
- \$25k currently in cash

Short discussion on the cost of the utilities – we will request a larger admin grant. Also, if the club was to employ an administration officer at some stage for the bookkeeping and membership, it would mean an increase in fees. Something the club will need to look into over the next 12 months as Trent will need to step down as Treasurer.

c. Boat Captain's Report

See below

d. Safety Officer Report

Nil.

4. Convener Reports:

a) Membership – see attached	f) Stand Up Paddle – no report
b) Beginners – see attached	
c) Social Convener no report	
d) Canoe polo - see attached	
e) Whitewater - no report	

Bob Collins advised that nominations had been received for some of the positions, as below, and the nominations were accepted. Further volunteers would be sought for vacant positions.

Position	Person
Membership Secretary	Helen Tongway
Public Officer	Bob Collins
Editor	Andy Bodsworth
Coaches representative	Margi Bohm
Webmaster	Geoff Collett
Assistant Boat Captain	Scott Hunter
Canoe Polo	Laura Kleinrahm
SUP	
Marathon	Richard Fox
Marathon Event Co-ordinator	Bob Collins
Time Trials	Tony Mee
Ocean Racing	
BAK	Allan Newhouse
Slalom - WW	Kai Swoboda
Social Convener	
Publicity and Sponsorship	
Recreational paddling	

Discussion on the need of a Social Convener – traditions, e.g., Birthday dinner, Christmas Party, etc., should be kept regardless of numbers. Presentation dinner should be moved to end of season in October rather than with the Birthday in June.

The committee needs to reinstate the club leaflet to give to members of the public also look at regular advertising in the Canberra Weekly. Various ideas on increasing membership were discussed, however, the suggestion was made that the AGM was not the time and that the new committee should consider any ideas.

The new Committee and Conveners were welcomed. Patricia thanked the outgoing committee members, particularly Russell Murphy.

7. Meeting Closure:

The meeting closed at 11:15 a.m.

Reports

Boat Captain - Scott Hunter

It is been a big two years as Boat Captain. Extension finished; a few new boats for the club; lots of new boats from members and so far very few problems. I have done very little, thanks to Dave the legend who kept craft running without even talking about it. The club is in a great spot now, with some member's spots left to fill, a really nice fleet of quite varied craft and a shed to be proud of that is the envy of many paddling clubs. Best of luck to the new Boat Captain and I hope the cap fits nicely.

MARATHON CONVENOR'S REPORT FOR AGM - Russell Lutton

2018-19 has been a hugely successful and rewarding year for the flatwater marathon component of our club.

BGCC started the 2019 year by hosting and running the PaddleNSW Singles State Marathon Championships. The event attracted 150 boats/170 competitors, one of the largest turnouts in the marathon calendar; and BGCC received unanimous praise for its smooth conduct of the event in the post-race survey.

Another marathon highlight was the club's winning the highly competitive Brian Norman Perpetual Trophy, which is awarded to the club whose paddlers accumulate the most points during the marathon series.

The standout achievement for BGCC is that that victory was due to the breadth of paddlers - from our elite K1 paddlers to our less race-focused paddlers - who participated in the series.

To cap it off, our club also won the International Canoe Federation Cup as the club that scored the most points for ICF boats participating in the series.

Distance paddling training and coaching was a strong component of the club's paddling activities, with several groups training regularly throughout 2018-19.

An issue to comment on is the less than desired participation in the weekly summer and winter time trial series. While the participation levels for the summer time trials have been satisfactory, the winter series was cancelled in 2019 due to the abysmal no-show level.

Perhaps the format and number of events should be revised for the 2019-20 summer series. For example, most Queensland clubs have time trials or handicap races only once a month.

I take this opportunity to thank the committee and our distance paddlers for their support and involvement. It has been such fun to serve and paddle with so many positive and motivated people.

Russell Lutton

Beginners & Taste of Paddling - Patricia Ashton

Numbers were down a little for ToP, however, sessions were enjoyed by participants - many of whom joined the club. We made just over \$4000-

Helen and I ran numerous Induction sessions for new club members from September through to April, also offering various beginner sessions throughout the year.

David Gordon and Roger Murray completed their Level One coaching qualifications, which took some of the pressure off & enabled 'the club' to offer more training options. Also thanks to John Lockie, Christine O'Brien, Russell Murphy and Bob Collins for helping out.

Canoe Polo report - Laura Kleinrahm

Canoe Polo in the ACT remains steady, with regular turn-out from our core group, as well as some new faces who are demonstrating enthusiasm in the both local and interstate competition opportunities.

In April the National and Oceania Championships were held in Penrith and BGCC players were represented in most divisions. The addition of New Zealand teams to the pools made for tough competition, but great practise leading into the Oceania tournament, particularly for younger players who had their first experience with an international standard of play. Our ACT Women's Team continued their history of being one of the strongest teams in the female league, coming second to Victoria within the Australian results and third overall. The Men came 4th in Australia, with the Junior team coming an exciting 2nd to the QLD A team. There were also BGCC representatives playing for TAS and SA in the U21 division, with this hopefully paving the way for an ACT team entry next year.

10 BGCC players made Australian teams for the Oceania Championships, with the O30 Men's A Team, featuring James Harmer and James Deakin, the only Australian team to win gold against extremely strong New Zealand sides.

Over the winter we have been enjoying the warmth of Lakeside Leisure Centre for our weekly competition. Numbers haven't been huge, with the transient nature of Canberra seeing several key losses over the past 1-2 years from our regular players. Louise Gates' Junior trainings and her recent come and try event have been helpful in attempting to address this, although the steep initial learning curve of polo (learning to catch, throw, paddle, follow the game, stay upright all at once!) does make it difficult to retain newcomers. However, we are extremely grateful for BGCC's continued support of pool hire/ polo gear in helping in attempting to smooth this curve though, as having access to quality gear reduces the burden for junior players (and their parents!).

Next month we host the first event of the Summer Series. We unsuccessfully tried to swap with Sydney's December event to increase our chances of having favourable weather, so fingers crossed for sunshine! There will also be an Australian Women's Training Camp attached to the weekend, which should boost attendance.

Looking forward we shall be focusing on retaining our core junior players, assisting them in the transition to the youth/ U21 category, and increasing their exposure to higher competition by encouraging attendance at interstate summer series events. We also need to develop strategies to bring in fresh faces, potentially looking to QLD and Tasmania, who

have been successful in reviving their local numbers into two of the largest polo cohorts in Australia, especially in junior and female numbers.

Membership Report: 2018-2019

Total membership tally for 2018-2019: **286**

Made up of:		(2017-18	299)
Junior Females:	21	("	19)
Junior Males:	21	("	18)
Adult Females:	97	("	95)
Adult Males:	142	("	162)

Once again BGCC membership was available in the combined fee system: when members paid their PNSW fees, the BGCC were added to give the one, combined payment. This was all that was needed for those with "simple", Standard Level BGCC membership.

All members still have use of club boats appropriate to their level of paddling skill, the hot shower and the kitchen facilities at no further cost.

For club members who were eligible for a Club shed key and/or a rack to keep their own private boat in the Club Shed, we are still using the *Register Now* organisation to collect these fees.

Membership was slightly lower than for the previous year, but well within the natural variation in numbers - as people come to Canberra for various work or education occupations – and then leave again.

Helen Tongway

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