



National Rover Council

Remote Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 4 April 2023

1. Procedural Items

1.1 Meeting Open

Meeting opened 8.03pm AEST.

As Scouts of Australia, we acknowledge Australia's First Nations Peoples, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are grateful to do our Scouting in this country; we commit to use its resources wisely and develop our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We also acknowledge any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scouts who are part of our movement today.

1.2 Attendance

Shaylah McClymont (Nat)
Sam De Rota (Nat)
Meghann Gallagher (Nat)
Liam Brown (Nat)
Patrick McCormick (Nat)
Steph Cowling (Nat)
Hamish McNeice (ACT)
Jonno Thornton (ACT)
Calista Beck (ACT)
Bryn Catlin (ACT)
Sara Taylor (ACT)
Mackenzie Pearce (NSW)
Leigh Jonassen (NSW)
Kem Matthews (NSW)
Lachie Page (NSW)

Isabella Condello (NT)
Ayden O'Shanessey-Murray (NT)
Daniel Boyd (Qld)
Jake Goodall (Qld)
Jessica Hernandez (Qld)
Max Manson (Qld)
Paul Lappin (Qld)
Brad Thompson (Tas)
Emily Ezzy (Tas)
Thomas Brazier (SA)
Karen McNamara (SA)
Izaak Kitching (Vic)
Cam Cerda (Vic)
Jordan Phillips (WA)

1.3 Apologies

Catherine Marley (Vic)
Damon Love (Nat)

2. Minutes and past business

2.1 – Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the November 2022 Remote Meeting were ratified at the 2023 Conference in January.

2.2 – Minutes of the 2023 Conference

The 2023 Conference minutes were noted, and will be voted on to be ratified at the 2024 Conference.

MOTION

That the minutes of the 2023 Conference be noted, to be ratified at the 2024 Conference.

Moved by: NRC Executive Seconded: WA

MOTION CARRIED

3. Standing items

3.1 Child Safe Issues

NIL

3.2 WHS Issues

NIL

3.3 Conflicts of Interest

NIL

4. NRC Team Report

The NRC Team spoke to the tabled report. Key points include updates surrounding major events guidelines, e-learning and training, the status of various ongoing projects currently undertaken by the NRC and outcomes of the in-person NRC Executive meeting.

MOTION

That the report be noted.

Moved through the Chairperson.

CARRIED

5. Apple Isle Moot: 22nd Australian Rover Moot Report

5.1 Apple Isle Moot: 22nd Australian Rover Moot Report.

B. Thompson gave an update regarding the AIM report, noting that the team have since returned from Conference and have begun preparing the final report.

6. Branch reports

Branch reports were received by ACT, NSW, Tas, and WA and are available in the OneDrive.

Branches were asked to share one inspiring or exciting thing and one concern or challenge that had occurred since Conference.

ACT

- Relay for Life had 12 people come along to raise money, with almost \$600 raised; was a great opportunity to get involved and give back
- The Branch will be losing a few key members to Africa Moot

NSW

- The ARP rebrand of Conference (titled as Retreat) had fairly good attendance; the NSW Executive handover has also occurred
- Have had to close one of their assets, while it was still a valuable resource it has had to be shut down.

NT

- Alice Springs have opened a Unit, Arafura Rover Scout Unit has 10 Rover Scouts in the city, and 2 NT Rover Scouts will be going to New Zealand soon
- Have had to close the rural Litchfield Unit as it only had one member, and they are trying to recruit more members

Qld

- Moot bid guidelines have been received from NOC so the Branch is very excited to get started on a Moot bid
- The aforementioned guidelines are very long and will be a big task to work through the bid

SA

- Have had good engagement, and have reopened a Unit that was previously closed
- Have lost a designated Rover space

Tas

- Recently held Regatta, which has hadn't occurred since 2019. The event had 50 Rover Scouts attend
- Venturer Scout linking has been an issue but will be a focus for the year.

Vic

- Lots of engagement with events, including being able to run lots of different region events
- The State Commissioner has stepped down a few months ago so currently don't have this support role filled

WA

- Lots of interest in Rover Scouts running events, including new events such as Maymoot and Walk for WARC
- OneCamp has caused things to slow down within the Branch

7. APR Regional Youth Representative

The report was tabled.

9. Voting Items

Due to some technical issues with the NRC Project Officer elections, the following voting items were moved forward:

9.1 BPSA Project Patrol Terms of Reference

S. McClymont spoke to the tabled paper. The paper had been developed from discussions at the 2023 Conference, where it was taken as an action item for the incoming Exec to develop the terms of reference.

J. Phillips asked whether the composition should consist of a minimum of 8 members rather than 6 as ideally this would mean there could be a member of each Branch on the Project Patrol. S. McClymont agreed we could make this amendment. J. Goodall agreed with the amendment and thanked the Exec for writing the paper from the discussions at Conference.

MOTION

That the NRC endorse the Terms of Reference for the Baden-Powell Scout Award Name Project Patrol

Moved: NRC Executive

Seconded: WA

WA

For: ACT, NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic,

Against: Nil

Abstain: Nil

MOTION CARRIED

The Project Patrol will be advertised over the coming weeks.

9.3 – Rover Retention Working Group

J. Goodall spoke to the tabled paper. The paper was written after the 2023 Conference regarding the retention working group that was endorsed in principle. It created some duty statements for the Project Officer and Patrol, including timeframes, objectives, and scope.

H. McNeice noted that the scope of the Patrol was very broad in trying to look at all Branches and grassroots Rover Scouts which could limit its effectiveness. J. Thornton added that this is especially true given that circumstances in different Branches may be different. J. Goodall responded that it had been kept broad in order to try to gain understanding of what can be done as a Section across Branches, rather than internally within individual Branches.

It was noted by I. Condello, B. Thompson, I. Kitching, and K. McNamara that within their respective Branches (NT, Tas, Vic, SA) the specified drop out rates around 22/23 don't occur. J. Goodall responded that this was why the scope was kept broad and was something that could be looked into.

MOTION

That the National Rover Council:

- Approve the Project Plan and Implementation period set out in this paper and the attachment.
- Approve the Project Officer Position Description.
- Commit to advertising the Project Officer Position to each branch
- BRCs commit to providing a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) Rover/s and/or Rover Scout Advisers from each branch to sit on the working group

Moved: Qld Seconded: WA

WA

For: ACT, NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic,

Against: Nil

Abstain: Nil

MOTION CARRIED

S. McClymont noted that we will need to look strategically at how both Project Patrols work alongside each other to make sure we are not oversurveying Rover Scouts.

8. Elections

As per NRC By-Laws (Part I: National Rover Council – Standing Orders, Article 4: Voting and Election of The NRC Executive), the NRC Adviser is the Returning Officer for the NRC. The NRC Chair handed over to NRC Adviser (P. McCormick) to chair this session.

Nominations for NRC Executive and Standing Project Officer (NRC Team) roles remained open following the vacancies at Conference, and have since been marketed widely to Rover Scouts across Australia through BRCs and social media.

Branch Rover Council Chairs were informed of nominees so they could confirm their endorsement. The endorsed candidates have now provided confirmation of their training

status and their pre-recorded candidate statement, so we are good to commence. In order of the roles and then who submitted, below are the endorsed nominees:

Aordren Knight from Victoria nominated for Training & Development Officer
Liam Gallagher from Western Australia nominated for Marketing & Public
Relations Officer
Kem Matthews from New South Wales nominated for Diversity & Inclusion
Officer

NRC Adviser noted that elections would follow the order set out in By-Laws (with all roles open for election, except for the NRC Chair). Candidates in attendance were asked to leave the room during the election for their nominated role (or placed in a waiting room in MS Teams if they were joining online). Each Candidates' pre-recorded statements (provided with their nomination) were played in order of nomination received, with the NRC then invited to ask questions of each candidate (including those calling in to speak to their nomination).

Following this, elections were held, and the following nominees were elected:

Liam Gallagher was elected as Marketing & Public Relations Officer
Kem Matthews was elected as Diversity & Inclusion Officer

The Training & Development Project Officer role remains vacant.

9. Voting Items

9.2 – 2023-24 Budget

L. Brown spoke to the tabled budget paper. Key points included that potential review of the NRC Levy will need to occur due to changes in inflation and purchasing power, as well as reporting on proposed income and expenditure for the coming financial year.

No questions or comments were raised by any BRCs.

MOTION

That the NRC approve the proposed 2023/24 budgets.

Moved: NRC Executive

Seconded: WA

WA

For: ACT, NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas, Vic,

Against: Nil

Abstain: Nil

MOTION CARRIED

10. Information and Late Papers

10.1 – Operational Plan Update

S. McClymont spoke to the tabled information paper. The Exec worked on updating the Operational Plan at their in-person meeting, taking into account comments made at the 2023 Conference regarding specific areas which required additional action. Key changes included the embedding of the Treasurer in the plan vis a vis the finance space.

10.2 – National Events Update

S. McClymont spoke to the tabled information paper. The paper outlines some of the updates from NOC, including the major event bidding process.

J. Goodall asked that noting the timeline stated in the paper would a meeting to vote on a Moot bid be in the July or September Remote Meetings. S. McClymont responded that it was imagined by the NYPT to be a special meeting, and it will be determined whether it is a Chairs' meeting or a full meeting of the NRC.

10.3 – Remote Meeting Dates

M. Gallagher spoke to the tabled information paper. Remote meetings will be scheduled in July, September, and November, with a special meeting as required if matters come up eg. Moot bids.

10.4 - NRC Election Voting Procedures – Discussion Paper

Due to the late time of the meeting, this item was moved to a discussion item for the next Remote Meeting of the NRC

11. General Business

J. Goodall noted the upcoming St George's Ball being run by Queensland BRC in celebration of 100 Years of Rovering in Queensland. Information is online, or contact QBRC with any questions.

12. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in July 2023. M. Gallagher will distribute a poll to NRC members to determine the exact date of the Remote Meeting.

13.2 Meeting Close

Meeting closed 10.04pm AEST