



National Rover Council

Remote Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 23 November 2023

1. Procedural Items

1.1 Meeting Open

Meeting opened 8.02 AEDT.

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)
Luke Brydon (Nat)
Patrick McCormick (Nat)
Damon Love (Nat)
Steph Cowling (Nat)
Bryn Catlin (ACT)
Emma Rahman (ACT)
Joshua Forster (ACT)
Lachie Page (NSW)
Leigh Jonassen (NSW)

Isabella Mairou (NT)
Jye Durnan (NT)
Max Manson (Qld)
Jessica Hernandez (Qld)
Ben Brice (SA)
Brad Thompson (Tas)
Emily Ezzy (Tas)
Zac Geddes (Vic)
Izaak Kitching (Vic)
Stephen Carter (Vic)

1.3 – Apologies

Liam Mack (ACT)
Samantha Loh (NT)
Jake Goodall (Qld)

1.4 – Procedural item

As Returning Officer, P.McCormick confirmed the nominations received for the NRC Elections. They also noted that there was a late nomination to be considered and voted on later in the meeting before elections, and shared the information at the start of the meeting to give BRCs time to review materials.

2. Minutes and past business

2.1 – Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the October 2023 Remote Meeting were ratified.

MOTION

That the minutes of the October 2023 Remote Meeting be ratified

Moved by: NRC Executive Seconded: Tasmania

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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 included 2024 Conference updates, financial reporting delays, SAIT data completion rates, citizen science projects and the recent NAISC 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B. Thompson noted that the report submitted at the October Remote Meeting had been withdrawn to be discussed and ratified at the 2024 Conference. They requested that any feedback on the report be provided by mid-December, and noted that no feedback had been received since the paper was tabled in October.

6. Branch reports

Branch reports were received from ACT, NSW, Qld, and Victoria and are available in the Sharepoint.

Branches were asked to share one Woohoo and one Boohoo, as well as a topic they would like to see discussed at Conference.

ACT

- Woohoo: Have elected a new BRC executive
- Boohoo: Are currently locked out of the BRC Instagram account
- Conference topic: AIM Moot Report, and are happy to lend any assistance to Tasmania where needed

NSW

- Woohoo: The December BRC meeting is upcoming where a new executive will be elected, and have three state events tendered for
- Boohoo: Struggling to engage people at an SRC level to take on responsibility
- Conference topic: Training

NT

- Woohoo: The BRC is up and running with all roles filled and everyone pitching in
- Boohoo: Units are struggling, and have no RAs and limited adult support
- Conference topic: Support for Rovers without RAs

Qld

- Woohoo: A full 2024 event calendar has been sent, with the first event being NRC Conference
- Boohoo: Slow progress is being made on the Moot bid, including hiccups with National
- Conference topic: International opportunities

SA

Not in attendance

Tas

- Woohoo: Numbers have gone up slightly
- Boohoo: Lacking in people willing to develop Rovers further, for example in the policy sphere
- Conference topic: Future international moots

Vic – check recording 36.23

- Woohoo: Rover dinner was held in late October and was good to present lots of awards and recognise the high quality of Rovering and say some farewells

- Boohoo: One of the Assistant State Commissioners Rover Support has resigned so are trying to fill this position to ensure there is lots of support for teams etc
- Conference topic: Training opportunities

WA

Not in attendance

7. APR Regional Youth Representative

7.1 APR Regional Youth Representative Report

The report was tabled. The New Zealand Moot contingent leader process is underway with more information coming soon. Portugal Moot is also having a deputy contingent leader role being developed, with more information to come.

8. Voting Items

8.1 – Elections of the 2024 NRC Executive and Standing Project Officers

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 were formally opened two months ago, and promoted widely to Rover Scouts across Australia through BRCs and social media. Nominations were received via an online form, and they closed at 9am on Saturday 18 November 2023.

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:

Max Manson from Queensland nominated for Vice Chair
 Eleyne Ferguson from Victoria nominated for Treasurer
 Luke Brydon from Tasmania nominated for Treasurer*
 Ben Brice from South Australia nominated for Environment & Sustainability Officer

NRC Adviser noted that as there was only one nomination for Vice Chair and Environment & Sustainability Officer, a vote of confirmation would be held for those positions. There was one timely, eligible nomination received for Treasurer, and then the NRC voted to accept Luke Brydon's late nomination (*see late paper 9.4 for details).

No endorsed nominations were received for the positions of Secretary, Diversity & Inclusion Officer, Marketing & Public Relations Officer and Training & Development Officer; these positions should be filled as via elections at the NRC Conference in January 2024.

Elections of NRC Team

NRC Adviser noted that elections would follow the order set out in By-Laws. Where a role was contested, candidates in attendance were asked to leave the virtual room during the election for their nominated role. Each Candidates' prerecorded 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).

Elections were held for Treasurer, and a vote of confidence was held where only one person applied for the role (Vice Chair and Environment & Sustainability Officer). The following candidates were declared elected:

NRC Team 2024

NRC Chair (elected in Nov 2022)	Shaylah McClymont (ACT)
NRC Vice Chair	Max Manson (QLD)
NRC Secretary	Vacant
NRC Treasurer	Luke Brydon (TAS)
NRC Diversity & Inclusion Officer	Vacant
NRC Environment & Sustainability Officer	Ben Brice (SA)
NRC Marketing & Public Relations Officer	Vacant
NRC Training & Development Officer	Vacant

Note that roles elected tonight (and those to be filled at Conference) are for a 12-month term, taking office at the end of NRC Conference 2024 in January and concluding at the end of NRC Conference 2025. The NRC Adviser congratulated the incoming NRC Team members on behalf of the Council and handed back the chair to the NRC Chair.

9. Information and Late Papers

9.1 – BPSA Name Working Group Update

S. de Rota provided an update on the working group's progress. The survey had received 694 responses and are working on the statistical analysis, with the working group's final report will be tabled at the 2024 Conference.

9.2 – Retention Working Group Update

S. de Rota provided an update on the working group's progress. The working group is a little bit behind on the original schedule and are working to get back on track.

9.3 – Rover Citizen Science Service Project

B. Brice spoke to the update that was uploaded in the Sharepoint. There has been good engagement amongst participants, including promotion of the project. He noted that the project will be extended for another year.

9.4 – Election Candidate Clarification

P. McCormick spoke to the paper in the Sharepoint, noting that this is the first time such a situation has occurred and thus no precedent currently exists.

B. Catlin noted that as this is an abnormal election cycle we can have the flexibility to accept late submissions. M. Manson agreed noting that it is important to find the best candidates for roles. B. Thompson noted that sometimes delays can come up due to Branch teams (eg. training teams) that can cause late nominations. I. Kitching noted that Victoria had used a similar process in their BRC elections.

P. McCormick encouraged the NRC to consider putting advice for this situation into the By-Laws in case a similar situation arises in the future.

MOTION

That the NRC confirm if they accept Luke Brydon's nomination for NRC Treasurer 2024 (noting this is a late nomination and Luke does not meet the training requirement, though commits to completing the required training within his term).

Moved by: NRC Executive Seconded: Victoria

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. General Business

Z. Geddes asked if there were any updates regarding the New Zealand Moot contingent leader role. S. McClymont noted that this was covered in the APR Report (7.1) with applications opening soon, an interview process, and a successful candidate being announced likely in December.

M. Manson provided some information regarding Roverway, noting that applications close on 1 December 2023, and encouraged everyone to sign up.

Z. Geddes asked whether minutes for Remote Meetings should be uploaded on the NRC website, S. McClymont advised that the Executive is aware of this and that there were personnel having issues with accessing the website so hopefully will be actioned soon.

B. Thompson asked to confirm that S. McClymont had successfully been endorsed for the second year of her term as Chair, P. McCormick advised this was the case.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be the NRC 2024 Conference, held 19-21 January 2024.

Meeting Close

Meeting closed 9.50pm AEDT