



Australian Rogaining Association Inc. 2021 Annual General Meeting

Online meeting
5th August 2021

Minutes

The meeting was opened by the President at 7:35pm AEST.

1. APOLOGIES AND NOTIFICATION OF PROXIES

Apologies: Richard Robinson, Peter Trenaman, Mike Dunbar

Proxies advised: Nil

Executive: David Rowlands, Paul Guard, Mike Aylott, Craig Colwell

Delegates:

ACTRA: Stephen Goggs, David Baldwin, plus observer Julie Quinn

NSWRA: Trevor Gollan, Michael Watts

NTRA: Shani Bryceson

QRA: Paul Guard, Michael Schafer

RT: Gary Carroll, Kristin Raw

SARA: Zara Soden, Craig Colwell, plus observer Stephen Gray

VRA: Kelly Lane, Karen Robinson, plus observer Gayle Cowling

WARA: Owen Horton

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Each delegate was invited to introduce themselves and their role in their state/territory association, and current activities of their association.

Stephen Goggs (ACTRA President)

- ACTRA's event numbers have been good, after a lean 2020.

Julie Quinn (ACTRA Immediate Past President)

- Julie is Vice President of IRF

David Baldwin (ARA Technical Committee Chair and ACTRA Representative)

- David is ACTRA webmaster and ARA's IRF representative.

Trevor Gollan (NSWRA President)

- Trevor has been a long term rogainer.
- New ARA Representative for NSWRA is Michael Watts.
- NSWRA cancelled two events this year, and NSW is currently in lockdown.
- Big disappointment was the cancellation of the NSW Champs twice in a row, planned for the Gundabooka National Park in western NSW.

Michael Watts (NSWRA Representative)

- Michael has been rogaining for 40 years.
- Currently the safety representative on NSWRA Committee.
- Interests in mapping and safety.

Shani Bryceson (NTRA Representative)

- All has been going well for NTRA.
- Darwin has been lucky with Covid – no event cancellations.
- Next event is in October.

Michael Schafer (QRA President)

- Michael has been rogaining for about 10 years.
- QRA has been managing pretty well with Covid.
- North Queensland have been showing big increase in participation numbers. Also increases in SE Queensland.
- QRA have had issues with NPWS restricting night activities recently.

Paul Guard (ARA Secretary, QRA Representative)

- Paul has been rogaining for 20 years.
- Biggest issues for QRA are land access and volunteers.

Gary Carroll (RTas President)

- Gary has been rogaining since the 1980s.
- Tasmania has been largely unaffected by Covid.
- RTas is running 3 to 4 events per year.
- Lack of volunteers is the biggest issue.

Kristin Raw (RTas Representative)

- Kristin has been rogaining for 20 years. On the RTas Committee for the last few years.

Zara Soden (SARA President)

- SARA were very pleased to be able to run the ARC this year.
- SARA has just postponed the SA State Championship. It was cancelled last year. Hoping to hold it in September.

Craig Colwell (SARA Representative)

- Craig has been active in rogaining for 15 years.
- ARA public officer and SARA public officer, SARA VP.
- ARC 2021 Organiser.

Stephen Gray (SARA)

- Stephen has been involved for a few years, is interested in helping with Navlight.

Kelly Lane (VRA President)

- Kelly has been involved in rogaining for about 6 years.
- VRA have an all-female executive with Karen the Vice President and Gayle as Secretary.
- VRA so far has cancelled most events and held only one event this year.
- Volunteering is an ongoing issue.

Gayle Cowling (VRA)

- Gayle is a novice roganer, has been in the Secretary role for two months.

Owen Horton (WARA Representative)

- Owen is WARA Vice-President.
- WARA has issues around land access – no camping allowed in State Forest.
- Fewer volunteers available for land finding.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 2020

Julie Quinn noted that ACTRA was left out of the Introductions. Julie will provide points for inclusion in the amended Minutes.

<p>MOTION: That the minutes of the 2020 AGM be accepted as true and accurate, subject to rectification of the amendment requested by ACTRA. Moved: Craig Colwell, Seconded: Julie Quinn. Motion passed.</p>
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4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE / OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President’s Report was tabled. The President noted that due to the pandemic we have run fewer events and membership numbers are on a downward trend. Though some states have continued to run a full range of events, relatively unscathed. The ARC in South Australia was the highlight of the year. Unfortunately, 22 teams could not attend due to a lockdown in Victoria. As agreed by Council, the event loss of \$4768 was underwritten by the ARA. Zara Soden queried the amount that was paid as part of the underwriting agreement for the ARC, but it was confirmed by Mike Aylott that the correct amount has been paid. The ARA has appointed Craig Colwell as the Public Officer in South Australia, as required by the Constitution. The Executive has recommended that ARA become a Registrable Australian Body (RAB) under commonwealth law with ASIC.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer’s Report for 2020 was tabled. Mike Aylott gave a brief summary of the report. The balance increased due to return of the loan from USA. Insurance premiums have been reduced, based on the lower membership, but leading to a similar cost per member. There were very few expenses other than insurance during 2020, with no grant applications received. The Treasurer investigated Volunteers Insurance and ARA has now taken out a 6 month policy. One correction to the report: The balance of the IDF Fund is \$39,122.

<p>MOTION: That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted, subject to correction of the IDF balance. Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: Paul Guard. Motion passed.</p>

b) Setting of Capitation Fee and IDF Levy for 2022

The Treasurer’s report presented a proposal for the 2022 Capitation fees. In 2022, the Capitation fee is proposed to remain at \$1 per member/participant, but that collection of the fee for 2022 would again be waived.

David Baldwin suggested that we should not continue to run down the finances indefinitely, but did not object to the motion. Mike Aylott suggested this might be the last year that we waive the Capitation fee.

Michael Watts noted that NSWRA has decided to maintain a minimum balance of \$60,000, roughly equivalent to two years' expenditure.

MOTION: That the Capitation fee for the calendar year 2022 be set at \$1 per participant/ member, but that the collection of the fee be waived.

Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: Craig Colwell. Motion passed.

The Treasurer in his report recommended that the default position become one of zero levy for the International Development Fund, since the IRF is now in a stronger position to support international development of the sport. He also proposed that the ARA enter discussions with the IRF regarding how ARA can assist with the development of the sport internationally.

MOTION: That the IDF Capitation fee for 2022 be set at \$0 per participant/member.

Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: David Baldwin. Motion passed.

c) National Liability Insurance

The ARA Treasurer was successful in negotiating a reduced rate for public liability insurance in December 2020, on the basis of the lower participant numbers in 2020 due to Covid. The outcome is a decrease in the "Sports Combined" insurance premium, leading to a slightly reduced Insurance levy of about \$3.40 per head.

Renewal will be sought for the 2022 calendar year, on the basis of 2021 participant numbers. Levy invoices for the 2020 insurance costs will be sent out soon after the AGM.

d) Volunteers Injury Insurance

In June 2021, the ARA purchased Volunteers Injury Insurance (Option 1) for the remainder of the year. ARA had sufficient operating budget to not require a charge to Member states/territories.

The Treasurer's Report recommended that ARA continue Volunteers Insurance for all states and territories in calendar year 2022, with the cost recouped by a levy on the same basis as ARA's other insurance premiums. The Report recommended Option 3, but Mike agreed that Option 1 is best value. Mike Aylott noted that an estimate of 1500 volunteers across the country has been made in setting up the policy.

Trevor Gollan and Michael Watts queried the definition of a "volunteer". Mike suggested that any claim should be supported by the Association, and any volunteer working on any aspect of an event will be covered.

Gary Carroll queried how a claim would be made under the policy. Mike suggested we would put a claim in through the broker.

Michael Watts noted that there are some big exclusions in the policy (e.g. people over 75, people with mental health issues). Michael suggested that we should make it clear what the conditions and exclusions are when providing information on the coverage to our membership. Julie Quinn queried whether we can ask volunteers about pre-existing conditions. Zara Soden noted that the restriction on claims for people with mental health issues is very disappointing.

MOTION: That the ARA take out Volunteer Insurance for 2022 – lowest cost option, subject to satisfactory negotiation with the broker.

Moved: Paul Guard. Seconded: Michael Watts. Motion passed.

e) ARA Grant Policy and Status of 2020 Grants

No grants applications were received or awarded in 2020.

f) Auditing of ARA Accounts

ARA's incorporation in South Australia does not require it to submit annual audits.

Mike Aylott has made progress on a review of the accounts with John Gavens but has more work to do to complete the 2016 WRC-related transactions.

To compensate John for the significant effort, there was discussion about whether the auditor could be paid. Some states do pay auditors, some do not. Mike will determine what payment or gratuity is appropriate for the auditing.

ACTION ARA Treasurer: Complete the auditing review of ARA finances from 2010 to 2020 with John Gavens.

7. AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) Proposal from NZRA: January 2022 for Australasian Championship

NZRA have planned their national championship for 22-23 January 2022, near Christchurch. NZRA has proposed that this be the Australasian Championship.

Stephen Goggs noted that this date coincides with the Oceanian Orienteering Championship 7-16 January 2022 in NZ.

ARA's Australasian Championship policy, developed in conjunction with NZRA provides for a New Zealand event every 5 years. The last time we held the Australasian Championship in NZ was 2017, so an event in New Zealand in 2022 is logical.

Despite the uncertainty about Covid restrictions, the meeting was very supportive of the proposal, subject to confirmation at a later date.

MOTION: That ARA support the Australasian Championship being held in NZ in January 2022, subject to review on whether the travel is feasible or conditions are prohibitive.

Proposed: Paul Guard. Seconded: Julie Quinn. Motion passed.

b) 2021 Australian Championship: SARA

ARC 2021 was held on 29-30 May 2021.

The SARA organising team of Craig Colwell, with course setters Jenny Casanova, Mark Corbett, Zara Soden and Steve Cooper, produced a detailed technical challenge on the "Deceptive Lands" map at Bri Glen Springs, north of Burra.

Despite a lockdown in Victoria, there were 183 competitors in 80 teams, plus a further 26 teams in the 8 hour event. The finances were discussed under the President's Report.

The Interstate and Trans-Tasman Trophy was won clearly by Tasmania for the first time, with ACT and Queensland almost tied for the minor placings. There were no competitors from Western Australia and one team from New Zealand. The Intervarsity competition was not held in 2020 or 2021.

c) 2022 Australian Championship: VRA

Date: 8-9 October 2022. The event was postponed from the original date in 2021.

The location is the Pyrenees near Avoca. This is a new area for the Australian Championship. The title of the event is not yet decided and will depend on whether New Zealand hold the Australasian Championship in 2022.

Organiser is Greg Robinson. Vic Sedunary and Merv Trease are the lead setters, Duncan Brooks is assisting. Steven and Sarah Goyen are doing the vetting and mapping.

Setters went to the site in July. The area is very beautiful and rugged. Planning is progressing, but has been interrupted by lockdowns. The organising team is meeting monthly and everything is on track.

d) 2023 Australasian Championship: NSWRA

Date: September 2023

Trevor Gollan reported that he will be the coordinator for ARC 2023. Ronnie Taib and David Williams are the setters. The event area is near Bathurst, and the team is working on land access at the moment.

David Baldwin suggested that we need to avoid a clash with the USA WRC, which would likely be in August, but not yet confirmed. The event will also need to avoid the early October slot used for major orienteering championships. The full moon is less significant in choosing an appropriate date.

e) Future Australasian Championships

The following planned sequence of ARC hosts is as follows, however this can be varied given sufficient notice: 2024 WARA, 2025 ACTRA, 2026 QRA, 2027 RTAs.

The meeting encouraged NTRA to nominate to host an ARC in any of the above years, whenever resource availability allows. Shani Bryceson noted that they work together with the orienteers and cyclists to help coordinate calendar and volunteers. There are only about 10 core volunteers in NTRA out of 200 members. Paul Guard said that NTRA only require one key person to coordinate locally, with David Baldwin suggesting that ARA could underwrite the event and bring in necessary personnel.

f) Trophies

ARA Secretary Paul Guard will ensure the return of all perpetual trophies at the next ARC. Currently the Ultra Veteran Mens' trophy is in Victoria.

8. INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION

a) International Developments

The WRC in USA was postponed by IRF due to ongoing travel restrictions and will now be held in 2023.

The IRF approved a request from the organisers to run the North American Championship on part of the WRC area in August 2022, to help manage cash flows. At the same time it was discussed in the IRF whether the USA organising team may seek a bridging loan from the IDF, although there has been no formal approach to ARA.

The 2020 European Championship was held in Latvia and the 2021 event is due to take place in Estonia. IRF Council activity has been quiet otherwise. The 2025 WRC is due to rotate to the southern hemisphere and a bid from New Zealand is likely.

b) WRC 2022 Czech Republic

The organising team for WRC 2022 is headed by Jan Tojnar, who was responsible for previous 2002 and 2012 WRCs in Czech Republic. Julie Quinn advised that there may need to be an alternative IRF Event Advisor appointed due to Covid.

c) IRF Capitation

ARA currently pays IRF a levy of US \$200 (AUD \$280) per annum, plus a fee per competitor from the budget of the Australasian championship.

d) IRF Technical Regulations

The proposed change of age category determination (adopting the age at start of year as used in orienteering, rather than on the event date) has not progressed. The ARA Executive will undertake to propose a suitable change to the IRF that could also be adopted by ARA. This would have the benefit of allowing associations to avoid collecting sensitive birth date data.

e) ARA's International Development Fund (IDF)

There was no IDF activity to report. ARA Treasurer Mike Aylott suggested that states provide any ideas for international development projects or initiatives that are in line with the goals of the IDF.

9. TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Convenor: David Baldwin

a) Review of Australian Rogaining Championship 2021 organised by SARA

David Baldwin reviewed the ARC, stating that it was an excellent event, in very technical terrain, with a well-designed course. David noted that some people thought that the food at the end could have been different, and some people would have preferred no intention boards at controls.

Paul Guard stated that he has volunteered to produce a brief paper summarising the ARC requirements for organisers.

b) Water Planning at ARCs

The formal water planning process has continued to be successfully implemented at the last few ARCs. There were no problems with water management at the ARC in 2021, assisted by cooler weather.

Previous water plans are available as templates for future ARC organisers.

c) Navlight and Other Electronic Scoring

This topic was discussed under Dual Punches below.

d) Navlight Wristbands

ARA purchased a supply of 2000 strong wristbands for \$1211 to be used at ARC events. These were first seen at the 2021 ARC in South Australia.

e) Formalised Requirement for Dual Punches at ARC

The proposal was tabled for an additional rule C10 to be added to the Technical Regulations. This rule applies to the Australian Championship only.

Michael Watts queried the value of 2 punches, compared to 1 punch, with the necessity for increased stocks of Navlight punches. David Baldwin offered to supply sufficient quantities of Navlight to ARC organisers.

Owen Horton proposed changes to the wording of part (c), removing the words 'to enhance reliability', and replacing the word 'must' with 'should'.

Karen Robinson flagged some additional questions. The proposal will require more discussion before returning to ARA Council for a vote.

10. INTERVARSITY

Convenor: Brad Vallette (ACT)

a) 2022 Intersarsity Championship

Julie Quinn stated that the ARC in October 2022 is not the best timing for university students, due to exams. The Executive will consider this issue and propose an alternative State Championship, to be nominated as the 2022 Intersarsity.

b) Future of Intersarsity and NAMSF Funding

NAMSF funding will be revisited once a firm commitment is in place for the next Intersarsity Championship. Like all junior development programs, Intersarsity has been affected by Covid and will require additional effort in 2022 to regain momentum.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) National Hosting and ARA Website

The ARA is responsible for the domain rogainc.asn.au and the hosting of a number of websites for ARA, IRF and several state associations. David Baldwin spends considerable time managing the hosting, licenses, capacity planning and security updates. David has migrated us to a new host (Binary Lane), similar costs to previous provider. Backups are now being routinely produced. David is happy to discuss with any states/territories that want to join the hosting.

b) Entry Systems

The entry system developed by Paul Guard for QRA is available for other states/territories to use at no cost. NSWRA and ACTRA are currently using it (with their own branding on their event entry forms), as well as North Queensland rogainc and several SEQ adventure racing companies. Karen Robinson said that VRA was interested. States should contact Paul Guard for further information and assistance.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Working Groups

Paul Guard proposed working groups to facilitate collaboration and discussion at the national level for mapping systems, Navlight and MapRun. Paul volunteered to followup to find suitable coordinators for each proposed group.

b) Mandatory Gear

Gary Carroll started a discussion on safety, including the question of what do other states/territories require for mandatory equipment and how is that enforced?

- David Baldwin explained that the only mandatory gear in the rules is a whistle.
- ACTRA requires the presentation of a first aid kit to obtain a map;
- WARA checks people at registration;
- Michael Watts said that in most cases, mandatory gear is not checked.
- Gary and Paul said that phones are becoming essential, depending on coverage, at least to send a text message in an emergency.
- Shani said that NTRA rely on the indemnity form, which all team members must sign.
- NTRA brought up the issue of disclosure of pre-existing conditions. Trevor Gollan said that NSWRA provide space on indemnity forms.
- David Baldwin suggested that rogainers should also inform their teammates of pre-existing risks.

The broker wants ARA to use standard indemnity forms and keep them for 7 years. Mike Aylott volunteered to collate examples of indemnity forms being in use, with a view to standardising the approach nationally.

13. NEXT AGM

The next AGM is planned to be held at 2pm, Friday 7th October 2022. This is prior to the Australian Rogaining Championship, to be hosted by VRA.

The meeting was closed at 10:02pm.

Tabled Documents

- President's Report - **2020-21 Presidents Report.pdf**
- Treasurer's Report - **2020 Treasurers Report.pdf**
- Minutes of 2020 AGM - **2020 ARA AGM Minutes.pdf**
- Volunteer injury insurance PDS - **DUAL Voluntary Workers Insurance Policy Wording.pdf**
- Volunteer injury insurance quotation - **DUAL Voluntary Workers Personal Accident Quotation June-Dec 2021.pdf**
- ARC 2021 underwriting motion - **ARC 2021 underwriting proposal.pdf**
- Proposed tech regs change - **2021 ARA AGM Tech Regs Proposal.pdf**

ARA Council as at 05/08/2021

President: David Rowlands
Secretary: Paul Guard
Treasurer: Michael Aylott
Public Officer: Craig Colwell
Immediate Past President: Richard Robinson

Michael Schafer	QRA	President
Paul Guard	QRA	Representative
Mike Dunbar	NTRA	President
Shani Bryceson	NTRA	Representative
Stephen Goggs	ACTRA	President
David Baldwin	ACTRA	Representative
Trevor Gollan	NSWRA	President
Michael Watts	NSWRA	Representative
Peter Trenaman	WARA	President
Owen Horton	WARA	Representative
Gary Carroll	RT	President
Kristin Raw	RT	Representative
Kelly Lane	VRA	President
Karen Robinson	VRA	Representative
Zara Soden	SARA	President
Craig Colwell	SARA	Representative