



# VICTORIAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION INC

COUNCIL MEETING  
24<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## Wellsford Rifle Range - Office

Meeting Opened: 10.25am

**ATTENDEES:** Garry Kay (GK), Frank Conner (FC), Albert van Wyk (AvW), Trevor Rhodes (TR), Alan Wright (AW), Craig Weaire (CW), Peter Farley (PF)

**APOLOGIES:** NIL

**MINUTE TAKER:** Nikki Rees (NR)

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019.  
Accepted as tabled.

### Business arising from previous Minutes:

Item Number	Action Item	Responsibility
6 (March)	NR to distribute details of water pump for sale	NR
2 (May)	AvW to develop a business case for presentation to council as to how this could be implemented/managed	AvW
16 (May)	Complete registration forms for Aus Sports Foundation	NR/AvW
16 (March)	GK to set up meeting with SSAA	GK
4 (July)	FC to set up an electronic entry form for Queens	FC

Comments regarding the above action items:

AvW mentioned that the above action item dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 would be incorporated into the upcoming Delegates Forum to be held in 2020. The VRA needs to consider how we can leverage assets of Wellsford range to support local clubs. The delegates forum would cover a range of topics. The VRA needs to provide more benefits to local clubs but in return needs to have more input into the safety and security of clubs. The Council discussed various dates that might be suitable for the delegates forum.

Action Item	Responsibility
AvW to consider dates and commence work on agenda for the Forum	AvW

GK spoke about the criteria for completing the registration with the Australian Sports Foundation. Councillors suggested that we put a donation box on the membership form.

Action Item	Responsibility
NR to redesign membership form for 2020/21 to include ability for members to donate.	NR

# REPORTS

## 1. Chairman's Report

GK mentioned that he has been working on the notices of motion presented at the AGM and change to rules. He spoke about the changes and that the proposed rule changes were to be submitted to Consumer Affairs within 28 days of the AGM.

## 2. Treasurer's Report

AvW informed the Council of the current bank account balances listed below:

<b>Interest Bearing Account</b>	<b>\$153158.95</b>
<b>Trading A/C</b>	<b>\$100.180.70</b>
<b>Junior Development Fund A/C</b>	<b>\$3000.00</b>

AvW spoke about the outlook for the rest of the financial year and that the VRA could expect to make a loss for this FY. This was due to various factors including the closing of the VRA Shop for a significant time during renovations. Also, the lack of sales during the DRA Teams event due to lack of stock. AvW said that we are currently approximately \$65,000 behind in sales as compared to last year. The Councillors discussed various options to increase sales for the rest of the FY and into 2020/21 to avoid future losses for the VRA.

## 3. Executive Officers/Major Grant Update

NR spoke about the recent staff changes. The VRA Firearms Licence has now been transferred into her name with the co-operation of LRD who acted quickly and efficiently. An advertisement for a replacement Shop Manager has been submitted and hopefully the VRA will fill the position in the new year.

The Major Grant Project is still a works in progress with the kitchen renovation to be completed. NR has received two quotes from commercial builders to complete the works, however, is awaiting a third quote. Once the builder has been formally engaged, the building permit should be forthcoming. Unfortunately, due to the increase in costs for the kitchen renovation, the ramp to the toilet block will no longer be possible. The completion date for all projects was 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019, this will not be achieved. NR has written to the Department of Sport requesting a formal extension to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. NR has informed the Dept of Sport that the only outstanding project left is the kitchen renovation. Rod Mahon from South Bendigo RC has kindly offered to build the zero range target frames at cost price to the VRA.

NR requested that Councillors review the current allocation of portfolios as we do not currently have a Councillor who is the Resident Clubs Liaison.

NR also asked for clarification on the proposed DRA Teams weekend programme so that she can send it out for feedback/voting by members.

Action Item	Responsibility
NR to send out email to members seeking feedback on DRA Teams program	NR

#### **4. Councillor Portfolio Reports**

TR provided the Council with a written report from the Champion of Champions & DRA Teams weekend. TR believed both events were well executed and well attended. Feedback that he received was all positive and that we can look forward to both these events being a popular event on the VRA calendar. The Council congratulated TR on his efforts in organising/managing these events with the assistance of Peter Hulett.

PF spoke about his survey for Queens participation and it was discussed with Councillors that a survey monkey could be produced and sent as part of an information package about Queens seeking further feedback. PF also mentioned he had not sourced sponsorship options for the David Syme event due to initial negative feedback regarding this as a possibility. No changes can be made for this year due to the badges and medals already being ordered and in production. The Council agreed that this should be explored as an opportunity for 2021 Queens with naming rights offered to businesses.

FC spoke about his work done on an electronic Queens entry form. He mentioned that NR should be able to receive a draft link by early next week.

### **General Business**

#### **5. Queens Update**

AW outlined his work done on redesigning/reallocation of prize money for all matches within the Queens event. AW put forward two options for Councillors to vote on with Option A chosen as the preferred option. All Councillors believe that option A will evenly balance the prize pool of money between TR and F Class shooters whilst still considering entry numbers. Councillors voted on bar prices for 2020 Queens with the cost of light beer to be \$3.00 and heavy beer to be \$3.50.

NR mentioned that Peter Setford and Peter Farley had donated a bore scope to the value of \$700. Both Peters requested that it be used as an entry/door prize. This will be advertised with the Queens information pack soon to be compiled.

NR has booked "Soul M8" (located in Bendigo) food truck to attend each morning to provide coffee, donuts and possible bacon and egg rolls. TR suggested they also provide catering for Thursday night at the range. TR requested that NR organise the same carvery caterer as has been previously used.

NR asked for confirmation regarding times for blow off shots at the range. Councillors confirmed blow off shots will be permitted from 8am each morning and will be free of charge. NR will try and register the event with the local hospital/ambulance service in case of any incidents and NR will complete an emergency management plan.

Action Item	Responsibility
NR/AW to complete all planning activities for Queens 2020	NR/AW

## 6. VRA Shop – the way forward

AvW spoke about the shop survey results with 35 responses received so far. Tuesdays and Wednesdays remain the most popular choice for the shop to be open. 94% of respondents said that they would pre-order stock for events, which will be extremely beneficial allowing staff to plan and organise stock requirements. Most popular methods of communication are email followed by Facebook. The survey showed a 4.1-star service rating with respondents varying greatly in their feedback from being either very happy or very unhappy with the service.

AvW spoke about the introduction of Point of Sale technology and that the shop should have it implemented within the next couple of months. This will speed up processing times and minimise mistakes in identifying various stock items. AvW also spoke about options to implement an online shop, however a discussion ensued about the viability and profitability of the shop in general and that the Council would need to think strategically about its ongoing viability prior to spending significant money on an online store.

Action Item	Responsibility
NR to follow up with accountant regarding POS implementation	NR

## 7. NRAA AGM Papers

Councillors had previously discussed and voted on the NRAA papers for the upcoming NRAA AGM.

GK confirmed the below points of view after having time to review the content of the papers.

- Allowing the use of 6BR as an approved calibre in TR – Voted against this option
- Ammunition Levy to be removed with several options put forward in the paper – Vote was against with the recommendation with the levy to remain without change.
- Name change for the NRAA – Vote was in favour of a name change

GK asked for comments on the NRAA strategic plan.

## 8. DRA Teams proposal

GK suggested that we evaluate the option of changing the current DRA Team groupings to have four or five different regions within Victoria. GK provided some statistics regarding what could be possible if we had a north central, north east, north west, south east and a combined south central & south west regions. The Council then had a rigorous discussion regarding the positive and negatives of changing the current configuration of the event. GK thought there may be logistical issues in coordinating shooters across districts with a possible solution being a delegate from each club to coordinate the team. GK will develop a discussion paper on the proposed event to be distributed for feedback.

Action Item	Responsibility
GK to develop a discussion paper on DRA Teams	GK

### 9. Long Range Practice days at Wellsford

PF spoke about feedback he had received in regards to shooting long distances and some shooters not having the ability at clubs to shoot from 800 yards and beyond. PF asked the Council to consider holding Long Range practice days 3 or 4 times a year. It would allow people to come and practice and then perhaps feel more comfortable in entering competitions at Wellsford that require shooting from long distances. Councillors agreed that it was a positive idea and PF should contact relevant resident clubs to discuss options of sharing time at Wellsford Range for perhaps a couple of times a year.

Action Item	Responsibility
PF to develop idea and discuss dates with Wellsford Clubs	PF

### 10. Change to Rules

GK read the exact change to the rules regarding life membership as there was a query regarding the draft AGM minutes. GK asked for a vote in favour of the wording.

Action Item	Responsibility
GK to send NR the changes required for the AGM Minutes	GK
NR to distribute minutes to members and submit rule changes to Consumer Affairs	NR

### 11. Team Events

AvW asked Councillors to consider the proposal of introducing a team event at local club prize meetings. The purpose for this would be to allow people to enter PM's who may not be confident in entering as an individual. AvW would ask that the VRA sponsor this sub event during a PM to encourage more clubs to introduce it. The Council agreed that this was an interesting idea in concept and requested that AvW develop the idea/logistics further for consideration at the next meeting.

Action Item	Responsibility
AvW to develop the idea of team's events within a PM	AvW

### 12. Electronic Targets

AvW spoke about the value of the four Kongsberg targets and requested the Council decide on a monetary figure to sell them in the near future. Council agreed and AvW to follow up with the people who have expressed an interest in purchasing them.

Action Item	Responsibility
AvW to contact interested parties to discuss purchasing electronic targets.	AvW

Meeting closed at 4 pm

### Upcoming Council Meetings

- 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020
- 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - TBC
- 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020 - TBC
- 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – TBC
- 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - TBC
- 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - TBC
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 - TB

## Councillor Portfolios November 2019

	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Councillor Allocated</i>
1	Treasury/VRA Shop Staffing – HR F Class State Teams	Albert van Wyk
2	Technology NRAA Scoring and Statistics	Frank Conner
3	Events – Queens NRAA Scoring and Statistics	Alan Wright
4	Events – DRA & Other VRA OPM's All regional club PM's	Trevor Rhodes
5	Renewal of Wellsford Licence Other State Teams	Garry Kay
6	Membership Communications and Marketing Sponsorship for Events	Peter Farley
7	Strategy & Operational Policies Updating rules/by laws Updating Range Standing Orders	Vacant
8	Resident Club Liaison & Wellsford Range Facilities	Vacant
9	Major Grant Project	Vacant