

Darwin Tennis Association Inc

GPO Box 2514, Darwin NT 0801 Tel +61 8 8981 2181 Email: committee@gardenstennis.com.au

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2017

Gardens Club House

29th November 2017, 5:30 pm

Chair: Charles Webb

Present: Neale Barry; Paul Baxter, Clare Beacham, Luke Black, David Bridges, John Britton, Thelma Britton, Evan Broadway, Alan Buckingham, Des Crowe, Ewa Finch, Tom Harris, Neil Hay, Gregg Hestelow, Lindsay Hutley, Martin, Jackson, Israel Kgosiemang, Ganesh Koramannil, Natalie LaPira, M. Little, Ben MacLaughlin, Jamie O'Brien, Ruth, O'Brien, Naomi Paulsen, Kevin Peters, John Quinlan, Ian, Redmond, Peter Saunders, Janine Saunders, Jane Sheehan, Janette Steele, Helen Summers, Phillipa Tziolis, Charles Webb

Scrutineers: Ms Julie Davis and Ms Cassandra Kenchington, NT Law Society

Tennis NT: Mr Sam Gibson, Manager; Mr David Da Silva, President

1. Welcome

President, Charles Webb, opened the Darwin Tennis Association (DTA) Annual General Meeting and welcomed all present saying it was good to see so many people in attendance. Charles reminded all present that they were bound by the Code of Conduct signed by members at the time they joined. Charles introduced the Committee members present: Lindsay Hutley, Luke Black, Natalie La Pira, Jane Sheehan (Secretary), Jamie O'Brien (Treasurer) and mentioned Deb Liddard(Taruminggi) who was absent.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Martin Jackson and Alan Buckingham raised a question about the previous minutes. It was suggested that the DTA Constitution, which was amended at the 2016 AGM, was never ratified and was illegal and that the meeting should not continue. Charles Webb read from a communication sent by a Senior Officer of Licensing NT to the DTA Public Officer in June 2017 stating that the DTA Constitution, as amended by resolution of members at the 2016 AGM, had been assessed as being compliant with the relevant legislative requirements and could be read as valid from the date of its amendment. The meeting continued.

Motion that the minutes of the previous AGM be accepted as a true account

Moved: Philippa Tziolis

Seconded: Jamie O'Brien

Motion approved

3. President's Report

President Charles Webb spoke to his report (Attachment A refers) previously circulated to members. Charles acknowledged the work of the service providers, Jordyn Howarth and Benjamin McLachlan (spontaneous applause received). Charles highlighted several successful applications made by DTA for different grants and the improvements that these have made to DTA as a whole. Charles acknowledged the significant support received from Tennis NT and thanked fellow Committee members for their work in the last year. Charles gave special thanks to Jamie O'Brien for his extended work on the recently completed project to install new lighting at Gardens Tennis (spontaneous applause received).

Comment was invited from the members present:

Neale Barry commented that in his view seniors tennis was not being supported and that a very small percentage of gifted junior tennis players are the focus of the club. He suggested that the courts are empty at times they were traditionally full as direct result of the fees being charged for

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lights. Other members put forward alternative views including the President who informed the meeting that extensive grievance and mediation processes had been entered into with Neil Barry who complained about lack of support for seniors and light fees and reflected, with support from the Secretary, that it was his perception that a fees regime was in place for charging for lights from 6.30pm in the relatively recent past (3-5years ago).

Motion that the Presidents Report be accepted as a true account

Moved: Natalie La Pira

Seconded: Ruth O'Brien

Motion adopted

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Jamie O'Brien spoke to documents relating to the finances of DTA (Attachment B,C,D refers), including an audited financial statement and the Treasurer's Report previously circulated to members. The report states that \$147,182 in grants were received from government during the year and together with the grant money, committee approved other works as well. Work has taken place on the change rooms, pro shop, lighting, sewage, painting, web page design and business development and LED lights.

Comment was invited from the members present:

Alan Buckingham asked why the new lights were not listed as assets. The Treasurer responded that financial arrangements for the lighting project had only recently been concluded and consideration as to capitalisation or possible removal of assets from Balance Sheet would occur in the coming financial year.

Neale Barry questioned why the audited statements did not show fees paid by the service provider. The Treasurer responded that the fee arrangement between DTA and the Service Provider was commercial-in-confidence and this confidentiality needed to be respected.

Motion that the Treasurers report and audited financial statements be accepted

Moved: Helen Summers

Seconded: Ian Redmond

Motion approved

5. Appointment of Auditor

The Treasurer recommended that Susanne Lee and Associates be re-appointed as the DTA Auditor

Recommendation accepted

6. Gardens Tennis Ambassador of the Year

The AGM was informed that the Gardens Tennis Ambassador of the Year, award established through a donation from the Honourable Sally Thomas AC, has this year been awarded to the O'Brien family (Ruth, Jamie, Jordan, Lauren and Kara) for their extensive volunteer work at Gardens Tennis

Ruth O'Brien spoke on behalf of the family and acknowledged the work done by many at Gardens Tennis on a regular basis.

7. Special Resolutions (75% of members voting must approve)

Broad discussion took place on proposed special resolutions which required a minimum of 75% of members voting to be passed.

Special Resolution 1

That ownership of the crown lease in perpetuity 01279 to Lot 5257 of Darwin and the major assets (courts and clubhouse) of the Gardens Tennis centre is transferred from the Darwin Tennis Association to Tennis NT (Inc)

Yes: 81 No: 32 = 71.7 % in favour, failed to obtain the required 75% - Resolution not passed

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Special Resolution 2

That an amended Constitution (as distributed to members) is adopted for the Darwin Tennis Association

Yes: 80 No: 33 =70.80% in favour, failed to obtain the required 75% - Resolution not passed

Special Resolution 3

That the name of the Darwin Tennis Association is changed to the Gardens Tennis Club

Yes: 92 No: 21 = 81.4% in favour, 75% or greater obtained - Resolution passed

Voting in relation to special resolutions was scrutineered by the Ms Julie Davis and Ms Cassandra Kenchington of the NT Law Society

8. Election of office bearers and committee

Nominations for office bearers were as follows

President

Dave Bridges and Charles Webb

Vice-President

Ruth O'Brien

Treasurer

Jamie O'Brien

Secretary

Jane Sheehan

Committee members

Clare Beacham, Luke Black, Alan Buckingham, Lindsay Hutley, Natalie La Pira, Ian Redmond, Neale Barry, John Quinlan and David Bridges

Ruth O'Brien, Jamie O'Brien and Jane Sheehan were unopposed and therefore declared appointed to the positions of Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

An election was held for the position of President and for other Committee members with nominees given an opportunity to speak to their nomination.

Voting:

President

Charles WEBB – 68 votes

David BRIDGES – 32 votes

Charles WEBB elected as President

Four - Committee Members:

Clare BEACHAM – 75 votes

Nat LaPIRA – 72 votes

Luke BLACK – 68 votes

Lindsay HUTLEY – 68 votes

Ian REDMOND – 33 votes

Alan BUCKINGHAM – 28 votes

David BRIDGES – 28 votes

Neale BARRY – 22 votes

John QUINLAN – 2 votes

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Clare BEACHAM, Natalie LaPIRA, Luke BLACK and Lindsay HUTLEY elected as Committee members.

Voting was scrutineered by Ms Julie Davis and Ms Cassandra Kenchington of the NT Law Society.

9. Appointment of a Patron

It was proposed the Honourable Sally Thomas AC be invited to be patron of Darwin Tennis Association for 2018.

Carried

10. Other Business

No items were presented

Meeting Closed 8.30pm

DRAFT