

MOTORCYCLING NSW STATE DELEGATES MEETING

MINUTES

Date: Thursday 19 October 2023 at 7:00pm

Location: Blacktown Workers Club and Microsoft Teams

Attendees

Board

Madeleine Bowditch (Chair)	Chelsea Cheney (Deputy Chair)	Nathan Hussey (Director)
Tanya Raffoul (Director)	Alison Wong (Director)	

Life Members

Keith Davies	David Elliot	Ron Kivovitch
Bob McGlinchy		

Delegates

Armidale MCC	ACT Motorcycle Club	Baulkham Hills JMTC
Bathurst Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Inc	Cessnock Motocross Club	Classic Motorcycle Racing Club
Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club	Dubbo Dirt Bike Club	Hastings Valley Motorcycle Club
Hunter MCC	Lake Macquarie Motor Bike Club	Lower Mountains MCC
Macarthur Districts Motorcycle Sports Club	Maitland District Motorcycling Club	Manly Warringah MCC
Oyster Bay Motorcycle Club	Panorama MCC	Post Classic Racing Association
St George Motorcycle Club	Trials Club of Canberra	Vincent HRD Owners Club
Vintage Trail Riders Club	Wollongong MCC	Young MCC

Guests

Daniel Rushworth – MNSW Staff	Ben Williams – MNSW Staff	Wendy Haddad – MNSW Staff
Anthony Corby – Motocross Sports Committee	Brad Harvie – Observer	

Apologies

Christine Tickner - Life Member	Sydney Jackson – Life Member	Ian Lieblich – MNSW Director
Ken McLean – City of Penrith MCC		

Items

1. Chairpersons address and welcome

Chairperson Bowditch opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed all attendees.

Chairperson Bowditch extended her thanks to former Director Hugh Howarth, who has stepped down following the appointment of the full Board. Chairperson Bowditch welcomed Tanya Raffoul, Nathan Hussey, and Alison Wong to the meeting. Director Ian Lieblich was noted as an apology. Directors Hussey and Raffoul provided a brief introduction to the community.

2. Minutes – State Delegates Meeting 24 August 2023

There were no comments or questions raised on the minutes.

Moved – Andy Driessen, Manly Warringah Motorcycle Club

Seconded – John Simms, Classic Motorcycle Racing Club

The meeting minutes for the Delegates meeting held on 24 August 2023 were accepted via a show of hands.

3. Matters Arising

It was confirmed that matters 6ii, 6vi, 11iii and 12iv were completed.

Regarding item 8, Chairperson Bowditch advised it will be discussed further in the meeting.

Regarding item 12vi, Ben Williams from MNSW advised that he has been in discussions with MA (Motorcycling Australia) and it has been advised that the officials accreditation framework will be finalised mid-2024, and further details will be issued at that time.

Chairperson Bowditch also advised that regarding an action item for Roy Chamberlain regarding the MA calendar, that this item has been taken offline, as Roy Chamberlain attends the delegates meetings as a Delegate for the Trials Club Canberra, and not in his capacity as a representative of MA.

4. Board Meeting Summaries

Chairperson Bowditch noted that, going forward, any circular motions made by the Directors will be included in the Board meeting minutes. This will ensure that all recommendations and motions are accurately noted, and the community will have transparency.

The Board meeting summary for 31 July 2023 were taken as read.

The Board meeting summary for 11 September 2023 were taken as read.

5. Financial Summary August 2023

Director Cheney advised that the working capital remains strong at 4.3M and that MNSW is on track to deliver a cost neutral budget. The MNSW office has been promoting the National Motorcycling Alliance and the numbers are increasing from August and September which is pleasing. The consultancy fees remain high however this is due to the ongoing matters which require legal assistance.

Life Member Ron Kivovitch queried the amount spent on legal and investigations and whether MNSW is receiving value for the outsourcing, due to the investigations being historical. Director Cheney advised that the investigator does provide MNSW with competitive pricing and the Board had acted on direction from the Delegates regarding opening an investigation into the previous Board. This needs to be followed through and unfortunately it is taking longer than expected to finalise. There are also ongoing legal matters which cannot be discussed due to confidentiality, of which they also require legal advice. Chairperson Bowditch advised that there is no timeframe on the remaining historical investigations at this stage; however, these should be finalised soon. Chairperson Bowditch also advised that the costs / benefits of the historical investigations are being carefully considered. The financial summary for August 2023 was accepted.

6. Key items

i. Board Committee Structure Update

Chairperson Bowditch advised of the following updates to the Board and Sub Committees –

Chair of the Board – Director Bowditch.

Governance Committee – Given the substantial uplift in governance over the past two years, governance will be overseen by the full Board

Investigations Committee – Director Ian Lieblich is the Chair, Director Wong is Deputy Chair. Director Bowditch is also on this Committee.

Finance, Risk, Audit & Properties Committee – Director Cheney remains Chair. Directors Hussey, Wong, Bowditch and Lieblich are also on this Committee.

Participation Committee – Director Hussey is Chair. Directors Cheney and Raffoul are also on this Committee.

Further updates on the Committees will be provided further in the meeting.

ii. Nowra and District Motorcycle Club Update

The CEO (Chief Executive Officer) advised that the new Board appointees at Nowra and District Motorcycle Club are currently reviewing the Constitution. The MNSW Board had hoped that the Nowra and District Motorcycle Club would become affiliated this evening, however this will be moved to the December Delegates Meeting to allow for more time to review the Constitution.

iii. Whole of Sport Organisational Improvement Initiative

Chairperson Bowditch advised that in December 2022, MNSW was contacted by the Australian Sports Commission to provide input into an organisational improvement initiative which is similar to what has been conducted in various sporting codes and seeks to improve sports administration across Australia. As part of this initiative, Director Cheney and the CEO travelled to Melbourne for a workshop earlier this year. MNSW and other state controlling bodies have reviewed the draft MOU that was provided. The next iteration is expected to arrive shortly. There were no questions

or comments raised. Chairperson Bowditch advised that once updates are received or progress made, the board will communicate this to the community.

iv. **MNSW Calendar Update**

Ben Williams from MNSW advised that he has been collaborating with MA on the 2024 calendar. The tender documents for State Championship host went out last week and the tenders are due to close on the 29 October. A draft calendar will be released by the 30th of November, depending on MA releasing their dates.

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club questioned why promoters were advertising dates for 2024. The CEO advised that promoters may be promoting 'save the date' events, but that no permits have been granted for 2024.

Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycling Club noted that the MNSW Awards Night clashes with the Newcastle Supercross. The CEO agreed that it was unfortunate, and that in fact there are two events on the same night as the Awards Ceremony. Both events were confirmed in May, after the MNSW Awards Night had been booked in and advertised. The MNSW Board did investigate to change the date of the Awards Ceremony, however the cost to MNSW would have been quite significant to move the date this close to the event.

v. **MNSW RiderNet 2.0 Updates**

Ben Williams from MNSW advised that Karen and Catherine are continuing to meet with MA weekly and are still sending fortnightly updates to the community. There is work being done to put together new training for clubs to utilise and this will be released in due course.

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club questioned when family entries would be able to be registered on RiderNet. The CEO advised that the development of RiderNet is not on a set timeline and no advice from MA has been received regarding family entries. The MNSW team will investigate this and provide an update at the December Delegates meeting.

Claire Beech from Cessnock Motocross Club questioned whether the fortnightly emails are being sent to officials. The CEO advised that the fortnightly emails are being sent to the clubs, and it is the clubs' responsibility to then distribute to the secretaries.

Michel Constantinou from Wollongong Motorcycle Club noted that it would be helpful for officials to be included in the fortnightly emails as it will save extra communication that the clubs must make. Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club suggested that the update be included in the official's newsletter. Michel also noted Sheree's comment about private promoters advertising dates for 2024 and noted that dates in January have been promoted as save the date to allow for riders to plan, as advertising in December for January would not have a positive outcome for the event. The CEO advised that the calendar for 2024 is a priority and the MNSW office is attempting to provide as much visibility and notice as possible.

Action – MNSW team to investigate when RiderNet will be able to log family entries.

Action – MNSW team to investigate utilising officials' newsletter to distribute RiderNet Update.

vi. **Club Delegate Nominations**

Chairperson Bowditch discussed the current process for nominating club delegates and how there is no particular process in welcoming new delegates to these meetings. The process of nominating delegates, and who can be a delegate, sits completely outside the MNSW Constitution and governance framework. Chairperson Bowditch discussed that this may be problematic, providing the example that as a Delegate is not an 'official position' a Board member could technically act as a club delegate, which would be inappropriate. Chairperson Bowditch queried whether the community had any thoughts on whether the Board should review whether club delegates should be recognised in MNSW governance, rather than just in club processes and constitutions. Chairperson Bowditch advised that if the community have any thoughts or ideas to please contact Director Bowditch or the MNSW office.

Greg Epis from St George Motorcycle Club clarified the role of the delegates and the MNSW Board under the Constitution.

Andy Shumack from Panorama Motorcycle Club queried whether the delegates on Microsoft Teams could have their full name and club as part of their username, rather than 'guest.' The CEO advised that this is the reason the MNSW office has implemented a registration sign on for online participants.

Bruce Morgan from Bathurst Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Inc requested that people online introduce themselves when speaking. He also agreed with Chairperson Bowditch that it should be a rule for delegates to not be Board members as it is a conflict of interest.

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club suggested that board members should not be officials. Chairperson Bowditch explained that, to avoid any conflicts of interest, Board Members cannot hold a position such as Clerk of Course or Steward, who have the ability to impose fines or make decisions on the day. Chairperson Bowditch also explained that the Board and membership had discussed this at length during the Constitutional uplift process, and that blanket restrictions would be problematic for our already limited pool of volunteers (noting our Sports Committee members would also be impacted).

Claire Beech from Cessnock Motocross Club questioned whether the Board were currently nominated as Delegates and what the reason would be to restrict who could be a delegate. Chairperson Bowditch advised that no Board members are delegates, and that it is not the Board's intention to decide who could be a delegate nor directed at any delegates; rather, the Board had received feedback and were considering how and whether to implement a better process surrounding how delegates are governed.

vii. **Eastern Creek Speedway**

The CEO advised that significant changes were occurring at Eastern Creek Speedway to ensure the track is compliant. There were some compliance issues surrounding the track meeting licencing requirements. Unfortunately, the promoter has stepped away from the facility and there have been communications that the facility may be taken over by a party outside of the sport. Once updates are provided, they will be communicated to the community.

viii. **Podium**

The CEO advised that this is a new addition to the Delegates meetings which will focus on the success that has taken place within motorcycling. The CEO spoke to key performance highlights from MNSW athletes over the past several months (slides 16 – 20) and congratulated the efforts of our members across a range of disciplines.

Greg Epis from St George Motorcycle Club questioned whether MNSW has assisted competitors with funding to attend events. The CEO advised that MNSW does provide funding assistance for those selected in the National team. Greg noted his concern that MNSW did not offer funding to individuals and only teams competing in international events and queried why this was the case. The CEO advised that whilst MNSW helped fund the National Teams riders the as the budget did not allow for funding to be provided for everyone that competed at a national or international level as there are a considerable number across each of the disciplines. The CEO mentioned there were several grants available that these individuals could apply for and that this had been successfully navigated by riders in the past. Deputy Chairperson Cheney also advised that there have been applications made by individuals regularly and these are reviewed, and where possible some have been successful in achieving funding.

Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club suggested including access to grants information in the newsletters, as federal and local members can also assist with funding.

Julian Roberts from Lake Macquarie Motor Bike Club noted that the addition of the podium section was pleasing to see as it celebrates what the community achieves and takes part in each weekend.

7. MNSW Board Sub Committee Update

i. **Governance and Policy Update**

i. **MNSW Bylaws**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that the MNSW Bylaws were repealed as they conflicted with the updated Constitution. All information contained in those Bylaws now sits within the MNSW Constitution.

ii. **Discipline Bylaws**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that these have been reviewed by the Sports Committees and they will be presented at the next Board meeting for consideration.

iii. **Club Regulations**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that the Club Regulations review process is ongoing and thanked the clubs who had provided feedback.

iv. **Working with Children Check**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that the Working with Children Check Policy is currently being updated due to legislation changes. This will be communicated to the community at the right time.

ii. **Investigations Sub Committee**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that there is pleasing progress being made with historical investigations and an update will be provided at the December Delegates meeting.

iii. **Finance, Risk, Audit & Properties Sub Committee**

Director Cheney advised that the FRAP committee have scheduled a meeting for next week and the agenda consists of Nowra, financial update, 2024 budget and risk matrix. An update will be provided at the December Delegates meeting.

iv. **Participation Sub Committee**

Director Hussey advised that the Participation committee is due to meet in the coming weeks to drive the strategy and key priorities. A more substantial update will be provided at the December Delegates meeting. Director Hussey noted ensuring that community members are part of this subcommittee is of high importance and anyone wishing to be considered should reach out to himself or the Board.

8. New Delegates

There were no new delegates.

9. New Club Affiliations

There were no club affiliations. The CEO reiterated that Nowra was not able to affiliate due to the review of their Constitution.

10. Committee Reports

- i. Dirt Track – Keith Davies advised that the Australian Championships were a success with only one injury over the weekend where over 100 riders participated.
- ii. Enduro – Phil Grant from the Enduro Committee advised that the Off-Road Championship was last week at Dungog. The Enduro Cross Series at Macarthur this weekend had to be cancelled due to low participation numbers. The presentation evening for Enduro is scheduled for November 25 and the Committee is focusing on putting together the program for 2024.
- iii. Historic Road Race – Ed Poucher from the Historic Road Race Sports Committee advised that there was little to report and awaiting feedback from the MA Commission regarding classes.
- iv. Minikhana – No update provided.
- v. Motocross – Anthony Corby from the Motocross Committee advised that the Committee has been working on the State Titles for 2024. Once the 2024 calendar is set, the Committee can confirm the dates for the events. The Committee is looking forward to a successful and exciting 2024 series.
- vi. Road Race – No update provided.
- vii. Speedway – No update provided.
- viii. Trial – No update provided.

11. General Business

i. Wakefield Park

The CEO advised that Wakefield Park is being rebranded as One Raceway and is due to open in the first quarter to half of 2024 and more information will be provided at the right time. This will hopefully improve the opportunities for road racing.

ii. Partnership Coordinator Role

Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club questioned whether the Partnership Coordinator has left MNSW and whether the role is being filled. Chairperson Bowditch confirmed that this was correct, and that her departure would be communicated to the community shortly. Chairperson Bowditch also advised that the Board will be working with the CEO to undertake a review of the office structure prior to filling the role.

iii. MAIL

Life Member Ron Kivovitch queried whether the MNSW office is receiving satisfactory information from MA surrounding MAIL. Chairperson Bowditch advised that discussions with MA are continuing.

iv. Slips and Trips Insurance

Life Member Keith Davies questioned whether any clubs had taken out the Slips and Trips Insurance from MA. The CEO advised that previously 30 clubs have taken this insurance.

v. Nowra and District Motorcycle Club

Michel Constantinou from Wollongong Motorcycle Club questioned why Nowra was not finalised. The CEO reiterated that the appointed persons for the Board were still reviewing the Constitution and there was no timeline for affiliation yet.

vi. Support to Clubs and Ride Park Days

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club questioned whether MNSW could provide financial support to Clubs who are struggling. The CEO advised that participation numbers are increasing, with recreational riding currently doing quite well. There are other areas where they are not seeing large amounts of participation, and this will be investigated by the Participation Sub Committee. Sheree discussed Ride Park Days and whether these could be limited, due to the negative effect it has on clubs. A discussion took place surrounding Ride Park Days between Julian Roberts, Sheree Morris, and Darren Saxon.

Darren Saxon from Hunter Motorcycle Club noted that Ride Park Days have been a positive impact on the Hunter Motorcycle Club as it has brought people into riding and joining clubs. Darren also discussed Dirt Track not having grading and whether this could be considered in the future. Director Hussey noted this for further investigation by the Participation Committee.

Greg Epis from St George Motorcycle Club commented that ride parks have significantly affected Road Racing clubs as participants have remained in the recreation space rather than transitioning into clubs and racing.

vii. One Rider One Club

Bruce Morgan from Bathurst Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Inc queried whether the CEO had given any thought to a recent suggestion regarding one rider one club process to be implemented. A discussion took place surrounding this and the CEO noted Bruce's comments.

viii. Collateral for Clubs and Ride Park Days

Claire Beech from Cessnock Motocross Club questioned whether MNSW could provide support to clubs by way of collateral material for clubs to use to promote the benefits of licencing and memberships. Claire noted that grading could also be useful for Motocross. It was also queried why the Nowra appointees were reviewing the Constitution prior to officially forming as a Board. The CEO advised that regarding Nowra, this was the agreement between MNSW and Nowra and District Motorcycle Club certain processes that need to be followed regarding forming the new Club. Regarding grading, the Participation Committee will investigate this further. Regarding collateral for Clubs to assist with licencing and membership, this is being discussed at the AMT level.

ix. Ride Park Days, Internship Media, and Marketing at MNSW

Michel Constantinou from Wollongong Motorcycle Club noted that Ride Park Days were successful for some clubs and urged the Participation Committee to not restrict these days.

Michel Constantinou from Wollongong Motorcycle Club queried whether MNSW had brought on an intern and whether this was a paid role. The CEO confirmed that MNSW had advertised for an internship to assist with Media and Marketing, but unfortunately the successful applicant was offered a paid role elsewhere. MNSW will now be considering other shortlisted applicants. This role is unpaid and ideally suited towards a university student.

x. Licences and Benefits

Darren Saxon from Hunter Motorcycle Club queried whether there could be more information provided regarding licences, their benefits, the process involved and the costs. There is currently limited information available online. The CEO advised that this will be noted by the Participation Committee. The CEO also noted that the 'find my club' feature has been updated recently, however the Board recognises that further improvement opportunities need to be developed to improve access to information.

Action – Participation Sub Committee/MNSW team to investigate improvements to the MNSW Website to assist potential participants in accessing the participation and club network.

xi. 2023 Trials Championships – Pacific Park

Life Member Bob McGlinchy noted that the one rider one club process would be quite difficult and have serious ramifications for the sport. The 2023 Trials Championships are on at Pacific Park on 29th October. There is free entry, and it is expected to be a magnificent event.

xii. Participation Discussion

Julian Roberts from Lake Macquarie Motor Bike Club noted that the Kickstart Program covers introductions to motorcycling and is a good pathway for beginners. The CEO discussed this

program and noted that it was aimed at children and there was scope for more programs aimed at different age groups. The Participation Committee will investigate this further.

The Delegates discussed the possibility of flyer dropping, a bike display in shopping centres and further promotions via Facebook. Director Hussey advised that he has taken many notes from the Delegates meeting to discuss further with the Participation Committee. The Committee is looking forward to discussing these topics further and a review will be conducted which will also look to other sports to determine what has been successful.

12. Meeting Close

Chairperson Bowditch thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting. The meeting was declared closed at 9:23pm.

Action summary table:

Item No	Action arising	Date raised	Resolved
6vi)	BW to follow up on the email listing for the RiderNet fortnightly updates to ensure that officials and race secretaries were included.	24 Aug 23	19 Oct 23
8	MNSW to investigate and incorporate new process for welcoming new Delegates to the bi-monthly Delegates meetings	24 Aug 23	19 Oct 23
11iii)	BW to investigate the trophies allowance to clubs	24 Aug 23	19 Oct 23
12v)	CEO to provide update on Wakefield Park as they arise	24 Aug 23	19 Oct 23
12vi)	BW and CEO to investigate official's accreditation framework	24 Aug 23	19 Oct 23
6v)	MNSW team to investigate when RiderNet will be able to log family entries.	19 Oct 23	
6v)	<i>Action – MNSW team to investigate utilising officials' newsletter to distribute RiderNet Update.</i>	19 Oct	
11)	<i>Participation Sub Committee/MNSW team to investigate improvements to the MNSW Website to assist potential participants in accessing the participation and club network.</i>	19 Oct	