

## **MOTORCYCLING NSW STATE DELEGATES (GENERAL COUNCIL) MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday 22 June 2023 at 7:00pm

**Location:** Blacktown Workers Club Ballroom and online via Microsoft Teams

#### **Attendees**

##### **Board**

Chelsea Cheney (Director & Co-chair)	Madeleine Bowditch (Director & Co-chair)	Hugh Howarth (Director)
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##### **Life Members**

Christine Tickner	David Elliot	Keith Davies
Ron Kivovitch	Bob McGlinchy	

##### **Delegates**

Annandale Leichardt MCC	Armidale Motorcycle Club	Baulkham Hills JMTC
Bathurst Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Inc	Cessnock Motorcross Club	Coffs Harbor Motorcycle Club
Classic Motorcycle Racing Club	Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club	Junior Trials Dirt Bike Club
Kurri Kurri Speedway Club	Lake Macquarie Motor Bike Club	Lower Mountains MCC
Macarthur Districts Motorcycle Sports Club	Maitland District Motorcycling Club	Manly Warringah Motorcycle Club
North Coast Road Racers	Oyster Bay Motorcycle Club	Panorama Motorcycle Club
Post Classic Racing Association	Penrith Minibike Club	South Grafton Ex Services Motorcycle Club
Trials Club of Canberra	Vincent Owners Club	Wollongong MCC
Young MCC		

##### **Guests**

Daniel Rushworth – MNSW Staff	Ben Williams – MNSW Staff	Wendy Haddad – MNSW Staff
Maree Kirby – Motocross Sports Committee	Caylan Young	

##### **Apologies**

Danielle Mackin (Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club)	Margaret Davenport (Oakdale Junior Motorcycle Club)	Peter Dow (Macarthur District Motorcycle Club)
Darren Gosling (Oyster Bay MCC)		

## Items

### 1. Chairpersons address and welcome

Chairperson Bowditch opened the meeting at 7.04pm and welcomed Director Hugh Howarth. The Chair reiterated that former Chairperson Darren Gossling had reluctantly retired from the Board due to needing to focus on his business. Mr Gossling was intending to attend the meeting but unfortunately due to changing work commitments he was unable to. The Chair advised that the Board are currently seeking additional Directors however management and operational decisions and the Board can still hold meetings. The next Board meeting scheduled for Monday 26 June.

### 2. Minutes – State Delegates General Council Meeting 20 April 2023

Brett Redman from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club queried the response to Carlie Roberts' question regarding the financial summary. Mr Redman sought clarification on what the full statements provided, and Director Cheney explained that the financials provided to the Delegate Meeting are a snapshot based on operating matters and interpreting these requires a broader approach to timing and other factors including expenses and/or income.

Michel Constantinou queried whether there was an update on the Nowra Club's Expressions of Interest for a community-based club. The CEO advised that the expressions of interest close on 28 June 2023 and further details will be advised.

Robert Seiler from Post Classic Racing Association queried whether there was an update on Wakefield Park. The CEO advised that there is no update, and this remains a critical issue that the Board are focusing on and remains a standing item on the agenda.

Brett Redman questioned the process by which the meeting minutes were accepted and the matters arising, It was confirmed by the Chair that there were no matters arising and the correct approach is to accept or disagree the accuracy of the minutes at first instance then approach any matters arising.

The meeting minutes for the General Council meeting held on 20 April 2023 were then accepted as an accurate representation of the relevant meeting.

*Moved – Life Member Ron Kivovitch*

*Seconded – Life Member Bob McGlinchy*

### 3. Board Meeting Summaries

Life Member Christine Tickner questioned why previous Director Gossling did not disclose his potential conflict of interest with Unity Bank due to the term deposit that was recently invested. The Chair explained that Director Gossling did declare his potential conflict to the Finance, Risk, Audit and Property Subcommittee as is appropriate, and consequently was not involved in the decision to invest with Unity Bank due to his conflict of interest. The Directors considered offers from multiple financial institutions and made the decision to take Unity Bank's offer as it would yield \$18K more than other term deposits quoted, and therefore would generate the best return for the Members.

Brett Redman from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club stated that the MNSW Board should have stayed away from Unity Bank despite the \$18K profit. The Chair reiterated that the

Directors were making the best decision for MNSW as it would have yielded the best return and that the Directors are bound to act in the best interests of MNSW.

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club queried why Director Gossling did not stay with MNSW a further week to attend the Delegates Meeting and bid farewell. The Chair explained that the recent change of Directors in the Board is due to workload and unfortunately Director Gossling had work commitments that changed at the last minute, causing him to miss the Delegates meeting. It was also discussed whether it was worth investing with a smaller bank than bank with a AAA rating. Chairperson Bowditch advised that this risk was discussed by the Board and taken into consideration.

Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club agreed with Life Member Christine Tickner and is of the opinion that Director Gossling should have declared a conflict of interest. The Chair reiterated that the conflict was declared in the appropriate meeting. Carlie Roberts voiced concerns surrounding the way the investment was communicated at the recent Delegates meetings and queried why the Delegates were not provided with more information. The CEO advised that there was a period where the investment had not been made due to the Board waiting for the interest rates to rise, but when the investment was made the conflict of interest with Director Gossling was certainly made at the appropriate Finance Risk Audit Property Committee and the Delegates were advised right away. The Chair acknowledged that this could have been communicated better to delegates and will take on the feedback and provide clearer and more proactive communication in future.

Chairperson Cheney advised that the Board has put in a great amount of effort and sacrifice and hopes that the community will recognise this and stop measuring the Board on past disagreements.

Michel Constantinou queried whether there was an update on the investigation into the previous MNSW Board. The Chair advised that the investigation is ongoing and progressing. Michel also questioned what the next steps would be when the expressions of interest for Nowra close. The CEO advised that MNSW will consider the nominations and if deemed appropriate, be reconstituted as a member-based organisation and then that club will have oversight of the facility at Yerrilyong. More details will be provided at the right time.

The Board meeting summary for 8 May 2023 was noted.

#### **4. Financial Summary April 2023**

Director Cheney advised that due to events starting later in 2023, this has impacted revenue. At the end of April, the figures show MNSW at a neutral budget position in terms of overall performance to date. MNSW is still on track to meet budget, annually. The removal of the Office of Sport Grant of \$304K was the main contributor to the significant difference between FY 22 and FY 23. As mentioned at previous Delegates meetings, there has been a rise in consultancy fees which were for the Constitution uplift. Despite not having the grants as per previous years, MNSW's financial position is pleasing and are on track for a neutral budget result as forecasted for end of year budgets.

The financial summary for April 2023 was accepted.

#### **5. Key items**

##### **i. State Titles Motocross**

The CEO advised that it was disappointing to have to cancel two events due to entrance numbers and acknowledges the work Coffs Harbour and Lakes Clubs have put in. The Board is currently looking at opportunities to reschedule the events later in the year, calendar permitting. A survey has been put together for the community to provide feedback on what could be done better in the future and what the community hopes to gain from the events. Some feedback has already been received and the CEO encouraged the Senior Motocross riders in the community to provide their feedback. Carlie Roberts from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club advised that the Lakes Motorcycle Club has not received the survey. The CEO confirmed that the survey was emailed to all MNSW members and participants who registered in the State Titles. Carlie Roberts stated that emails should not be the main source of communication and that social media and SMS should be utilised. Chairperson Cheney advised that social media was not an appropriate platform as it opens the survey to people who may not be members or who may not participate, thus resulting in false responses and feedback which is unhelpful.

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club queried how the participation levels are in other disciplines. The CEO advised that off-road are doing well and that dirt track and Minikhana could be doing better.

Brett Redman from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club advised that many participants enter state titles at the last minute and that providing notice of the event being cancelled if numbers are not met may entice people to enter earlier. The CEO advised that notice of the event being cancelled due to participant numbers was circulated to the community via social media and there was no change in last minute entries.

Michel Constantinou confirmed that Motocross numbers are down, and work could be done in this space to boost participants. AMCROSS is presently doing quite well, however the disciplines are difficult to compare against each other as they are quite different.

Claire Beech from Cessnock Motorcross Club questioned whether the data sets were correct in the MNSW database as family members received emails about the senior motocross despite not having a senior rider licence. It was also stated that other States have full numbers in Motocross and what the difference is with MNSW. The CEO advised that the system alerted everyone who had a licence attached to them, to ensure that no one missed the opportunity to participate. The MNSW team is currently looking into whether the data sets could be tweaked to be more targeted and changes in this space could come. The CEO also advised that other states have different circumstances to MNSW and that the MNSW Board are focussed on what is occurring in NSW. Chairperson Bowditch took the opportunity to welcome Claire Beech to Delegates Meetings, following her recent appointment as Delegate for Cessnock Motorcross Club.

Life Member Keith Davies commented on Ride Park Days receiving 200 participants and the CEO advised that this could be due to the economic situation and that not every rider wishes to participate at a championship level.

## ii. **MNSW Strategic Plan and Scorecard**

The CEO advised that minimal feedback has been received regarding the Strategic Plan. The implementation of the strategic plan will be tracked and reported upon at future Delegates Meetings. Level Four Officials Courses are occurring in July and the Board has been working

towards implementing more accreditation opportunities. Further updates will be provided to the community at the right time.

iii. **MNSW Calendar Update**

There were no updates to the Calendar.

iv. **MNSW RiderNet 2.0 Updates**

Ben Williams from MNSW advised that new releases will be live on RiderNet 2.0 on Friday 23 June. Active Kids in NSW will be in a new format from 1 July and details surrounding this will be included in the upcoming community newsletter. The MNSW team are continuing to provide feedback on RiderNet 2.0, and the community is encouraged to provide any feedback so that the system can continue to be improved.

v. **MNSW Awards and Hall of Fame**

The CEO advised that the MNSW Awards Night is scheduled to be held on Saturday 11 November, however, now clashes with an event held at Newcastle which has been a late addition to the calendar. MNSW is investigating whether the date of the Awards Night can be changed. Award nominations are now open. A panel will be established for the Hall of Fame, and this will include people from the community. The CEO encouraged the community to put forward nominations and to recognise those in the community who volunteer and work hard. The Board hopes to double the nominations received last year.

**6. MNSW Board Sub Committee Update**

i. **Governance and Policy Sub Committee**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that the Board have been working on the Terms of Reference for the Delegates Meetings (which had been circulated ahead of this meeting), Sports Committee Charter and the Club Regulations. Coming up for review will be the MNSW Social Media Policy, Privacy Policy and the By-Laws. A review of the Life Membership Policy will also be undertaken to ensure that it aligns with the Constitution.

ii. **Investigations Sub Committee**

Chairperson Bowditch advised that the MNSW Grievance Handling Process has been updated to align with the new Constitution, and in anticipation of upcoming changes with Sport Integrity Australia and the National Integrity Framework. The updated policy will ensure natural justice is applied to all parties involved in a grievance.

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

Chairperson Cheney advised that the FRAP Committee have not met recently but continue to monitor the financials.

**7. New Delegates**

The Chair welcomed Andy Shumack from Panorama Motorcycle Club and Claire Beech from Cessnock Motorcross Club.

**8. New Club Affiliations**

There were no new club affiliations.

## **9. Private Promoter Affiliations**

There were no new private promoter affiliations.

## **10. Committee Reports**

- i. Motorcross – The Chair advised that the Sports Committee members have been appointed and will begin from 1 August. Formal communications will be sent out in the coming week. Sports Committee Chairperson Maree Kirby advised that the cancellation of the Motocross State Titles was disappointing to the Committee but hoped to receive feedback from the survey which could improve Motocross in NSW. The Junior State Team is competing in Darwin in July and Ms. Kirby extended well wishes to those competing.
- ii. Speedway – No update provided.
- iii. Minikhana - No update provided.
- iv. Road Race – Michael Rooke advised that the Committee is scheduled to meet in July. Mr Rooke briefly discussed the attendance numbers at Ride Park Days and the struggle with obtaining numbers in racing. Bob Johnson has recently left NSW and is no longer a member of the Road Race Committee. The proposed plans at Bathurst for a second track is no longer a possibility as the funding has been withdrawn by Bathurst Council. Mr Rooke queried whether there was any further information surrounding Wakefield Park and the CEO reiterated that unfortunately, there were no updates at this time.
- v. Dirt Track - No update provided.
- vi. Enduro - No update provided.
- vii. Trial - No update provided.
- viii. Historic Road Race – Robert Seiler from Post Classic Racing Association advised that there were three meetings scheduled for this year and unfortunately August was cancelled due to the weather. Mr Seiler advised that these new requirements would see less people participating due to their bikes being ineligible. The CEO advised that MNSW could certainly assist, and a discussion will be had offline to gather further details.

## **11. General Business**

### **i. Slips and Trips Insurance**

Sheree Morris from Dargle Valley Motorcycle Club queried the recent communications from MA surrounding the Slips and Trips Insurance. The CEO advised that the insurance coverage under the permits is only for the time that the permit is in place. For insurance outside of permits, clubs should be looking into alternative opportunities and assessing their risk factors and needs. It is MNSW's preference that members and clubs are fully protected. Life Member Christine Tickner queried whether equipment was covered by insurance and the CEO advised that it does not apply to equipment at this stage.

**ii. Jan Blizzard and Chris Baker – Awards**

Michael Rooke from St George Motorcycle Club acknowledged Jan Blizzard for the Order of Australia Award that she has recently received. Chris Baker was nominated for Distinguished Services Award with Sports Australia.

**iii. Director Peck**

Brett Redman from Baulkham Hills Junior Motorcycle Training Club queried why Director Peck's retirement has not been mentioned by the Board. The Chair advised that this was announced at the AGM held on 25 May 2023. The Chair extended her thanks to Director Peck, along with Director Cawood, as they thoroughly deserve accolades for their efforts.

**iv. Hugh Howarth – New Board Director Introduction**

Director Howarth introduced himself to the Delegates and advised that he has been a dirt bike rider for some years. He is interested in focusing on engagement, participation and access and is looking forward to working with the Board. Director Howarth believes that the Board have come a long way and deserve to be congratulated for their efforts.

**12. Meeting Close**

Chairperson Bowditch thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting.

The meeting was declared closed at 8:54pm.

Action summary table:

Item No	Action arising	Date raised	Resolved
5(v)	MNSW Awards Night – Date to be confirmed due to a conflict with a late entry event in November 2023.	22 June 2023	26 June 2023
6(i)	Update on Policies from the Governance Committee.	22 June 2023	31 July 2023
10(viii)	Historic Road Race – Rob Seiler to contact MNSW CEO to discuss participation numbers and motorbike criteria.	22 June 2023	27 July 2023