

NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

Incorporated
Reg No: A0058827L

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Public Officer</u>
Steve Longwood 105 Ardleigh Crescent HAMERSLEY WA 6603 08 9243 1200	Kevin Thomas 15 Blackfish Drive KOO WEE RUP VIC 3981 03 9017 6609	Christine Lucas 48 Bayley Road PINE MOUNTAIN QLD 4306 07 3201 6331	Celia Karas 3 Longstaff Loop SOUTHERN RIVER WA 6110 08 9456 1266	Kevin Thomas 15 Blackfish Drive KOO WEE RUP VIC 3981 03 9017 6609

MINUTES

OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA INC.

HELD IN SUNDECK 3, HERB GRAHAM RECREATION CENTRE, 38 ASHBURY CERESCENT, MIRRABOOKA, WA.

FRIDAY 20th APRIL 2018 AT 1000 hrs.

Steve Longwood (WA), National Society President, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Election of Minute Secretary

Celia Karas (WA) was elected Minute Secretary.

2. Apologies

David Todd (NSW)

Mark Kelly (VIC)

Helen Bates (ACT)

3. Recognition of Delegates

Members present were asked to identify themselves.

Executive

Steve Longwood	President
Celia Karas	Executive Secretary
Christine Lucas	Treasurer

NSDSA Committee

Pauline Hansford	Public Relations Officer
Barbara Treharne	Merchandising Officer
Kevin Thomas	Web Coordinator

Delegates

Barry Chandler	TAS
Kaye Chandler	TAS
Chris Karas	WA
Lorraine Keenan	QLD
Russell Wall	QLD
Rosalind Todd	NSW
David Calvert	NSW
Robin Kerr	ACT
Carmel Sinclair	VIC
Greig Wight	VIC

Observers

Alan Hansford	NSW
Kevin Lucas	QLD
Dianne Tonkin Taylor	QLD

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Lorraine Keenan (QLD) moved and Robin Kerr (ACT) seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true and complete record.

Carried.

5. Correspondence

Incoming. General emails to all committee
Donation from 2017 National Convention Committee, Bendigo
Letter of resignation as Vice President of NSDSA from David Todd

Outgoing. General emails to committee
Thank you Letter to 2017 National Convention Committee, Bendigo

Chris Karas (WA) moved and Kaye Chandler (TAS) seconded that the incoming and outgoing correspondence be approved.

Carried.

6. National Society Presidents Report

Steve Longwood (WA) presented his report. (Attached)

Russell Wall (QLD) moved and Barbara Treharne (VIC) seconded that the Presidents report be accepted.

Carried.

7. Treasurers Report

Christine Lucas (QLD) presented her report. (Attached)

Carmel Sinclair (QLD) moved and Lorraine Keenan (QLD) seconded that the Treasurers report be accepted subject to amendments which will be forthcoming

Carried

8. Public Relations Officers Report

Pauline Hansford presented her report. (Attached).

The contact details for the States were updated.

Pauline Hansford (NSW) moved and Chris Karas (WA) seconded that the Public Relations Officers report be accepted.

Carried

8a. Web Coordinators Report (Attached)

Celia Karas (WA) moved and Barry Chandler (TAS) seconded that the Web Coordinators report be accepted.

Carried

Recommendation

That the website be taken to the next level and go to a dedicated web based server, which offers more speed and more security, at the cost of \$137.00 per year.

Resolution

Barry Chandler (TAS) moved and Lorraine Keenan (QLD) seconded that the website be taken to the next level and go to a dedicated web based server, which offers more speed and more security, at the cost of \$137.00 per year.

Carried

8b. Merchandising Officers Report (Attached)

Barbara Treharne (VIC) moved and Russell Wall (QLD) seconded that the Merchandising Officers report be accepted.

Carried

9. Australian Square Dance Review Report

Rosalind Todd (NSW) presented her report. (Report will follow when available)

Rosalind Todd (QLD) moved and Robin Kerr (ACT) seconded that the Australian Square Dance Review report be accepted.

Carried

Recommendation

That all advertising must be prepaid to the Treasurer and a copy of the receipt should be sent to the Review Editor. Articles can be sent into the Review by dancers and State Editors. It is the Review Editors prerogative to make the decision regarding the suitability of the content.

Resolution

Kevin Thomas (VIC) moved and Russell Wall (QLD) seconded that all advertising must be prepaid and a copy of the receipt should be sent to the Review Editor with the advert. Advertising can be sent into the Review by dancers and State Editors. It is the Review Editors prerogative to make the decision regarding the suitability of the content.

Carried

Recommendation

That the increase in payments for the Review advertising which was discussed in 2017 at Bendigo, should not be made retrospectively.

Resolution

Christine Lucas moved & Lorraine Keenan seconded that the increase in payments for the Review advertising which was discussed in 2017 at Bendigo, should not be made Retrospectively.

10. Setting and Ratification of Affiliation Fees

Barry Chandler (TAS) informed the meeting that currently the fees are set at \$40.00. Tasmania & ACT fees are set at \$20.00.

Barry Chandler (TAS) moved and Chris Karas (WA) seconded that the affiliation fees remain as they are.

Carried.

11. General Business of which notice was given.

There is no General Business of which notice is given

12. Election of Officers

President – Steve Longwood (WA) was re-elected as President. There were no other nominations.

Vice President – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was elected as Vice President. There were no other nominations.

Moved by Kaye Chandler (TAS) & Seconded by Pauline Hansford (NSW).

Carried.

Treasurer – Christine Lucas (QLD) was re-elected as Treasurer. There were no other nominations.

Moved by Lorraine Keenan (QLD) & Seconded by Carmel Sinclair (VIC).

Carried.

13. Nominated Officers

Public Relations Officer – Pauline Hansford (NSW) was re-elected at Public Relations Officer

Webmaster – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was re-elected as Webmaster.

Merchandising Officer – Barbara Treharne (VIC) was re-elected as Merchandising Officer

Review Executive Officer – Rosalind Todd (NSW) was re-elected as Review Executive Officer

Public Officer – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was re-elected as Public Officer

Recommendation

That in future years the nominated Officers be listed as a group nomination and voted on accordingly unless any office bearer wishes to leave their position.

Resolution

Barry Chandler moved and Lorraine Keenan seconded that in future years the nominated Officers be listed as a group nomination and voted on accordingly unless any office bearer wishes to leave their position.

Carried

14. General Committee

There was no general committee required

15. Other Business

There was no other business

16. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Deloraine, Tasmania in April 2019.

Date & Time TBA

The President thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

17. Meeting Closed 1210 hrs

NSDSA President's report AGM Perth 2018

Thank you very much to our committee and nominated officers for their efforts over the past year, they are

Vice President – David Todd

Executive Secretary – Celia Karas

Treasurer – Christine Lucas

Review Executive Officer – Rosalind Todd

Publicity Officer – Pauline Hansford

Webmaster – Kevin Thomas

Merchandise Officer – Barbara Treharne

I started with personal hopes to make lots of inroads on expanding the footprint of the NSDSA over the past year. Instead I have been reduced to personal survival with my employment and with spare time limited have only been able to offer basic support to all my committee, fellow members and friends as your president.

Thank you to all the state editors, state presidents & contributors who have helped Rosalind Todd ensure the distribution of valuable news via the Australian Square Dance Review.

The new national web pages have been progressively improved by Kevin Thomas and he has been fine tuning with ideas from interested parties. Many thanks to those who have provided constructive help to Kevin and I ask that you continue to do so as he further improves these services.

Our Society Facebook pages have been a great source of helpful communications of club events and points of interest. Thanks again to Jason & Leanne Nicholson in their efforts to keep us up to date on the society Facebook pages.

It is pleasing to see the huge number of events across Australia being shared by the TAWS group who also have a great resource of event flyers, dates and activities for many interested parties.

Every event that brings our dancers, callers and cuers together is not only great fun for our members but also a terrific publicity exercise to help us market our activity to others. Most recently our 2018 ANSDC team did a flash mob dance in our local shopping centre. This has brought huge marketing opportunities to all the local clubs. They in turn all benefit and we hope to see more enthusiast dancers coming to join us as a result of this.

Many thanks to all the people who assist the National Square Dance Society of Australia spread goodwill and encouragement across Australia.

Regards - Steve Longwood - President NSDSA

Website Co-ordinators Report to the 2018 Meeting Well it has been an interesting 12 months and while many mistakes have been made, there has been many positives as well. I was fortunate to have access to one of the original National Society websites where I could make some mistakes without affecting the existing site and get away with it. However, there are a few dancers that are smarter than that and sent me emails pointing out the errors.

This is great to receive, 1, because someone is actually looking at the site and, 2, it highlights errors. Errors and old information are a couple of the worst things you can have on a website. What I have done is try as much as possible to duplicate all the existing information from what we had and convert it into the newer format. Dancers may remember that the old site is in a format that is no longer supported (or should I say, is supported at a huge cost.) We are now using WordPress which is relatively easy to use and is well supported. It is now the base for many major corporate websites such as BBC, NASA, Bloomberg, Van Heusen, CNN, CBS, Many Universities, Playstation, Microsoft, Sony, Time Magazine, Vogue, Mercedes Benz, Facebook etc It has been reported that over 40% of the websites is this program. so we are in very good company. I have found a freelancer who has helped on a few technical issues and so far has not charged us anything, which is a great gesture or perhaps is hoping to be involved once things get more complicated. ☺ this allows us the freedom to do almost anything we want. The site is currently hosted by one of the Biggest Hosting Companies in the world (Hostgator). This is given us minimal downtime but it is perhaps a little slower than some alternative, and perhaps now we are up and running we should look at some of the faster Cloud Based Hosts. Currently, what you see is "MY VERSION" (The Kevin Thomas Version) of what a Square Dance Website should look like. I have tried not to get involved with duplicating other information that is available elsewhere.

Such as a Callers listing, this is already done by the ACF. The Events are handled by TAWS and most States have their own websites. Those States that do not have their own sites, I have made a page for them and I currently update that from the Review (or when someone points out a change or error) There is a provision in the upcoming update for States to edit and maintain their own information. So If I could have some interest, we could get that underway. It is not difficult. If you can use MS Word and Excel (basic) you should have no problem grasping it. As mentioned previously, Almost Anything is possible. So let us know. I have tried to keep it as much an informational site, rather than a flashing lights, all singing and dancing site, but if that's the way the dancers want it, Yes it is possible. Through Facebook and direct emails, there have been some improvements made as a result of some suggestions.. One of these a dancer suggested that there was a huge amount of information, but it was hard to find. So we have now added a "Search" function to the header. We regularly access the site via Chrome, Opera, Edge, Firefox and Safari Browsers. To ensure it displays as we would like. We have also made it a secure site by adding https encryption as Chrome for one will give an error message to sites that do not have this encryption. It comes up with an unsafe site warning. We also added the feature of being able to read the site on smaller devices and test the site on Iphone, Android mobile phones as well as an ipad tablet. It would be great if we could have a listing of dancers with different devices that could report back when changes have been made. Moving forward: What direction do we go this is where I need some help. I would like to start with thanking the Buderim Convention Committee for their really generous donation for funding this website.

However, unless we handed it over to some professional to run, I cannot see us ever needing to spend these funds, the interest would almost be enough. Maybe these funds, with the blessing of the Buderim committee could be redirected to something else. Perhaps it is time to redirect the old site (they have had 12 months side by side) The only ones that would be effected by this would be Western Australia but we can provide them with a page, just as we do New South Wales and others. What other information would dancers like to see? Give us a Bucket List and we will see how many we can tick off.

Kevin Thomas Website coordinator

National Square Dancing Society of Australia Inc

Merchandising Officers Report 2016 2017
Barbara Treharne

Once again, very little to report as nothing significant has changed since my last report.

The 2018 (Perth) Badges were ordered and dispatched.

We have the Badges for Deloraine and will order the NSW ones once we get an idea of numbers.

We had some security issues at Bendigo and quite a few of the Convention Badges can not be accounted for.

As a result, at future conventions, only a few of these higher value badges will be available at any one time.

There have been several hundred badges that did not have clips on them, so during my forced convalescence, I managed to get some clips, arm myself with tweezers and super glue and we now have badges with clips on.

Perhaps it is now a good time to seek some direction on the future of selling the badges at Conventions.

The cost of shipping badges across the country is outweighing the profits and effort in selling them.

Although it could be considered a service to the dancers.

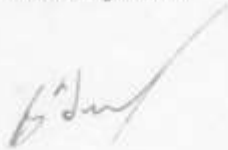
When travelling by road it is not an issue. But to bring them to Perth for example would have cost over \$100 each way in excess baggage (Now retired we don't get the luxuries of free excess baggage with our Qantas Club Membership) ☺

By posting them over we have manage to almost halve that and the same will apply for Deloraine next year.

We have the ability to sell them online from the Society Website or perhaps we just bring a sample display to each convention and take orders that can be posted later.

I would like to see some discussion on this.

Barbara Treharne
Merchandising Officer



Olivia

National Square Dance Society of Australia

Public Relations report to Mirrabooka, W.A. Convention April 2018

Listed below are the numbers of calls received for the last three years on the 1800 line. I have left in the previous 2 years figures to give you a comparison.

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
NSW	16	13	11
Victoria	30	25	12
WA	10	23	6
Queensland	3	10	6
ACT	1	0	0
SA	1	3	5
Tasmania	0	0	1
National	5	4	6
Total contacts	67	78	47

Since we went on to the NBN service, we had to review our phone line for the National Society as well as our personal line. This has worked out well for the Society as we were able to access a cheaper land line service and free message bank service. As in the past, we are using our personal landline and mobiles for outgoing calls at no cost to the Society.

The total cost for the last year has been \$779.84 for the line and 1800 service combined

Payments for our 1800 service and the landline are still on autopay and twice a year, the "Account" is topped up by our treasurer with \$400. This system is still working well.

Many thanks yet again to Barbara & Kevin for looking after the 1800 service while I have been away. This has been a lot of times and their support is very much appreciated.

The Booth staffing roster for the 2018 National Convention in Mirrabooka is listed below.

Friday 20 th April	NSW Booth to be opened after the opening ceremony
Saturday 21 st April	Victoria Booth to be opened after the dressed set parade
Sunday 22 nd April	ACT & SA Booth times to be discussed at our meeting

Would everyone please check that their contact information is up to date and make any necessary alterations on my master copy. Please note that I do not have an official contact for Queensland so I have been passing on enquiries to Bev & Nev

Pauline Hansford, Public Relations Officer. (and Alan, my PA)