



Australian Rogaining Association Inc. 2022 Annual General Meeting

Online meeting
5th October 2022

Minutes

The meeting was opened by the President at 7:35pm AEDT.

1. APOLOGIES AND NOTIFICATION OF PROXIES

Apologies: Richard Robinson, Peter Trenaman, Owen Horton, Kelly Lane, Karen Robinson, Craig Colwell, Trevor Gollan

Proxies advised: Gayle Cowling is proxy for Kelly Lane

Executive: David Rowlands, Paul Guard, Mike Aylott

Delegates:

ACTRA: Stephen Goggs, David Baldwin

NSWRA: Michael Watts

NTRA: Shani Bryceson

QRA: Paul Guard, Michael Schafer

RT: Gary Carroll, Kristin Raw

SARA: Zara Soden

VRA: Gayle Cowling

WARA: Nil

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Each delegate was invited to introduce themselves and their role in their state/territory association, and to briefly state current activities of their association.

Gayle Cowling (VRA Representative)

- VRA Secretary

Michael Watts (NSWRA Representative)

- Organiser of the cancelled Gundabooka event near Bourke.

Shani Bryceson (NTRA Representative)

- NTRA has had a successful year with 4 events
- Starting to use Maprun

Michael Schafer (QRA President)

- Michael has been rogaining for about 11 years.
- QRA was impacted by wet weather this year
- The state 24hr is coming up in 2 weeks
- QRA is getting good numbers at events.

- Volunteer availability is the main problem
- Difficulty finding first aid officers.

Paul Guard (ARA Secretary, QRA Representative)

- Paul has been rogaining for 22 years.
- Has been running a weekly MapRun metrogaîne event.

Gary Carroll (RTas President)

- Gary has been rogaining since the 1980s.
- RTas has seen good numbers at events
- There remains difficulty finding capable volunteers.
- Rising costs are an issue.
- State 24hr event coming up in November.

Kristin Raw (RTas Vice President)

- Kristin has been rogaining for 20 years and has been on the RTas Committee for the last few years.

Zara Soden (SARA President)

- This has been a good year for SARA: six events as usual
- SARA is buying a custom trailer.
- Cactus cull weekend held recently. An initiative to give back to landholders.
- SARA juniors won U23 at WRC.
- Trialled using professional first aider to help with events - \$500 for a 6 hr event

Stephen Goggs (ACTRA President)

- Stephen is in his third year as President
- ACTRA held a full calendar this year.
- Cohesive and strong committee
- ACTRA run a first aid course every few years.

David Baldwin (ARA Technical Committee Chair, ACTRA Representative)

- David is ACTRA webmaster and ARA's IRF representative.
- ARA Technical Committee
- ACTRA first aid course is fully subsidised, with expectation that recipients will volunteer.
- ACTRA ran a full calendar. The 24hr was successful even though the main organisers caught Covid.
- Trialled thunderbox toilets.

Michael Aylott

- ARA Treasurer since 2010.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD AUGUST 2021

<p>MOTION: That the minutes of the 2021 AGM be accepted as true and accurate Moved: Zara Soden, Seconded: Michael Watts. Motion passed.</p>

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE / OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President's Report was tabled. The President noted that event numbers have been picking up from the last 2 years affected by Covid lockdowns, and now close to full strength. However planned events in NSW and Queensland were impacted by another year of La Nina wet weather on the east coast.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for 2021 was tabled. The Treasurer Mike Aylott gave a brief summary of the report. The accounts total about \$70,000 for the working account and about \$40,000 in the international development fund. This was a little lower than the previous year due to the last AGM's decision to waive capitation fees and underwriting of the 2021 ARC. Insurance costs are going up, which has been masked somewhat by lower participation numbers.

Michael Watts suggested that the ARA should work towards NSWRA's practice of a bank balance that can meet at least two years of operating expenses. It was noted by Paul Guard that although insurance costs are predictable and consistent it was generally agreed it is desirable to have a healthy reserve.

<p>MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: Stephen Goggs. Motion passed.</p>
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b) Setting of Capitation Fee and IDF Levy for 2023

The Treasurer's report presented a proposal for the 2023 Capitation fees. In 2023, the Capitation fee is proposed to be reinstated at \$1 per member/participant

<p>MOTION: That the Capitation fee for the calendar year 2023 be set at \$1 per participant/member Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: David Baldwin. Motion passed.</p>

The Treasurer in his report recommended a zero levy for the International Development Fund, since the IRF is now in a stronger position to support international development of the sport.

<p>MOTION: That the IDF Capitation fee for 2023 be set at \$0 per participant/member. Moved: Mike Aylott, Seconded: Paul Guard. Motion passed.</p>

c) National Liability Insurance

Renewal will be sought for the 2023 calendar year, on the basis of 2021 participant numbers.

d) Volunteers Injury Insurance

The Treasurer's Report recommended that ARA continue Volunteers Insurance for all states and territories in calendar year 2023, with the cost recouped by a levy on the same basis as ARA's other insurance premiums.

MOTION: That the ARA take out Volunteer Insurance on an ongoing annual basis as part of a package with the liability insurance and association insurance.
Moved: Michael Schafer. Seconded: Gary Carroll. Motion passed.

e) ARA Grant Policy and Status of 2021 Grants

ARA received a grant application from SARA and subsequently paid SARA \$1225, being 50% of the cost of a defibrillator.

State and territory associations are encouraged to apply for grants as per the existing ARA Grant Policy by the end of November each year.

f) Auditing of ARA Accounts

The accounts for 2010 to 2021 have been collated and are with John Gavens for a technical review.

ACTION ARA Treasurer: Coordinate completion of the review of all outstanding past accounts.

7. AUSTRALIAN AND AUSTRALASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

a) 2023 Australasian Championship Proposal From NZRA

ARA's Australasian Championship policy, developed in conjunction with NZRA is on the ARA website: <https://rogaine.asn.au/documents/policy/australasian-rogaining-championship>

This provides for a New Zealand hosted event approximately every 5 years. Since the last Australasian Championship in NZ was 2017, 2022-2023 has been earmarked for New Zealand. The date planned is late November 2023. The ARA Executive will discuss with NZRA to confirm the hosting by February 2023 at the latest.

b) 2023 Australian Championship: NSWRA

Date: 30 September/1 October 2023

Trevor Gollan is the coordinator for ARC 2023, Ronnie Taib and David Williams are the setters. The event area is Goobang National Park, near Orange.

Gary Carroll on behalf of RTAs submitted an agenda item objecting to the clash of date with the Australian Orienteering Championship in Western Australia. Michael Watts explained that Trevor Gollan consulted with affected stakeholders in NSW and WA and concluded that there would be a small impact. Gary responded that he thinks that there is a significant number affected, particularly competitive people. Michael indicated that NSWRA believes that the chosen date is the best available, given that it is in the school holidays and the alternative of October can become very warm. Gary, Kristen and Zara expressed the opinion that the ARC needs to be moved to by at least one month separated from the Australian Orienteering Championship carnival. There was significant debate on this matter by many Council members and the following motion was passed:

MOTION: The ARA Council requests that NSWRA consider moving the Australian Championships to a different date that is at least one month separated from the Australian Orienteering Championships 2023.
Moved: Paul Guard, Seconded: Kristin Raw. Motion passed.

c) 2024 Australasian Championship: WARA

No details for the 2024 ARC have been confirmed by WARA. The ARA Executive will commence liaison with WARA to ensure that a date and event coordinator are decided at an early stage.

d) Future Australian Championships

The hosts of the next Australian Rogaining Championships (according to the rotation schedule) will be: 2025 ACTRA, 2026 QRA, 2027 RTas. Note that hosting can be swapped or varied, given sufficient notice.

The Council encouraged NTRA to nominate to host an ARC in any of the above years, whenever resource availability allows. The ARA is willing to provide resourcing support using interstate volunteers.

e) Trophies

ARA Secretary Paul Guard maintains a database of trophy holders to ensure the return of all perpetual trophies at the next ARC.

8. INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION

a) International Developments

- Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the IRF decided not to sanction any events in Russia or Belarus until end of June 2023.
- Subsequently, the 2022 European Championship planned for St Petersburg was cancelled by the Russian Rogaining Federation.
- The IRF passed a motion, after much debate that all competitors from Russia and Belarus will be banned from competing in all World Rogaining Championships and European Rogaining Championships until the end of 2023. It is not entirely clear whether this can be enforced under the IRF constitution and there are significant challenges in actual implementation given competitors do not represent countries.
- The World Rogaining Championship returned after a 2 year hiatus due to the Covid pandemic. The WRC for 2022 was hosted by the Czech Rogaining Association and took place on 26/27th August in the Rychleby and Kralicky Sneznik Mountains along the Czech/Polish border. Of particular note was the performance of the U23 Womens' team from South Australia who won their category.
- The WRC planned for Lake Tahoe, California in 2021 has been rescheduled to 29-30 July 2023. This will be preceded by "Cal-O-Fest": a program of major orienteering events deferred from 2021.
- The 2025 WRC has not yet been formally advertised for expressions of interest, but is expected to be held in New Zealand in late 2025.

c) IRF Capitation

ARA currently pays IRF a levy of US \$200 (about AUD \$280) per annum, plus a fee per competitor from the budget of the Australasian championship.

d) IRF Technical Regulations

An IRF proposal flagged at the 2020 AGM, to change the age category determination to year of birth, has not yet progressed. The ARA Council in 2020 broadly agreed with this proposal. The ARA Executive will undertake to propose a suitable change to the IRF that could also be adopted by ARA.

e) **ARA's International Development Fund (IDF)**

The purpose of the fund and support guidelines are described on the ARA website: <https://rogaine.asn.au/documents/policy/international-development-fund>
There was no IDF activity to report. ARA States can provide ideas for international development projects or initiatives that are in line with the goals of the IDF.

9. **TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE**

Convenor: David Baldwin

a) **Gender Categories Rule Change**

The proposal to amend Rule T17 was distributed with the Agenda. Paul Guard and David Baldwin explained that the intent of the rule is to improve inclusivity, with those who identify as non-binary placed in the Mixed category. Peter Watts questioned the purpose of the change of "male" to "men"; "female" to "women". Zara Soden stated from experience that the change was very important. David Baldwin stated that modifications would likely be required to event entry systems.

MOTION: That Rule T17 of the ARA Technical Regulations be modified as per the proposal circulated.

Moved: Paul Guard, Seconded: David Baldwin. Motion passed.

b) **Potential Age Category Rule Change**

As mentioned earlier under IRF Technical Regulations, the ARA Executive will encourage the IRF to change their rules to adopt the year of birth for age determination. Should this be successful, a motion will be presented to ARA Council to ensure alignment of ARA rules with IRF.

c) **Electronic Scoring Rule Change**

The proposal was tabled for an additional rule C10 to be added to the Technical Regulations to set out requirements for electronic scoring at the ARC. This overcomes a gap in the existing rules and tightens requirements to overcome issues experienced in the past. The rule applies to the Australian Championship only.

- Scoring must be implemented using an electronic system approved by the ARA Council.
- Electronic recording devices must be provided to all members of all teams.
- At each checkpoint, at least two electronic punches must be provided.

MOTION: That Rule C10 be added to the ARA Technical Regulations as per the proposal circulated.

Moved: David Baldwin, Seconded: Mike Aylott. Motion passed.

10. **INTERVARSITY**

a) **2023 Intersarsity Championship**

Five Intersarsity teams were entered in the 2022 ARC. Unfortunately a clash with ANU's Inward Bound meant no teams representing ACTRA. The ARA is appreciative of ongoing NAMSF support for their travel.

b) **Future of Intersarsity and NAMSF Funding**

NAMSF has flagged to ARA (as discussed at previous AGMs) a desire to cease managing Intersarsity funding, and to transfer responsibility and remaining funding to the ARA. Mike Aylott said he expects this to happen within the next 12 months.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

a) National Hosting and ARA Website

David Baldwin manages the domain **rogaine.asn.au** and the hosting of a number of websites for ARA, IRF and some state associations. ARA has recently purchased the domain name “rogaining.au”.

The ARA Executive maintains the National Calendar on the ARA website. States can request a login to make additions or changes to event dates, or to import events directly into the website.

b) Entry Systems

The entry system developed by Paul Guard for QRA is available for other states/territories to use at no cost. NSWRA, VRA and ACTRA are currently using it (with their own branding on their event entry forms), as well as North Queensland rogaining and several SEQ adventure racing companies. States should contact Paul Guard for further information and assistance.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Working Groups

Informal discussion groups have been set up for discussion as follows:

- Maprun <https://groups.google.com/g/maprun-for-rogaining>
- Map making <https://groups.google.com/g/rogaine-mapping>
- Navlight software. This is a private repository on Github. Contact Paul Guard for information and access.

13. NEXT AGM

The Council agreed to continue holding the AGM online. There was preference for a date about 2 weeks before the next ARC.

The meeting was closed at 9:37pm AEDT.

Tabled Documents

- President's Report - **2021-22 Presidents Report.pdf**
- Treasurer's Report - **2021 Treasurers Report.pdf**
- Minutes of previous AGM - **2021 ARA AGM Minutes.pdf**
- Proposed Technical Regulations changes -
2022 ARA AGM Tech Regs Proposal – Electronic Scoring.pdf
2022 ARA AGM Tech Regs Proposal – Gender Categories.pdf

ARA Council as at 27/09/2022

President: David Rowlands
Secretary: Paul Guard
Treasurer: Michael Aylott
Public Officer: Craig Colwell
Immediate Past President: Richard Robinson

Delegates:

Michael Schafer	QRA	President
Paul Guard	QRA	Representative
Mike Dunbar	NTRA	President
Shani Bryceson	NTRA	Representative
Stephen Goggs	ACTRA	President
David Baldwin	ACTRA	Representative
Trevor Gollan	NSWRA	President
Michael Watts	NSWRA	Representative
Peter Trenaman	WARA	President
Tony Scalzo	WARA	Representative
Gary Carroll	RT	President
Kristin Raw	RT	Representative
Kelly Lane	VRA	President
Karen Robinson	VRA	Representative
Zara Soden	SARA	President
Craig Colwell	SARA	Representative