



Australian  
Callers  
Federation

**SECRETARY**

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# **MINUTES BOOKLET**

from the meetings held at the

**49<sup>TH</sup> Australian National  
Square Dance Convention**

**BRISBANE**

**JUNE 2008**

**Contents:-**

**First Board Meeting  
National Callers Meeting  
Second Board Meeting**

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE 49<sup>th</sup> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION, CHANDLER SPORT COMPLEX BRISBANE ON FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2008**

**1. OPENING REMARKS:** Meeting opened 9.10 am by Chairman Jeff Van Sambeeck who welcomed all in attendance.

**2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:**

**Present as per Attendance Sheet were:-** Jeff Van Sambeeck (WA), Nev McLachlan (QLD), Allen Kerr (ACT), Rod Dinte (QLD), Graham Elliott (SA), Margaret Betts(NSW), Andy Lown(NSW), Jeff Seidel (SA), Howard Cockburn (VIC), David Smythe (QLD), Kevin Kelly (WA), Paul Long(WA), Jeff Garbutt (WA), Diane Austen(TAS), Steve Turner (WA).

**APOLOGIES:**

Barry Wonson (NSW), David Brown (VIC)

Moved D Smythe, Seconded J Seidel that the following people be in attendance as observers - Alan Evans, Graham Rigby **[08B001ATTEND]**

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND BUSINESS THEREFROM:**

The Minutes of the 2007 meetings were distributed after the 2007 meeting and again early in 2008, these minutes were moved to be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record. Moved K Kelly, Seconded J Seidel **[08B002MINUTES]**

**4. CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS THEREFROM**

- A.** Letter from Convention Board requesting us to supply, at board cost, another ACF Banner to travel with Convention material. Nev McLachlan has had it prepared and presented to the Convention Board. Cost was \$180
- B.** Letter from ACCC stating that it is conducting a review on copyright laws. Report on file.
- C.** Ethics enquiry re pre-state convention dance at Port Macquarie. Situation resolved without intervention.

Moved M Betts, Seconded R Dinte "That the Inward Correspondence be accepted and Outward endorsed." Carried **[08B003CORRESPONDENCE]**

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT & BUSINESS THERE FROM:** Read and moved for acceptance by Howard Cockburn in David Brown's absence. Seconded Andy Lown. Carried **[08B004TREASURERS]**

**NOTE:** Secretary to send note of thanks to our auditor Tony Bowring.

**6. ACF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Presented by Jeff Van Sambeeck, seconded by Graham Elliott. Carried. **[08B005PRESIDENTRPT]**

## 7. CALLERLINK EDITORS REPORT:

Jeff reported on lower costs of distribution but higher costs of production. He also gave notice of his intention to stand down as editor in June 2009 to allow some new ideas to flow into the publication. Those present thanked Jeff for his continued commitment and excellent work. Report accepted and to be read at the General Meeting.

**8. STATE ASSOCIATION REPORTS:** All reports were tabled for presentation at the General Meeting.

## 9. ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Resignation: - Peter Humphries.  
Standing down: Kevin Kelly, Nev McLachlan, Rod Dinte, Howard Cockburn, Andy Lown.  
Nominations: WA - Kevin Kelly (until 2011)  
Qld - Nev McLachlan and Rod Dinte (until 2011)  
Alan Evans (unfilled position from 2007).  
Vic - Howard Cockburn to fill the position resulting from the resignation of Peter Humphries (leaving one Victorian position vacant).  
NSW - Andy Lown (until 2011)

At the General Callers Meeting nominations will be called from the floor for one independent position serving until 2011.  
Alan Evans will serve until 2010, as will Howard Cockburn.

Further discussion ensued re **board member eligibility** and attendance requirements: D Smythe suggested that we consider a review of the system of board member allocation and the attendance rule.

Lengthy discussion ensued with the result of the following motion being tabled:

Motion: "That if any additional board position is not filled by a state representative then that position remain unfilled". Moved N McLachlan, Seconded D Smythe. Carried. **[08B006BRD POSN]**

By Laws Change. Discussion:

If board members don't meet each year, board could lose its perceived commitment.  
A Kerr – we have to move with the times and our times are changing. So we need to fiddle with the rules to stay current. Can we get consensus through the internet?  
K Kelly – It's the quality of the meeting that attracts the members to come.  
H Cockburn – Victorian callers have real apathy problems.  
A Kerr – Should the 3 year term be reduced from 2 out of 3 to 1 out of 3?

Tabled as an **action plan** that **President** will start a discussion on-line over the next term.

## 10. SPECIAL BUSINESS

- a. **Website:** Allen Kerr reported on his work in revamping the website. General consensus that new website is good  
New guidelines for Webmaster handed out, discussed and tabled.  
Moved A Kerr "that his report be accepted", Seconded P Long Carried **[08B007WEBSITE]**

Questions arose over some anomalies that the program advisory committee had noticed. The database wasn't correct in places, there were claims of lost forms and the forms were later found causing programming issues.

## 10. SPECIAL BUSINESS cont'd

It was agreed that as of now, callers must be responsible for their own data and contact the Webmaster if details are not correct. Not up to the Webmaster. State Co-ordinators can only assist if they have the forms passed through them.

**Motion:** "That the deadline for a caller to ensure that the website is up to date is the cut off date of caller registration for a relevant national convention".  
Moved N McLachlan, Seconded J Seidel CARRIED [08B008DATABASE]  
Add this to registration forms.

- b. **Public relations report: Nil**  
Peter Humphries had resigned from this position and from the board.
- c. **Caller Accreditation – Split Level Clubs – David Smythe**  
David read the suggested format regarding eligibility for callers running split level clubs. After discussion it was moved by David Smythe "that the report be accepted and adopted". Seconded A Lown CARRIED [08B009CALLER ACCREDITATION]  
  
David Smythe foreshadowed further consideration and fine tuning for veteran caller status and for fortnightly clubs.  
David Smythe moved "that the wording "2 hours per 14 days" be changed to "1 hour per 14 days" in relation to the amount of time dedicated to a specific Callerlab program being called at club." Seconded A Lown  
  
Reports on the subject were heard from each state & it was resolved to defer the motion to the afternoon's General Meeting.
- d. **Programme Advisory Panel – Nev McLachlan** presented a report as tabled.
- e. **Minilab 2008 – Howard Cockburn** expanded on the program and arrangements and reiterated that it was not too late to register. Thanks were expressed to Graham and Margaret Brandon and Noel and Merle McKenzie for hosting the visiting callers from Callerlab.
- f. **Callerlab – Graham Elliott** presented a report as tabled.
- g. **Caller Get-Together**  
2008 – NA  
2009 - discussion deferred.
- h. **Awards – Nev McLachlan** handed over the badges and certificates to the 2008 awardees to Jeff VanSambecq for the presentation ceremony later in the convention.
- i. **Meeting closed** at 12.00 noon.

**MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CALLERS MEETING (INCORPORATING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN CALLERS FEDERATION) HELD AT THE 49<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION, BRISBANE, ON FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

**1. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS:**

Meeting opened at 12.30pm. Chairperson Jeff Van Sambeeck welcomed all callers. Special Welcome to American visitors, John Marshall, Jerry Reed and Tim Marriner. Acknowledgement was made at the passing of David Hooper.

**2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:**

PRESENT AS PER ATTENDANCE SHEET WERE:-

Jeff Van Sambeeck, Rod Dinte, David Smythe, John Weatherburn, Wilma Flannery, Andy Lown, Tony Hooper, Howard Cockburn, Diane Austen, Ted Thomas, Graham Elliott, Margaret Betts, Gary Carpenter, Jim Buckingham, Tony Alessi, Margaret Baines, Margaret Harvey, George Kent, Gary Peterson, Peter Humphries, Alan Evans, Ron Burrett, Darren Taylor, Richard Muir, Jeff Garbutt, Graham Brandon, Sid Leighton, David Pearce, Faith Pearce, Graham Rigby, Les Tulloch, Janice Alexander, Nev McLachlan

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND BUSINESS THEREFROM:**

Minutes of previous meeting were distributed to all members – taken as read. Moved Ted Thomas Seconded Rod Dinte. Carried **[08ACF001MINUTES]**  
Business - Nil

**4. CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS THEREFROM:**

List of correspondence in and out was distributed to all present. No business arising. Moved: Darren Taylor Seconded Gary Carpenter "That Inward correspondence be received and Outward endorsed" Carried **[08ACF002CORRESPONDENCE]**.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT AND BUSINESS THEREFROM:**

In David Brown's absence Howard Cockburn presented the Treasurer's report. Moved Jeff Garbutt Seconded Howard Cockburn. Carried. **[08ACF003TREASURERS]**

**6. ACF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Report presented by the Chairperson Jeff Van Sambeeck.

**7. CALLERLINK EDITORS REPORT:**

Presented by Callerlink editor Jeff Garbutt.

**8. STATE ASSOCIATION REPORTS:** will be printed in Callerlink.

Presented by State Coordinators:

ACT (A Kerr), NSW (Andy Lown), Qld (D Smythe), SA (J Seidel), Tas (D Austen), Vic (H Cockburn for J Alexander), WA (S Turner)

Moved all reports for acceptance: T Alessi, Seconded J Seidel Carried **[08ACF004REPORTS]**

## 9. ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Standing down: Kevin Kelly, Nev McLachlan, Rod Dinte, Howard Cockburn, Andy Lown.  
Resignation: Peter Humphries

State Associations have nominated the following:

WA – Kevin Kelly  
Q'ld – Nev McLachlan  
– Rod Dinte  
– Alan Evans (to fill the position left vacant in 2007)  
Vic – Howard Cockburn (to replace Peter Humphries)  
NSW – Andy Lown

(Victoria Callers Association has requested that their 2<sup>nd</sup> position remain vacant until such time that it can be filled)

Nominations were taken from the floor for the position of independent member.

Ted Thomas nominated by Margaret Betts & seconded by Howard Cockburn. With no further nominations Ted was welcomed to the position.

## 10. SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Reports were presented as follows:

- a. **ACF Website – Database** - Allen Kerr
- b. **Program Advisory Panel** report – Nev McLachlan
- c. **Minilab** – Howard Cockburn  
(Howard made special mention to be noted in the minutes of the work done by David Brown in particular but also mentioned others who had contributed largely to the organising of the Minilab.)
- d. **Callerlab Overseas Advisory Committee** – Graham Elliott  
(Jerry Reed commented on Callerlab, urging callers to contact their representative as they need feedback. He encouraged callers to join Callerlab themselves and even to join a Callerlab committee. He also urged callers to download the new definitions from the Callerlab website & review them plus make comment on them. Definitions have been completely reviewed and they need feedback on the new format.
- e. **Caller Accreditation - Split Level Clubs**  
The question of defining split level clubs for the purpose of programming at National Level was opened for group discussion.  
Graham Elliott gave an outline of the current level guidelines & how they didn't take into account the situation for callers who call split level clubs.  
Glenn Wilson – MS with a little plus. Not an issue as not seeking plus eligibility.  
Gary Peterson – ½ hour Plus rest mainstream. He suggested change to 60%MS, 40% Plus  
Kevin Kelly – Plus class every 2 years  
Jeff Garbutt – 30% Plus, 70% MS  
Wilma Flannery – Reduced from 2 clubs – 1 split level  
Darren Taylor – Leave it up to program managers common sense  
Alan Evans – Take into account callers experience  
Richard Muir – Callers competence will be compromised if he is not calling a full program

**e. Caller Accreditation - Split Level Clubs cont'd**

Allen Kerr – ACT has only one caller led club and has to restrict calling to the dancer requirements

After general discussion from callers (covering most states), David Smythe again outlined the current guidelines and the proposed changes. More discussion ensued and Graham Elliott closed with a summary of general feel from the floor.

**f. Square Dancing for Schools – Darren Taylor talked on progress being made towards a teaching program based on the already existing ‘ABC of Square Dancing’ program.**

**g. Digital Music at National Convention.**

Discussion on the transition from vinyl to multi-media at national conventions. More & more callers are rocking up to dances with various forms of digital music, including playing direct from a notebook (or similar PC) Plan is to come up with an easy “plug in” system that allows callers to use various forms of hardware at National Conventions. David Pearce talked on the issues that they’ve had at this convention. Jerry Reed added that in USA the turntable is on the stage and the caller adds his own equipment but they only have one caller per bracket. Graham Elliott proposed guidelines. Jim Buckingham submitted his suggestions as Program Manager for 50<sup>th</sup> ANSDC next year.

**11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

David Pearce gave quick notice on equipment for sale at the end of the convention.

Steve Turner suggested a change to all 2 number brackets with one caller at National Conventions.

**12. CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 2.20pm by Jeff Van Sambeeck who thanked all in attendance.

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND BOARD MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN CALLERS  
FEDERATION HELD AT THE 49<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE  
CONVENTION BRISBANE JUNE 2008**

1. **MEETING RE-CONVENED** at 2.45pm with a welcome by Jeff Van Sambeeck to new members Alan Evans & Ted Thomas.
2. **ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:** As per first part of the meeting plus Alan Evans and Ted Thomas.
3. **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**
  - (a) **CHAIRMAN:** Jeff Van Sambeeck  
Nominated by Jeff Seidel, seconded Rod Dinte
  - (b) **VICE CHAIRMAN:** Steve Turner  
Nominated by David Smythe, seconded Howard Cockburn
  - (c) **SECRETARY:** Nev McLachlan  
Nominated by Kevin Kelly, Seconded by Howard Cockburn  
Minutes Secretary: Moved J Seidel, Seconded A Lown  
"That Diane Austen be appointed minutes/assistant secretary" Carried  
**08B010MINUTESSECRETARY]**

Kevin Kelly moved a special notice of thanks to Di Austen for her assistance to Nev McLachlan in an assistant secretary capacity.  
Seconded N McLachlan and many others.

- (d) **TREASURER:** Howard Cockburn  
Nominated by Margaret Betts, seconded by Ted Thomas
- (e) **REGISTRAR:** Allen Kerr  
Nominated by Jeff Seidel, seconded by Margaret Betts

Note: FileMaker Pro to be offered to each of the state co-ordinators to collate their own information – resulting in more people being familiar with the program and the process.

- (f) **PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Graham Elliott  
Nominated by Kevin Kelly, seconded by Howard Cockburn
- (g) **CALLERLINK EDITOR:** Resolved that Jeff Garbutt retain his position as Callerlink editor but only for this year. We need to look for someone to take over.
- (h) **CALLERLAB LIASON:** Graham Elliott  
Nominated by Allen Kerr, seconded by Ted Thomas  
NOTE: ACF is an affiliate member of CallerLab.

As there were no further nominations for any positions all were declared.

### 3. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS cont'd:

#### (i) STATE CO-ORDINATORS

QLD	David Smythe
NSW	Andy Lown
ACT	Allen Kerr
Victoria	Howard Cockburn
SA	Jeff Seidel
WA	Kevin Kelly
Tas	Diane Austen

(j) **AUDITOR:** Tony Bowring will be asked again to audit the books for the coming financial year. H Cockburn to approach Tony.

(k) **PROGRAM ADVISORY PANEL:** Howard Cockburn nominated to be the Victorian representative on the Program Advisory Panel, replacing Jeff Seidel (SA)

Howard recommended we should write to the new convention committee (51<sup>st</sup>) advising them that the Program Advisory Panel and guidelines are there to help.

Steve Turner asked if the PAP's terms of reference extended to pointing out the fairness of any callers allocation to the program manager.

4. Jeff Van Sambeeck moved a Vote of Thanks for Secretary Nev McLachlan. Carried by acclamation.
5. **Eligibility Reassessment:** A caller will get an initial assessment when first becoming eligible. Procedure for reassessment will be triggered by their renewal form – State Coordinators to send out requests for re-assessment.
6. **New board member details** will be distributed and each will be given a handbook which has to yet be reviewed and completed.
7. Jeff Seidel – 2010 will be the **30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ACF** & something special should be organised, maybe a Hall of Fame? Jeff suggested & will co-ordinate information on past callers for some sort of recognition.  
Graham Rigby – Some special recognition should be given for his 50<sup>th</sup> convention in Perth 2009
8. Moved a vote of thanks to the Chair – carried by acclamation
9. Meeting closed by Chairperson Jeff Van SamBeeck with thanks to all.