



**Minutes of the SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Inc.  
Annual General Meeting Held at the Bankstown Sports Club  
Wednesday, 24 June 2015**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

The President opened the meeting at 7.31 pm. He welcomed Paul McNabb and Diana Melham (President and Executive Director of SSAA (NSW) Inc.) and Corey Wilson from Hunting the Menu. He also thanked the Bankstown Sports Club for its support of the Branch over the past year, noting that the fee for the meeting rooms for our monthly Committee meetings had been waived, and that the usual charge for the venue for tonight's meeting had also been waived.

The following attendances and apologies were recorded.

*Attendances:* 185 Members were recorded as being present.

*Committee Members present:*

James Walsh, President (Chairman)

Simon Taranto, Senior Vice President

Peter Thomson, Junior Vice President

Marianne Taranto, Secretary

Mark Godwin, Treasurer

Dave Billingham, Alex Chryss, Nick Diakos, Peter Downey, Richard Harris, Pauline Smith

Pamela Reeves, Executive Officer (Returning Officer)

*Apologies:* Les Gardner (Committee Member), Matt Murphy, Anne Brummell, Carl Locke, Bill Snelling, David Waters and Robert Bernard

*Guests:* Diana Melham (Executive Director, SSAA (NSW) Inc.), Corey Wilson (Hunt the Menu)

The President noted that under the Constitution a motion was necessary in order to allow the Secretary to record the meeting for the purpose of assisting with the minutes.

**MOTION:** That the Secretary be permitted to record the meeting.

**Moved:** Keith Lowe    **Seconded:** Ron Torr    **CARRIED**

The President noted that a quorum was present.

## **2. Previous Minutes:**

The Minutes of the previous AGM were included in the AGM booklet as circulated.

**MOTION:** That the Minutes of the 2014 AGM be accepted.

**Moved:** George Dimos      **Seconded:** Danny Adcock      **CARRIED**

## **3. Matters Arising**

No business arising was raised.

## **4. Reports**

The meeting agreed to take all reports as read.

**MOTION:** That the reports be accepted as read.

**Moved:** Keith Lowe      **Seconded:** George Dimos      **CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the audited financial report for 2014 be accepted as presented.

**Moved:** Mark Godwin      **Seconded:** George Dimos      **CARRIED**

### **Appointment of auditor:**

**Motion:** That Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu be appointed as auditor for SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Inc for the 2015 financial year.

**Moved:** Mark Godwin      **Seconded:** Robert Madell      **CARRIED**

## **5. Election of Officers**

The President asked the Returning Officer, Pam Reeves, to take the Chair to conduct the elections.

The Returning Officer called for members willing to volunteer as scrutineers. Ron Torr and Andy Mallen volunteered. Pam asked the meeting if there were any objections to these two persons acting as scrutineers. There were no objections.

The Returning Officer advised that the positions of Senior Vice President, Secretary, and four Ordinary Committee positions were vacant, the position of Secretary and one ordinary position were vacant as the Committee had filled those positions by appointment during the year following casual vacancies. Three of the ordinary Committee positions were for a three year term, and the fourth for the two years remaining for the position that had been filled as a casual vacancy.

The Returning Officer received the following nominations, which were included in the AGM booklet as circulated. All nominees were eligible to stand for election.

Position	Nominee	Nominated By	Seconded By
Senior Vice President	Simon Taranto	David Billinghamurst	Mark Godwin
Secretary	Marianne Taranto	James Walsh	Peter Thomson
Committee Member	David Billinghamurst	James Walsh	Simon Taranto
Committee Member	Alex Chryss	James Walsh	Peter Downey
Committee Member	Jason Selmes	James Walsh	Pauline Smith
Committee Member	Steve Sori	Keith Highfield	Ken Kendall
Committee Member	Cheryl Sumbar	Matthew Perriman	Steve Marinilli

As there was only one nomination for the position of Senior Vice President, the Returning Officer announced that Simon Taranto had been elected unopposed to that position.

As there was only one nomination for the position of Secretary, the Returning Officer announced that Marianne Taranto had been elected unopposed to that position.

There being five nominations received for the four ordinary Committee positions, the Returning Officer advised that a ballot would be held for those positions, and instructed members to mark only three boxes on the ballot paper, these being the three candidates that each member wished to be elected to the 3 three year positions on the Committee. The three candidates with the most votes would be elected to the 3 three year positions, and the candidate with the fourth greatest number of votes would be elected to the casual vacancy (two years remaining).

While the votes were being tallied, Di Melham gave a presentation to the meeting on SSAA Pty Ltd and the St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre.

The Returning Officer announced that Dave Billinghamurst (125 votes), Alex Chryss (113 votes) and Jason Selmes (107 votes) had been elected to the Committee for terms of three years, and Steve Sori (78 votes) for two years. Cheryl Sumbar (52 votes) was thanked for standing.

**MOTION:** That all ballot papers be destroyed.

**Moved:** Robert Madell    **Seconded:** Justin Eysers    **CARRIED**

The Returning Officer left the Chair, and the President resumed the Chair.

The President thanked the outgoing Committee members and welcomed the new ones. He mentioned the long and loyal service outgoing Committee member Nick Diakos had given to the Branch, and made a presentation to Nick thanking him for his service to the Branch.

The President reported on our return to Anzac Range, and said that we expected to be back there by the end of the next month.

## 6. General Business

### Honorariums:

**MOTION:** That the 2015 AGM approve a total of up to \$30,000 to be awarded as honorariums to those members of the SSAA (NSW) Sydney Branch Inc Committee whose work on behalf of the Association exceeds which would be reasonably be expected of a member who volunteers to serve as an ordinary Committee member.

**Moved:** Marianne Lovett

**Seconded:** Justin Evers

**CARRIED**

Cyril Peel addressed the meeting, thanking the Committee for getting us back to Anzac and urging members to be active and united.

Bob Nicolson spoke in support of the SSAA but did not like SSAA (NSW) President Paul McNabb's statements on not supporting African hunting

Keith Highfield queried why eye protection has been made mandatory.

### **The Lucky Door Prizes were drawn and the winners were:**

**Karl Muessiger - \$500 voucher for St Marys Indoor Shooting Centre**

**George Dimos – Bushnell Banner Riflescope thanks to Gary at Safari Firearms**

**Neil Gaukrodger – Bushnell Banner Riflescope thanks to Gary at Safari Firearms**

**Andrew Poultney – Riflescope thanks to Abelas Gun Shop**

**Rob Fickel – Riflescope thanks to Abelas Gun Shop**

**Peter Thomson – Riflescope thanks to Abelas Gun Shop**

**Gloria Guagan – Rifle carry bag donated by Razorback Firearms**

The meeting agreed that the next AGM should be held around the same time of the year and at the same venue.

The President thanked members for attending and invited them to join the Committee for a chat and a drink before leaving.

Meeting closed 8:43pm