



Annual General Meeting 2008 Waveski Surfing Australia Inc

Date: Sunday 26th October, 2008, 7.30 pm till 8.30pm

Location: Rye Hotel, 2415 Point Nepean Rd, Rye VIC

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Meeting opened with the President Rees Duncan welcoming all 24 attendees and apologies were received from Larry Adams and Robert Creeley.

2. REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2006 MINUTES

Minutes from Annual General Meeting 2007 were accepted by Russell Hudson and seconded as a true recording by Gary Ross.

3. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

- 2008 has 90 financial members and is the highest in the last 3 years.
- Successful juniors program was initiated in 2008 called the young ones with 5 juniors including 1 girl and held the first junior's title event in 7 years with 7 competitors.
- World Titles bid for Australia was accepted and the event will be held from the 5-12 September, 2009. All information about the event will be held on the website. Entry forms will be available early next year and there will be limited numbers for the event. There is a significant amount of local support with media interest. To date we have 12 sponsors with \$11k in support. There will be a local air theatre on one of the evenings. The format will be man on man in the open division. There will be a number of social activities and volunteers are welcome.
- Australian titles whilst the number of entrants this year is down, there have been a number of new competitors and members attending the event.
- East coast circuit was run for the first time this year and will be supported by prizes.
- WA state rounds finished and will have their end of year get together in Novembers.
- Juniors and volunteers should be the focus of the sport for the future and given the small number of volunteers available to assist with the administration of the sport other options for the future such as Canoeing Australia should be considered.

4. TREASURERS REPORT

2007 Financial Report

In the absence of the treasurer, Melissa Hardy reviewed the 2007 financial report covering income, expenditure, current assets, liabilities and accumulated funds. The association continues to be in the black. A final copy of the financial report will be posted on the WSA website.

5. SECRETARIES REPORT

No communication has been received in the last year

7. ELECTION OF 2008 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

All current members vacated their respective position.

The returning officer Lance Milnes assumed responsibility for the Association in the interim and asked for nominations.

Results as follows:

President

Rees Duncan

Secretary

Russell Hudson

Treasurer

Larry Adams

Vice President

Melissa Hardy

Contest Directors

Albert Golledge

Newsletter Editor

Mark Buckley

Risk Management Officer

Jackie Dillon

The President acknowledged the former committee members and welcomed the new team.

8. AUSTRALIAN TITLES 2009

Two proposals for holding the 2009 Australian titles have been received and one was withdrawn. The remaining proposal is for the event to be held in May in Ulladulla. Concerns were raised regarding the attendance and profitability of 2009 Australian Titles. These were based on previous experiences of running the national titles in the same year as the world titles are held in Australia. In the past two occasions the numbers have been well below par, even to the point where the competition barely covered its costs or ran at a loss. Concerns were also raised regarding the timing of an Australian titles in May given the Lakesea event would be held in March or April – attendees of the meeting who travel long distances said they would only attend one of these events and not both, so this would potentially affect attendance at both events.

After some discussion regarding attendance, a show of hands indicated that only one third of the competitors present would definitely commit to attending the 2009 Australian titles, most of the others who did not commit had a view of attending the World Titles only. This raised discussion about other potential options for consideration.

Australian Titles 2009 - Run the event as per previous years with similar format. All funds managed and controlled by WSA with a set budget to try and minimise potential financial loss due to low attendance.

Australian Open 2009 - Run a lead in event to the World Titles similar to the South Africa circuit in 2005. The event could be sanctioned by WSA. Contest format, funding and decisions would be controlled by the contest committee. The event would be advertised to the international surfing community as a premier lead in event to the World Titles. No Australian Titles would be attached. There would be an option for other events to be run at a similar time frame for the competitors to attend. Western Australia have shown interest in this option and running an event for surfers as they enter Australia from the west.

Premier East Coast Circuit Event - Run a premier event with double points attached as part of the East Coast Comp Circuit. This event would be run at the contests committees' discretion as a lead up event, similar to the Australian Open option.

If one of the second two options were to be taken up, this would eliminate the financial exposure for WSA while running the Australian Titles. It would also mean that for 2009 year there would not be an Australian champion or title holder, but the option for a group to run the 2010 titles is open. The options will be put forward to the group who submitted the Ulladulla proposal before a final decision is made.

9. Affiliation with Queensland Canoeing

Queensland Canoeing has continued to keep contact in relation to amalgamating the sports together to help drive Waveski Surfing in Australia. There are two options - join Canoeing Australia or Queensland Canoeing and be affiliated to Canoeing Australia via the Queensland branch. The proposal requires further investigation and would also involve the development of Waveski Surfing specific guidelines for the sport. Potential advantages

include access to government funding and junior development similar to the French association. With limited resources and time for current committee members this could be a very viable option to help grow our sport and take it to the next level in the future.

10. Other Business

No other Business

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Signed

Russell Hudson
WSA Secretary.

November 2008