



Title: Minutes of the 40th NT Cricket Annual General Meeting

Meeting Location: NT Cricket office, 155 Abala Road, Marrara and via teleconference

Meeting Date: Saturday 16th November, 2018

Present: Bruce Walker (President), Clare Martin (Vice President), Kim Hill (Director), Andrew Moo (Director), Anthony Dent (Director), Steve Ward (Director), Michael Trull (Director), Ralph Wiese (Life Member), John Marshall (Life Member), Paul Allen, Cathy Allen, Bill Cooper, David Davies, Michael Kalidonis, Andrew Harvey, Lachlan Baird, Udara Weerasinghe, Murali Varatharajan, Joel Morrison, Brad Baptist, Narelle Morrison, Margaret Loorham & Louise Morrison.

1 OPENING AND WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Dr Walker opened the meeting at 10.04am and welcomed everyone to the 40th AGM of the Northern Territory Cricket Association. He acknowledged the important relationship between the NT Indigenous people and NT Cricket and recognised that our cricket is played on the vast Country of the Aboriginal peoples of the Northern Territory. Dr Walker welcomed Joel Morrison to his first AGM as CEO of NT Cricket.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from:

Julie Page (Director), Richard Johnson (Director), Jim Ford (NTCA Life Member), Simon Chudleigh, David King.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF AGM 2017

The minutes of the 2017 AGM held on 18 November 2017 were circulated.

The minutes were proposed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Moved: Ralph Wiese

Seconded: Clare Martin

Carried

Comments

Mr Ralph Wiese (NTCA Life Member) reviewed the 2017 minutes and the comments he made at that meeting. He noted that he would need to leave this meeting at 11am and may not have the opportunity to raise some issues. He raised two areas for clarification.

Firstly, referring to page 9 of the 2017 minutes and the follow up comments, he noted today that he had commended the Board and Management on the new scoreboard at that time, however he had only seen the scoreboard in operation at one NTFL match since then. He expressed disappointment that it has rarely been used and would like some clarity.

Secondly, he noted the activities of the NT Strike participation in the SACA Redbacks League in 2017 and expressed the exclusion of the NT in 2018 as a tragic shame for our cricketers who don't have the opportunity to display their potential and put their names forward. Mr Wiese asked why the NT has not been included, and what is being done to re-join or replace the competition to provide a pathway for our players.

Chair – Dr Bruce Walker thanked Mr Wiese for his comments and questions and indicated that the CEO, Joel Morrison would cover and address those issues in his report.

4 PRESENTATION OF 2016/17 ANNUAL REPORT – PRESIDENT / CHAIRPERSON

Dr Walker spoke to his President's Report as published in the Annual Report for 2017-2018.

The report highlighted the continued staff changes across NT Cricket and progress towards a new governance structure and constitution.

Although it has been a disrupted year, with the three key positions of the business changing it has been a pleasure to welcome Joel Morrison to the NT Cricket Team as CEO and he brings a set of skills, values and strategic focus which will benefit the NT.

Dr Walker noted that the Board and Management has worked to contextualise the Australian Cricket Strategy at the Territory level to foster growth and inclusion for clubs, pathways and players.

The main work and focus since Joel's arrival has been to position NT Cricket as a business with a more commercial footing rather than solely reliant on grant funding. This task has been aided by Joel's experience and knowledge in the commercial cricket operations. There are also significant changes across Australian Cricket on the back of the new media arrangements and the new financial model being implemented.

There is some work to do to clarify and refine the pathway programs for senior and junior male and female players in both Darwin and Alice Springs and this is currently being undertaken.

Dr Walker spoke to some highlights for the NT including the profile of our NT players and their increased exposure and career trajectories. He noted with pride D'Arcy Short and Jake Weatherald's performances in particular, and their success and opportunities at a national and international level. These two NT players hold the records for the highest individual score in the BBL and the BBL final.

The Strike League was a highlight, bringing national attention to the NT's facilities and opportunities and the City Cyclones as the first franchise to qualify for the new National Premier League T20 competition which will be contested in Adelaide in March 2019.

Dr Walker reflected on his report highlighting the demand for cricket events around the country was increasing and the 2 year commitment to the BBL in Alice Springs attracted interest from the nation. Joel has had deep discussions with other states to foster relationships for more dry season opportunities in the Top End Dry Season and a formal arrangement for NT pathway players seeking further development.

Dr Walker commended the selectors, coaches and support staff who have put time and effort into our players and programs. He thanked Life Member John Marshall (JM) for his long and loyal service and significant work in the Association and looks forward to seeing his involvement as historian for the association.

Dr Walker acknowledged the partnership and relationship with the NT Government and significant events the partnership supports across the NT. The new strategic plan for NT Cricket highlights the investment in women's cricket and junior formats, which will provide a foundation for growth in the coming years.

He thanked his fellow Directors and acknowledged the work and tenure of Director and Public Officer Steve Ward who is not renominating as a Director, and commended Anthony Dent for his work and involvement in his first year as Director with NTCA.

Dr Walker thanked NT Cricket staff including Margaret Loorham who has been an anchor through times of change and holds a wealth of

corporate memory, and Louise Morrison for compiling the Annual Report which was a difficult task with the departure of key staff.

Dr Walker presented the Annual Report and encouraged all to read it as we work to ensure cricket is Australia's favourite sport and is truly a sport for all.

Motion: Move that the President's report and the NTCA Annual Report be received

Moved: Lachlan Baird

Seconded: Stephen Ward

Carried

CEO Report – Mr Joel Morrison

The CEO spoke to his report as published in the NT Cricket Association 2017/18 Annual Report and acknowledged the work of all at NT Cricket to build cricket across the NT. He is privileged to be a Territorian returning to the NT and seeing the progress and work of NT Cricket over the last decade. He commended the Board and members for their work in providing amazing support to the NTCA.

Mr Morrison highlighted that there are more opportunities in cricket than ever before and our players are making the most of the programs and pathways on offer.

The CEO noted the level of change that has occurred across the organisation, which has been felt by the whole cricket community. In effect, the 70% staff turnover has seen a departure of a collective 28 years of experience over the last 8 months. The CEO thanked the Board, Members and Staff for their patience and expressed his commitment to the leadership role, indicating that with change comes fresh new energy and a renewed commitment to work with all facets of the organisation.

Joel highlighted three key opportunities for growing cricket in the north including girls and women's cricket, Indigenous cricket and the opportunity to increase 'dry season' and winter cricket for the benefit of Australian Cricket.

He reiterated the President's message and success of the Strike League, National T20 Competition, which affords our local NT players a unique opportunity to train and play alongside elite players, something which no other club player in Australia has the chance to do. He spoke of the unprecedented number of players from the NT playing on the national stage, providing an inspiring image for our young cricketers, particularly as they look to the local development and success of Tabatha Saville and Jake Weatherald.

The CEO noted the close relationship with the NT Government and Cricket Australia in the agreement for the NT to host the National Indigenous Cricket Championships (NICC) for a further three years, through to 2021. This sees the marquee Indigenous cricket event being hosted by the NT in the heart of Australia, along with the success and strong history of the Imparja Cup. The WBBL and BBL rounds highlighting Australia's Indigenous cricket history was a highlight for NT cricket as a leader in providing opportunities for the development of

Indigenous cricket.

There are also steps forward for women's cricket, on the back of a strong strategic focus by Cricket Australia. The women's competition is strong in Alice Springs and the inclusion of an NT side for Under 18 girls is a boost for our younger players who will be joined by some players from Far North Queensland to make up the NT team for their inaugural Championships.

There has been a strong focus on growth and inclusion with significant developments for Albrecht Oval and Gardens Oval which will benefit cricket through floodlit venues. The ten-year lease on Palmerston (Asbuild) Oval will enable further development of a hub to take advantage of the location and community. It has the potential to be another first-class facility to attract people to cricket in the region.

NT Cricket has new commercial partnerships this year with Statewide Super, Bargain Car Rentals and Ezyquip all providing support to enable us to grow and develop along with ongoing partnerships with current sponsors and supporters.

The CEO concluded his overview by giving thanks to the volunteers involved with NTCA and their tireless and loyal support in working to build and take cricket forward. He thanked the NTCA Board for their commitment to cricket and the NT Cricket staff for their passion, hard work and dedication to this great game.

The CEO also addressed the concerns and comments raised by Life Member Ralph Wiese earlier in the meeting regarding the NT involvement in the SACA Redbacks League. Joel explained that the SACA and NTCA relationship had historically been strong, with players moving from the NT to Adelaide and SACA, but this historical relationship seems to have provided more tangible results for SACA than NT Cricket, as NT players have fed into SACA's pathway without a formalised structure in place. With the NT's senior mens team no longer playing in the Redbacks League, there is no formal agreement or financial assistance in place with SACA to support the NT talent pool, however historical ties make it likely that SACA will benefit from NT players exploring opportunities in Adelaide. Joel indicated the intent from the SACA was good, however there was little appetite from SACA's High Performance Department for a formal commitment in writing to invest in NT Cricket above and beyond an NT team re-joining the Redbacks League, as players had naturally found their way to Adelaide without a SACA and NT Cricket pathway program agreement being in place.

The door is still open for the NT to play in the SACA Redbacks League, but this would be on a user-pays basis, as opposed to the previous arrangement whereby the SACA contributed to the cost of the NT's participation. At present, there is little incentive for SACA to financially support the NT to play in the league as SACA naturally receive our best NT players without a formal relationship. It was also important to consider the cost of the NT fielding a side in the SACA competition.

Mr Morrison explained that he was in discussion with other States including Queensland Cricket and Cricket Tasmania regarding formal partnership opportunities and arrangements for players. The NT needs to find a mutually beneficial partner who can offer opportunities for our player development and in turn, the NT can offer them a talent pool to draw from as well opportunities in the NT in the 'winter season' due to our climate, facilities and demographics.

Motion: that the CEO's Report be accepted

Moved: Clare Martin

Seconded: Stephen Ward

Carried

Financial Report

Director Michael Trull presented the Financial Report as included in the Annual Report 2017/2018.

He spoke briefly to the published report, drawing attention to the financial position including deficit, surplus and cash-on-hand figures as published.

Questions:

Member Michael Kalidonis raised the question of whether Traeger Park was a write off or ongoing expenses. Mr Trull explained it was Council Land and nets had been built, so it was a 'once off' cost. Dr Walker added that the sight screens would be treated in the same way next year which would be reflected in the next report.

Member Michael Kalidonis asked for clarification around the decrease in dividends from the Casuarina AllSports Club during the year.

Michael Trull indicated that NTCA and other foundation clubs were told that CasClub profitability was decreasing. Joel Morrison explained that CasClub told NTCA that we were unlikely to receive any dividends, but their contribution was higher than forecast.

Life Member Ralph Wiese asked if the Nightcliff Club Grant (page 53) was reflected in the total cash on hand figure. If so, the cash on hand is decreased because those funds come in and go out.

President Dr Bruce Walker explained that Cricket Australia has paid the full amount of funding in one lump sum this year, rather than in quarterly instalments, and this can be noted on the report.

Motion: That the Audited Financial Report be received as presented

Moved: Michael Trull

Seconded: Anthony Dent

Carried

6 OUTCOME OF ELECTIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT BOARD (CEO)

Returning Officer Joel Morrison called for nominations in accordance with the Constitution in October 2018. The Call for Nominations was advertised on the website and other Territory media. Mr Morrison confirmed that there was only one nomination for each of the vacant roles

and therefore no vote was required. He declared the following people elected and/or re-elected unopposed:

Deputy Chair: Ms Clare Martin

Elected Director: Mr Richard Johnson (Federal CC)

Director nominated by the ASCA: Mr Michael Trull

Comments

Member Lachlan Baird raised the issue that electronic communication was not sufficient by NTCA and interested people may have been missed as they were not notified personally. The NTCA wants to encourage renewal but in not communicating with individual members you may have missed someone who was unaware of the nomination process

CEO and Returning Officer Joel Morrison explained that NT Cricket communicated the notice of meeting and nominations process in line with the requirements set out in the NTCA Constitution. The information was readily available, and clubs were also communicated with directly and encouraged to pass on information to their members. The NTCA has an up to date membership if a ballot is required, however, in this case, there was no requirement to vote.

President Dr Bruce Walker explained that NT Cricket had acted in accordance with the Constitution.

7 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Michael Trull noted that the relationship and service from Perks Auditing was reliable and sufficient for the operation of the Association. He recommended retaining Perks for the next 12 months and reviewing the relationship at the point of change from an NT Incorporated Association to the proposed ASIC company structure.

The motion was put that Perks Audit and Assurance Chartered Accountants be appointed as NT Cricket's auditor for 2018/19, with the intention to re-tender for the audit services when the Association moved to the Company Limited Structure.

Moved: Michael Trull

Seconded: Clare Martin

Carried

8 OTHER BUSINESS

MARRARA CRICKET GROUND ELECTRONIC SCOREBOARD

CEO Joel Morrison revisited the early question from Life Member Mr Ralph Wiese regarding the under-use of the digital scoreboard at Marrara Oval. Mr Morrison explained that the board was positioned and installed but the electronics were not operational straight away. He thanked Director Anthony Dent for his help in rectifying the electronics and cabling to enable the scoreboard to function. Joel noted the scoreboard was in operation during the Strike League and has been used by PINT Football Club for their home games.

The scoreboard was available for use for Club Cricket fixtures held at Marrara during the season, with people operating the scoreboard required to be trained prior to use to understand the specific scoreboard software system. This requirement was communicated to the DCMB on two occasions, who were asked to advise all clubs. It appears this was not communicated to clubs by the DCMB so the scoreboard was not used. This issue can be easily rectified through better communication and the DCMB has undertaken to improve in this area.

ACIF FUNDING

Member Lachlan Baird (Nightcliff CC) noted that based on CA's participation census data NT represents 2% of total participants, but club infrastructure funding allocated last financial year equated to less than 0.8% of the Cricket Australia core funding grant NT Cricket received.

CEO Joel Morrison explained that the ACIF funding provided by Cricket Australia is addition to core funding, with the amount of funding provided determined based on the applications NT Cricket receives up to a maximum amount. Once NT Cricket contributes to a project, Cricket Australia provides a multiplier (in 17/18 this was 2:1). In the current financial year CA is applying 5:1 multiplier which will result in more money being available for local clubs.

CRICKET CULTURE

NTCA President Dr Bruce Walker raised the issue of the overall focus on cricket culture throughout Australian Cricket in light of the recent review findings. He asked all present to consider any implications for the NT and how this might impact on NT Cricket. If there are any issues of concern at any level of the game or participation, he encouraged all present to feed back any issues occurring at a grass roots level so that the Board and Management are aware of any implications that need to be addressed to improve the culture of cricket.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MR STEVE WARD

Mr John Marshall (JM) NTCA Life Member acknowledged the vast contribution of Mr Stephen Ward to the NT Cricket Board over many years. JM expressed the excellent service provided by Steve Ward, his contribution to the Board, as a match referee and his service to Darwin Cricket overall. The acknowledgement was well received with a generous round of applause from all present. Dr Bruce Walker explained Mr Ward was having a brief sabbatical and NT Cricket would continue to draw on his expertise.

9 MEETING CLOSE:

Dr Walker thanked everyone in attendance for their commitment to cricket and tireless work in a season of change. He looked forward to consolidating the CA financial model and financial outcome prior to the end of year. He thanked the Board of Directors for their contribution over the course of the year. Meeting closed at 11:09am.