Latrobe Valley 8 Ball Association Inc

Registration No A 0016389 V Affiliation Pool Victoria 2000 ABN 53 071 518 494

1st Special General Meeting of the Latrobe Valley 8 Ball Association held at the Morwell Golf Club on Tuesday 8th April 2025.

(Meeting Recorded)

Chairman:

Meeting opened by President Claire Blackford at 7:03pm, Claire welcomed everyone to the Latrobe Valley Eight Ball Association's Special General Meeting for 2025.

This meeting has been called to address a **Special Resolutions** being put forward by the members Scott Kersten and Daniel Tabone with regards to the By-Laws of this Association. It is in the interest of members considering to be future Committee members and also for members of the Association to know what direction the members choose to take for the Association before the Annual General Meeting, where the election of office bearers takes place. It also gives members in teams notice on how the forth coming seasons will play out with regard to these Special Resolutions.

Attendance:

Members: Claire Blackford, Dean Burridge, Rosa Payne, Andrew O'Neill, Adam Skilbeck, Andy Kersten, Angela Dean, Belinda Burke, Brad Carr, Campbell Anderson, Chris Walsh, Danny Matheson, Danny Tabone, Dean Kane, Don McIvor, Donna Hunt, Dylan Goddwin, Frank Marino, Graeme Stoneman, Hayden Jones, Jamee Van Gelderen, Jane Kolakowski, Jason Galea, Jay Langstaff, Joel Tracey, John Casey, Julio Marino, Kade Stritch, Katie Leech, Kenny Krieger, Luke Pallot, Matthew Anderson, Michael Stellini, Mick Lubowski, Neil Stuckey, Paul Pike, Paul Stevenson, Ralph Rao, Rick Merlo, Rick Stray, Rod Chapman, Ron Kingsley, Scott Kersten, Shane Vogt, Stven Halliday, Tom Gill, Trey Merlo, Zach Campbell.

Visitors: Anthony Divito, Adrian Kearns In Attendance: 51

Quorum:

Quorum met with 49 members in attendance of the 132 members of the Association (15% of 132 = 19.80 members).

Apologies:

Matt Sawyer.

Apologies: 1

Correspondence:

1. Notice of motions:
   By-Law Changes: Special Business.

Previous Minutes:

All previous General Meeting Minutes moved to the 49th Annual General Meeting to be held directly after this meeting.

Special Business:

Notice of Motions: Special Resolutions from Scott Kersten.

Motions:

1) Scott Kersten: Match Fees.

I would like to raise the match fees from $5 per player to $7, and have that extra money distributed among our venues.

Move: Scott Kersten

Sec: Graeme Stoneman

It was put forward by Scott that match fees are increased to $7 per player per match. $5 to go to the league and $2 to go the venues. It was discussed that it would be paid to the venues that are non RSL teams as they already pay $7 per player per round. The idea was for the extra $2 to go towards the venue to support them for upkeep of tables, supper, to support the venue opening for players of the league to play each week. Ie. The amount would be paid to each venue based on how many teams play out of that venue.

Andrew O'Neill raised that by starting this that venues will continue to expect it in seasons moving forward and that the league hasn't ever paid venues to play pool and that this motion is to appease Turks Bar so that they don't remove their venue as a place for teams to play out of.

Adam Skilbeck raised that it could be an avenue for venues to then ask for any amount extra for team to play out of their venue.

Belinda Bourke mentioned that the alternative would be that Turks Bar decide to no longer allow teams to play out of their and Scott said that it would be very hard for the league to continue to grow without as many venues as possible.

It was put to a vote, members voted as follows:

33 votes – for

9 votes - against

Motion is passed.

By-Laws:

By-Laws:

1) Andrew O'Neill:

1. Rules of Competition 36.2.1 Groupings - Amendments.
2. By-Laws Review - Removal/Additions/Amendments.

2) Daniel Tabone:

1. General Matters of the Association 30. Life Membership - Amendments.
2. Rules Competition 36. Points System & Divisions - Removal/Amendments.

3. Rules Competition 36. Points System & Divisions - Additions/Amendments.

By-Laws

Andrew O'Neill

36.2.1 Grouping – Amendments.

36.2.1.2 Group 1.5, 36.2.1.3 Group 2, & 36.2.1.4 Group 2.5.

Current System	**Winter 2025 System**
Group 1: 30% 70% - 100%	Group 1: 30% 70% - 100%
Group 1.5: 10% 60% - 69%	Group 1.5: 12% 58% - 69%
Group 2: 10% 50% - 59%	Group 2: 16% 42% - 57%
Group 2.5: 20% 30 - 49%	Group 2.5: 12% 30% - 41%
Group 3: 30% 0% - 29%	Group 3: 30% 0% - 29%

Special Resolutions: Groupings amendment for the upcoming Winter Competition 2025 move 8% from the Group 2.5 and put 6% into Group 2 and the other 2% into Group 1.5.

Move: Andrew O'Neill

Sec: Wayne van Heerewaarden

By-Laws

Andrew O'Neill

2. By-Law Review

The Association is not what it once was and there are many By-Laws that are not needed anymore and some that need amending with a few new additions. Please refer to the attached document.

Move: Andrew O'Neill

Sec: Claire Blackford

Andrew wanted to tidy up the by laws, taking out what was no longer needed or used. He wanted to remove the word delegate as it is no longer used. Anything with the word delegate to be removed. Kenny raised that it would give the committee more power by removing 'delegates' therefore removing delegate meetings. There were multiple members speaking out concerned that by removing delegate meeting that the members wouldn't have a say.

Angela, Rosa, Claire and Andrew said that members can still have as many meetings as required, they just won't be called 'delegate meeting' and members can call a meeting as required.

Andrew also removed the by laws regarding league shirts and the bylaw to remain was that if members were to wear the league shirt at events, they ask permission from the committee. Belinda asked how the decision was made and Andrew said it was based on past behavior as there has been teams/players that have played up wearing the league shirt.

Andrew also wanted to remove the bylaw play offs.

Andrew simplified the bylaws regarding the singles and ladies and included the doubles.

Removed the exemption info regarding Country Cup as there are no exemptions and members must be eligible to play.

Scott agreed with the country cup info and questioned what happens with the instance of more than a 32 draw Andrew explained that it is not removed and that it has been condensed in to one document.

Andrew talked about the amendments with the groupings and spreading the groups out so that group 3 wasn't too large. He suggested that group 2 would be the better to be the larger one, to make the competition more even and balanced.

It was put to a vote, result as follows:

Votes for – 34

Votes against - 4

Passed

By-Laws

Daniel Tabone

1. Life Membership

I wish to address the members at the AGM and propose a change being Life Membership is automatically granted upon a financial member reaching 30 years' service. The 30 years can be reached by a total of playing years and also combined with Committee serving years.

Move: Daniel Tabone

Sec: David Buhagiar

Dylan to speak on Danny's behalf as he was unwell. Danny wants to see all members that reach 30 yrs be granted life membership automatically providing they have had acceptable behavior and no disciplinary action and the members of the LVEBA will vote on that life membership. It was noted that after 49 years only 18 have reached life membership.

Jamee asked that would that be backdated for members that may have reached the milestone in previous years that no longer play. It was note that this bylaw change would only be for financial members. Scott mentioned that he thinks that it's a great idea to reward members that have reached the milestone with them being awarded life membership.

Andrew also said that the proposal that was read out was different to what was provided to be included in the agenda and that the part about the behavior cannot be included. Andrew spoke on

the current process of awarding life membership and that it gives the opportunity for members to decide who gains life membership.

Jamee raised that the current bylaw states that only one life member can be awarded per year.

Scott raised that perhaps that if this is voted in to be automatic, that it could be changed later to amend it to more than one per year.

It was put to a vote:

Votes for – 32

Votes against – 9

Abstain - 10

Passed.

By-Laws

Daniel Tabone

2. Points System & Divisions

Scrap the handicap system and go Division 1 and Division 2.

Move: Daniel Tabone

Sec: David Buhagiar

Danny put forward that our league was much stronger when we had 2 divisions and it had grown into div 3 and 4. Claire mentioned that the decline in membership started long before the handicap system and it began when the Traralgon 8ball league started. Scott noted that in 2016 the league had 470 members. Andrew noted that some of the decline in members was contributed to by the attitudes of the higher level players and in addition Covid didn't help.

Mick L mentioned that there are always teams that aren't strong enough for Div 1 to make up enough teams and therefore don't want to play and don't enjoy playing.

It was voted:

Votes for – 16

Votes against - 25

Not passed.

Daniel Tabone

3. Points System & Divisions

If the handicap system is to move forward, I propose the point system is halved. A team shouldn't start in the minus. Or if your team's handicap points are 7 and under you are Division 1. If you're handicap points are 7.5 and over you are Division 2.

Move: Daniel Tabone

Sec: David Buhagiar

It was discussed that team and players don't want to start in the minus before the matches even start. Andrew explained that no one is in the minus and that you can't finish on a -4 you finish on a 0. Kenny and Scott spoke that at the start of the night the team begins at a minus, Andrew explained that it is not how the score card is to be read. Trey mentioned that there are two different perspectives as to how the score card is read. Claire said the calculations are done at the end of the night and therefore there is no minus.

Voting to halve the handicap system

Votes for – 16

Votes against – 16

Not passed.

Around the Floor:

1. Held over to the Annual General Meeting

Next Meeting:

1. 48th Annual General Meeting directly following closure of this Special General Meeting.

Meeting Closed:

1. Closing:
   The President Claire Blackford thanked everyone for attending and told everyone that the pizzas are here.
2. Time/Duration:
   9.13pm/1hr53.43m.

Regards
Rosa Payne
Secretary LVEBA
Email: admin@lveba.com.au