



# Country Cup Association's Meeting



**1<sup>st</sup> Victorian South Eastern Region Country Cup Association's Meeting held at the Morwell RSL Boardroom or via zoom on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.**

**Chairman:**

1. Open meeting 1:03pm.
2. Claire Blackford welcomed everyone did a sound check for those on zoom and checked that everyone was ready to go. Claire Blackford also noted that Andrew O'Neill the LV8BA Secretary is recording the meeting for the purpose of doing the minutes, the recording will be deleted afterwards.

**Attendance:**

1. Roll call of Association Committee Members:

Country Cup Association's Committee		
Bairnsdale	Peter Baldwin	Zoom
Latrobe Valley	Claire Blackford	In Attendance
Maffra	Sam Pearson	Zoom
Mid Gippy	Stephen Ing	In Attendance
Orbost	Joe Connelly	Not In Attendance
Warragul	Terry Gilpin	Zoom
Wellington	Scott Wilkinson	In Attendance
West Gippy	Mark Roberts	Zoom
Wonthaggi District	Pat Hamilton	Zoom
Wonthaggi Ladies	Linda Hopkins	Zoom
Wonthaggi Mixed	Hayley Hall	Not in Attendance

2. Guests and Observers:

Andrew O'Neill (Secretary LV8BA), Ash Vogt (Event Coordinator), Jennette Ing (Mid Gippy), Wendy Gilpin (Warragul) & Gillian Weldon (Secretary Maffra & Wellington).

In Attendance: 14

**Quorum:**

1. Quorum met with 9 of the 11 members in attendance of the Association's Committee.

**Apologies:**

1. Joe Connelly (Orbost).

In Attendance: 1

**Correspondence:**

1. Letter Ash Vogt: Country Cup Meeting.

**Previous Minutes:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Victorian South Eastern Region Country Cup Associations Meeting Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. Claire Blackford asked if anyone had any issues with the minutes?

**Business Arising:**

- 1.1 Pat Hamilton queried the area code rule that changed at the last meeting and raised concern about the decision. There was some discussion about the details of the rule change – as long as players have played with their Association and were willing to travel, even if they lived in metro Melbourne then that was fine. Andrew O'Neill read out the minutes of last meeting –

### 15. Country addresses:

*No longer need a country address but players must have played 50% in the previous season and currently registered with the association to be eligible to play Country Cup.*

Pat Hamilton raised that not all players know about this rule change and is concerned about their response to it, Scott Wilkinson said it is up to the representatives here to take back rule changes to their Association and inform the members. Andrew O'Neill said that we will address any issues going forward if it becomes a problem. It was decided to keep moving and Claire Blackford asked if there were any other questions about the minutes.

- 1.2 Andrew O'Neill has added a list in order of who is to host the Country Cup, into the By-Laws.

Moved: Scott Wilkinson

Sec: Stephen Ing

Unanimously Carried

## **Around the Committee:**

1. President: Claire Blackford

1.1 Country Cup Messenger Group: I will add Hayley into the messenger group and if anybody needs to be added or taken out just let me know.

2. Secretary's Report: Andrew O'Neill

- 2.1 LV8BA Website:

We have on our website a page for 'Country Cup' with a drop-down menu which has links to the By-Laws, the Finals Flow Charts and the Meeting Minutes. I will update the By-Laws in the next few weeks and also add this meeting minutes when they are done, Pat Hamilton's minutes from last year are already up there.

- 2.2 Country Cup Previous Minutes:

If anyone has any previous minutes, can they please pass them onto me and I'll add them with the other meetings on the website. It's good to have them in one spot so that people can see what was discussed and where and when changes were made.

## **General Business:**

1. Country Cup By-Laws:

Pat Hamilton has had them updated since the meeting that was held last year and they were posted on the Messenger group chat for everyone to review. It was noted that a few people had trouble opening it.

Moved: Stephen Ing

Sec: Scott Wilkinson

Unanimously Carried

Business Arising:

- 1.1 Finals Flow Charts:

Andrew O'Neill added them to the Messenger group chat recently, they have also been up on the LV8BA website for at least ten years now. There are flow charts for a final 4 & 8 as per the wording in the By-Laws, Andrew also added a final six as another option in case there is less than twenty teams one year. These will be added to the By-Law changes to be passed at the next meeting.

- 1.2 Twenty Team Cap:

Peter Baldwin asked about the twenty-team cap. Scott Wilkinson said that at the last meeting it was decided to keep the cap at twenty teams with no plans to change that anytime as it makes it simple to run and manage.

2. Hosting Order of the Country Cup:

1) Latrobe Valley

2) Orbost

3) Sale

4) Warragul

5) Wonthaggi

6) Bairnsdale

Business Arising:

- 2.1 Andrew O'Neill said that was the order that we had from past results.
- 2.2 Pat Hamilton asked if Maffra and Wellington are separate? Scott Wilkinson said that Maffra have never hosted it as both leagues are closely aligned and it's Wellington that host it and run it in Sale. It's a better rotation system with it being only one year now.
- 2.3 Peter Baldwin asked for Bairnsdale to be included in the order. Andrew O'Neill said that they can be added, and it is expected that after the Country Cup there may be a few other added teams given you don't need to be affiliated with Pool Vic to host the Country Cup now. Any new associations will be added to the queue after Bairnsdale and will feed in as rotation occurs. Claire Blackford asked if Maffra wanted to be added? Sam Pearson said not just yet but we will be looking at it down the track.

### 3. Letter from Ash Vogt:

The meeting was handed over to Ash Vogt he read out his letter with the proposals -

- 3.1 I'd like to put a proposal forward that country cup has 2 divisions for the finals. The system would be position 5th and 6th in each pool would conduct a division 2 final, we would use option 1 for the finals system in the by-laws.
- 3.2 Also, I would like to put forward that we play a race to 7 in the grand final for division 1 and division 2 grand finals.

#### Business Arising:

Ash Vogt explained his proposals and how it would work and the reasons for them, Sam Pearson supported the proposals, stated the race to seven is a must. Scott Wilkinson and Stephen Ing also supported the proposals. Andrew O'Neill asked if he had tested the race to seven format, Ash Vogt said that he has, and the only issue people say that there could be is time issues. If time is pressing you can play over two tables, there will be enough tables at the time to cover both finals. Andrew O'Neill asked for anyone who wanted to speak against the proposals. No one spoke against the proposals so the proposals were put forward -

Moved: Ash Vogt  
Sec: Sam Pearson  
Unanimously Carried

4. Group Chat Messenger: Note Country Cup business that was conducted since last Country Cup Meeting via the messenger group chat: None.
5. Any other general business:  
Format for Country Cup IR or WR? World rules for 2024 to be discussed further at the next meeting.

### **Around the Associations:**

1. Peter Baldwin asked to be added to the Messenger Group Chat, Claire Blackford said Peter is already in the group chat but will confirm.

### **Next Meeting:**

1. Scott Wilkinson proposed that we hold the next Country Cup meeting not too long after the Country Cup, maybe July/August to plan the following Country Cup early, given the potential change to IR. Claire Blackford will get in contact with Joe Connelly to see if Orbost are going to host the 2025 Country Cup and if not, Sale are the next ones on the list after them.

### **Meeting Closed:**

1. Claire Blackford thanked everyone for attending.
2. Time/Duration: 1:36pm/32:22min

Regards

Andrew O'Neill

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