

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE FAR SOUTH COAST & SOUTHERN TABLELANDS ASSOCIATION OF SHOW SOCIETIES HELD IN NIMMITABEL ON Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 commencing at 11 am**

Bruce Reid Vice-president of the Association welcomed all Delegates in attendance and on behalf of everyone made particular reference to the attendance of Tim O'Brien, the ASC President who took time out from his busy schedule to meet everyone from this area.

**Zone 6 AGM Meeting – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May at Nimmitabel Community Hall.**

<b>District</b>	<b>Attendees Names</b>
Chairman of ASC	Tim O'Brien
ASC Reps	Ray Sawtell Claire Trevanion
Secretary	Narelle Griffin
Bega	Helen Slater
	Marie Smith
Pambula	Russ Fitzpatrick
Candelo	Charles Day Michael Heffernan Keith Coleman
Dalgety	Tricia Gerney Julie Hedger Bernadette Beck
Eurobodalla	Bruce Reid Lindsay Boyton
Delegate	Russell Buckman Robin Guthrie
Nimmitabel	John Alcock Gail Bright
Bombala	Kim Oliver Colleen McCoy
Cobargo	Kevin Allen
	Dave Williams
Cooma	Margaret Barron Leanne Mackay
Bemboka	Bruce Cummings
	Peter Crooks
<b>Total</b>	

Apologies were received from Gail Cummins, Maureen Kampman, Marie Hackett, Leanne MacKay.

Minutes of the 2014 Conference were circulated to all show societies and some copies were given to those present for adoption on the motion of Charles Day, Helen Slater and carried.

Business arising from the Minutes –

Robin Guthrie told the meeting that Delegate Society was given permission to sell full strength beer at their 2015 show. Claire Trevanion expressed her disappointment that all people selling alcohol during the shows are required to gain a RSA certificate. Kim Oliver from Bombala found it strange that their licence allowed for the sale of spirits, but not full strength beer.

It was pleasing for all Show Societies to report few problems with Pic numbers and they attributed this to the very thorough presentation and reporting made at the annual conference in 2014 by local Vet Helen Schaefer.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Bernadette Beck and John Alcock moved that the financial report as tabled by the Secretary-Treasurer be accepted, carried.

Charles Day and Bernadette Beck moved that the Annual Return to the Department of Fair Trading be signed by Bruce Reid, carried.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:**

President: Bega AP & H Society Peter Hull.

Senior Vice President: Bruce Reid

Junior Vice President: Charles Day

Sec/Treasurer: Narelle Griffin

Delegates to A.S.C. Ray Sawtell & Claire Trevanion

Patrons: Peter Hendy, John Barilaro.

Banker – Commonwealth Bank, Bega

The long standing agreement of the election of President and Secretary from Bega was discussed.

Charles Day and Dave Williams moved that if the Constitution permits, future appointments of Secretary and President of the FSC & ST Association be elected from the floor at the annual conference, carried.

#### Correspondence

##### Outwards –

1. Annual Statement Form 12 Dept Fair Trading
2. Letter to Show Societies attaching A.S.C. Minutes 2015 Conference
3. Patrons Andrew Constance, John Barilaro
4. ASC Nomination of Group Delegates
5. ASC Executive Information Form
6. Letter to John Barilaro explaining issues associated with Liquor Licences
7. RAS enclosing entry forms for Rich Fruit Cake and Dairy Cattle sections
8. Letter to FSC & ST members re annual conference 2015

##### Inwards

1. A.S.C. Newsletters and various junior judging information
2. Letter from John Barilaro accepting position of Patron.
3. Email to Group members advising of John Barilaro's reply re liquor licences

4. Group members advising of representatives attending AGM
5. Ray Sawtell re Group achievements

Correspondence approved on the motion of Charles Day & Michael Heffernan and carried.

**Agenda Items:** Nil

**Delegates' Reports:**

**Ray Sawtell:**

The White Paper on the future of management of Crown Lands in NSW including showgrounds, was dealt with at a board meeting. The Board was concerned that the intention appeared to hand the Showgrounds to Local Government to administer. Over six hundred and sixty submissions were received and it has been placed on hold for eighteen months.

ASC now has the Rain Protection Scheme back in operation. Remember that the ASC office requires fourteen (14) days written notice prior to your show, if Rain Protection is required.

Clubs NSW has again this year sponsored the young Judges Competitions. The winner of Group 6 Youth Challenge will be announced at the AGM.

The ASC has conducted a number of tests for prohibited Drugs at a number of shows during the last year and positive results have been detected. Local shows will not know if they will be tested until the team arrives at your show.

Thank you to Nimmitabel, Cobargo, Bega and Delegate shows for holding the Young Judges Group Finals at their shows early this year.

Please make sure that horse results are in to the ASC office as soon as possible after your shows, otherwise your competitors will not gain points for Sydney Royal.

The ASC State Seminar will be held on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August 2015 at Penrith Paceway.

We welcome Tim O'Brien the President at Agricultural Societies Council of NSW to the AGM at Nimmitabel.

Many thanks to John and Jenny Alcock for helping man the ASC Stand at Sydney Royal Show, it was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to Narelle Griffin for all her assistance to myself and the show societies in Group 6 during the last year.

**Claire Trevanion:**

Claire Trevanion said it had been a steep learning curve for her in the first year of her role as a delegate, but one that she enjoyed immensely. She

thanked Ray Sawtell for his guidance and support and apologised for not attending two of the meetings and Sydney Royal Show.

Claire mentioned the following items from the ASC meeting in Sydney:

- 1 There are a number of shows set down for 5 & 6 March 2016 and she warned Delegate to be aware it might be difficult to obtain sideshows.
2. She recommended that the following wording should be included in show schedules:  
“drug testing may be carried out at this show. Any competitor found to have breached the ASC Disputes and Disciplinary Regulations will be investigated by the ASC Disciplinary Committee and dealt with accordingly”.  
Claire said that this gives the competitor warning and covers the Show Society as members of the ASC
3. Some Shows are giving incorrect descriptions in their schedules of Galloways, hacks and ponies.
4. During shows, no form of tape or cord (energized or not) may be used as a restraint on showground. A horse had to be put down because of an incident with tape forcing the ASC to adopt new rules.
5. Zone 3 Showgirl final is to be held in Cooma on 18 February 2015.
6. The ASC is promoting a School Garden bed competition which involves preparing, growing and presenting a video for judging. The rules will be published in the ASC newsletter.
7. ASC has asked that no advertising be included in junior judging competitions.
8. Annual conference is to be held on Saturday & Sunday, 1 and 2 August 2015.

Discussion followed regarding the decision by the ASC to ban tape to secure horses at showgrounds.

Kim Oliver suggested all show societies in the area should purchase portable yards which could be shared for the season to assist those who normally tape areas off for the horses.

Dave Williams from Cobargo suggested if the ban was because of OH & S issues, the major problem would be the star pickets holding the tape, not the tape itself.

Ray and Claire both suggested that if societies in the area have genuine concerns about the ASC decision, they should write to the ASC after reading details in forthcoming newsletters.

Honorarium & Travelling Expenses –

Michael Heffernan and Bernadette Beck moved that the honorarium and travelling expenses for delegates and the secretary remain as previous years, carried.

<b>Show dates</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Sapphire Coast	January 9	January 7
Candelo	January 17	January 15
Eurobodalla	January 23,24	January 23,24
Nimmitabel	February 6	February 4
Cobargo	February 13,14	February 11, 12
F.S.C.N. Bega	February 19,20,21	February 17,18,19
(Canberra)	February 26,27,28	February 24, 25, 26
Delegate	March 5	March 4
Dalgety	March 8	March 5
Cooma	March 12	March 11
Bemboka	March 13	March 12
Bombala	March 19	March 18

Tim O'Brien congratulated the FSC & ST for having every show represented at the Annual General Meeting.

Tim told the meeting that the ASC had difficulty obtaining suitable rates for Insurance in mid-December because the underwriters were worried about the possibility of large claims due to flooding or drought in the state. The ASC negotiated a better deal with more flexibility by leaving it until 6-8 weeks prior to the due date which meant that some societies were billed for 13 months instead of 12 months.

Tim O'Brien reminded those present that the ASC Seminar is to be held at Penrith Paceway in August with a similar programme to last year. He assured everyone that those who do attend will gain vast knowledge and bookings should be made as soon as possible.

There have been three meetings with Kevin Humphries regarding the white paper on the conduct of Crown Land showgrounds, but negotiations are still taking place. They will now need to negotiate with Nyals Blair

Tim is pleased that the ASC is working closely with a number of schools and is looking forward to the response to the school garden competition. The ASC cannot run these competitions without the assistance of teachers, particularly in the agriculture section and they are hoping to present awards to the teachers for this help.

He complimented Brodie Chester as Royal Easter Showgirl 2014 on her achievements and the way in which she encouraged younger people who entered for all youth events. Tim said that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders and he asked that show societies invite showgirls and rural achievers to judge and officiate at events.

He noted Bega had received substantial grants from the PRMF funding scheme, to complete their kitchen and recommended that other societies apply for grants/loans as funding for some major projects. He knew of one

grant for a toilet block (\$220,000) which had been approved for Parkes. Tim has recently spoken to David Clarke regarding PRMF Funding and there is \$20m set aside in Government funds for these projects. Tim reminded those present that there is only one round of funding now.

Tim also commented on the cost of showground rental for the week of the show at Dubbo of \$52,000.

Michael Heffernan endorsed Tim's encouragement to attend the ASC Seminar as he said he gained much benefit from the weekend when he attended.

Bruce Cummings from Bemboka Show Society expressed the opinion that all show societies will need to diversify and conduct more competitions apart from the local show to meet their commitments with the ever increasing cost of maintaining grounds. Bruce said Bemboka has run a very successful banquet, field days and trail riding events. Bruce also informed the meeting that Bemboka School is already part of the garden scheme created by Stephanie Alexander.

Kim Oliver from Bombala mentioned that the local council manages their showground and the Council staff don't see upgrades at the showground as a priority over other community based projects.

### **Reports from Show Societies:**

#### **Pambula:**

Russell Fitzpatrick reported that Pambula has struggled for assistance with the conduct of the show over recent years but was confident that it would be continuing. The weather was not on their side in 2015, but entries in the horse events and pavilion were encouraging. Russell said the introduction of a Seafood Section has been a positive change.

#### **Cooma:**

Leanne MacKay said how please she was to attend the conference for the first time and she said a highlight of their year was to see Cooma's showgirl get through to the finals. Leanne told the meeting that her society had struggled for support over recent years but helpers are increasing. She said the pavilion was fantastic and most other sections were of a high standard. She was disappointed that Cooma show clashed with Yass, so sideshows were limited, but they still had a good crowd.

#### **Bemboka:**

Bruce Cummings reported that the attendance at Bemboka Show was up, but cattle numbers were down. Bemboka Primary School has joined the Stephanie Alexander vegetable garden programme which resulted in a big jump in the number of entries in this section at the show. Bemboka missed the Essential Energy sponsorship which had been given in previous years. Bruce said that Bemboka will suffer because of the new ASC rule because

they don't have stables. Bemboka had 70 horses in their horse ride this year and funds raised will assist to upgrade their kitchen and supper room.

**Candelo:**

Keith Coleman was thrilled with the attendance and support from the local community for their show. Keith said the committee takes real pride in their show. All events were well patronised and of a high standard, with gate takings up. Keith said the catering section of the show is always highly successful, socially and financially.

**Bombala:**

Bombala enjoyed beautiful weather which contributed to the increased gate takings and the terrific season enabled exhibitors to present outstanding quality produce. The vegetable, fruit and cereal sections were popular and good entries were received in the horse and poultry sections. The Hospitality students at Bombala High assisted with lunches and students were also encouraged to enter in other events such as stud and commercial cattle. A new section for the largest pumpkin attracted about 100 entries. A bequest of money, left to the Bombala Society will be used to upgrade the kitchen and dining room areas.

**Dalgety:**

Tricia Gerney spoke on behalf of Dalgety and offered apologies for not having representatives at previous meetings.

Tricia reported that Dalgety received some wonderful publicity on the Ray Hadley Show and local ABC Radio which led to a fantastic response from locals and visitors. The weather was fine, the gate taking were excellent and overall it was a resounding success. Tricia said that she was fairly new to the area and thought people needed encouragement to enter into various sections. The committee made changes to the schedule and the constitution and revised the prizemoney.

**Cobargo:**

Kevin Allen told the meeting that Cobargo has a great committee which produced a great show. They had a big day on Saturday, but the rain washed out the night programme. Kevin said the committee changed to Sunday three years ago and judging by the response, the decision has proven positive. The rodeo was a resounding success.

**Delegate:**

Russell Buckman said that no fires and no rain made the job of Delegate committee members a little easier than the previous year to run a successful show, particularly in the pavilion section. Their liquor licence enabled the sale of full strength beer and spirits this year. The committee conducted junior judging in sheep, cattle and grain and a highly entertaining tiny tots section with 24 entrants under 8 years. The committee was pleased to welcome Leigh Jones, a Vietnam Veteran whose grandfathers served at Gallipoli to open their show.

**Nimmitabel:**

John Alcock was thrilled that Nimmitabel show was opened by the President of the RAS, Mr Robert Ryan. John said it was unfortunate that the show clashed with the NSW Yard dog championships at Jindabyne and the Cooma Rodeo. Although these events did interfere slightly, John reported on a great show, particularly stud and commercial cattle sections which produced outstanding exhibits. John paid tribute to Kylie Maher from Narooma for her effort in encouraging participants from that area into the junior events. They had record entries in the shearing section which required the extension of the shearing shed. John said Facebook saved the day because riders first thought the ground was not suitable for ring events, but soon found out the events were proceeding. John complimented Pat Nichols for presenting a great entertainment programme. He also thanked Ray Sawtell and Clare Trevanion for their attendance at most local shows and for representing the district at ASC. He also congratulated Eurobodalla on a successful zone judging of the showgirl competition.

### **Eurobodalla:**

Lindsay Boyton reported that gate takings increased at Eurobodalla which was surprising considering Saturday's show was washed out. A highlight of their year was the staging of the Regional Showgirl competition and from all reports this was a resounding success. Eurobodalla offered assistance to Cooma for the 2017 competition and wished them luck with the events. The success of their show can be attributed to a strong committee who contribute their time generously.

### **Bega:**

We were thrilled to have the Governor of NSW David Hurley and wife Linda accept an invitation to open our 142<sup>nd</sup> show. Our theme for the opening was a poppy laying ceremony by descendants of 1<sup>st</sup> War World Veterans who enlisted in the Bega Valley Shire. We had the largest attendance at the opening for some time and part of the success of the night must go to our secretary Narelle Griffin who provided the idea and enthusiasm.

Because of the changing environment of shows we need to adapt to change and Bega is in the process of implementing initiatives to identify possible savings of staging our show. It is a balance to maintain both commercial and customer expectations. It would be great to see shows in our area work together to achieve a more affordable programme of entertainment.

The exhibitors play a large part in the success of our show and we re lucky to have their support. Bega will encourage more participation through programs targeted at schools and cultural groups in our regions. Our pavilion and craft exhibitor's numbers were up again this year thanks to a dedicated pavilion committee and the growth of the life style shows.

The only disappointment is the decline in competitors in our horse events. The advice I have received was the numbers were down due to the clashing of show dates with other shows. This brings me to a discussion point. Can we



implement a more effective scheduling program to avoid possible shows clashing with each other?

Trustees of Bega Showground were pleased to gain grants from latest rounds of PRMF grants and complete work, particularly on the kitchen.

### **Southern District Exhibit Report:**

Kevin Allen said the theme for the 2015 RAS was the Anniversary of ANZAC and he said the mark of respect shown by all concerned was a credit to everyone. He said there was only 30 points between first and fifth in the 2,000 points allocated. Kevin also made mention of the wonderful comradeship of those assisting with our district exhibit.

### **General Business:**

Ray Sawtell and John Alcock moved that a letter of appreciation be sent to Kylie Maher of Narooma High School to recognise the work that she contributes towards junior judging and participation by students, carried.

Charles Day and Marie Smith moved that Cooma Show Society change the date of the 2017 Regional Showgirl Competition, to avoid Bega Show date in that year, carried.

Cooma representatives told the meeting that three dates 18 and 25 February and 4 March had been set aside for the Regional Judging and further negotiation would be made with the ASC regarding an alternative date.

Helen Slater from Bega suggested that during events conducted in this area, that where possible, different judges are used for horse events.

John Alcock from Nimmitabel moved a vote of thanks to Tim O'Brien for his attendance at the conference.

Ray Sawtell presented the Group 6 Youth Challenge to Nimmitabel Show Society and asked those present to consider using the Junior Judges for various events held during the year.

Ray thanked Clubs NSW for their continued sponsorship of Junior Judging events and told the meeting that three juniors from this area had good performances at Sydney Royal.

Ray encouraged those in attendance to ensure that all horse results are sent to the ASC to ensure competitors can compete at Sydney Royal.

Ray also congratulated Howard Charles from Nimmitabel who received an AAM in the recent rounds of the award.

Narelle Griffin suggested that the FSC & ST hold more than one meeting each year.

Those present agreed and Charles Day and Margaret Barron moved that a meeting be held in November 2015 at Bega, carried.

Meeting closed at 1.20pm