



MINUTES

Team Sydney Inc - Board Meeting - 15 August 2006 - 7:30pm

Meeting Venue: Level 2, 54 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst, NSW

1	Attendance - Chair: Geoff Lyne	
	Geoffrey Radford, Terri D DR GL JD WM	
2	Apologies	
	KR GJL	
3	Minutes of and matters arising from previous meetings held Tuesdays 23 May and 20 June 2006	
	DR still to provide copy of SC minutes. Westpac change yet to be finalised. GR to check dot points for SC. FGG email has now been sent.	
	Approval sought to post previous minutes and papers to TS website - DR	
	Agreed publish May and June minutes.	
4	Correspondence	
	Letter from Roger Paterson inviting all clubs to cruise on Boxing Day	
	Thank you letter needs to be sent for premium seats offered by either CGI or FGG at Chicago opening ceremony - KR to advise which organisation is to be thanked - DR	
	Pride invitation received - GL and WM to attend. GL suggested offer the idea of a growing sports community with not enough people to attend to the administration.	
	FGG Dues/Renewal letter.	
	Email from Kate Rowe. KR needs to resign her position as a SC delegate to SFR, not TS. KR remains a director until she resigns from the board. DR to respond.	
5	Meeting between GJL, DR and Kathleen Webster - correspondence with FGG Governance committee - DR	Emails
	No reply received to confirming email. A reply has been received to our email to the FGG.	
6	FGG report - KR and WM	Paper
	Report accepted. FGG will issue Blue Book report in due course.	
7	Chicago Report - GR	Paper
	Agreed report accepted. Medal lists still to be completed. GL to request Montreal to extract Australian medal winners from their database.	
8	Future position #2 - KR	Paper
	Paper accepted.	
9	Future position - DR	Paper
	<p>Paper accepted. Noted for a future meeting. DR stated paper is intended for future direction and not immediate action; we need to focus more on local events and not deal with delegates who cannot influence other organisations. We should consider the worth of and remain knowledgeable about the strengths of major events in order to be able to inform our members accordingly. GR suggested we maintain a database for details events.</p> <p>WM indicated that, following some lack of expectations being met in Chicago, areas with sports experts will be recognised in the planning of future games with Sydney well regarded for many sports; anticipates that within a year about half a dozen Sydney people will be consulted for Cologne games. GL stated GLISA seeks to concentrate on local sports authorities for each event.</p>	

	Board agreed no benefit or use to be gained from soliciting opinions about Montréal and Chicago.	
10	Financial report - DR	Reports
	Reports accepted. Formal notes to be provided for AGM. Queried items: travel figures are for FGG AM visit, ledger gains and losses refers to previous error in sales revenue that cannot be changed without making the BAS reports incorrect, DR to explain meeting costs.	
11	Memberships - DR	Verbal
	New membership form approved for use, major changes are removal of club extended membership and \$10 reduced fee – form states notices will be delivered by email and declaration covers TS responsibilities in this regard. DR to update website on line application system and request Ian Davies to update the database for a new membership year. Current applications to be acknowledged and processed when system available by DR. Agreed if TS submits material for publication (including the TS website) suitable releases must be obtained.	
12	Annual General Meeting - KR	Verbal
	Date for AGM is 14 October – mailing by 2 September. Agreed notices to be sent out as soon as possible. Venue – suggested use Taxi Club at 4:00pm – GR to arrange. DR to draft notices for board approval.	
13	New membership forms, membership renewals, notice of AGM - DR	Verbal
	DR to add privacy policy to membership added to forms. Form accepted. As soon as possible send: notice, membership renewal forms, nomination for directors and proxy forms. Agenda by 23 September. Notice to include mention of change in membership types.	
14	Inclusions for Secretary's report at AGM - DR	Verbal
	Board report to be produced (in lieu of co-presidents' reports) – GR to steer. Secretary's report will include directors' attendances at board meetings and changes to communication procedures.	
15	Task Force reports at AGM - DR	Verbal
	Fair Day, SDO, Physique, Uniform, plus sports council report. Total reporting should encompass starting position for the year, activities and anticipated future. GL to steer proposed changes to the constitution. What we have done, where we are at, where we are going report to be drafted by GR and circulated for amendments and approval. About 80 words per item on each TF report – GL will co-ordinate.	
16	Nominations for renewing directorships - DR	Verbal
	GR to co-ordinate one page reports from new nominations and renewing directors in readiness for inclusion with the AGM agenda. Current directors due for renewal are Geoff Lyne and Wayne Morgan.	
17	Sydney Pride Centre - GR/DR	Verbal
	Community Group Forum hosted by the Sydney Pride Centre on Sunday 20th August at ARQ Sydney from 3pm. GL and WM will attend. Required form completed and faxed at end of meeting.	
18	Australian Gaymes - KR	Verbal
	Dealt with at 25 April meeting – no further discussion. Agreed TS will support Bingham Cup application by Convicts (GL is on working group). 2008 Melbourne Asia Pacific Outgames – will support but need to view budget etc. Already well supported by Team Adelaide, Team Perth and Gay Blacks in New Zealand, 8 to 10 sports planned. Package proposal will be put to Tourism Australia for Bingham Cup, Outgames and Adelaide Feast for a whole 'gay' experience. Agreed special attention to be given to member clubs who are not major event	

	sports. Badminton and field hockey are two sports where local clubs can add international flavour. There is a web site http://www.melbourneoutgames.org/ where support for Melbourne as hosts can be registered. More information on Continental Outgames can be found on the GLISA website www.glisa.org .	
19	Mardi Gras Festival involvement - TD	Verbal
	TD imparted some information concerning the Mardi Gras Festival for 2007 which may be considered commercial in confidence. Board agreed to involve TS and its member clubs in a sports festival and include high profile events with international and interstate appeal if possible. GR stated good reason for Sports Council to resume operations soon.	
20	Insurance policy renewal (copy supplied) - DR	Notice
	Agreed renewal approved - DR to arrange.	
21	Website - suggest and approve changes - DR	Verbal
	Internal BB suggested but new purpose required - existing board to be maintained until we can incorporate a board within our website. Suggested a photo competition - WM to outline procedures. Links to Montréal and Chicago to be included. DR prepared to produce 'albums' of selected photos for web site presentation. Numbers to be accepted in competition for each sport may need to be dependent on participant numbers.	
22	Other Business	
	<p>DR launched a discussion on the performance of our delegates to the FGG. Particularly of concern are the accusations by Kate Rowe that GR and DR behaved improperly towards the consulate General in Chicago with subsequent threats towards GR and the failure of Wayne Morgan to comply with voting direction on one matter concerned with the structural change proposed for the FGG. KR was not at the meeting but the issue is well documented in emails. In his defence WM said he believed the item on which he voted no instead of yes was not a matter concerning the restructure.</p> <p>Agreed that our relationship with our delegates was such that we had no confidence they would convey any direction given by TS board or on behalf of the TS member clubs and that TS would have little or no influence on future votes. DR commented that a changed structure of the FGG would allow WM to represent his own club, SFR, and this was likely to be his preference. Agreed response from FGG governance committee to our email about our concerns showed they had little interest in taking our issues on board. No response has been received from Kathleen Webster to the notes supplied concerning the meeting between DR, GR and her in Chicago. TD pointed out time taken dealing with FGG could be better spent promoting the causes of our members and member clubs. DR stated it is very obvious the board is concerned about its role as a director organisation but the delegates do not entertain the idea that is their behaviour that we want to change and not that of the majority of the board, not all the problem is the fault of the delegates and the FGG is also to blame for providing confidentiality agreements and fostering an environment that favours the delegates over the member organisation; that atmosphere also makes it difficult for our delegates to oppose anything.</p> <p>GL offered WM the opportunity to respond. WM said that 90% of the issues were raised by DR and the rest of the board were not concerned with the issues, DR has a lot of issues with the Federation, signing of documents with the FGG is no different to TS task forces being authorised to take their own action and because of past indiscretions no-one but the delegates can be trusted with information, especially concerning site selection activities; the Federation demands confidentiality agreements are signed or delegates cannot get information, hopefully the change in structure will result in a more open scenario. WM said we should discount the email from Ivan Bussens as perhaps not representative of the governance committee's feelings.</p> <p>TD asked why WM voted no to the self evaluation motion which was part of the structural changes to which he replied he thought it was not important or relevant to the restructure. TD and DR both commented that WM did not bother to consult the rest of the board about this vote. WM does not believe he disobeyed the board's instruction. WM based his argument on the fact that the vote was not significant but the board's opinion was that he voted in</p>	

	<p>opposition to the blanket instruction given. GL pointed out we should keep FGG rulings separate from the behaviour of our delegates.</p> <p>DR responded to WM saying he (DR) was the main proposer of problems with the FGG by saying he did not make major statements on issues without knowing he had the backing of the majority of board members and often, as secretary, he was just the messenger. GL stated he supported DR in all the points that had been made concerning the FGG but prefers not to take the lead in these discussions. TD stated dealing with the FGG becomes very negative and we should be concentrating more on local issues. JD stated TS should be first concerned with Australian and local issues. GR stated he agreed with actions by DR because DR is not opposed to the Federation, only to the way it runs and appreciates that DR does the donkey work of putting things down on paper. GR stated comments like Kate Rowe referring to TS as a 'two bit organisation' when in Chicago just confirmed exactly what she thinks of TS and she doesn't deserve to be a delegate or even a board member. DR mentioned the derogatory remarks about TS made by KR at Sports Day Out. JD said we should not be concerned with the FGG until we know about their new structure. GL stated and it was agreed that it was within the board's power to deal with its delegates but any issue of membership of the FGG should be taken to our membership at the next AGM. DR stated that he understood our membership of the FGG requires at least one delegate and without one we should advise the FGG that we cannot fully comply with our obligations as a director organisation. TD felt we could not censure our delegates by degree. WM stated that any motion against the delegates would be contrary to a resolution passed at the AGM before last but the remainder of the board felt the matter was contextual and the actual wording stated we must be faithful to our role in being a director organisation and not that we actual had to be one. Nevertheless it was recognised that the spirit of that resolution was that TS should remain a member of the FGG. DR stated he thought the resolution sought to subjugate the powers of the TS board. It was agreed that this issue is about the behaviour of our delegates and FGG membership must be dealt with separately. DR stated he thought it would be irresponsible for the board to be represented by our existing delegates.</p> <p>Motion: The role of Team Sydney delegates to the FGG is withdrawn for both our current delegates, Kate Rowe and Wayne Morgan, with immediate effect. Proposer: Terri Duarte, seconder: John Donohoe. Vote: Carried five votes to one.</p> <p>Agreed governance committee and KR to be advised. To the FGG include: delegates withdrawn; cannot resolve issue or decide our future membership position until TS considers change of structure in the FGG.</p> <p>DR stated he was supportive of the FGG; there would be no Games or GLISA without the history of the Gay Games but hopes this motion just passed will help convince the FGG that it needs to listen to what other people are saying and that we will be able to move into the new structure to offer a better contribution in the future.</p> <p>Agreed no media release required.</p> <p>Agreed the following statement to counter media involvement or enquiry.</p> <p>The Team Sydney board has withdrawn the role of delegate to the FGG because it feels the organisation cannot satisfactorily be represented under the current arrangements.</p> <p>The board agreed not to offer any other comment or discussion outside of the board.</p>	
<p>23</p>	<p>Meeting close: 10:10pm. Next meeting: 12 September (SC 5 September) subject to GR making satisfactory arrangement for the SC meeting.</p>	