

THE AUSTRALIAN DAVIS CUP TENNIS FOUNDATION

Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting of Members held at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club on Wednesday 29th November, 2017, at 8.00pm

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- PRESENT:** Messrs NA Fraser (Chairman); CH Mason (Vice President); AJ Cobb (Hon Secretary); RM Jamieson (Hon Treasurer); Directors - RT Hinton, ID Jane, Ms LJ Breadmore, and Mrs SM Newland; and an additional 45 Members and Guests signed the attendance register.
- APOLOGIES:** The Hon Secretary indicated the following apologies from Board members:
- Mr TJ Dohnt (Vice President) in New Zealand; Mr JB Fitzgerald in Europe, Mr JW Sweeney is a Tennis NSW delegate and attending their AGM in Sydney, whilst Mr GK Cumbrae-Stewart, a retired Director is unwell. Each have formally apologised for their inability to attend the Meeting.
- A further 14 members advised the Administration of their inability to attend the meeting and the Hon Secretary informed the meeting of apologies from another four members have been recorded on the lists provided at the entrance to the meeting room. No further apology was tendered from the floor.
- NOTICE OF MEETING:** At the request of the Chairman, the Hon Secretary read the Notice convening the 45th Annual General Meeting of Members of The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation.
- QUORUM & REGISTERS:** On the advice of the Hon Secretary, the Chairman declared a Quorum to be present and indicated to members that the Register of Members and the Register of Directors were now tabled and would remain open for inspection for a short period immediately following the closure of the Meeting.
- OPENING & WELCOME:** The Chairman declared the Meeting to be open and extended a warm welcome to all present and particularly to those who had journeyed from country regions or from interstate and to others who, for the first time, were attending an Annual General Meeting of the Foundation.
- OBITUARIES:** The Chairman invited members to observe a brief period of silence in remembrance of all members who had passed away during the year under review. In particular the Chairman recorded the passing of Max Atkins on 1 July 2017 and his wife Alix on 5 June 2017. Max was a Board member from 1990 to 2000 and together they assisted on the Foundation Booth at the Australian Open and attended most Davis Cup ties and Foundation activities.
- PROXIES:** The Hon Secretary informed the Meeting that no member had expressed an intention to appoint a proxy and none had been received.
- MINUTES:** The minutes of the previous meeting have been distributed to all Members with the Notice and Agenda for this Meeting. The Hon Secretary AJ Cobb seconded by Mr CH Mason proposed that the Minutes of the 44th Annual General Meeting of Members be and be hereby **RECEIVED, TAKEN AS READ,** and this was **RESOLVED** in the affirmative.
- RECEIPT OF ANNUAL REPORT:** **RESOLVED** that the Annual Report of the Foundation including the Formal Notice of Meeting the Financial Statements and the Auditors Report for the year ended 30th June, 2017, is **RECEIVED** on the motion of the Hon Secretary AJ Cobb seconded by Mr RT Hinton. **CARRIED**
- PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** **The President Neale Fraser presented his report -**
Mr Fraser stated "It is with great pleasure that I welcome members to the forty-sixth Annual General meeting of The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation and in doing so present to you for consideration and adoption the Annual Report of the Foundation incorporating the audited financial statements as at 30 June 2017.

It has been a busy year with increased activity associated with the Australian Davis Cup team progressing back into the World Group for 2017.

Following on from our defeat by USA in the World Group 2016 first round match, we returned to the World Group Play-Off round in September 2016 with the objective to secure a place in the World Group for 2017. We played Slovakia at the Ken Rosewall Arena at Sydney Olympic Park Homebush Sydney and won 3:0 and regained a place in the World Group. A member's dinner was held at the Novotel Hotel at Olympic Park.

In February 2017 we played the Davis Cup World Group 1st Round against Czech Republic at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club Melbourne and were victorious 4:1. This tie saw the impressive debut of Jordan Thompson who now has the opportunity to cement his position in the team.

In April 2017 play in the Davis Cup World Group Quarter Final moved to Pat Rafter Arena, Brisbane against the USA and resulted in a 3:2 victory presenting the prospect of a Semi Final match against Belgium in September. In Brisbane we held a Dinner at the Pullman Hotel for members and guests.

For each of these ties a number of members took advantage of travel, accommodation, ticketing and merchandising arranged through the Foundation in conjunction with Bentleigh Travel Centre. We are pleased to have the support of a dedicated group of members who take comfort in the security of our group travel arrangements and contribute to the on-court atmosphere and colour.

On Friday 27th January 2017 the Foundation conducted the annual Members' AO Luncheon in the Members Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Club in East Melbourne where we continued the theme of celebrating significant Davis Cup victories. Around 330 members and guests celebrated the anniversary of both the 1964 and 1965 victories when we defeated USA and Spain respectively. Fred Stolle as a team member and special guest was replaced as the Master of Ceremonies by Leon Wiegard, assisted by Rob Hinton. Fred joined the other team members Roy Emerson, John Newcombe and Tony Roche to entertain the guests with their stories of the ties. A further highlight was interviews conducted with some of the more recent past Davis Cup players including Lleyton Hewitt, Darren Cahill, Wally Masur, John Fitzgerald and Pat Cash. Of special interest was the circulation to all guests of a commemorative booklet of newspaper reports and reflection on the two Davis Cup matches, compiled and printed by the Herald Sun staff.

We were grateful for the continued support of Tennis Australia who again arranged the attendance at the Luncheon of a number of international tennis dignitaries. Guests included the President of the International Tennis Federation David Haggerty and the Chairman, All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Philip Brook and wife Jill, all time great Margaret Court and administrator Brian Tobin. Other guests at the luncheon were a significant number of former Davis Cup players including Rod Laver, Frank Sedgman, Rex Hartwig, Ashley Cooper, Pat Cash, Jason Stoltenberg, Mark Woodforde, Pat Rafter, Darren Cahill, Wally Masur, Richard Fromberg, John Fitzgerald and the Davis Cup Captain Lleyton Hewitt. I acknowledge the generosity of Novak Djokovic who kindly donated some of his authentic tennis clothing for the Silent Auction. The luncheon was considered a huge success and again contributed over \$15,000 to our fund raising efforts for the year. Another initiative which commenced in the period under review was the Fund Raising Raffle arranged by Anna White with the support of Ian Jane of Bentleigh Travel Centre who donated the 1st prize travel and accommodation package. It is hoped that this raffle will develop into an annual fund raising event culminating in the draw at a Wimbledon Dinner each July for members and guests.

The Board continued to work within the scope of the 'Memorandum of Understanding' with Tennis Australia which commenced on 1 January 2016 and concludes on 31 December 2019. This document reflects the spirit of conduct and co-operation which exists between the Foundation and Tennis Australia. Access to priority tennis ticketing for the Australian Open, the Davis Cup and the Australian Open Series events in Brisbane and Sydney, together with the Hopman Cup in Perth continues to be important benefits to our members.

We continue to have a dedicated administration supporting our objectives and the Board is grateful of their management of the affairs of the Foundation with Judy Pullyblank, supported by Robert Parker, contributing to the efficient service given to members. An experienced tennis administrator Robert is supported in his consultancy role by the Honorary Treasurer Robert Jamieson and together our team continues to bring expertise to the Foundation in financial, marketing, corporate compliance, events and IT, and jointly has improved communications to our members through our web site, eNews and regular Newsletter, resulting in considerable cost benefits.

The Foundation recorded an increase in profit to **\$44,530** for the financial year, after a distribution of \$60,000 to Tennis Australia. Throughout the year we continued to support our Principal Activity and Objectives as set down in this Annual Report. The Board also considered details for a new mission statement reflecting our stated objectives - **“To celebrate the past, support the present and promote the future of Australian Davis Cup tennis”**.

Finally, I acknowledge the continuing support of all the Directors and I thank them for their on-going contribution to the Board of Directors and look forward to their support of the various endeavours we undertake, including the current discussions on the implementation of a future business plan complimentary to the objectives of the Foundation as we move forward into what can perhaps be seen as an on-going period of progressive consolidation and the implementation of some further initiatives necessary to improve the tennis spectator experience of all our members and provide additional member benefits.”

In concluding his report the Chairman made special mention to:

- The retiring President of Tennis Australia Steve Healy of his support over his term in Office as President,
- Tennis Australia CEO Craig Tiley for his on-going support in relation to the implementation of our Memorandum of Understanding with Tennis Australia,
- Rod May, for his continuing management of the Australian Open event ticketing for the Foundation,
- Ian Jane, for his efforts to facilitate local and international travel tours for those members who wish to follow the fortunes of our Davis Cup team, including the recent tie in Belgium
- Alan Cobb for his efficient discharge of the corporate compliance as our Company Secretary, and
- Further acknowledged the role of the Directors, and thank them for the considerable amount of time and intellectual energy they provide for the ultimate benefit of the Foundation and its members and especially our Treasurer Robert Jamieson and Robert Hinton for the work involved in the legal aspects of the Board, our functions and the Constitutional matters.

The Chairman then invited the Hon Secretary to formally propose the adoption.

**ADOPTION OF
DIRECTORS' REPORT
AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS:**

Before moving to the adoption of the Director's Report and Financial Statements Mr Cobb, on behalf of all members, thanked the President for his continuing leadership and untiring effort and In particular was his dedicated commitment to the role including the on-going negotiations with Tennis Australia to maintain the rights and privileges of members, the support given to Davis Cup players over the years and the maintenance of the Foundation status in the tennis community. Mr Cobb's remarks were endorsed with acclamation.

The Hon Secretary then formally proposed the adoption of the Annual Report incorporating the Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2017 and called upon the Hon Treasurer to support the motion.

Drawing attention to the Financial Report Mr Jamieson reflected upon the financial position of the Foundation as set out in the Financial Statements in the Annual Report, with a net loss of \$21,320 following payment of \$60,000 to Tennis Australia. He indicated that despite our efforts membership dwindled, down to 1676 members from 1716 in 2015 and subscription income was again down slightly on the previous year. Mr Jamieson highlighted details of investments of \$440,000 in Term Deposits and Floating Notes with interest up slightly, the success of the AO Luncheon which delivered a \$16,000 surplus, the on-going Affiliation with Tennis Victoria which provided Insurance cover, the value of the

web site and the associated cost benefits and savings. The current deficit of \$21,000 relates to a one off liability for Long Service and Annual Leave entitlements for an Administration staff member, Judy Pullyblank.

Concluding his remarks, the Hon Treasurer expressed his gratitude to the Company's Auditor, Mr Andrew Lane for his professional advice and guidance in the preparation of the Company's financial reports. He also expressed his appreciation to Mrs Judy Pullyblank, whose many tasks in the Secretariat include the function of Book-keeper; a task that she continues to perform with skilful attention to detail.

Mr Jamieson then formally supported the motion of the Hon Secretary.

RESOLVED on the motion of the Hon Secretary AJ Cobb seconded by the Hon Treasurer RM Jamieson that the 45th Annual Report of the Foundation including the Directors' Statutory Report; the Statement of Financial Position; the Statement of Financial Performance; the Statement of Cash Flows and the Auditor's Report thereon, each of which related to the year ended 30th June 2017, be and be hereby **ADOPTED**.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

The Chairman advised that with effect from the close of the meeting four (4) Directors - Messrs Alan Cobb, Cedric Mason, Trevor Dohnt and John Fitzgerald retired by rotation in accordance with the Constitution. Each of these persons is eligible re-election and Messrs Cobb, Dohnt, and Mason, along with Mrs. Mary Klestadt have nominated as a Director for the coming year.

The Hon Secretary announced that the number of nominations did not exceed vacancies and no ballot was required, consequently Messrs Alan Cobb, Trevor Dohnt, Cedric Mason and Mrs. Mary Klestadt were duly elected as Directors for the ensuing year.

With effect from the close of the meeting the Directors of the Foundation are Messrs Neale Fraser, Trevor Dohnt, Alan Cobb, Robert Jamieson, Ian Jane, Robert Hinton, Cedric Mason, Jonathan Sweeney, Mrs. Sue Newland, Mrs. Mary Klestadt and Ms. Lauren Breadmore. In accordance with the Constitution the Directors will convene a meeting to elect the Office Bearers for the coming year.

COMPANY AUDITOR:

It was noted that Mr R Andrew Lane, a partner of the firm Accru Melbourne (Audit) Pty Ltd has indicated his willingness to continue in his role as the Company Auditor and that his remuneration shall be set by the Board.

It was moved RM Jamieson seconded AJ Cobb that Mr Andrew Lane be re-appointed as the continuing Auditor for the coming year. **CARRIED**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The Chairman reported the contractual arrangements – a Memorandum of Understanding was exchanged with Tennis Australia in June 2016 for the period to 31 December 2019. The Foundation maintains a good relationship with Tennis Australia.

The Chairman expressed the appreciation of members to our special guest **Jordan Thompson**, a recently selected Davis Cup player, who will address the members at the conclusion of the formal meeting.

The Chairman advised that no advice had been received of any other business.

CLOSE:

The Chairman thanked all the members present for their attendance and formally declared the 46th Annual General meeting of members of The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation to be closed at 8.55pm.

CONFIRMED AND SIGNED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

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Chairman
27/11/2018