



Victorian Clay Target Association.

Meeting held at Sebastopol Bowling Club
Sunday, 24th September 2023

MINUTES

1. Chairperson to open meeting and welcome all in attendance. Meeting opened at 10.03am.
2. Present: Lynne Curtis, Chris Langridge, Gary Hayden, Garry Cassells, Travis Williams, Scott Mackenzie, Damien Hutchins, Len Cook, Mark Coleman, Zac Biggin, Rhys Hirth.
Minute taker: Jeff Bell

Apologies: Allan Kidd, Mark Zielezna, Andrew Smith

MOTION: That the apologies be received.

Moved: Scott Mackenzie Seconded: Chris Langridge CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – Monday 3rd July, 2023 and Friday 4th and Saturday 5th August, 2023 (Extraordinary meeting)

MOTION: that the Minutes of the previous meetings, as listed above and circulated to all Executive Officers, be accepted and confirmed as accurate.

Moved: Gary Hayden Seconded: Garry Cassells CARRIED

4. Business arising from the Minutes.

- 4.1 (4.4) Uniform Policy – held over from last meeting.

After a recommendation from the secretary, it was decided to continue with the current recommendations on 'uniform turnover' times as they currently stand.

Further discussion on uniforms centred on some teams not following VCTA policy and wearing uniforms at presentation and ceremony events. It was decided that the secretary is to include further advice to team members of the importance of wearing uniform at appropriate times and that a 'team captain' is to be named to be responsible for the members of the team and uniform compliance. The 'team captain' is to be the highest scoring team member and will have "Team Captain" added to their uniform.

5. Reports

- i) Treasurer's report

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report, as distributed and presented, be accepted and approved.

Moved: Chris Langridge Seconded: Zac Biggin CARRIED

- ii) ACTA Report

At this point of time there has been no information regarding the activities of the new Board. Lynne Curtis and Jeff Bell are to meet with the Board at a President/Secretary meeting on Thursday 28th September. Further information will be provided after this meeting has taken place.

iii) Firearm Users Group Report

The last meeting of the FUG was held on August 22. There was little to report from that meeting that was applicable to the VCTA.

Of note, from the FUG Chair, was the concept of ‘how appropriate is the FUG to the current needs of the group members’. It was suggested that a more appropriate approach might be the establishment of four ‘interest’ groups rather than such a diverse group as it currently stands.

iv) Committee of Management (State Grounds) Report

The following was reported back to the meeting;

- The farming land of Dobson’s property has been sold.
- A new lease is being ‘drawn up’.
- The new owner has been very co-operative in discussions with representatives from ECTC.
- The irrigation pump is to be changed to an electric pump. (seek Andrew S’s advice)
- There is an EPA notice concerning wads escaping from the property and that action must be taken to resolve this.
- The ‘causeway’ across the waterway that will incorporate a wad collection cage, is to be implemented as soon as possible.
- Members of the Executive to be sent a copy of the current Environmental Management Plan.
- The lease is to be checked for current cropping/stock arrangements.

v) Zone Reports

South West: the Zone Carnival is to be held in October in three weeks.

North East: the Zone is waiting for the State Carnival in November.

North West: the Zone Carnival was held in Mildura last weekend. Very successful with 80 competitors in attendance. Next Zone meeting is the end of October. Individual Zone shooting jackets for any team member who goes to the State’s.

South East: School Student’s event attendance was up 51% - recovering from Covid years. Aiming for 140 in 2024. Gary Bennett will co-ordinate all Student events in the Zone with the assistance of a couple of sub-committees.

Zone Carnival is on October 14. Pre-events have been well attended.

6. Correspondence – as notified and tabled

Items listed for discussion:

No.	Date	Sender	Summary
3 & 7	3 & 7/7/23	Sports Academies	Request for support and increased support in 2024
<p><i>After lengthy discussion regarding support for the different State Academies it was decided to approve a ‘one of’ increase to the South West Zone.</i></p> <p><i>MOTION: That a ‘one of’ increase in payment of \$500 be made to the South West Academy to assist with the running of their program.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Gary Hayden Seconded: Travis Williams CARRIED</i></p>			
10	11/7/23	Shaun J Connell	Response and process for VCTA rejoining VFCC
<p><i>The Secretary explained the correspondence that had been made with Shaun Connell in relation to the VCTA rejoining the Victorian Firearms Consultative Committee. After some discussion it was agreed that Chris Langridge will be the VCTA’s representative.</i></p> <p><i>Continued overpage.....</i></p>			

*MOTION: That Chris Langridge be appointed the VCTA's representative to the VFCC.
Moved: Rhys Hirth Seconded: Garry Cassells CARRIED*

19	4/8/23	Phil Jennings	Quote for golf cart hire for Carnival
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Some discussion took place regarding options for a golf cart and responses to previous inquiries about accessing a cart for the Carnival. It was the general opinion that at least one, a possibly two, carts are required to make the event flow smoothly. It was generally agreed that paying for the hire of machines was not a preferred option. Frankston-Australia CTC offered to provide their machine (will be transported by Damian Hutchins) with the knowledge that Frankston will then have access to a "free" nomination that they can use at their discretion to a Frankston member. This was agreed to.

Other items discussed included;

- Travis and Scott to make inquiries within their contacts.*
- Melbourne Gun Club could be approached in a similar vein to Frankston.*
- Another Facebook offer could be made.*

24	21/8/23	Craig Henwood	Change of dates for 2024 UT
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The Executive was informed of the need to change the UT dates from February to April 6-7. This was agreed to by the Executive.

25	29/8/23	South West Zone	Issue with a Zone student having a birthday between finals
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In School Student Competitions the age restrictions are "as of day of competition". A student who qualified as a Junior Boy at their Zone Final had a birthday before the State Final and was, therefore, ineligible.

MOTION: That if you win a qualifying event as a Junior you can compete in the Final as a Junior.

Moved: Damien Hutchins Seconded: Scott Mackenzie DEFEATED

There were further discussion of whether a substitute or emergency could be used/named for those instances where a student was unable to attend.

This was 'held over' until the next meeting.

27	29/8/23	Kristen O'Halloran (EPA)	EPA Improvement Notice for State Grounds
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This matter was discussed in the Committee of Management report (Item 5 iv). The responsibility for this matter lies with the Committee of Management.

30	30/8/23	Lisa Hasker	Invitation to attend CEO Forum – Latrobe October 10 & 11
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After some discussion it was decided that VCTA would be an apology for this event.

31	30/8/23	Business Victoria	Further opportunity for flood damage claim
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The secretary informed the meeting that there was a further opportunity to claim for damages caused by the 2022 flood event. A further claim will be submitted for spare parts, two traps, a feeder box, a motor and a control box. Approx. value \$11-12,000.

There was some further discussion about the replacement of pumps in the Trench layouts. This is to be discussed with Echuca at the Carnival meeting.

32	5/9/23	Martin Smith (MCMS)	Change to charges for using international cards in MCMS
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Given the interest of Executive members into the financial arrangements with MCMS – this was brought to the Executive's notice.

A question was posed for the upcoming President/Secretary meeting with ACTA.

"What fees are being paid to MCMS as a total cost per year by ACTA and its members?"

Additional items			
35	8/9/23	Mal Dyson (ACTA)	Notification of next President/Secretary meeting
<i>This item was for the Executives information if they had any issues that they wished raised at the meeting.</i>			
36	12/9/23	Lee Berger (OTC)	Further information regarding raffle ammunition
<i>Further information, provided by Lee, in relation to the upcoming raffle and the prizes/sponsorship that have been provided.</i>			
38	22/9/23	Rebecca Sandford (Coulter Legal)	Response to inquiries regarding Deed of Co-ownership
<i>There has been no further communication from Echuca CTC in relation to the Deed of Co-ownership since the last meeting.</i>			

Outward

No.	Date	Sender	Summary
<i>No actions required.</i>			

7. General Business

a. Organisation for State Carnival

- Prizes & prize money

Prior to the meeting, all attendees had been provided with the list of sponsors and prizes offered as well as a profit & loss document from the 2022 carnival and a spreadsheet of cash prizes awarded in 2022.

Lengthy discussion on the allocation of sponsors, prizes, cash prizes and nominations.

Lengthy discussion occurred around prizes for each of the competitions and what sponsor's contributions are to be.

It was decided that the Champion of Champions, Double Rise, Single Barrel, Double Barrel and Points Score events will have prize money of \$4100;

Overall	\$1000		
AA	\$500	\$400	\$300
A	\$400	\$300	\$150
B	\$300	\$200	\$100
C	\$200	\$150	\$100

High Gun

Overall	AA	A	B	C
\$1500	\$600	\$500	\$400	\$300

Ammunition will be used for Ladies, Veterans, Juniors and Sub-juniors. This will be either sponsor supplied or from the 24 slabs that VCTA have at their disposal.

- Nomination costs

It was agreed that the nomination fee for events will be the equivalent of \$1.10 per target

	Adult	Junior	Purse
Champion of Champions	\$80	\$65	\$5
Double Rise	\$55	\$40	\$5
Handicap	\$55	\$40	\$5
Single Barrel	\$55	\$40	\$5
Double Barrel	\$55	\$40	\$5
Points Score	\$55	\$40	\$5

- State badges

The secretary expressed his concerns (as raised before) regarding the increasing costs of providing the gold and silver Victoria badges to the Overall winners of several of the VCTA's state championship events.

The secretary also reported to the meeting that he was working with the jeweller to find ways of reducing the costs involved by introducing cheaper 'pins' and engraving methods.

- Trappers

The question of how many trappers and payments to trappers was raised. In 2022, \$4000 was paid out to trappers at the rate of 10 trappers per day at the cost of \$100 per person. This was agreed to for the 2023 Carnival. The secretary is to approach previous trappers and advertise on Facebook if any further numbers are required. An age limit of 16 years of age was recommended and an ability to be able to work independently. Water and safety equipment to be supplied. Trappers must provide their own food.

- Attendees

Executive members were asked who was going to be in attendance and when they would be arriving at the event. It was agreed that all Executive officers would be provided with free nominations on the condition that they contribute to the work load required for the organization and completion of each day's activities including rubbish collection, clay target distribution, toilet requirements, set up of presentations and general organisational jobs.

- Payments to volunteers

Several people have been asked, or volunteered, to assist with the organizational requirements for the Carnival. In particular, from an administration perspective. Volunteers will either be paid \$100 per day or free nominations. These people include Les Kadziela, Rob Hunter, Anne Bell, Mal and Helen Dyson.

- Jobs to be done

A significant number of Executive members will attend Echuca on Tuesday the 7th. Gary Hayden reported that almost all repair and replacement items had been completed and that there should be very few chores not completed.

Gary Hayden and Garry Cassells will look after the organisation of the event with other Executive officers being used as required.

- Camping

Camping (without access to power) will be \$10 per site per night. Travis Williams has offered to collect this fee from campers by visiting campsites over the time of the event.

- Catering

There was discussion regarding arrangements for the catering of the State Carnival with Simone Tannous well organised for the event. Simone's catering of the Commonwealth Titles, Ball Trap and School Student's event had been very successful, and Simone had indicated that she was looking forward to the November event.

The president informed the meeting that he had had conversations with Simone regarding organising an ice cream machine and coffee machine to cater with the large number of attendees expected. The President was of the understanding that this was organised and 'in hand'.

- b. Uniform issues (if not covered in Matters arising)

- Covered in Matters Arising (Item 4.1)

- c. Repairs and spare parts at State Grounds.

- Covered in Item 7a Carnival – Jobs to be done.

- d. Surplus equipment in container

It was noted that there are a significant number of items in the VCTA container at Echuca that are surplus to VCTA's needs and are taking up space. This includes a number of televisions and other equipment, no longer needed.

It was the decision of the meeting that these surplus items be listed and made available for clubs to access and use as a donation from VCTA. To be looked at during the Carnival.

e. Raffle

The secretary reported to the meeting that he had been in recent discussions with Mark Zielezna regarding the organization of the raffle. As had been discussed in recent emails, the price of the tickets has been set at \$25 and that 600 tickets will be offered for sale. This will give a total income of \$15,000 from which the prizes and the cost of the raffle will need to be deducted.

Mark has offered to have a report available on organisational progress of the raffle early next week.

f. Review of MCMS

There was lengthy discussion of MCMS, the letter that was constructed from VCTA and responses from other State associations.

It was reported to the meeting that the letter had been viewed negatively by ACTA. There was a consensus that reviews and changes to MCMS were being made without any consultation with either members, rule supervisors or State bodies.

It was agreed that VCTA need to enlist as much support as possible from other States, especially NSW.

On the suggestion of President Lynne Curtis, it was agreed that Colin Kneebone, from the ACTA Board, be invited to attend the VCTA Special Meeting following the AGM, to answer questions that Executive Officers have about MCMS and its algorithm.

g. Appointment of State Coach

Questions were asked regarding the naming of Steve Trembath as the State Coach on the ACTA website and why 'due process' has not been implemented to ensure that the decision followed appropriate protocols and decision-making processes. President Lynne Curtis explained, in detail, the communication and procedure that was initiated by ACTA regarding the 'training' of an appropriate "State Director" and the need to have a VCTA representative at an ACTA/Shooting Australia training weekend to ensure a consistent approach to "coaching" across Australia. Further explanations were given on ACTA's unwillingness to work with Gary Hayden. There was also a misunderstanding of communications from ACTA and the posting of a VCTA State Coach on the ACTA website.

The only communication from ACTA on this matter has been by phone. There has been no correspondence explaining any developments or requirements for the position.

The President assured the Executive that it was always the intent to ensure that any decisions made regarding "coaching" are/were ratified by the Executive.

Gary Hayden informed the meeting that the appointment of a coaching co-ordinator has always been an appointment of someone on the Executive.

MOTION: That the VCTA Executive appoint the most appropriate person available to the position of State Coaching Co-ordinator. Appointments are to be made at the Annual General Meeting. Appointments can be made from outside the Executive.

Moved: Damien Hutchins

Seconded: Travis Williams

CARRIED

It was the consensus of the meeting that "Expressions of Interest" are sought for the position.

Dave Coleman is to be contacted to find out what the requirements of the position are and when further training days are available for the Level 2 course.

Steve Trembath's name is to be removed from the ACTA website as the VCTA Coaching Contact as soon as possible.

8. Next meeting – AGM & Special Meeting at State Carnival, Thursday 9th November
9. Meeting closed 3.28pm.