

**MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016 Launceston**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015**



**1. OPENING**

The Annual General Meeting of the National Band Council of Australia Inc. was opened at 9.14pm.

**1.1. Present:**

**Executive:** - Allen Woodham OAM (Executive Officer);  
Bill Broughton (President); Adrian Loone (Vice President & Tasmanian Councillor).

- **Councillors:** Megan Stapleton (Vic); Tony Schraven (WA); Annette Ries (Qld) & Patricia Keep (SA)

**1.2. Observers:** Mr Bill Belcher OAM - NBCA Public Officer (NSW);  
(Qld)

**1.3 Apologies:** Amanda Crnkovic and Garry Clark (from NSW) who were unable to arrive till the next morning due to travel issues.

**2. AGM DECLARATION**

The declaration was made by the Vice President for the purposes of incorporation.

**3. PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS**

The credentials of all members were confirmed.

The President called for a reflection segment to honour those members of the band community who had passed away during the past twelve months. The following individuals were mentioned by name:

Doug Trotman; Leonard Barton (Vic);  
James Mackison; Frank Zanol & Des Lattin (SA);  
Leonie Marshall; Justine Wiltshire, Rodney Yates, Mervyn List & David Liggins (Qld);  
Richard Clark; Chris Lusted; Richard Beaton & Fred McCarron (Tas).

**Vale:** Remembering departed comrades.

*A minutes silence for reflection of these and other unknown departed colleagues followed.*

**4. CONFIRMATION OF CONFERENCE HOURS**

This was decided as the AGM this (Friday) evening.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> 8.30am to suitable completion

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 9am to completion of conference or by 3pm.

## 5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Adelaide June 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2015

Moved **Megan Stapleton** Seconded **Tony Schraven** that the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record. **CARRIED**

## 6. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

Some comment was made by the Executive Officer to provide clarification. Letters of interest for reference purposes were included for Councillors information and follow up if considered necessary. An extensive list of email exchanges both inward and outward was tabled. The Executive officer noted that the vast majority of contact to the NBCA is now by email.

Moved **Pat Keep** Seconded **Tony Schraven** that the correspondence be received. **CARRIED**

## 8. REPORTS

### 8.1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**President Bill Broughton** provided a written report which he read to the conference.

### 8.2 CONSULTATIVE MUSIC COMMITTEE REPORT

There being no specific functioning of this group over the past year there was no report to be considered.

**Motion:** The President's Report be accepted  
Moved **Annette Ries** Seconded **Adrian Loone** **CARRIED**

### 8.3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Executive officer tabled his written report to the conference which included the financial report as below.

#### 8.3.1 Financial Report

The Executive officer explained the content of the financial report which contained a reconciliation report, print out of bank transaction statements and income and outgoing streams for the year 2015-16.

The Executive Officer explained that as it was expected a new appointment would be made to the position at the conference he would commission an audit to finalize the account before it was transferred to the new appointee.

**Motion:** That the above reports be accepted  
Moved **Tony Schraven** Seconded **Megan Stapleton** **CARRIED**

## 9. HONORARIUMS

### Existing levels

Executive Officer	\$1000.00
President	\$ 500.00
Vice President	\$ 400.00

**Motion:** That the Honorariums be paid at the above rate.  
Moved **Tony Schraven** Seconded **Megan Stapleton** **CARRIED**

## 10. NBCA Fees

### 10.1 State Affiliation Fees

A discussion was entered into on the subject of affiliation fees with a motion proposed that the affiliation fees remain at the current level. That is; **\$700 for all states except WA** which will remain at **\$400**.

Moved **Tony Schraven** Seconded **Adrian Loone** **CARRIED**

## 11. Contest Fees

### 11.1 Contest Fee

It was noted that the current fee paid by the State organizing body for conducting the national contest is set at \$2,500

**Motion:** That the current fee remain in place for 2016.

Moved **Pat Keep** Seconded **Adrian Loone** **CARRIED**

### 11.2 Band Entry Fees

This matter was deferred till later in the conference due to there being Motions on Notice that could affect the outcome.

## 12. ELECTION OF NBCA OFFICER

### 12.1 NBCA Executive Officer

This matter was postponed due to the NSW Councillor being delayed for the meeting. It was decided to adjourn the AGM till the next day.

**The Annual General Meeting was then ADJOURNED at 9.50pm**

**The AGM was reconvened @ 3pm (Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>)**

## 12. ELECTION OF NBCA EXECUTIVE OFFICER

A statement was made by the Executive Officer explaining that a valid nomination had been received from Tony Schraven and a second nomination was received late, after nominations had closed, from Mr Bill Belcher.

Mr Belcher addressed the meeting on the circumstances prevailing with the late nomination. He requested the nomination please be accepted.

Comments followed suggesting there needs to be an awareness that conditions for nominations need to be adhered to. After further discussion a Motion was moved **Annette Ries** seconded **Adrian Loone** that the nomination be accepted.

Further discussion ensued on the duties of the Public Officer and the requirements for such a position to comply with NSW regulations

The motion was then put to the meeting and was **CARRIED**

### **A BALLOT WAS THE CALLED FOR THE POSTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**Mr Garry Clark** was appointed as returning officer and the ballot was conducted. **Mr Tony Schraven being the successful candidate he was subsequently declared elected to the position.**

A motion was put that **Allen Woodham** continue to act in the position until June 30<sup>th</sup> to complete the financials and work with **Tony Schraven** for a proper transition of duties.

Moved **Megan Stapleton** seconded **Pat Keep** **CARRIED**

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A presentation was made to retiring Executive Officer Allen Woodham by Councillor Annette Ries on behalf of the state Councillors in appreciation of his ten years' service to the NBCA and the band community.

Allen responded with an expression of thanks and comments of appreciation for those who had assisted in many ways over the years. Allen stated he admired greatly the dedication and commitment that is always in evidence from those who are and have been members of the Council during his service.

**Business being then finalized the AGM was closed @ 3.35pm**

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## **NBCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE LAUNCESTON**

(Conference was held at the proposed 2017 contest venue in Launceston)

**3**  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Conference convened @ 8.30am**

**Present:**

- **Executive:** - Bill Broughton (President) Allen Woodham OAM (Executive Officer).  
Adrian Loone (Vice President).
- **Councillors:** Megan Stapleton (Vic); Tony Schraven (WA); Annette Ries (Qld) & Patricia Keep (SA).  
Councillor Amanda Crnkovic and Garry Clark (from NSW) arrived and joined the venue tour along the way  
**Observers/accompanying:** Peter Quigley; Julie Lynch & Wayne Richards.
- **Apologies:** nil

### **13. VISIT TO 2017 VENUES**

The councillors and guests were taken on a tour of the venues;

These included;

- (a) Hotel Grand Chancellor
- (b) Albert Hall
- (c) Princess Theatre
- (d) Launceston College
- (e) Parade of Bands Route

The Tasmanian guides took the party on a tour of the proposed 2017 venues.

Explanations and discussions took place regarding the facilities as the tour continued.

Auditoriums, performance areas, general facilities and various aspects of the grounds were all the subject of discussion along the way.

All of the proposed venues illustrated excellent possibilities for the staging of the 2017 event.

The grandeur of Albert Hall is simply captivating being constructed in 1891. It is an amazing auditorium and one bands would find superlative to perform in.

The Princess Theatre would be known by many bands having been used for a national championships in times past.

The Launceston College particularly appealed as a venue for the solo events with the many areas and equipment facilities available.

Councillors were generally very impressed with the facilities and possibilities the complexes offered.

A walk through was made of the proposed areas for the Parade of Bands in the main street areas and an outline of the cooperation and planning discussion with the local government authorities was explained.

With the planning and arrangements already proposed it became apparent that the 2017 National Championships will be an exciting prospect indeed.

### **Luncheon adjournment**

## Conference resumed @ 1.25pm

### 14. INTRODUCTION

President Bill Broughton welcomed the Councillors, Executive and everyone present to the conference. Bill encouraged all present to remember that every effort undertaken is for the benefit of the band community as a whole and we are engaged in a medium that transcends across all age groups and community diversity.

President Bill expressed a warm welcome to Councillor Amanda Crnkovic and Garry Clark from NSW which was suitably responded to by those present.

### 15. REPORT FROM THE 2017 LAUNCESTON ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Peter Quigley introduced his presentation to the conference issuing a written report to everyone present.

Peter outlined the background of the people involved amongst the organising personnel and the preparations already implemented and being undertaken. The written report gave an extensive and detailed outline of all aspects of the project and illustrated a high degree of preparation and thoroughness that has already been embraced.

Discussion topics entered into:

- The Trade Stand areas given the multiple venues involved.  
It was suggested this could be a little problematical with multiple venues.
- Location for band photos – will be considered further with options.
- Location of the contest office.
- Gala concert will be held featuring:  
Youth of Tasmania and invited artists

A display of the 2017 web site with a detailed explanation was given by Adrian Loone. This illustrated a most informative and comprehensive site which aims to provide as much information as possible for those entering or attending the 2017 Yamaha Australian National Band Championships.

The web site will be constantly improved and updated as additional information becomes available.

All present agreed the work on the site is to be commended and Adrian was congratulated on the effort and commitment that has been undertaken on its production.

#### Commissioned works:

**Peter Quigley** gave a quite inspirational address outlining suggestions for chosen works for the 2017 event including a specially commissioned work which is proposed.

Discussion followed on criteria and protocols for choosing music for championships and enduring availability and suitability etc.

**Wayne Richards** gave a presentation on the proposals for the Parade of Bands. Road closure details are being arranged with Launceston City – general provision for bus diversions etc. Inspection areas and the March Route are being confirmed.

Discussion continued on subjects:

- Potential scheduling of events and sections – dependent on band entry numbers
- Stage areas and provision
- Moving groups through venues etc

## CONFERENCE WAS ADJOURNED @ 2.35PM

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**AGM WAS RESUMED @ 3PM FOR ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
(SEE AGM MINUTES)**

**CONFERENCE RESUMED @ 3.55PM**

**16. Statement from the Band Association of NSW**

A request was made by the NSW Councillor for a statement to be read and tabled at the conference. This was read to the conference by the current Executive Officer Allen Woodham. The statement reads;

*16<sup>th</sup> June 2016*

*To the National Band Council of Australia,*

*At our recent General Meeting the NSW Band Association Inc. resolved to maintain our membership with the National Band Council of Australia and appointed Amanda Crnkovic to be our representative within the Council. The banding community of NSW intends that this will be a positive step toward nurturing a constructive and mutually respectful relationship with the Council.*

*It was determined and agreed that the events of the past year have not been in the best interests of the NBCA nor of the Band Association of NSW. We cannot stress how important it is to recognise that the personal nature of many of these issues has caused serious effects on those involved.*

*The specific concerns that have been raised over the past year by the NSW Councillor and NSW Management Committee remain in effect. The membership of NSW believes it is our duty as a member of the Council to ensure that these concerns are addressed.*

*In particular, our concerns relate to the correct application and interpretation of the NBCA Constitution, as well as the need for a review of governance arrangements; both structurally and culturally, to ensure that such events cannot occur again. This extends to ensuring that all Councillors and Executives are aware of the obligations that bind us each individually and as an Incorporated Association.*

*BANSW maintains the very best intentions of moving forward with a Council receptive to continuous improvement for the betterment of the wider banding community of Australia. In recognition of this, we propose that the Council as a whole work together to maintain a cooperative and supportive environment for all its members. That it learns from, and celebrates, the organisational and personal differences that make each of our contributions to the Council valuable.*

*Regards,*

*The Band Association of NSW Inc.*

Comments following the reading of the statement included;

- The Council and its members always seek to work for the advancement of the movement as a whole.
- The threatened legal action by the then NSW Councillor created a great deal of angst, hurt and distress to Councillors.

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- Discussion was held on the responsibility of State Councillors to abstain from publicly denigrating via social media/printed publications or purposely misinterpreting the decisions of the Council if they disagree with motions passed. The democratic system of discussion and voting employed by the NBCA should be respected and adhered to at all times.
- Actions and intents of individuals create confusion and chaos. It is very beneficial to receive this statement and everyone wishes to move on and achieve a beneficial situation for the movement as a whole.
- This statement clarifies and provides a positive atmosphere to achieve a positive outcome.  
**Councillors generally expressed encouragement and positive views for the future.**

### 17. PREVIOUS MINUTES

A copy of the minutes of the 2015 annual conference from Adelaide was provided to all present.

**Motion** That the minutes be received as a correct record

Moved **Megan Stapleton** Seconded **Tony Schraven**

**CARRIED**

### 18. BUSINESS ARISING

#### 18.1 Live Streaming

**Live Streaming** has become a vital aspect of the Australian National Band Championships. A proposal from the Tim Kelly, of Brassbanned.com, via the 2017 Launceston Organizing Committee was read and tabled to the conference.

Adrian Loone gave an overview of Tim's previous service and the proposal.

Qld: Does the NBCA contribute financially? Further discussion on the financial aspects are required.

- Discussion followed on copyright aspects etc. Live streaming is a different application in this regard.
- Question discussed on advertising rights etc.
- NBCA has the right to control all aspects of the Championships
- NBCA must approve the content of agreements

VBL: Brassbanned needs to provide a contract proposal. Do we put the onus on them?  
NBCA write to Tim suggesting we wish to work with Brassbanned.com.  
Suggest some points of possible concern.

Comments continued on advertising content etc.

**Motion:** Adrian will action the subject and draft proposals with Tim for a long term contract.

Moved **Adrian Loone**

seconded **Annette Ries**

**CARRIED**

### 19. CONFERENCE REPORTS

#### 19.1 SOUTH AUSTRALIA – GAWLER - 2015 CONTEST REPORT

Pat Keep outlined the operation and functioning detail of the 2015 Championships. Pat tabled a comprehensive written report which detailed the aspects of the event and provided a financial report to the conference. It was pleasing to note the event generated a surplus result for the organisers.

The summary highlighted the following:

- 49 bands were entered in the Brass and Concert grades
- 224 soloists
- 22 party events
- Attendance over the weekend exceeded 4000 people



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- A very large crowd watched the Parade of Bands
- Gawler Councillors, State MP's and Federal MP with local dignitaries were in attendance.
- Budget was adhered to and generated a surplus. This was largely contributed to by the support from Trinity College with the venue arrangements. Debriefs with both Trinity College and Gawler Council illustrate their willingness to assist another event.
- Social media was an important aid in ensuring a successful event. Media such as radio and print media were very supportive. The local print media ran stories from 12 months out till after the event. Other tourist Based web sites promoted the event.

The report also mentioned aspects of operations such as:

**Venues, adjudicators, Street Parade, The Schedule, Volunteers and Trade Stands.**

Comment was made on some alcohol issues and the provision of first aid services which could be useful notations for the future.

The Council congratulated and commended the South Australian Band Association for its operation of the 2015 Championship event.

**Motion** the report be received - moved **Tony Schraven** seconded **Adrian Loone** **CARRIED**

### 19.2 CLO Report

**Annette Ries** presented her report to the conference.

An expression of thanks for the manner in which Pat Keep and her group hosted the event was offered and the hospitality and warmth directed to officials, both from the NBCA and state councillors was appreciated.

Other observations reported included;

- There were some matters raised before the contest by entrants which were resolved by applicable regulations
- VENUE**
- The venue, which was a 50 minute drive from the CBD in Adelaide, had its advantages and disadvantages. The setting was beautiful for the bands and having three performance venues located within the site with the offices was exceptional. The number of entries allowed the commencement and finish of all events at a reasonable hour which was a bonus not often experienced at a national contest.
  - The quality of the performance venues was well accepted by the bands – especially the chapel which received much positive feedback.
  - The disadvantage of the venue was the two hours travelling back and forth from Adelaide as many bands had accommodation in the city.
- ADMINISTRATION**
- Scheduling of events operated well and ran smoothly assisted by three performance areas
  - Permit players and conflicting draws and arrival times created some difficulties at times.
  - The host committee was well organised with general logistics
  - Some issues with the solo day with accompanists
- PARADE OF BANDS**
- Was a very successful event for everyone.

Motion that the CLO Report be received

Moved **Tony Schraven** Seconded **Adrian Loone**

**CARRIED**

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### 19.3 VBL 2018 Planning Report

Megan gave a detailed explanation/overview of the planning underway for staging of the 2018 National Band Championship. Details included;

- Possible venue selections for consideration which is governed by availability, costs and suitability amongst other criteria. Many venues which could be considered are already reserved for use for the comedy festival and other events.

A general discussion occurred at this point regarding venue selections. All organising committees are coming under enormous pressure with the availability and ever increasing costs for performance venues.

Motion – to appoint Adrian Loone as the CLO for the 2018 contest

Moved **Megan Stapleton** Seconded **Tony Schraven**

**CARRIED**

Further discussion included;

- Selection of adjudicator panel
- Draft budget details
- A further extensive discussion on venues and functioning costs generally

Motion – that the 2018 contest preparation report be received

Moved **Megan Stapleton** Seconded **Tony Schraven**

**CARRIED**

## 20 ADDRESS BY BILL BELCHER OAM – NBCA PUBLIC OFFICER

The conference was adjourned at this point to invite Mr Bill Belcher to address the Council on matters pertaining to the Constitution and related duties in the functioning of the body.

Bill commenced by thanking the Council for the opportunity of giving his presentation.

His outline included;

- An overview on the history of the NBCA
- An observation in 1995 that litigation occurring overseas raised the need for protection for those involved in Council from the possibility of such action.
- A background was given on the introduction of state regulations for committee's and social groups etc.
- A move was then made to incorporate the NBCA. The Constitution adopted was then based on the Australian Band Council operations.
- An analogy was then outlined on the difference between the NBCA Constitution and the NBCA Contest Rules

Various discussions were entered into on the above with comment on Rules vs the Constitution

- Public Officer must be located in NSW
- NBCA registered address is Bill's address
- Bill displayed some early yearbooks/directories which were sent to all bands across Australia
- An explanation followed on the differences occurring in the current constitution document in use and the official document registered with the department in NSW
- **The constitution can only be altered by the passing of a special resolution which requires the ascent of 75% of the Council members**
- Changes must be notified and registered with the NSW department by submitting resolution details and the appropriate form and fee.

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- All sponsorship arrangements must be approved by the Council. Sponsorship should be referred to the Council for protection of the event. Eg, Is the sponsorship appropriate?
- **The championship is under the control of the NBCA**
- Believes all Councillors are dedicated and genuine people.
- Best to do things through regulations rather than altering constitution.

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A general discussion occurred on ratifying and enforcing decisions amongst members.  
A quite animated discussion followed on preparing and adopting a new constitution.

**PRESENTATION WAS ADJOURNED @ 6.55PM**

**PRESENTATION WAS RESUMED SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> @ 8.05 AM**

Bill Belcher OAM resumed his presentation and summed up the differences and confusion between the registered document and the document in use which is displayed on the NBCA web site.

Adrian Loone suggests he produce electronic copies of both documents highlighting the differences and circulate this to all Councillors.  
An extensive discussion on the subject then followed.

Tony Schraven suggested an adoption of the current document after insertion of the corrections and moving forward.  
Further discussion ensued.

**MOTION** Adrian typeset and circulate the documents as previously suggested  
Moved **Adrian Loone** Seconded **Megan Stapleton**

**CARRIED**

It was pointed out that registration is also required nationally using form 402

**TONY TO ACTION**

Bill then reiterated his outline of the duties of the NBCA

- Oversight of the national contest
- Sponsorship
- Funds accountability etc

Discussion was entered into on these matters with the Councillors agreeing that generally current procedures are adequately dealing with these issues.

Adrian suggested that contracts entered into by organising committees should be copied to the NBCA. Lengthy discussion on these issues followed.

An achievement date was requested to resolve all matters dealing with the constitutional issue.

**MOTION** That the Council meet again in Victoria in six months' time.

Moved **Annette Ries** Seconded **Adrian Loone**

**CARRIED**

**Date was set for 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November**

**THIS CONCLUDED THE PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF BILL BELCHER'S CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS**

**REFRESHMENT BREAK**

**GENERAL CONFERENCE RESUMED @ 9.15AM**

**21. NOTICES OF MOTION  
NOTICES FROM QLD**

**21.1 Motion 1.**

*That section 8.2.1 of the NBCA constitution is removed as it stands and is replaced with "All payments of the annual membership fee by individual states must be received by the Executive Officer before the commencement of the National Championships in that respective year. Failure to make payment for membership to the Council by this time would prohibit bands from that state from entering any event in the National Championship.*

Rational: This ruling will prevent the situation where a member State fails to pay the annual membership fee to the Council but still is able to enter bands into a National Championship run under the direction of a Council that it is no longer a financial member of.

- Discussion ensued on the matter of payment of affiliation fees. This led to discussions on the application of regulations and their implications.
- Debate continued on possible scenarios.
- Further discussion on affiliation fees
- An animated discussion/debate on the application of affiliation payment regulations.

The original motion was then withdrawn by the proposer.

Annette (Qld) then requested the following motion be presented as a special resolution at the Special General Meeting to be held in November so that it could be included in the changing to the constitution.

***That section 8.2.1 of the NBCA constitution is removed as it stands and is replaced with "All payments of the annual membership fee by individual states must be received by the Executive Officer before the commencement of the National Championships in that respective year. Failure to make payment for membership to the Council by this time would prohibit bands from that state from entering any event in the National Championship.***

The Motion was moved **Annette Ries** Seconded **Megan Stapleton**

**CARRIED**

**21.2 Motion 2**

*That the entry fee for all brass and concert bands to compete at the National Championships may be increased up to \$800 if all the following conditions are met by the organising committee of the championships.*

- *The venue must be within a 10km radius of the CBD of the city in which the contest is held.*
- *The city must be either a capital or a city of equal size.*
- *The venue must be of a standard commensurate with the prestige of the national championship as shall be determined by the NBCA Councillors in the previous year.*

Rationale: After taking feedback from many bands following the Gawler championships, the consensus of opinion is that they would prefer to pay an increased entry fee to allow organising committees to secure venues within easy access to major accommodation or the central business areas.

They are aware of the financial burden of hiring venues in these areas but have communicated that paying a much higher entry fee would have been more beneficial for them than hiring of coaches to transport bands to and from venues that were further away.

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An introductory explanation was presented by Annette regarding the motion.

Discussion resulted which included;

- A situation exists already whereupon the contest entry fees are set at the NBCA AGM each year.
- SA commented that the difference in the scale of band entries even allowing for increasing the entry fee to \$800 would make little difference in the difficulty encountered with venues. Costs of inner city venues are such that the increase in revenue would be largely insignificant.
- Vic suggests that the increase could allow more city venues available for possible usage.

Discussion continued on the application of the proposal, venue quality and venue selection etc.

Debate continues on the application of the motion.

How long has the entry fees been at the current level? For some years?

How do we deal with the issue and communicate decisions?

Section 2 of the Yearbook then became the subject of discussion.

A general discussion ensued.

An additional regulation 2.5 was then proposed which reads;

***That the entry fee for all brass and concert bands to compete at the National Championships shall not exceed \$800 if the following conditions are met by the organising committee of the championships;***

- ***The venue must be within a 10km radius of the GPO of the city in which the contest is held.***
- ***The city must be a capital city.***

***The venue must be of a standard commensurate with the prestige of the national championship as shall be determined by the NBCA Councillors.***

A lengthy discussion ensued on the amended motion which included comments on venue selection and a requirement for the NBCA to meet more frequently to decide these and other issues.

The motion was then moved **Annette Ries** and seconded **Megan Stapleton**

**CARRIED**

### 21.3 MOTION 3

*That contest Regulation 2.1 is altered to read.*

***The points for these items will be***

**TEST 200**

**OWN CHOICE 200**

**HYMN 100**

**MARCH 100**

Rationale: The allotment of 50 points for the Hymn and Stage March does not allow the adjudicators the scope they need to separate and allocate points according to performance levels. With a range of only 10 points between 40 and 50, the placement of more than 10 bands becomes very difficult without using tied scores. The adjudication then becomes purely a ranking rather than an indication of the level of performance by the bands.

At present, we instruct the music adjudicators prior to the contest, not to give tied results in the first three places and not to use half marks for any events.

Allowing the Hymn and the Stage March to be adjudicated on a **100 point scale** will allow the adjudicators the scope to score bands at a more accurate level i.e. aligned with their performance.

The increase in the 'value' of the Hymn and Stage March will also be more commensurate with the hours and effort put into preparing these pieces of music for the championships.

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The introductory explanation was given by the QLD councillor.  
This featured an expanded explanation of the rationale behind the proposal.

- **Tasmania** offered a detailed explanation of how adjudicators operate at their state contest. All pieces are marked from a base of 100 points.
- **Victoria** comments on the rationale. Happy to accept the proposals.
- **Tasmania** offered more comments on adjudicator operation.
- **President:** gave some comments on adjudication approach. E.g. what is 98 vs 198 points? Many adjudicators place great emphasis and weight on hymn arrangement performance.
- **Tasmania** agrees with these comments.
- **NSW** No difficulty with the motion.
- A general discussion ensues on point allocations. Agreement reached on 100 for both Hymn and Stage March.

The motion is put. Moved **Annette Ries** Seconded **Megan Stapleton** **CARRIED**

### 21.4 VICTORIAN MOTION

*That section 8.2.1 of the NBCA Constitution is removed as it stands and is replaced with. . .*

**Should a State governing body become a member after September 1, the annual membership fee is payable immediately upon becoming a member and then before September 1 in each calendar year.**

This motion was withdrawn considering the discussions which had previously occurred earlier in the conference.

### 21.5 SA MOTION TO ABOLISH THE NBCA PRESCRIBED MARCH LIST

*The National Band Council of Australia current contest regulations, as outlined in its 2016 Yearbook published September 2015, incorporating amendments made July 2015, available on the NBCA web site, includes;*

*2.1.2 The Championship for each Grade of Brass and Concert Bands, including Junior Bands, shall consist of a Test Selection, Own Choice Selection, Hymn and March*

*and that . . .*

*2.1.7 The On-Stage March to be played as part of the On-Stage Championship shall be a march selected by the competing band exclusively from the NBCA Prescribed March List (PML). The PML is included as Appendix 'A' to the NBCA Yearbook, published annually. This list will be reviewed annually and additions made and included in the yearbook published in September of each year. Only marches included in the PML are deemed eligible for the On-Stage Championships. All submissions must be received by the NBCA Executive Officer by August 1 each year.*

*The Music Advisory Board of the South Australian Band Association is constituted and appointed by the Association's Executive Committee to assist the Executive in conducting the business of the Association by providing music specific advice, including but not limited to the conduct of National and State Championships.*

*In the course of considering Test selections and other matters relating to National and State Championships, MAB members have on occasion discussed the merit or otherwise of the PML's existence.*

*Matters considered by the MAB members include that:*

- *The NBCA's regulations are silent on the criteria for a piece of music being eligible for inclusion on the PML other than they be received by the NBCA Executive Officer by August 1 each year.*
- *As far as MAB members are aware, SABA member's bands have displayed little or no interest in identifying unlisted marches for inclusion on the PML.*

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- *MAB members are aware that, for a recent SABA State Championship for which marches included in the PML were required to be played, a number of SABA member bands initially nominated to play an unlisted march only to change their selection upon having the matter brought to their attention. As far as MAB members are aware, the initially chosen marches were nevertheless not submitted for consideration for inclusion on the PML.*

*MAB members note that, while the NBCA's regulations are silent on the criteria for inclusion on the PML, almost all inclusions follow a similar structural formula for a military march.*

*MAB members are neither persuaded that the PML will ever be a comprehensive list of marches suitable and desired to be played nor that the testing on a stage and typically indoors of such music of outdoor origin is of any particular inherent benefit to our movement.*

***MAB members recommend that the SABA put a motion to the NBCA to abolish regulation 2.1.7.***

*MAB members are aware that abolition of 2.1.7 would likely open a debate about the variety of marches that might be selected in the absence of a PML or even whether a March should remain part of the Championships, as opposed to for example an entertainment item as has been the case in the past.*

*MAB members are open to either eventuality and do not believe that holding fast to any one particular formula is a necessity for the advancement of our movement.*

**South Australia** introduces and speaks to the motion and expands on the rationale. Suggests the PML is too restrictive.

**Tasmania** supports a motion to allow the contest MAB to consider submitted music. Suggests the merit of Hymn and March music should be the duty of the MAB of the organising committee.

General discussion on the purpose and operation of the PML.

**NSW** What is the criteria of a march?

**VIC** removed the criteria of a march. Bands do not support.

General discussion on the application of the PML.

Ongoing discussion the PML and what constitutes a march.

Executive Officer explains the background and operation of the PML and reasons for its introduction as explained by previous NBCA officials during his 10 years' service with the NBCA.

After more general discussion the Motion was put **DEFEATED**

## 21.6

### **Preparing and circulating motions**

**NSW** queries the method of preparing and circulating motions.

After some discussion it was suggested that NSW prepare and circulate to Councillors ideas in this regard.

Commented [EL1]:

## 22. 2017 CONTESTANT CONTEST ENTRY FEES

After a general discussion of contest entry fees the situation for 2017 was addressed. Various scenarios were explored. Lengthy discussion on financial requirements and operating situations.

The following fee level was decided upon for consideration;

Band entry	\$400
Solo entry	\$ 40
Party & percussion entry	\$70

Considerable comment was made about the necessity to increase the entry fee structure. **Tasmania** – fees were last altered 4 years ago. Made comment on the requirement to increase the entry fees as has been debated earlier in the conference.

General discussion around the table regarding the increasing costs of hosting the championships. Comments on increasing costs of accompanist provision.

**SA** commented that costs are increasing in all areas, both incoming and outgoing, Organising committees are enduring large cost increases.

The motion was put Moved **Megan Stapleton** Seconded **Pat Keep** **CARRIED**

**THE CONFERENCE WAS ADJOURNED FOR A BREAK @ 10.25AM**

## THE CONFERENCE RESUMED @ 10.55AM

## 23. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 23.1 WA Request to discuss scheduling of performances

**WA** Comments on draws for playing order of performances. Thought be given to WA bands having a disadvantage with travel and time differences.

**Tasmania** Makes an effort to schedule its performances with tyranny of distance in mind with its operations. Geography factors are considered in programming.

**Queensland** Faces similar situations however making concessions can open issues which become problematical.

General discussion follows. Australia's distances create some unique difficulties with all sorts of situations. Bands can and do make requests in regards to scheduling. Bands should make their needs known BEFORE the schedule is published.

**SA** Scheduling is always an issue. Advise BEFORE the fact so consideration can be given to requests.

**Tasmania** agrees with the above comments. Advise BEFORE the event schedule is decided so these matters can be considered. Permit players and other similar issues need to be considered by bands and the organisers advised.

### 23.2 Protocols involved in the announcement of results

A consistent protocol needs to be adopted in the announcing of results and presentations. The announcing of the first place first up creates confusion and disruption and takes away from the prestige of the second and third place winners.



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A general discussion follows on presentation methodology.  
Suggestion the contest guidelines address this issue.

**WA** An explanation follows on method announcing points and places in each section from 3<sup>rd</sup> place to first. Finally the aggregate scores and Championship winners, again from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> place. Present the awards with the Championship Perpetual trophy last.

**Victoria** Agrees with the outline given by WA.

### 23.3 WA Requests to be appointed the Championships in 2020

2020 is the anniversary year for banding in the state.

General comments offered about school terms arrangements in WA.  
Could WA select a year when the school terms coincide with other states?  
Further discussion on state differences with school term dates and arrangements.  
Discussion on future dates for the National Championships followed.

**2018 - MELBOURNE**

**2019 – BRISBANE**

**2020 – PERTH**

These dates were all proposed and confirmed for future Championships arrangements.

## 24. AROUND THE TABLE DISCUSSION

### 24.1 NSW

#### (a) Resource development

Suggests the Council should seek to develop its resources on line for Councillors and Organising Committee's to access.

**QLD** suggests the usage of drop box type facilities as being convenient and secure. Also using a web site secure area,

A general discussion ensued on preserving documentation and the history of event documentation etc.  
Suggest having an NBCA resource rather than separate state operations.

#### (b) Produce a national publication

Comments on the usefulness of such a proposition.

**Victoria** Supports the idea. Perhaps an annual publication?  
Difficulties raised of costing and distribution costs and logistics involved.

**Victoria** suggests coordinating and exploring the idea,.

**Tasmania** Raises a web site suggestion. TBL had a printed quarterly. People didn't utilise it widely. Went to an on-line space.

**Victoria** highlights that relevance and immediacy of information is important.

**Tasmania** explains the history of past ventures. Include dates, places and content of coming contests etc.

**President comments** on philosophical issue of music in general and its potential. Wishes to promote the ideology generally and highlight the benefits and importance of music for all people.

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**Bill Belcher** explains the background of how things have been achieved. Too much workload on too few people. Individuals generally carry too much of the load. NBCA needs to step up to be more than an organisation that simply sets rules for a contest. Promote the Council as being part of the arts community.

**NSW** reiterates the view that a newsletter can be a valid voice.

**President** voices his passion for the Council to become an influence in the music community.

**Executive Officer** suggests a directory of community bands, either as a hard copy or electronically, could be an important reference to encourage people to visit rehearsals, communicate and interact. There have been countless requests by email over the years from individuals seeking information on the location and details of community bands in an area they either move to or are visiting.

**General discussion followed on producing an app for banding that could assist with this type of information.**

**Tasmania** suggest there is scope for both ideas – printed and electronic.

**Bill Belcher** explains some background of his experiences. History of the ABC Radio program.

**(c) A new Commissioned Work at each National Championship by the NBCA**

General comments about cost involved and sponsorship requirement.  
**Victoria** commented about ideas for developing the future.

**General agreement to revisit these aspects at the next conference in November.**

**CONFERENCE WAS CLOSED @ 12.25 PM**