



**Heritage Rugby League NSW**  
**2023 Annual General Meeting**  
**Minutes of meeting**

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## **AGENDA – HRL NSW 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Time: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM AEDT

Venue: Meeting room, Wests Ashfield

### **Agenda**

#### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

1. Welcome, attendance and apologies
2. President's report
  - a. Recap of season 2023
3. Finance report
4. Election of Directors
5. General business

## 1. WELCOME, ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES

Javed Hamidi (JH) thanked those present for attending the AGM. All attendees signed in; two online attendees stated their presence over Teams.

#	Welcome	Apologies	Not represented
1	Javed Hamidi (HRL)	Kim Ilolahia (NSW Tonga)	Ozzy Cook Islands RL
2	Reynaldo Nery (HRL/Philippines)	James Utai-Cairns (Thailand)	Cambodia Heritage RL
3	Patrick Skene (HRL)	Gurol Yildiz (Turkish-Aus.)	El Salvador
4	Perry Johnstone (HRL)	Pele Papalii (NSW Samoa)	Fiji-Australia AFRL
5	Tas Baitieri (Life Member)	David Axisa (Malta Heritage)	Greece-Australia
6	Fred Albassit (Mediterranean RL)	Sam Ayache (LCRLFA)	Ireland-Australia RLIA
7	Edward Tanea (NSW Samoa)	Shane Wieteckki (Poland-Aus.)	Japan Moonbears
8	Isaac Naisali (NSW Samoa)	Peter Clarke (NSWRL)	Latin Heat
9	Andrew Molesi (Niue RLA)	Jeremy Edwards (APRL)	Lebanese LCRLFA
10	Mano Tairi (Maori NSW)		Malta Heritage
11	Kathleen Rangiawha (Maori NSW)		NSW Pasifika
12	Michael Araco (Italy-Aus. FIRLA)		NSW Tonga
13	Erick Elefante (Philippines NRL)		Poland-Australia
14	Dan Beardshaw (Ukraine HRL)		Syria RL
15	Steven Carmichael (Africa United & South Sudan)		Thailand Naga
16			Turkish-Australia
17			Uruguay Heritage
	<b>10 Clubs</b>		<b>17 Clubs</b>

JH outlined the agenda for the meeting and subsequent workshop.

## 2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JH gave a presentation on season 2023 and its highlights. He thanked all member clubs and volunteers and participants to make the season such a success.

- 2023 was a year of considerable growth for Heritage Rugby League NSW (HRL) and provided a wonderful celebration of culture and heritage through football.
- HRL welcomed three new clubs – Ukraine, Syria and Mediterranean.
- 79 games of 13-a-side RL (including 7 tests) were played.
- 1,950 registered players, male and female, played in junior and senior teams.
- NSW Harmony Nines hosted 84 teams and 1,150 players, all playing over 2 days in Albion Park.

HRL set a series of milestones in season 2023 with the number of:

- 9-a-side teams and nations represented, in 5 age groups: Open Men, Open Women, juniors, junior boys and girls.
- 13 a-side games staged in a season – surpassing the 2017 season, and the most in the 25-year history of heritage games being staged in NSW.
- players registering to play in heritage football.

Other notes

- HRL and NSWRL undertook an extensive compliance process to check registration records matched original entries, and to resolve duplicate records.

### 3. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report reported the incomings and outgoings into the HRL Bank account:

- revenue was from clubs paying insurance fees.
- outgoings were in remittances to NSWRL.
- It was noted that some clubs had not paid outstanding insurance fees by AGM.
- In accordance with the HRL constitution, clubs risked the suspension and removal of their HRL membership by not paying their outstanding fees.
- The reason is that HRL has an obligation to pay NSWRL all insurance fees owed by member clubs and their players.

JH noted that NSWRL recently indicated that the non-refundable insurance component for Public Liability and Professional Indemnity insurance (previously \$660) would increase slightly in 2024. This was due to an increase in insurance premiums for the NSWRL Community RL Insurance Scheme (upon which HRL's Insurance Scheme is based)

NSWRL propose that each club make an up-front payment for insurance in season 2024 to also anticipate payment required for any players not registered to a community RL club in season. JH noted that the HRL Operations Manual from 2022 indicated that \$1,500 be paid upfront (which included the Public Liability and Professional Indemnity component).

- For 2024, HRL clubs may be placed into different tiers of fees for insurance payable. Those tiers could potentially be based upon the nominated number of teams/players, or previous season trends in teams, total players, or the number of players not registered to community RL club in season. However, this is yet to be determined.
- It was suggested that a fee could be based upon a club's average for a club's numbers from the previous 3 seasons.

JH noted that further discussion would be held in a workshop following the AGM.

## 4. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

- The 2023 HRL Board Directors resigned their positions to allow for an election of HRL Directors for 2024 to take place.
- Eight (8) people nominated for election as Directors.

1. Fred Albassit
2. Javed Hamidi
3. Kim Ilolahia
4. Perry Johnstone
5. Reynaldo Nery
6. Patrick Skene
7. James Utai-Cairns
8. Gurol Yildiz

### Proceedings of election

- Tas Baitieri acted as Returning Officer.
- As the number of nominees did not exceed the maximum number of Board Directors of nine (9), under the HRL Constitution, then all nominees were elected to form the 2024 HRL Board.

## 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

JH, as an ordinary director:

- Thanked all HRL Member Clubs for their support.
- thanked outgoing directors for their contributions to HRL – Maherau Arona, David Axisa, Robert Burgin, Gareth Holmes.
- stated that an HRL Board meeting of directors would be held in the next few weeks to confirm Office Bearers for 2024.

As no other general business was raised, and as a club workshop was to be held immediately following the AGM, JH called the 2023 AGM Meeting to a close.