

**MOUNTAINS FENCING CLUB INC**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**8 JULY 2010**

**LAWSON COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**7.30PM**

Meeting opened at 7.49pm

Present: Ross Gibbs, Anton Duc, Peter Vitez, Richard Emmerick, Jack Richards, Grace McAlpine, Karen Kustro, Joe Raciborski

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Confirmed as accurate. Moved Richard Emmerick, seconded Karne Kustro.

**Presidents Report**

Ross Gibbs spoke to his written President's report (attached).

Moved Grace McAlpine, seconded Joe Raciborski

**Election of Office Bearers**

Ross Gibbs – President  
Anton Duc – Secretary  
Jack – Armourer  
Karen Kustro - Treasurer  
Barbara Cuthbert – Assistant Treasurer  
Jo Raciborski – Club Captain

Vote of thanks to Ross and the outgoing executive given by Richard Emmerick

**Financial Statements**

Karen Kustro delivered the financial statements (attached)

Issues arising: Need to examine the issue of hire of equipment – need to speak to people directly about paying for hire of equipment and gather unpaid dues.

Agreed that Anton Duc and Barbara Cuthbert become signatories to the cheque account in addition to Ross Gibbs, President. The account is 6264010097730 on behalf of Mountains Fencing Club, and that Grace McAlpine be removed as a signatory

Insurance issue: Anton to look into insurance issues and see if Club affiliation to the NSW Fencing Association covers insurance for members.

Hire form – need to include epee and saber hire in the form.

Thursday night attendance – discussion of Monday night to include more free bouts and more strip fencing. Thursday night will also have a component of training

**Signed by**

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Ross Gibbs  
President

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Karen Kustro  
Treasurer

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Anton Duc  
Secretary

# MFC AGM 2010- PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2010 has been a big year for the Mountains fencing club.

We started the year with a change of venue from the Winmalee high school which was too far from anywhere to be an effective venue. It was however a rushed decision as we lost our long term home Blaxland High the previous year and it kept a roof over the club. Our new home at the Mid Mountains Community Centre in Lawson (although snug) has been a very positive move, we are now based in a central location with easy access to the highway and public transport. Travel time West from Blackheath and East from Blaxland is around 25 minutes. Which means we can now service the majority of the Blue Mountains.

It's been a positive move to have the club based in a community venue rather than a school, fencing suffers from being cloistered away and having our venue public helps further increase fencing's profile. The added bonus is the storage space we have been able to secure, though next year we may have to address the issue of storage again if council becomes more involved in the venue.

Our first Beginner's Course for 2010 has been a great success with one of the largest intakes in the club's recent history. The course was effectively run by our volunteer trainer Joe, with the majority of the beginner's completing the 10 week course. Many of the beginners have stayed and has resulted in a large boost to the club's membership.

To help develop our fencers we have added a Thursday night free bout night in addition to our Monday night training. This has given our members a chance to put into practise what they are learning on Monday nights, and is giving them an experience of fencing as they would experience in a competition. The hope is that as they become more experienced in Thursday night competitions they will want to move onto competitions run by the NSW Fencing Association. The club has recently purchased rubber matting to use as a full size fencing strip, this in combination with the electric scoring gear is as close as we can come to full competition conditions.

We have had only a couple of our club members competing this year in NSW competitions, one of the issues for our lack of participation is distance, the other is experience and self confidence which we are addressing on Thursday nights.

The club has been able to make purchases of additional equipment this year including gear the rubber strip and a new scoring rig giving the club 2 electric set-ups. Our Treasurer will go into more details on our purchases.

We have held one social event this year which was a movie and pizza evening last month. We will hold another later in the year as well as our regular Christmas breakup.

The club also became incorporated earlier this year which gives the club a legal existence, and removes some of the legal burdens from individual members.

My aims as club President 09-10 have been to:

- Strengthen the membership of the club, by making the club more inviting and inclusive in it's attitude to new fencers.
- To increase the quality of training for our members.
- To make the club more accessible to the Blue Mountains Community.

I would like to see over the next year:

- Greater participation in competitions.
- Some level of inter-club competitions.
- More promotion of the club through fencing demonstrations at community events.

I would like to thank the committee members for their contributions and hard work during the year.

Especially Karen Kustro who has been very busy as treasurer due to the large intake of members, equipment purchases and venue hire. Also to Anton Duc who has handled the club's incorporation this year.

Ross Gibbs

President MFC  
July2010