

Mountains Fencing Club

Minutes for 2009 AGM

Minutes from the Mountains Fencing Club Annual General Meeting on the 22nd of June 2009. Members and Officers present were Ross Gibbs, Joe, Jasmine Gabsi, Daniel Cabban, Laura, Matthew Higgs, Adrian Hickey, Jackson, Karen Kustro, Margaret Manuel, Margo Gabsi, Sarra Gabsi, Richard Emmerick and Grace Macalpine.

1. President opened the meeting at 7:10pm by welcoming everyone to the meeting.
2. Treasurer gave record of accounts since the last AGM and the expenditure. The financial situation was found to be better than last year with approximately \$2088 in the account. Treasurer then gave a breakdown of expected expenses for the next six months, including hire of the hall, cost of advertising and cost of affiliation to the NSW Fencing Association.
3. President reports that club membership has grown significantly and as such so has the club account despite a major set back at the beginning of the year with the necessity of finding a new hall for training, indicating that our advertising attempts have been a success. The social events held seem to have been a good compliment to the training and encouraged communication between the new and previous members in the club. Two members of the club have successfully represented the club.
4. The move to the new hall was discussed and pronounced to have been successfully managed. The late start to the year was as a result of the necessity of finding a new venue and doing some marketing, which has brought in new members.
5. Margo and Richard proposed a Thankyou to Ross who put up the web site for the club, and to all those who put in the effort to find the new club training hall and advertise our beginners course.
6. It was announced that Richard has been appointed to a position as a State Fencing Coach.
7. The Gregory Blaxland Competition was discussed, and it was decided that the competition would not be run by the club this year as we are no longer associated with Blaxland High School, it was proposed however that another competition should be run in its stead as the Competition had been gaining a reputation over the last few years. Liaisons with Penrith Fencing Club and Marconi Fencing Club were suggested, as a way of running a joint competition, or an inter-club competition. Inter-club competitions were effectively ruled out due to the exclusivity of many clubs. Marconi was strongly recommended as the possibility had already been discussed with a contact.
8. Election of Officers. The Idea of having a club captain was proposed by Joe, to co-ordinate entry of club members into competitions.
 - a. Ross Gibbs was unanimously elected President
 - b. Grace Macalpine unanimously elected Secretary
 - c. Richard Emmerick unanimously elected Armourer
 - d. Karen Kustro unanimously elected Treasurer
 - e. President put forward the motion to elect a Club Captain which was seconded and unanimously accepted by the members. Ross Gibbs is unanimously elected as Club Captain.
9. A Vote of Thanks was proposed by Richard for the retiring officers and was carried by the members unanimously.
10. Future Directions for the Club
 - a. The possibility of extending club training by an hour until 10pm was raised, along with the idea of having another night altogether, as numbers are still relatively small the extra hour was decided upon. To accommodate this an addition of \$1.60/Monday night until the end of the year was proposed to cover the costs of the extra hour and was accepted by the members.
11. Honorary Memberships were proposed for Joe, Ben, Tim and Sarra and were accepted by the members.
12. Advertisement and a possible new 10 week beginner course was discussed, and ideas for holiday courses were proposed. It was suggested that Winter was the ideal time to attract people as fencing is an indoor sport. A new 10 week beginner course was agreed upon and Ben agreed to lead it, Joe agreed to lead the intermediate/advanced group. The need for two separate groups was identified. It was agreed that after this course no membership fee would

be asked until the beginning of next year. It was also agreed that a new add or feature on Ben should be run in the Gazette to advertise the club and this new beginner course.

13. Ben raised the issue of the change in direction in state fencing and identified the need for us to follow this trend in our training.
14. Ross proposed that the next social event should be a competition and BBQ afterwards to introduce people from other clubs.
15. The idea of choosing club colours, to increase reputation and presence in competitions was raised along side the issue of an official club logo. Richard suggested passing this on to his son.
16. The new President (Ross Gibbs) officially closes the meeting at 8:14pm.

Signed By:
